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September 17, 1959

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

SEPTEMBER 17, 1959

Action Concerning Bottoms Orphanage Offering

A MATTER OF concern to all of our people is the action taken by the Executive Board at its July meeting when it unanimously adopted the following motion: "That the Thanksgiving Offering be eliminated as a fund-raising plan as of 1961 and that allocations in the budget be increased to replace same."



DR. WHITLOW

There seems to be a near unanimity of thinking on the part of our Baptist people throughout the state that this should be done. We find it is also a trend in other states to put their orphanages and all other institutions in the budget and do away with as many special offerings as possible.

This is the reason for the substantial increase in the 1960 budget for the Orphanage. The allocation was increased from \$40,000 for 1959 to \$75,000 for 1960. It takes approximately \$150,000 per year to operate the Home. The increase from \$40,000 to \$150,000 was too great to be made in one year's budget—hence the recommendation to eliminate the special offering in 1961.

We need to recognize this fact: That unless we raise a substantial sum in

the Thanksgiving Offering this November and in November of 1960 it will not likely be possible to put the Home in the budget for the full amount in 1961. We need to take note of this fact and urge our churches to make a worthy offering for the next two years at Thanksgiving.

The goal for our Thanksgiving Offering this November is \$100,000 and the suggested goal for 1960 is \$75,000. It will require a great deal of publicity, interest and prayer on the part of all of us if these goals are to be achieved, but we need to be aware that these goals are vitally connected with the possibility of eliminating the Thanksgiving Offering as a fund-raising plan, after 1960.

A wonderful ministry is being rendered through our Home to a good number of boys and girls who have met with unfortunate experience. All of us will want to make a larger place in our heart for the boys and girls involved—and I hope our heart concern will be manifested by making a large place in our purse for their support. This is a service rendered unto our Lord. Dedicated hearts and dedicated purses can be used of our Lord to produce dedicated men and women out of boys and girls who come under the ministry of our Home at Monticello.—S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary. ■

Association Meetings

FORTY-FOUR associations will be meeting in Arkansas, during September and October. Many of the sessions will continue more than one day, but some have only a day-and-night session. Some begin their sessions at the evening hour and have the final meeting at the close of the second evening. Attendance varies, and the programs vary, but each meeting is used to advance the Kingdom of God.



DR. DOUGLAS

The pioneer Baptist churches of America, in many instances, were miles and miles apart. Very little current thought and work reached beyond the local field. Those good people wanted to do the best job possible for their Master; so they came together in the associational (district) meetings to learn what the other churches were doing and to be inspired to do more. They also planned for another year.

Many of the church members went back home, to serve in the local church, not to hear and know much about how the work was going for the others until the next annual associational meeting. Surely these meetings had their inception in the wisdom of God, because the "District Association" is still the basic unit of work outside

the local church.

Our forebears used these associational meetings to the best advantage possible. They often traveled long distances and stayed long hours in order better to equip themselves to face the vicissitudes of life. After reaching the place of meeting, after long hazardous journeys, at the first service they would sing, "And we are yet alive, and see each other's face, Glory and praise to Jesus give for his redeeming grace."

Many Baptists still believe that the associational organization is the best unit through which the local churches can be helped and strengthened. Through the associational program, every phase of our Baptist life can be presented. In turn, the churches learn to cooperate in a world-wide effort of evangelism.

In the early days, nearly all of the associational work was done on a voluntary basis. But now, Baptists have learned that they need some full-time workers, on the associational level, to lead in all of the work. In Arkansas, most of our 44 associations have superintendents of missions. These men are elected by the associations and work under the leadership of the executive board of the association.

The associational superintendents are key men and wherever and whenever an association elects God's man for the place and then supports him in all its leadership, the Baptist work is strong and the work prospers. Sometimes this means disturbing the status quo, and sometimes it means new programs, and

sometimes it means a new approach to an age-old problem.

This is true because the associational unit of cooperative Baptist work is one of continuing expansion. The Lord keeps adding to the churches those who are saved. This means more people to whom Baptists should minister. It also means that there are more Baptists to enlist, harness and lead into doing the Lord's will with their time, talents and money. Much of this must be done on the local level, but much assistance can be given on an associational level.

Therefore, we would urge the stronger churches (we mean churches with large memberships, large budgets, and large corps of workers) to participate in every phase of the associational program. These churches can help build a great program for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We would urge the smaller churches (churches with small memberships, low budgets, no paid staff) to take part in every phase of the associational program, because they can find strength in cooperating with those who are willing to lend a helping hand.—Ralph Douglas, Associate Secretary. ■

IT SEEMS that the Harry P. Gibersons, who announced the arrival recently of a daughter, Terri Lyn, are not the only expectant parents to decide on a name that would be appropriate for either a son or a daughter. The Robert L. Hartsells, of the staff of South Side Church, Ft. Smith, where Mr. Hartsell is minister of education, report they had settled on the name Nickki Glenn or Nickey Glen, ahead of the new Hartsell's arrival last May 12. The newcomer qualified for the name, Nickki Glenn. Boy or girl?

STATE Evangelist Jesse Reed was with Anderson Chapel Church, near Dumas, for a revival Aug. 24-Sept. 2, Pastor Leonard McDougle reports. There were 20 additions for baptism, four additions by letter, 25 re-dedications, and five other professions of faith. F. H. Collins led the singing.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Abbreviations used in crediting news items:

BP, Baptist Press; CB, church bulletin; DP, Daily press; EP, Evangelical Press.

September 17, 1959

Volume 58, No. 37

By A. C. Miller

THE NUMBER of divorces granted during May, 1959, in the United States reached a total of 14,800. This is a seven-tenths per cent increase in the year since May, 1958. In fact, each monthly divorce total within the nation has been larger than the figure for the same month of the preceding year. The cumulative total for the five months of January-May of 1959 was 72,568, or 7.2 per cent more than for the same period of 1958.

According to the testimony of domestic court judges across the nation, the percentages of divorces due to involvements from beverage alcohol ranged from 63 per cent to 90 per cent.

We have a government that purports to work for the public welfare. Why, then, does that government tolerate an evil that is more responsible for the break-up of American homes than any other force among us? It is time for the citizenship of this country to recall the words of Samuel Zant Batten, who said a generation ago: "Nations are not destroyed by forces from without; they are destroyed by forces from within. Nations do not die; they commit suicide." ■

A CONCEITED bore has one striking virtue—he seldom talks about other people.



Cover Story

Church Music Month

CHURCH MUSIC emphasis in Southern Baptist churches is observed in September each year.

This idea was promoted for the first time in 1953 by the Church Music Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, as the ideal time for training song leaders, pianists, organists, worship leaders, choirs, singers, and others to serve through the various activities of the church. ■

September 17, 1959

Wanted: Missionary Nurses

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

"The need for missionary nurses," says Secretary for Missionary Personnel, Elmer S. West, Jr., "is probably the most critical which the Foreign Mission Board faces in its total personnel situation."

During the past four years, there have been repeated pleas for from 20 to 30 nurses to fill urgent vacancies already existing in our medical institutions. I heard the plea in Ogbomsho, and in Djakarta, and in Pusan.

No fewer than 20 nurses are needed right at this moment — no fewer than 50 will be needed in the next five years, says Dr. West, for even modest expansion of our medical evangelistic program.

Can it be that our people really know that during the past four years only three nurses have been appointed per year? We appointed only one last year. Only two have been appointed this year — Miss Maxine Lindsay for Gaza, and Miss Elaine Hancock for Hong

Kong.

When Jesus stood in his home town synagogue of Nazareth, on that epochal day when he began his public ministry, he read from the book of the Prophet Isalah, saying, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath appointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord" (Lu. 4:18, 19).

And Matthew tells us that Jesus went about all the "cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people" (Matt. 9:35).

Can it be that Southern Baptists, in this memorable era of advance, are beginning to break faith with Jesus in regard to the healing aspect of our witness? ■

Un-Vatican Ties Urged

GENEVA, Switzerland (EP) — International Roman Catholic organizations should have consultative status with the United Nations because it provides for the expression of Catholic thought on questions of worldwide significance.

This statement was spoken recently by Msgr. Giovanni Ferrofino, counselor of the Papal Nunciature in Switzerland, at a seminar on "European Unity and the World Community," sponsored by Pax Romana, international organization of Roman Catholic university graduates and students.

Ferrofino said that Vatican representation in certain UN organizations is vitally important because of the "moral power" of the Holy See.

Study Publishing Problems

COPENHAGEN (EP) — For the first time in history, Lutheran publishers in Europe and the United States met together to discuss current problems of publishing and distribution. Twenty-four delegates representing four European countries, as well as the United States, agreed to step up exchange of information about new book production to enable speedier translations into various languages.

Refugees 'Witness Packets'

HONG KONG (EP) — Missionaries with the Oriental Missionary Society have begun distributing Gospel literature to the thousands of cramped refugees dwelling in shacks on hills surrounding Hong Kong. The literature is contained in "Witness Packets" including an attractive letter of greeting, the Gospel of Mark or Luke, and two tracts. Watchword for the teams, led by Dale McClain, is: "Never sacrifice thoroughness of witness for speed of coverage. Our goal is not statistics."

World of Religion

Third of Million Churches; 63 % of Population Members

... Church membership in the United States reached a new high of 109,557,741 in 1958, a gain of 5,368,063 over the previous year, the 1960 issue of the **Yearbook of American Churches** reports. This represents 63 per cent of the country's estimated population of 173,374,000 — the highest ratio of church membership to the number of people in American history.

... Of this number 61,504,669 are Protestants; 39,509,508, Roman Catholics; 5,500,000, Jews; and 2,545,318, Eastern Orthodox.

... Methodists, Southern Baptists, and National Baptists, in that order, are the largest evangelical groups. However, in "family" groups, Baptists lead with 20,493,381 of 27 different church bodies, and Methodists are second with 12,213,097 in 21 bodies. Lutherans, with 7,791,248 in 18 bodies, and Presbyterians with 4,126,583 in 10 bodies are the next strongest.

... A total of 41,197,313 are enrolled in Sunday or Sabbath schools, a gain of 2.1 per cent over 1957.

... The 251 church bodies in 49 states, including Alaska for the first time, and the District of Columbia, reported 289,500 places of worship.

... Church contributions for all purposes increased 4.1 per cent. This figure is based on reports from 41 church bodies only. New construction of religious buildings by all church bodies reached \$863 million.—**The Survey Bulletin.**

"... What The Law... Could Not Do..."

DESPITE THE latest sad chapter in the Little Rock Story — the bombing of two office buildings and a station wagon, at three different sites on the night of Labor Day — we believe the worm has definitely turned in the months-long cold war of race in Arkansas' capital city. The straight forward manner in which the city government, the Chamber of Commerce and the Little Rock school board are now dealing with the situation in the interest of law and order is most heartening, even though, ironically, this may be blamed by some as the "cause" of the bombings.

It is a part of our basic human rights as Americans to have our divergent views on race relations, as on other matters which from time to time may be public issues, but no American has the right to take law into his own hands. Such acts of terror and hoodlumism as the recent bombings cannot and will not be tolerated by a free people.

Christians, as citizens of two "kingdoms," owe their first loyalty to God, before whom every one of every nation must appear in judgment. There may be times when Christians must "obey God rather than men," but such decisions should be reached carefully and prayerfully and in the spirit of Christ, who teaches us to be long-suffering and kind, to return good for evil, to respect all men as those created by God in His own image, and to pray for those who despitefully use us.

At the risk of being repetitive and saying again what so many of our people know as well or better than we, every new day reveals the utter futility of man trying to solve his problems in his own strength, leaving God out. Law and the enforcement of law are a part of our society and will always be necessary, but there are things law cannot do, because of the depravity of natural man and the impotency of law to change man's basic nature. The only real solution, as all Christians know, is Christ and his transforming power in the hearts of the people. The best laws and the biggest police force are no substitute for the regeneration of Christ, which is available, at tremendous cost on the part of God, to all who will open the doors of their hearts to Christ as their Lord and Savior. ■

For Civic and Moral Betterment

THE ENTHUSIASTIC response of the people of Arkansas to the leadership of Executive Director William E. Brown of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas seems to indicate that Arkansas is ready for big things in the realm of civic and moral betterment. As reported in a news story elsewhere in this issue, Dr. Brown has been able to enlist the hearty support of leaders all over the state in the setting up of county chapters of CCF. By the end of the current month, Dr. Brown reports, he will have working organizations functioning in most if not all of the 75 counties of the state, an achievement little short of the miraculous, since the new director began his work with the foundation as recently as June 1.

The county organizations will function on the local level to enlist the people of the state in opposition to such evil forces as liquor, narcotics, and gambling addiction, and the circulation of obscene literature. As a positive approach, alcohol-narcotics education will be introduced into the public schools of the state through the county chapters of CCF. Qualified teachers are now being enlisted and trained and it is expected that the new program will go into effect with the opening of the second semester of the current school year.

The education program is in harmony with a state law which has been on the statute books for many years, providing that classes shall be taught in public schools on the evils of alcohol and narcotics addiction.

By planning the school program on the basis of enlisting the services of a large number of volunteer teachers—it is hoped to have at least 30 to a county—much can be achieved even in the present school year. This is proving to be a far more effective plan than that sometimes used by similar organizations, in which all of the teaching is left to full-time, paid instructors.

We would call the attention of our churches to the fact that the Christian Civic Foundation, as the successor to the Temperance League of Arkansas, has the approval of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, which elects representative directors to serve on the Foundation's board. We believe this is a great and worthy movement and trust that our churches will be as liberal as possible in their support, including the Foundation in the church budgets for monthly contributions. ■

Personally Speaking . . .

Graham in Court

ONE OF Billy Graham's favorite illustrations was related here by his staffer Charles Riggs to volunteer counselors for the Little Rock Crusade.



ELM

While driving through a small Southern town sometime ago, Billy was stopped by a traffic cop.

"You were driving 40 in a 30-mile zone," charged the policeman.

"Sorry," replied Graham, "I am guilty. How much is the fine?"

"It'll be \$10," said the officer, "but you'll have to appear in court."

The policeman escorted the "culprit" down town to a barber shop, where the judge, a justice of the peace, was plying his trade of barbering. The judge motioned for Graham to be seated and proceeded to finish a haircut for the client who happened to be in the barber chair at the time.

Then the barber laid aside his clippers, stepped over to a table, and, assuming the full dignity of his office as JP, called the court to order.

The policeman gave his testimony and the judge asked the defendant, "Guilty or not guilty?"

"Guilty," replied Dr. Graham.

"That'll be \$10," replied the judge, "a dollar a mile for every mile you're making above the limit."

Graham pulled his billfold out of his pocket and was about to pay the fine when the judge saw the name "Billy Graham" on the ticket. "Billy Graham?" he mused. "Don't I know you?"

"I certainly hope not!" responded Billy.

Then it dawned on the JP. "Are you the evangelist Billy Graham?" he asked. And on having this confirmed, he turned out to be a Graham fan who had been a regular listener to the Graham broadcasts for years.

As the judge warmed up, Graham slipped his billfold back into his pocket and relaxed.

But soon the demeanor of the judge was stern again. "You have violated the law," he said, "and the penalty must be paid."

Sorrowfully Billy brought out his money again. But the judge motioned for him to put his money back into his pocket. "The fine must be paid," he said, "but I am going to pay it for you!" And he took \$10 out of his own pocket and attached it to the ticket. Then he took Billy out and bought him a steak dinner.

"That," says Billy, "is how our heavenly Father deals with a penitent sinner."—ELM

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

Carver School Needed

MUCH OF the conversation concerning the importance of and need for the Carver School in the life of Southern Baptists has missed the mark widely. The intention of the Woman's Missionary Union in turning this wonderful school over to the Convention was not that some static contract be kept. Rather, the intention was that the school might serve its larger purposes in the Convention as a whole.

Furthermore, the larger purposes of the school call for highly intensive education on a personalized and individualized basis as over against mass education.

The training of missionaries and social workers in their advanced stages of education calls for highly individualized and specialized attention. The missionary today is expected to work in a much more complex situation than ever before. He needs individual attention beyond that which he receives in general college and seminary education. Carver School can serve a major function in teaching specialized courses in language, literacy, anthropology, etc., on an individualized and small-class basis to missionaries.

Furthermore, the social worker is not trained by one or two lecture courses but by careful discipline under supervision of experienced teachers.

Southern Baptists are going into a new era of missionary strategy. We have been working on an extensive basis and now we are going into an era of intensive missions. This means that the university and professional people on foreign fields must be reached as well as the teeming masses of the underprivileged. Just as in the days of the Apostle Paul the great cities were taken for Christ, even so today the missionary has to move with a more intensive strategy toward getting at the leadership of the peoples of the world.

Furthermore, in this country the institutional life of our own denomination as well as that of city, state, and federal government agencies is in the control of highly-disciplined professional people. The social worker is a central personality in this organization. As it stands now, however, a dedicated young Christian can find social case work and group work training only in secular or Catholic schools of social work.

Our own institutions for children, for the sick, and for the aged are desperately in need of additional professionally-trained social workers to deal with the specialized problems of the people to whom they minister. It is only a matter of a short time before such institutions will undergo the same kind of governmental inspections as do hospitals for medical care.

No one would think of turning their

loved one over to a medical doctor who was not approved scientifically. However, we as Baptists sometimes turn little children who are emotionally disturbed and deprived over to untrained people to care for them. Good intentions undisciplined often work wrong results. We need trained, dedicated, and universally approved social workers to look after little children, and older people. They can do it according to the best standards that scientific endeavor and Christian commitment require.

However, there is no place that this can be done among Southern Baptists unless we do this through our chosen path of strengthening Carver School as an accredited school of social work.

When we do this, we will capture the leadership among all Protestant denominations in the education of a committed and skilled leadership for our institutions. The need for this is long past due and I thank God that the Convention has wholeheartedly supported the recommendations of the Survey Committee to continue Carver School as a separate institution and to work assiduously toward accreditation for this school.—Wayne E. Oates, Professor, Southern Seminary. ■

Dodson in Arizona

I SHOULD LIKE to express my appreciation for the excellent ministry you continue to give through the pages of the *Arkansas Baptist*. I appreciate especially the courage, understanding and wisdom you evince in your editorials. I am thinking at the moment of your reply to the "Honest Questions" in the August 6 issue, for this editorial happens to be before me.

You will note that I have a new residence. We are in the mountains of Eastern Arizona where copper mining is the chief — almost sole — industry.—F. G. Dodson, 1st Baptist Church, Morenci, Ariz.

Life-long Reader

I LIKE THE 24-page paper better, no matter what kind of paper it is printed on. And how I do love to read the paper each week from "kiver to kiver" as soon as it gets here.

For several years I have been sending—at the end of each month—that month's papers to a preacher friend—A. F. Cagle, retired, living in California and a native Arkansan. He thoroughly enjoys reading every word of every issue. Several times in his letters to me he has said he believes the *Arkansas Baptist* gets better and better all the time.

Thank you for such a wonderful paper. I hope to and expect to read it as long as I live.—Mrs. E. J. Merryman, 1907 Locust Street, Texarkana.

Whimsical

I AM WRITING to say that I enjoyed two of your columns. I thought that "Fish Reflections" and "Burned-out Bearings" were excellent pieces of whimsical writing.—Gainer E. Bryan, Jr., Editor, *The Maryland Baptist*.

Appreciates Pastor

AN APPRECIATION of my pastor, Rev. Curtis Mathis. It was the month of July, 1958, that Bro. Mathis preached his first sermon at Central Church. Immediately after that date Central extended a call for Bro. Mathis to become our pastor. He accepted, moved on the field and with unabated zeal threw himself wholeheartedly into the gigantic task of shepherding the flock at this northeast Arkansas church.

Although barely 30, he has led us to greater heights than were attained before he came our way. Bro. Mathis seems to have sought and found the pastor's heart and dedicated all his talents to preaching the Lord's gospel without fear or favor of any group.

To hear this young but able pastor preach God's Word makes us older people know that God is still calling men to fill the places left by Drs. Truett, Scarborough, et al.

Bro. Charles Gwaltney, Bro. Mathis' helper, is not a whit behind our pastor in his field of education and music. If I were to start out to find a finer pair of Christian men than Brethren Mathis and Gwaltney, for comparison I would have to go back to Paul, Peter, etc.—S. C. Swinney, Jonesboro.

Likes 'Beacon Lights'

I ENJOYED reading "Beacon Lights of Baptist History" by Dr. Selph. When we learn history about any effort, we understand the purpose better.—Anna Nash Yarbrough, Benton

Friendly God

YEARS AGO a Sunday School teacher told us: "When you say a prayer, just say it the way you would talk to a friend, for the God we worship is a friendly God."

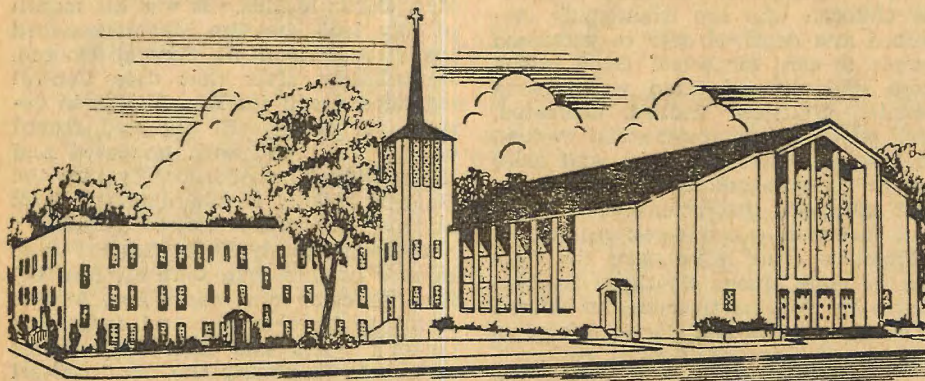
Now I am a septuagenarian. For two weeks in a row I said a prayer morning and night. The net results are that I feel better, more revived and more alert than the best program of geriatrics ever did help me.

If you tried a lot of things that did not help you, try prayer for a two weeks period. God understands the needs of each better than anyone of us does.—Irvin W. Dietrich, R-3, Fayetteville. ■

Formosa Disaster

FORMOSA (EP) — The night of August 8, 1959, will live in the memory of many Formosans as a nightmare of death and destruction caused by the angry, swirling waters of a tidal wave that hit the coast without warning. The government lists 643 dead; 963 injured; 520 missing and 247,984 victimized in the flood disaster. A total of 28,311 houses were destroyed and 12,641 others were damaged by the flood. The Rev. O. W. Becker of the Evangelical Alliance Mission reported that 60 Christian families and 300 non-Christian families in Tai Ping Shiang saw their homes washed away in minutes. Death toll in their village alone was 36.

Arkansas All Over



ARCHITECT'S drawing of the new sanctuary of 1st Church, Fayetteville, now nearing completion. Dr. Andrew M. Hall is pastor. ■

REV. AND Mrs. Ross B. Fryer, Jr., Southern Baptist missionaries to Indonesia, who are now in the States on furlough, have moved from Waco, Tex., to Monticello, where they may be addressed, c-o Mrs. M. R. Baker, 110 W. College. Mrs. Fryer is the former Mary Lynn Baker, a native of Warren.

BEIRNE CHURCH reports 11 additions to the church and 15 rededications in a recent revival. Nine of the additions were for baptism, and there were two decisions to tithe. Dave Land, Barling Church, was evangelist. Pastor Andy O'Kelley led the singing.

1ST CHURCH, Walnut Ridge, will observe its 70th Anniversary and Homecoming, Sept. 13. H. E. Kirkpatrick, pastor from 1917 to 1922, will be guest speaker.

DESHA CHURCH, Independence Association, has accepted the one-month free trial offer of *Arkansas Baptist*. Pastor E. E. Haley says, "I believe by getting the paper into our homes it will awaken us to how much the Lord is using Arkansas Baptist people in advancing His work; and, at the same time, make us conscious as to how much or how little we are contributing to the advancement."

AN ENROLLMENT of 49 was reached in a School of Church Music held in 1st Church, Van Buren, for Clear Creek Association, Aug. 24-27.

R. C. Meadows was the host minister of music and is associational music director, and David Williams, 1st Church, Ft. Smith, and Jerry Howell, Grand Avenue, Ft. Smith, served as directors. Mr. Howell is music director for the West-Central district.

E. F. SIMMONS, Vilonia, who is retiring after 43 years as a pastor and missionary in Faulkner County, has laid plans to embark on an evangelistic career at the age of 73.

He recently resigned his pastorate at Enola Church which he had held for the past six years, and began a revival at Sidon in White County.

PRESENTATION service was held recently by GA's of Grand Avenue, Hot Springs. Pastor Don Chesser presented "The Call of the Cross." Recognition was given Deborah Campbell, Sandra Chesser, Donna Faye Chesser, Rosemary Pinson, Janie Smith, Donna Standiford, and Sandra Thompson. Mrs. Helen Standiford questioned the girls, and Mrs. Betty Tucker presented awards.

OWEN RING, pastor of Clark's Chapel Church for two years and five months, resigned August 16 to enter Ouachita College. Leroy Walden, church clerk; and J. Ed Thompson, moderator, superintendent, and deacon, recommend Mr. Ring as a good preacher and worker, easy to get along with, and state that he and his wife are devout Christians. Mrs. Ring organized a junior choir at the church.

S. C. SWINNEY, Jonesboro, supplied the pulpit of 1st Church, Marked Tree, Aug. 30; 1st Church, Weiner, Aug. 2 and 23, and 1st Church, Tyroneza, Aug. 9.

A RECENTLY closed revival at Keota Church, Okla., resulted in 11 additions for baptism, eight by letter or statement, two dedications, and two other conversions. Paul Wilhelm of Lamar was the evangelist, and Pastor Jimmy Hoffman of Keota led the singing.

NORTH CROSSETT 1st Church recently closed a revival with 10 baptisms, two additions by letter and one by statement. There were three other professions of faith and many rededications. Ben Bracken, Camden, was the evangelist. Kemuel K. Corkern is pastor.

THERE WERE 17 additions and six rededications at a recent revival held by 1st Church, Pochontas. Edward R. Black, Buntyn Street Church, Memphis, was the evangelist, and is recommended by Pastor Lawrence Ray. The church is making plans to start construction of an educational building next spring.

1ST CHURCH, FORREST CITY, recently ended a revival with Billy Walker, evangelist. There were 36 professions of faith and 11 additions by letter. Pastor T. K. Rucker commends Mr. Walker without reservation.

CRYSTAL VALLEY CHURCH, North Little Rock, recently closed a revival which resulted in 17 additions. Larry Taylor served as evangelist and John Wikman was song leader. Parsy Warren was the pianist. E. W. Goodson is the pastor.

BOB DAMUTH, Little Rock Air Base, has been ordained by Mt. Sidon Church, El Paso, and has been pastor of the White County Association church for three months. The church recently held a revival which resulted in eight additions by profession of faith, five by letter, and four rededications. Mr. Damuth served as evangelist and Jack Yarbrough, Jacksonville, directed music.

BUIE CHURCH has called W. A. "Buster" Burnette as pastor. Mr. Burnette has returned from California where he attended Golden Gate Seminary. He is married and has three children. The Burnettes are now living in Jacksonville. (CB)

CENTRAL CHURCH, Hot Springs, has arranged to buy two buildings on Orange Street east of the present church building. The church voted unanimously to buy the property for expansion of educational facilities. (CB)

CHAPEL HILL Church, Little River Association, has accepted the one-month, free-trial offer of *Arkansas Baptist*, and will receive September papers free. At the end of the month, they will consider placing the paper in their budget. Mrs. Ed L. Hughes is secretary and Harold Walker is pastor.

Letters to Editor

Proving God

A Russian recently hurled a challenge to God to prove His existence—some powerful manifestation. Might we observe that it is as needless for God to prove His existence by some mighty sign as it is for Khrushchev to prove his existence by some mighty sign. The evidences are already abundantly present.

Too, God "owes" it to no man to present a special manifestation of His existence upon demand. Rather, He rewards the faith of those who, not having seen, yet believe (John 20:29).

Without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must BELIEVE that He is, and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).—Robert L. Hartsell, South Side Church, Ft. Smith. ■

BUSINESS FIRM'S slogan for the month of September: "Do it right!"

CONCORD NOTES

NORMAN LERCH, who has served the Baptist Temple church in Alexandria, La., for the past two years, has returned to Arkansas to serve as pastor of the 1,046-member 1st Church, Booneville. Lerch succeeds Doyle Bledsoe who resigned last May to accept the pastorate of 1st Church, Stuttgart.

The 41-year-old pastor is a graduate of the Hershey, Pa., high school, Louisiana Tech, and has the B.D. degree from the seminary in New Orleans.

Before going to Louisiana Lerch served the Marion church for nearly four years, the Rison Church, nearly two years, and 1st Church, DeWitt, five years.

Mrs. Lerch is the former Doris Scott of Houston, Tex. The Lerches have three children, David 13; Wayne 9, and John 4.

THE EIGHTY-NINTH session of Concord Association will be held in 1st Church, Booneville, October 8-9. Harlan Abel is the moderator, Eugene Ryan, clerk, and Al G. Escott, treasurer. Robert Parker, pastor of Calvary Church, Ft. Smith, will preach the annual sermon on Thursday morning, and the doctrinal sermon will be preached by Murl Walker, pastor of Kelley Heights Church, Ft. Smith, Friday morning. Jay W. C. Moore will give his third annual report as superintendent of missions for the association.

1ST, PARIS, Tommie Hinson, pastor, has begun a new radio program. One full hour of worship services will be broadcast each Sunday morning from 11 to 12 over Radio Station KCCL, Paris. The program is designed especially for those who are ill in homes and hospitals and for the elderly who are unable to attend.

GERALD SCHLIEFF, who has been serving the Hackett church as interim pastor, has been ordained to the ministry. Frank Faries, pastor of North Side Church, Charleston, preached the ordination sermon. Robert Martin, pastor of Ratcliff Church, led in the interrogation. Richard Kress, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, served as clerk and Floyd Sheeks, pastor of the Hackett Church, served as moderator.

J. HAROLD SMITH, formerly pastor of 1st Church, Ft. Smith, is sponsoring a new radio program over radio station KFDF, Van Buren. The program is heard from 7:30 to 8:00 each morning, Monday through Saturday. Smith is also heard each morning from 6:00 to 6:30, and each evening from 8:30-9:00, seven days each week, over XERF, Del Rio, Tex.

DON DURDEN, who has served Burnsville Church for a year, has resigned. He will move to Texarkana where he will work for a radio station and enter Texarkana City College. Durden led Burnsville Church to establish full time preaching, organized a WMU and a Brotherhood and started mid-week prayer services. The offerings increased from \$50 per month to \$225 per month. ■



MR. SUSKEY



MR. LERCH



MR. MYERS



MR. TAYLOR

PAUL MYERS recently resigned as pastor of 1st Church, Frisco, Tex., to return to his native state as pastor of West Side Church, El Dorado. A native of El Dorado, Pastor Myers formerly resided in Little Rock and in Memphis, Tenn., serving as a deacon of Bellevue Church, Memphis, for a decade and as chairman of deacons for two years.

He has held pastorates previously in Arkansas.

He received his education at Ouachita College; at Texas Wesleyan College, where he received the B.S. degree; and at Southwestern Seminary, where he earned the B.D. degree.

Mrs. Myers, the former Mary F. Miller of Little Rock, is a graduate of Central College and received the B.S. degree from Texas Wesleyan.

The Myerses have a son, Jack, 15. ■

DALE F. TAYLOR has resigned as pastor of 1st Church, Smackover, effective Sept. 30, to accept a position in the business office of Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. During his 10-year tenure with the Smackover church, Pas-

tor Taylor led the church in a \$250,000 building program, including the erection of a parsonage, a new educational building, new sanctuary, and a new mission building now used by Maple Avenue Church.

Mr. Taylor is a graduate of Ouachita College, where he served in the business office for ten years prior to his acceptance of the Smackover pastorate, and at Southern Seminary.

Mr. Taylor is a past moderator of Liberty Baptist Association and has served on various committees of Liberty Association and the State Convention for a number of years.

Mrs. Taylor, a home economics teacher, will teach in the Ft. Worth schools. ■

NEW PASTOR of Bethany Church, Eureka Garden Road, North Little Rock, is A. T. Suskey. Pastor Suskey formerly served 1st Church, Cedarville, in Clear Creek Association, where he was chairman of evangelism. The Bethany Church has approved plans for a \$75,000 sanctuary.



Round-Up of

World-Wide

RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

Laubach Sees Need

CHAUTAQUA, N. Y. (EP) — "I believe there are a million healthy, retired old people who could and would go forth to help, and would find thrilling new life in serving the world. Many are needed to go out and to contact governments and other missionaries and find out where volunteer experts will be welcome."

The speaker was Dr. Frank C. Laubach, internationally known missionary educator and pioneer in literacy training.

Stressing the need for more missionaries who are experts in literacy, journalism, agriculture, economics and other skills, Laubach added his opinion that many older people could help with their "experience and mature judgment."

Missionary Radio in Japan

According to recently released figures, there are now about 14 million radios in Japan with an estimated five listeners to each set. Projecting these figures, this means that 80 per cent of Japan's total population of 91,000,000 potentially can be reached via Christian radio broadcasting. (EP)

Alcoholics Among Us

WASHINGTON, D. C. (EP) — The United States is producing alcoholics at the rate of more than 1,200 a day—over 50 an hour around the clock.

This startling assertion was made by Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, chairman of the Department of Clinical Sciences, University of Illinois, at the fourth annual Institute of Scientific Studies for Prevention of Alcoholism held at American University here in August.

"Alcoholism," said Dr. Ivy, "is now the nation's number three health problem from the standpoint of incidence, lives lost and people disabled." He said that it ranks immediately behind heart disease and cancer in these respects.

Other sobering statistics he presented:

The life expectancy of alcoholics is 20 years less than the national average. . . .

Over 8,000,000 Americans are affected by alcoholism, with 5,000,000 of these outright alcoholics and the remaining 3,000,000 "pre-alcoholic problem drinkers." . . .

Some 350,000 alcoholics die each year—with an average life span of 51 years (compared with about 70 years for non-drinkers). . . .

But Dr. Ivy could point to one bright spot: a 13 per cent decrease in alcohol drinkers in the past 12 years. Most of this decline can be traced to women, he said, who "increasingly . . . are deciding it's not worth the price to keep up with the hard-pouring Joneses."

Pastor Goes to Liquor Stores

EDMOND, Okla. (EP) — On Sept. 1, the day liquor sales became legal in Oklahoma, Dr. M. E. Ramey, pastor of the 1st Baptist Church in Edmond, visited every liquor store in town. His mission: to pray.

And his prayer: that the store will go out of business. He said that he would pray that if the operator doesn't decide to close his store, that God will close it for him—"in any manner that seems good to Him."

Nazarenes Plan '60 Meet

Planning and work are underway for the 15th quadrennial international General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene which will be held in the municipal auditorium, Kansas City, Mo., June 19-24, 1960.

The 74 districts of the denomination in the U. S., Canada, the British Isles and 40 other world areas will send 700 official delegates to transact denominational business. (EP)

Prayers in Demand

WASHINGTON (EP)—Although the colorful Peter Marshall died 10 years ago, a spokesman for the Government Printing Office says that interest is higher than ever in a book of his famous prayers (published immediately after his death by special concurrent resolution of Congress). A new edition of the 97-page collection of his short and colorful prayers has just been published to meet the growing demand.

The book can be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents in Washington, D. C., for 45 cents.

Baptist Times Continues

LONDON, England — (BWA) — The **Baptist Times**, official journal of the Baptist denomination in England, was hit along with other British publications in a printing industry dispute. The usual large paper was reduced in size, but Editor W. W. Bottoms managed to get a smaller edition of the **Times** to his readers each week. The **Baptist Times** is a journal of news, opinion and theological discussion.

Puppet Lama Arrested

CALCUTTA (EP) — The Panchen Lama of Tibet apparently has had a short rule as Red-installed successor to the exiled Dalai Lama. News recently sifted into the Indian frontier towns of Kalimpong and Darjeeling that the Chinese Communists have arrested the puppet ruler for turning on them and plotting to lead an armed uprising that would incite citizen reaction against the government.

BWA Head Invites Mr. K.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., U.S.A. — (BWA) — The president of the Baptist World Alliance has suggested to President Eisenhower that he help Premier Khrushchev of Russia "see what religion means to America and to Americans" when the two world political leaders exchange visits this Fall. Dr. Theodore F. Adams revealed he had made the suggestion in a letter to President Eisenhower.

THE BOOKSHELF

THE FOLLOWING books from the Zondervan Press have been received recently:

Hell Is No Joke and other messages by Robert L. Sumner, \$2.

This book contains six sermons dealing with the subjects of heaven and hell. The sermons include: "The Unmocked God!," "Slipping into Hell," "Have You Counted the Cost?," "Do You Think You Will Go to Heaven when You Die?," and "Heaven: Home Sweet Home, of God's Children."

The Double Mind, by Don J. Kenyon, an Expository and Devotional Study from the Epistle of James, \$2.

Prayer's Deeper Secrets, by F. J. Huegel, \$1.75.

A chaplain in World War I, Mr. Huegel has served as a missionary for more than 25 years in Mexico, where he teaches at Union Seminary, Mexico City.

Christian Family Living, by Hazen G. Werner, Abington Press, 1958, \$1.

The basic assumption of the author is that "more than government, education, or community agencies, the family holds the key to the fate of our nation — and of the world."

Trail to Oklahoma, by Jim Booker, Broadman Press, 1959, \$2.95.

The tragedy of the "trail of tears" is told by Mr. Booker from the viewpoint of a 12-year-old boy. This gripping story, alive and realistic, combines the qualities of love, friendship, and faith and adventure and drama from an area of this country's diversified history.

Thoughts Afield, Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, by Harold E. Kohn, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1959, \$3.75.

As the subtitle indicates, these thoughts are not limited to any one season, but deal with all the seasons of the year. A most attractive book, the volume is illustrated with drawings by the author.

Philippians Through the Revelation, by Kenneth S. Wuest, an expanded translation, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1959, \$3.50.

Dr. Wuest is professor emeritus of New Testament Greek at Moody Bible Institute. His translation reveals a thorough knowledge of the koine Greek. He makes use of a free translation method and, occasionally paraphrase and brief commentary, to give the meaning as accurately as possible.

Christians in Racial Crisis, by Thomas F. Pettigrew and Ernest Q. Campbell, a study of the Little Rock ministry, Public Affairs Press, 1959, \$3.50.

Since this book deals with a controversial situation, it will be controversial itself. Whether the reader agrees with the viewpoint of the authors, or not, this is a part of the Little Rock Story and will be profitable reading for all who are studying the race crisis in our city.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

By DR. R. LOFTON HUDSON

(Author of *For Our Age of Anxiety*, Available at your Baptist Book Store.)

Married An Alcoholic

QUESTION: I married a man at 14 and did not know at that time that he was a drunkard. I had very little education and was dumb. We had a baby every three years until I had nine children. He grew worse, and would curse and threaten to kill all of us when he was drunk. Often I would stay in the woods all night out of fear.



DR. HUDSON

After 30 years I separated from him and turned to God. He is still the same, yet he promises to do better if I will take him back. I have gone back several times but it is always the same. I want to help save his soul but don't know what else to do. Have you any suggestions? I am now 60 years of age and will never marry again.

ANSWER: Drop this man like a hot potato. Many alcoholics cannot be helped and that is all there is to it. I would certainly never go back to this man until he has had a year or two of complete sobriety. Then I would want to know whether or not he has really turned to God.

You have had enough trouble in life. Living with an alcoholic is like living under perpetual threat of a tornado. My advice is to look to the future and never look back. "God hath called us to peace" (1 Cor. 7:15).

(Address all questions to Dr. Hudson, 116 W. 47 Street, Kansas City 12, Mo.)

Home Life Reaches Record Distribution

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—(BSSB)—*Home Life*, monthly magazine of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, reached a record distribution of 851,632 for July, editor Joe W. Burton said.

Chowan Appoints Young Chaplain, Counsellor

MURFEEBORO, N. C. — (BP) — Chowan College here has announced the appointment of William C. Young, an instructor in youth religious education at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, as college chaplain and counselor.

Chowan, a junior college, is operated by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Carver Elects High Missions Professor

LOUISVILLE — (BP) — Thomas O. High, Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria, has been appointed visiting missions professor at Carver School of Missions and Social Work here, for the 1959-60 academic year.

Baptist Crosscurrents

Observance of Sunday

THE PROBLEM of interpreting and enforcing the laws which apply to the observance of Sunday is a matter which concerns every citizen of our country. It threatens to lead toward a weakening or removal of legal safeguards and thus bring about a further secularization of the Lord's Day, and we feel sure that most of the people do not want that. This is something for all of us to consider.

People may disagree and argue regarding the nature and observance of laws and the propriety of doing this or that particular thing and the wisdom of legalizing or forbidding certain things; but none of these considerations can remove the obligation to observe the Lord's Day, according to the Bible. Now, more than ever perhaps, Christian people need to do what is right, whether the laws require it or not. Also, they share in the responsibility for the kind of laws our country has and whether they are obeyed and enforced or not. Keeping the Lord's Day is a good evidence of the devotion of people to the whole law of God.

To Christians, the strongest appeal for observance of the Lord's Day is made on the basis that it is a duty and privilege to be performed and enjoyed by people who believe it to be right and good for them to do so. The details of proper observance are, of course, to be determined by the people and taught in homes and churches.

It is evident that the conditions under which people live have an influence upon their ways of observing Sunday; but, whatever the conditions may be, the fact that Sunday is the Lord's Day should be enough to make sure that Christian people will observe it in ways that are consistent with Bible teachings and an enlightened Christian conscience. To do so is the privilege and duty of every Christian. We expect to be hearing and reading more on this subject in the days ahead.—Editor S. H. Jones, in *The Baptist Courier*

Church Administration

... OUR PASTORS must be liberated to give more attention to the ministry of the word. One answer to this need is the employment of a full-time church administrator to look after the physical business of the church and to promote stewardship in the churches. Some churches have already taken this step, like the 1st Baptist churches in Dallas, Tex., and Jackson, Miss. The need is being recognized by institutions of higher learning which are planning to offer courses in church business administration.—Editor Leon Macon, in *The Alabama Baptist*

A Question Rightly Raised

CHURCHES OUGHT not to operate businesses competing unfairly with private enterprises. This they can do if they own real estate and yet pay no taxes on it and through this real estate operate businesses in the community. Recently Dr. Eugene Carson Blake suggested the churches begin to pay some taxes on their real estate. Dr. Blake, of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., has raised the issue in an article in *Christianity Today*. Dr. Blake sees a growing problem and says that 100 years from now the present pattern of religious tax exemption by federal, state, and municipal authorities, if continued, "may present the state with problems of such magnitude that their only solution will be revolutionary expropriation of church properties."

This is a tax-hungry era. The various areas of government are desperate in search of new tax monies. With this growing tax problem, the question is rightly raised how a church can expect to increasingly take over properties which are tax-exempt, operate them in competition with other business, and avoid an eventual strong reaction against it.

But no government should subject religious properties to any real estate tax so long as they are used only for religious purposes. It is likely here in Nashville in the haste to secure additional revenue some assessments have been unfairly made against churches and religious institutions on properties which are not being used for commercial purposes.

And while the matter of tax exemption is up let it not be overlooked that the most extensive tax-free holdings are those of the government itself. Above all others the Federal Government has shrunk the tax area by taking over former tax producing land and ending that source of revenue for states and lesser governmental units.—Editor Richard N. Owen, in *Baptist and Reflector*

Progress Reports On 30,000 Movement

NASHVILLE —(BP)— Southern Baptists are moving forward toward their goal of establishing 10,000 new churches and 20,000 new missions or preaching stations by 1964. Here are some brief progress reports on the 30,000 Movement from the lips of associational superintendents of missions.

San Diego, Calif. — "On Oct. 3 we plan a unique meeting in our association, with three missions being constituted into churches at once. We will launch a campaign for 10 new Sunday schools Nov. 1."

Cullman, Ala. — "We constituted a mission into a church three weeks ago and baptized 12 into its fellowship after constituting it. Other work includes a mission preaching in a jail."

Alaska — "Three new missions were started this summer, one having eight attending the first Sunday and 35 persons the second Sunday. Another with five at the first service now has 35 members, but we still need pastors for new churches and missions."

Denver, Colo. — "We have a goal of 64 churches and missions by 1964."

Wyoming — "We recently organized the only Baptist church in Rock River, Wyo., with 39 enrolled in Sunday school the first Sunday. Five adults and twin 16-year-olds were baptized into membership of the church."

Western Nebraska — "The three churches organized recently in western Nebraska all have pastors. They have a full program of church activities."

Los Angeles — "We organized churches on each of the last two Sundays. We have a goal of 60 for 1960."

Louisville, Ky. — "We reached our 1959 goal of 10 missions last year, and adopted a goal of 10 more. We gave 10 of our units across the river in Indiana to the new Indiana convention when it was organized last fall."

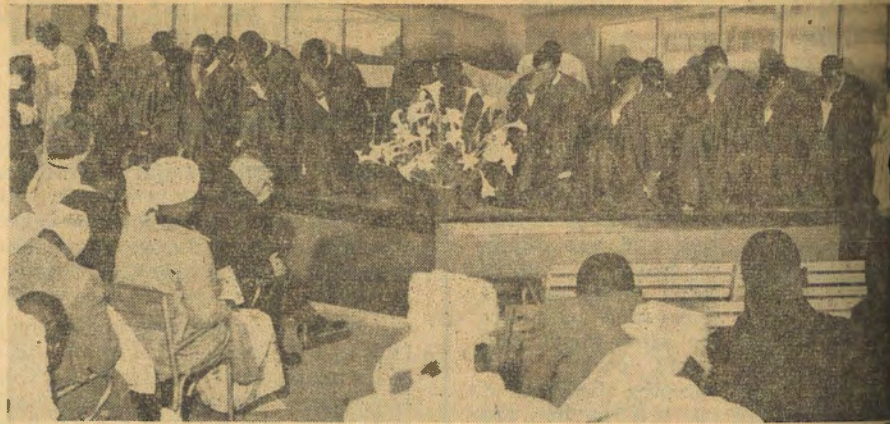
Duck River, Tenn. — "We started two new missions and constituted two new churches. Two more will be constituted."

Montana — "Since Jan. 1 our record is 10 new missions, five new churches."

Knoxville, Tenn. — "We are sponsoring missions in the West. 21 Knoxville pastors will go to Montana to hold revivals there."

Norfolk, Va. — "The first Sunday in October we will organize a mission into a church. The parent of this mission is itself a product of the 30,000 Movement, and it owns three organs but doesn't own a building."

Mississippi Gulf Coast — "I visited a prison in Pascagoula and saw a trusty that Baptists there had led to Christ. He would soon be sent to the penitentiary, but was looking forward to his opportunity to witness for Christ to other prisoners. It looks as if we sent a missionary to the penitentiary rather than a criminal." ■



PRAYER OF dedication at the graduation service of the African Baptist Theological Seminary, near Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia.

Rhodesian Seminary Graduates 19

NINETEEN MEN, representing three languages and five tribes, graduated from the African Baptist Theological Seminary, near Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia, in August. Already they are serving in six major cities of Southern Rhodesia, eight gold and asbestos mines, two company compounds, and one farm.

These men bring to 35 the number of graduates in the school's five years. Nine of these completed the two-year vernacular course and 26 the three-year English course which gives a diploma in theology.

The faculty plans to add courses for young people wishing to become youth leaders and teachers of Bible in government schools.

Wives of seminary students are required to attend one year during which

they take courses in the Old and the New Testaments and in Woman's Missionary Union methods.

The first Baptist Student Union center in Central Africa has been built in the Gwelo area and will be used by the seminary students.

Special guests at the seminary graduation were Mrs. R. L. Mathis, president of Woman's Missionary Union, and Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary, who are now on a trip around the world.

Southern Baptist missionaries serving at the seminary are Dr. and Mrs. Ralph T. Bowlin and Rev. and Mrs. W. David Lockard. At its annual meeting in June the Baptist Mission of Central Africa asked Rev. and Mrs. Hugh T. McKinley to join the seminary faculty. ■

Beacon Lights of Baptist History

By BERNES K SELPH, Th.D.
Pastor, 1st Baptist Church, Benton

BAPTIST TEACHINGS gnaw at men's conscience. A case illustration of this fact is their outspoken advocacy or religious liberty and good citizenship.



DR. SELPH

representing a body of associated churches where this liberty was spelled out.

In general, this statement had to do with the acknowledgment of government being of God. It was to be used for man's protection and supported by the citizens. They were to live quiet

and peaceful lives.

But it was specific in reminding the King that concerning the worship of God there is but one lawgiver—Jesus Christ. The King was called on to give liberty to men's conscience, which is the tenderest of all things for conscientious men. He was to protect them from all wrong, injustice, oppression, and molestation. These felt that there were some things our consciences bind us to do and called for this liberty.

This was a daring statement. It was thought revolutionary and dangerous then. In those days, Kings headed both the state and the church. Who could tell what might happen if there were those in the domain who sought to worship different from the King-controlled worship?

This confession was a great landmark for Baptists as well as enlightened Christianity. These truths are held by Baptists today. Its substance would be subscribed to without a moment's hesitation.

Whatever may be said about isolated individuals advocating religious liberty, Baptists were the pioneer body of modern Christianity to advocate the right of all men to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. ■

Layman's Day

SUNDAY, October 11, is Layman's Day in the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention. Layman's Day this year will be climaxing the second Convention-wide, soul-winning crusade, Oct. 8-11.

Every church in Southern Baptist Convention should have a soul-winning crusade this year. The following seven steps, in planning, are necessary for the success of the crusade.

1. Pray for power to witness effectively.
2. Conduct a personal-witnessing clinic.
3. Provide men with laboratory experience.
4. Organize men for the crusade.
5. Pray for God's blessings on the witnessing during the crusade.
6. Plan a detailed, complete, schedule for Layman's Day.
7. Follow through with regular witnessing periods.

If these seven steps are followed in making plans for the crusade, and the men are enlisted to work, there will be a harvest of souls in each church and many men will be enlisted in the program of the church.

Special Layman's Day tracts and posters have been mailed to each pastor and Brotherhood president in the state. We trust that every church in Arkansas will make plans for Layman's Day and conduct the soul-winning crusade, this year.

The week of Nov. 1-7 has been set aside by the Southern Baptist Convention as Royal Ambassador Focus Week. This week is designed to bring more definitely to the attention of each church and community the value of Royal Ambassador work in building dedicated Christian men with a world mission outlook.

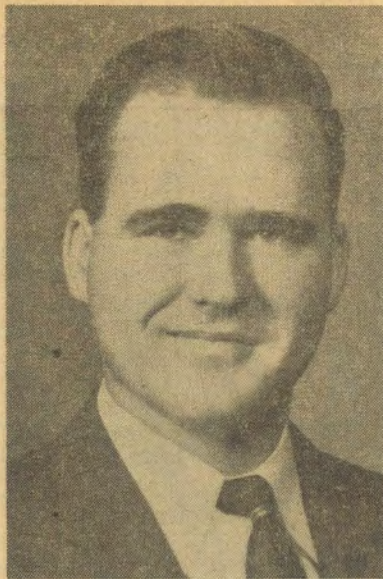
Counselors, pastors, and Royal Ambassador committeemen should begin now to make plans for this week. Plan to do something that will call attention to the value of the Royal Ambassador chapter to the boy, the church, the community, and the world.

In the near future, a special tract regarding Focus Week will be mailed to all counselors and pastors.—C. H. Beaton, Associate Secretary. ■

REV. AND MRS. W. Alvin Hatton, Southern Baptist missionaries to South Brazil who are now in the States on furlough, have moved from Abilene, Tex., to Van Buren, where their address is 105 N. 13th St. Mrs. Hatton, the former Catherine Jordan, is a native of Dermott.

ZONDERVAN paperbacks include:

The Golden Link, seven sermons on faithfulness, by Lee Roberson; and **The Seven Wonders of Prayer**, by Armin R. Geaswein. ■



RAY FLEET

RAY FLEET has joined the staff of Beech Street Baptist Church, Texarkana, as minister of music-education, Harold C. Bennett, pastor, announces.

Mr. Fleet received his master-of-religious-education degree in 1956 from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and the bachelor-of-music degree from Oklahoma City University, in 1953. He comes to Beech Street from a similar position at Beverly Hills Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

During his years of school preparation, Mr. Fleet served as music director, Beulah Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, and Will Rogers Field Mission, Oklahoma City; as music and education director at the Shields Boulevard Baptist Church, Oklahoma City; Woods Chapel, Arlington, Tex., and the 1st Baptist Church, Seagoville, Tex.

Mr. Fleet married Ruby Edson, who was born and reared in Foreman. The Fleets have two children, Vivian Kay, 3, and Ray, Jr., 2. ■



MRS. IRA MARKS

Fall Program

Sept. 4 — Meeting with District Presidents.

Sept. 7-18 — One-night training-planning meetings for associational training union officers in all associations.

Sept. 28-Oct. 2 — Concord associational advancement week, Grand Ave. Church, Ft. Smith.

Oct. 5-9 — Stone-Van Buren-Searcy associational leadership school.

Oct. 18-23—1st, West Memphis campaign.

Oct. 26-29 — 1st, Little Rock, enlargement campaign.

Nov. 2-6 — Rosedale, enlargement campaign.

Nov. 22-25 — Gainesville associational school, Piggott. — Ralph W. Davis, Executive Secretary.

WMU District Meets

MRS. IRA MARKS, missionary to the Mormons of Utah, is to be one of the featured speakers on the program of the annual district meetings of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union. She served with her husband for a number of years in the bayou section of Louisiana among the French-speaking peoples. She and Mr. Marks transferred to the present difficult field when the Home Mission Board started work in Utah.

Mrs. Marks is a dedicated, challenging speaker who has a message for Arkansas Baptists.

The state WMU president, Miss Elma Cobb, will preside at each meeting, which will open at 9:45 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. The meeting places are as follows:

Southeast District, Oct. 27, 1st, Monticello;

Southwest District, Oct. 28, 1st, Hope;

West Central District, Oct. 29, 1st, Alma;

Central District, Oct. 30, 1st, Benton;

Northwest District, Nov. 3, 1st, Harrison;

North Central District, Nov. 4, 1st, Batesville;

Northeast District, Nov. 5, 1st, Paragould;

East Central District, Nov. 6, 1st, Marianna. ■

PASTOR William B. Sawyer, of Calvary Church, West Memphis, reports 22 additions for baptism and 15 additions by letter, in a revival Aug. 23-30, with Jimmy O'Quinn, of Garland, Tex., as evangelist. Sunday School reached 306 attendance to set a new record and Training Union reached 187, surpassing a goal of 175. There were numerous rededications and four surrendering for special service. J. E. Neal, Jr., a member of the church, led the singing.

'Missionaries' Needed Desperately



DR. AND MRS. John Miller and son John, of Camden, examine a coconut carving from San Blas. Mrs. Miller displays native dress.

By DR. JOHN MILLER

MANY PEOPLE seem to wonder why Dr. James Sawyer, dentist from Benton, and I wanted to go on a working vacation to San Blas Islands.

Haven't you ever had a desire to be a missionary and, above all, a pioneer in a new area? What consecrated young person has not had such feeling?

God called and led me to China as one of your medical missionaries a number of years ago. Due to my experiences as a missionary war prisoner of the Japanese, and my experiences in the Army, my health failed and I had to resign from the Foreign Mission Board.

This is why I say it was a privilege to be invited to go serve among these people for one week. Dr. Sawyer and I

knew that we were helping to strengthen the work of our Home Mission Board workers and that was enough reason for going. Besides this, we could tell that the Holy Spirit was using us to help open the field a little wider for the gospel.

It reminded me of the story of Peter Parker as he "opened China at the point of a lancet" over a hundred years ago. We were doing the same type work in June 1959 and only one hundred miles from the Canal Zone and modern medical facilities.

Much Progress Noted

Under the leadership of R. G. Van Royen, our Home Mission Board work is making great strides in San Blas. Since I spent practically all my time working, it was hard to learn much about the mission work except that great need still exists. Our Baptist

agencies will see that they are supplied with funds and needed equipment but there is an acute need for professional people to go, immediately, the same as Dr. Sawyer and I have done.

If you are a doctor, dentist, experienced nurse, medical technician or sanitation worker, and in full sympathy with the Southern Baptist mission program, you should consider going to San Blas.

William Beeby, pastor of Balboa Heights Baptist Church, Canal Zone arranged and conducted our mission tour and is anxious to arrange for others to visit the field.

Building Contractor Needed

At least for a short period of time, there is an acute need for a contractor, or builder, to go give a week or two of his time in the construction of some badly needed school and church buildings. No one on the islands has had the experience which the builder should have. Can you go?

The San Blas Islands are still pioneer territory, in many ways, but they are rapidly being opened to the gospel. I can best illustrate with an experience. One of the last people I met in San Blas was a Panamanian who had just graduated from the University of Iowa in Agriculture. He was being sent to San Blas, by the Panama government, to see what could be done in experimental farming and animal husbandry. Yes, these people have learned that there is a better way of life and are now gladly accepting it.

Great Desire for Christ

Their desire to know Christ is perhaps the most evident thing that we could see. On one of the more primitive islands the work is only one year old and still carried on as a mission. For the result of the year's work, there are 22 baptized believers but 450 have indicated that they wanted to be baptized as soon as they have had sufficient instruction.

It hardly seems possible that such conditions could exist when we spend so much time here in the States trying to get people to accept Christ and become church members.

Please pray for your friends in San Blas. ■

Ghana Church, Mission

KUMASI, Ghana —(BWA)— Sadler Baptist Church was organized at Sadler Baptist College in Kumasi, Ghana, with 15 charter members and 21 persons preparing for baptism. Four people accepted Christ at the organizational service, one teacher and three students from Sadler College.

The church already sponsors a mission in a village near the school. This mission, pastored by a student preacher, is considering building and is clearing two lots of an idol house, juju tree, and Moslem prayer square for that purpose.

Work in another village about 20 miles away will begin soon.

Sadler College recently observed its first mission day around the theme, "Go Into All Ghana."

Season of Prayer

SEPT. 21 is the suggested date for the observance of the season of prayer for state missions and for the Dixie Jackson offering for state missions.



MISS COOPER

Arkansas is a mission field! Arkansas needs our concern—our prayers—our gifts. Materials were mailed each WMU organization early in August and offering envelopes and prayer reminders are available from the state WMU office in whatever quantity needed.

Under the general theme, "We Are His Witnesses," we offer the following prepared suggestions and program materials for the observance: Mrs. S. A. Whitlow, WMS; Mrs. O. C. Robinson, YWA; Mrs. Don Williams, Intermediate GA; Miss Joan Frisby, Junior GA; and Mrs. Jake Lowman, Jr., Sunbeams. The offering goal in this year of Jubilee Advance is 11 per cent over that given last year (\$29,750). The offering is administered by the Department of State Missions according to need. To reach this goal, individual contributions must be increased and new contributors should be solicited. The offering should be remitted to Dr. S. A. Whitlow, treasurer, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, 401 West Capitol, Little Rock.

It's Report Time!

Immediately following the last meeting in September, each WMU organization should complete the annual report. As usual, copies should be shared with the associational president, and a copy of the WMU annual report sent to the State WMU Office along with records of advancement for each organization, and the WMU mission study achievement chart. Recognitions will be made on the basis of these reports.

Mailings of new materials are being sent to officers reported for the 1959-60 year. These are needed for planning the new year's work. Send list of officers immediately to state WMU office. —Miss Nancy Cooper, Executive Secretary. ■

THE CHURCHES of Bearden joined efforts for a city-wide youth revival Sept. 4-8, with Rev. Ben O. Bracken, of Camden, as evangelist, and with Charles Chambliss, of 1st Church, Bearden, leading the music, reports Pastor A. W. Upchurch, Jr., of 1st Church, where the services were held. Churches cooperating included 1st Methodist, 1st Assembly of God, and Missionary Baptist Church. 1st Baptist received three members by letter, one for baptism, and there were a number of rededications.

NEW OFFICERS of Brotherhood, 1st Church, Bearden: John W. Shelby, president; Clyde Williams, vice president; and John R. Anthony, recording secre-

Missions and Evangelism

Mission Flourishes

IN TRI-COUNTY Association, a few miles from Palestine, is Midway Mission, sponsored by 1st Church, Forrest City, and pastored by W. A. McKay.

A tent has been used as a place of meeting for the past two months. A revival meeting resulted in 26 additions, and on the following Sunday, there were five more professions of faith and the next Sunday 4 more additions.

The Sunday School attendance has been averaging from 65 to 75 each Sunday.

A member of the Forrest City Church drilled a water well at the cost of \$300 and gave to the mission. Several acres of ground have been secured for a building site and the concrete block foundation has been laid for a building which is to accommodate approximately 200 people. They have enough lumber on hand to finish the building with the exception of roof, ceiling, and flooring.

Brother McKay has done an outstanding job in leading and establishing the mission and working on the building program. 1st Church, Forrest City, has been liberal in its support.

The Mission department is being asked for additional help, both on pastor's salary and in completing of building where they also expect to have a parsonage. This has been a fruitful mission and Pastor Rucker states that he believes they will be able to have an average of 100 in Sunday School when they get into the building.—C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent. ■

Cooperative Receipts In 9 Percent Increase

1959 Cooperative Program receipts for world missions received in the state office to Sept. 1, amounted to \$1,033,276.76.

This is the earliest date in the year that we have reached the million-dollar mark, for Cooperative Program giving in Arkansas. This figure represents a nine percent increase over the corresponding period for 1958.

If this rate of increase continues through the remaining months of this year, we shall reach our budget goal of \$1,600,000.

We are deeply grateful to God and the churches throughout Arkansas for this increased interest in our total mission program. As we travel throughout the state we are impressed with the wonderful prospects for an abundant harvest this fall. It appears that God is going to entrust to us a larger amount of wealth. At the same time we need to be ever mindful that it is God who gives us the power to get wealth.

It is not the increased wealth that will guarantee greater spiritual good, but the manner in which we use this increased power. S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary

Rev. Doyle Lumpkin, pastor of 1st Church, Sparkman, was guest speaker at the meeting, showing color slides he made while in Europe.

Race Relations

A Busy Summer

OUR DEPARTMENT is closing out its most successful summer program.

Much assistance has been given to Vacation Bible School work among Negro Baptists, not only by our department, but by many of our associational missionaries and local churches.

We conducted two very successful Baptist Leadership Camps for Negro Baptist boys and girls. The week in June for boys, ages 9-16, had 88 enrolled, and the camp for girls in August had 62, a total enrollment of 150. Of this number 10 found Christ as their personal Saviour and all were greatly enriched spiritually.

Our camps are the only ones conducted by any Christian group for Negro children in Arkansas.

August has been a very busy month for your director of race relations. Aside from the things already mentioned in the report, we jointly planned, with the president of one Negro Convention, a state-wide meeting and 17 District meetings for the purpose of promoting the Unified Budget Plan of Church and Convention Financing for his Convention.

This is new with them and is patterned after our Cooperative Program. We believe this is the most progressive step any Negro Baptist Convention has ever taken in our state. The decision of this Convention to adopt the Unified Budget Plan, elect an Executive Secretary, and institute a program of promotion is already beginning to bear fruit.

During August we also appeared on the program of both Glorieta and Ridgecrest assemblies during the Home Mission Week and supplied pulpits for 1st Baptist churches in Monticello, Brinkley, and Lake Village.

Right now we are busy making plans for the opening of our eight extension schools for in-service Negro Baptist pastors. We had 257 enrolled during the school year of 1959-60 and indications are that we will exceed 300 during the 1959-60 school year. These classes are being taught by some of our best pastors and educational directors. —Clyde Hart, Director. ■

TYPE CASTING

ACTOR: "So, you're going to use me in your next play? Apparently you have discovered at last what I am."

DIRECTOR: "Yeah, hurry up and get into the hind legs of that stage horse over there."

EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Starting salary up to \$600 plus bonus, depending upon qualifications and selection tests, for man to represent large, well-known corporation. Permanent connection in a very stable industry. Comprehensive training program considered outstanding. Preferable: Age 25-35, married and college degree. Advancement opportunities dependent solely on ability. Include personal history and record of business background. ETA % Arkansas Baptist, 401 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, Ark.

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

Charles A. Edwards

ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

VIRGINIA CHURCH TEMPERANCE COUNCIL, INC.

THE ABSOLUTE control of all public communications media in dictator countries is well known and greatly abhorred by all of us. We know that the eye and ear stimuli, if controlled, can largely shape the thinking of any people for good or for evil. Thus the most dangerous form of poisoning is that of the minds of men.

Many of us may not have realized, however, the frightful extent to which the public communication media of America are being controlled by the alcohol beverage industry, and used to distort the thinking of people. I refer not primarily to the direct advertising of the industry—serious as this is—but I would direct your attention here to the influence which this \$413,000,000 a year advertising has on the editorial policies of our news agencies.

What we need in the press is a truthful, comprehensive, unbiased account of the major events of our time. We have heard the arguments pro and con on controversial issues. Unfortunately, however, this type of democratic reporting is becoming less and less common.

Freedom of the Press

The most important recent study of the freedom of the press was that undertaken by Chicago University and largely financed by Time, Inc. After an exhaustive study and spending over \$200,000, the report concluded that the freedom of the press is in danger for three reasons:

1. The press is now a medium of mass communication but the proportion of people that can express their opinions through it has greatly decreased.
2. The few who control it have not provided a service adequate to the needs of society.
3. Those who direct the machinery of the press have engaged from time to time in practices which the society condemns.

The days when a competing press fought for the minds of men have largely passed. Today in eleven out of every twelve cities there is no competing press. These newspapers are big business and the owners are big business men. The press is connected with other big business through the advertising of these businesses, upon which it depends for the major part of its revenue. The result of this upper-bracket ownership and control is that the right of free public expression has been largely lost. The press in general has shown great bias against cooperatives, against food and drug regulation, against Federal Trade Commission orders designed to suppress fraudulent advertising.

Bias of Editorial Policy

Perhaps this bias is no more clearly seen than in the editorial attitude toward alcoholic beverages. In our major newspapers and weekly news magazines there is a conspicuous absence of factual reporting in regard to alcohol's role in accidents, crime, divorce and other social and health problems.

For example, the year 1958 marked the 25th anniversary of repeal. The great national news services

carried syndicated articles marking this historic event. These articles clearly followed the script of the liquor publications with emphasis on the benefits of repeal, the joy with which repeal was welcomed on Dec. 5, 1933, and the economic necessity for liquor revenues throughout the country.

THESE ARTICLES mentioned for instance the "horrible crime wave" under prohibition but they did not mention the crime and vice under legalized liquor, which has skyrocketed to the astronomical figure of twenty billion dollars a year in America.

Facts Not Reported

They did not mention J. Edgar Hoover's report that liquor is involved in at least 60.9% of all major crimes.

They reminded us of the bootlegging which flourished under prohibition but they did not tell the people that under legalized liquor, according to a release from the U. S. Treasury Department for the year ending July, 1958, there were 9,273 stills confiscated. These stills had a daily output of 290,593 gallons. It was estimated that only one in four was discovered.

They did not tell us about the 8,000,000 alcoholics and problem drinkers, who constitute our number three public health problem.

They did not tell us about the ten billion dollars spent each year in the United States for alcoholic beverages.

Information Is Available

IN A DEMOCRACY no social public health problem can be overcome without (1) adequate knowledge and without (2) widespread dissemination of that knowledge through the media of mass communication. The lack today is not of knowledge concerning the chemical nature and effects of beverage alcohol. The scientific information available is abundant. Our most pressing need is to have these facts instilled into the minds of our people—an informed people will be concerned people. And concern leads to action.

In the light of this powerful conspiracy of silence, what can we, as concerned people do?

(1) We can support every legislative measure designed to curb the advertising of alcoholic beverages.

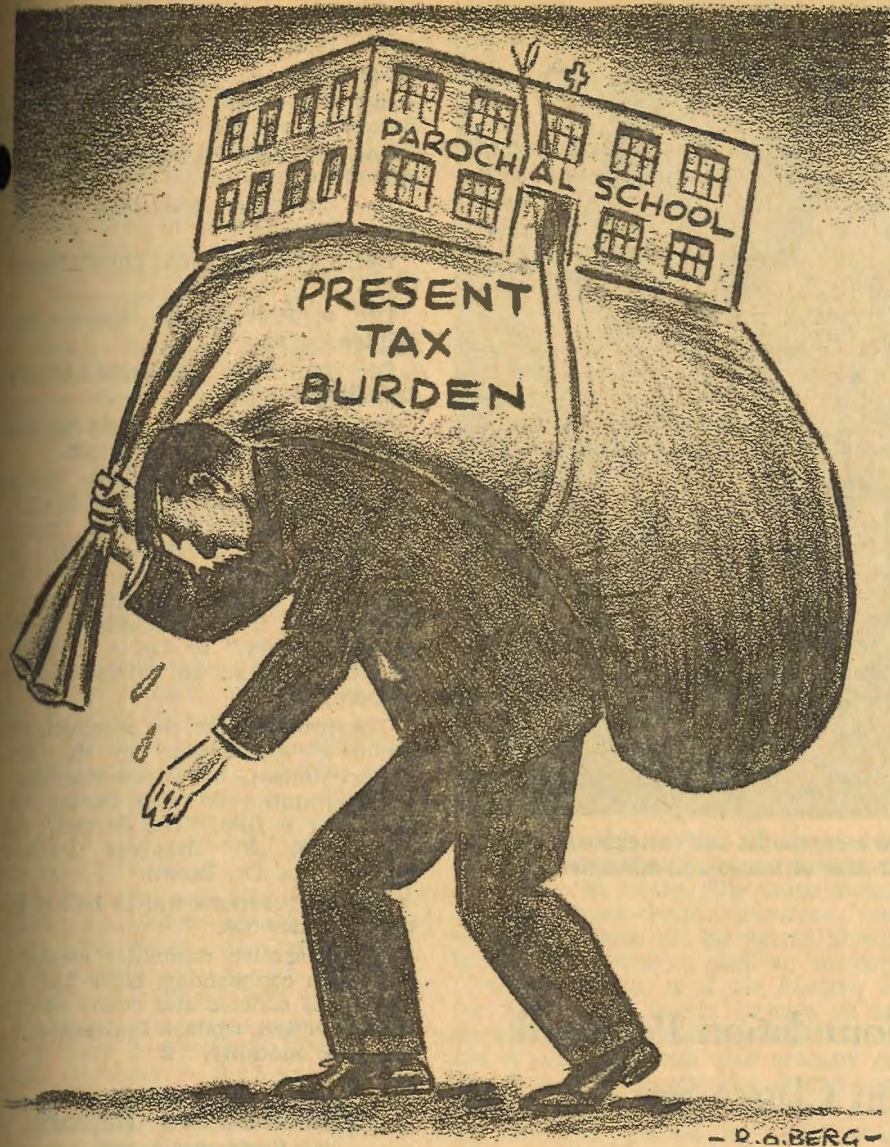
(2) We can write letters to the editors of our newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations expressing our disapproval of the advertising of alcoholic beverages and our abhorrence of the obvious bias of the editorial policies regarding alcoholic beverages.

(3) We can do a more effective job of alcohol education through the public schools and the churches. Unfortunately many times the minister is drawn into this conspiracy of silence through fear of offending some "influential" (large contributor) member.

Church Is Last Bulwark

THIS MUST not happen. The church is the last bulwark against the engulfing flood of alcohol-created problems. Here we must remain free and here we must turn back the tide.

—Contributed by Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, Inc., Little Rock.
Dr. Wm. E. Brown, Executive Director. ■



Heavy enough without that.

Alcohol Education Seen as Urgent

By Melvin Frey
Educational Director
Missouri Christian Civic Foundation

OUR NATION is desperately in need of a revival of public education against the use of beverage alcohol. Alcohol education in the schools should never have ceased and we should never have fooled ourselves into the idea that the liquor traffic has been destroyed and the liquor habit conquered merely by writing an amendment into the Constitution and implementing it with the Volstead Act.

Prohibition was an achievement — but education was still necessary. Now that prohibition is gone we must revive our education program and renew our zeal. Lost territory must be reconquered and held. Textbooks must go back into the schoolrooms along with teachers to deal with the harmful effects of alcohol.

The mind of the nation could be

changed in a decade with proper instruction from present-day textbooks, since the information presented in them on the evils of alcoholism is more abundant and exact.

Senator Capper says: "We may repeal prohibition but we cannot repeal the liquor problem."

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. states: "Only as the profit motive is eliminated is there any hope of controlling the liquor traffic in the interest of a decent society."

At Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Howard Kelly says: "There is no disease in the world for which alcohol is a cure. It does undeniably cause thousands of cases of diseases . . . Its use is ruinous to the kidneys, liver, heart and smaller blood vessels and gives rise to that common fatality, high blood pressure." Also at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Adolf Meyer says: "Alcohol is a direct, and principal cause of several types of mental disease."—Submitted by Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, Inc., Little Rock, Dr. William E. Brown, Executive Director.

Missionary Child Dies On Ghana Field

David K. Faile, youngest child of Dr. and Mrs. George M. Faile, Jr., Southern Baptist missionaries to Ghana, died suddenly on August 10 in Nalerigu. He would have been four years old in November.

Cause of death has not been determined, but snake bite is considered probable. Burial was in the grounds of the Baptist Hospital at Nalerigu.

Dr. Faile writes: "Our littlest missionary—the healthiest, happiest member of the family—waked up in fine spirits, ate a hearty breakfast, dressed himself, and went out to play. His mother drove out to a village to get a patient and I went to the Baptist Hospital. The other children report that, in our absence, David came into the house and spoke to his brother about not being able to open his eyes wide. Then he went to his bedroom and asked for his Daddy. Later he lay down on the floor and called the names of his brother and two sisters. When we arrived his heart had stopped. A post-mortem examination revealed nothing which might have caused his death.

"The prayers and presence of friends helped us very much. Many, many Africans have come to sympathize with us. Some have given money to be used in the Lord's work in David's name. To all who have come we have tried to explain how we believe David is now in God's presence and how we expect through faith in Christ to join him there one day. Our prayer now is that many people here may turn to Christ and receive salvation from him."

Dr. and Mrs. Faile are natives of South Carolina, he of Greenville and she of Bishopville. Appointed for missionary service in Nigeria in 1953, they transferred to Ghana in 1957. There Dr. Faile has led in the establishment of medical work and the erection of a Baptist hospital in Nalerigu. Their address is Baptist Medical Center, Nalerigu via Gambaga, Ghana, West Africa. ■

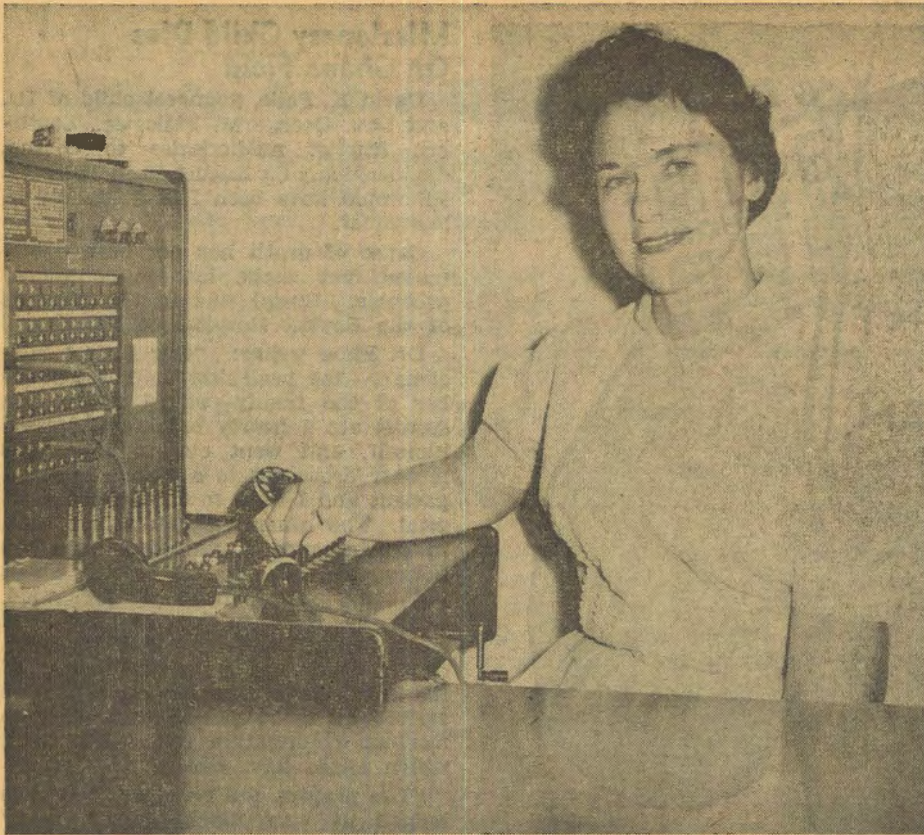
Florida Educators Move On Sex Offenders

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. —(BP)—Florida has set out on a drive to weed sex offenders out of its school staffs.

Armed with a strong new law, the State Board of Education has notified all County school superintendents that it is now mandatory for them to report to the state board the name of any person severed from employment because of conduct involving any immoral or unnatural sex act.

State School Supt. Thomas D. Bailey said this is the first time the law has made it mandatory for sex offenders to be reported and this feature of the law would be of tremendous help to the board in locating such persons.

Since 1950, a total of 16 certificates have been revoked for immoral conduct.



MRS. THURMAN O. Watson is the new receptionist and switchboard operator at Baptist Building. Mr. Watson is director of music and education at Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock.

Christian Civic Foundation

County Organizations of Foundation Perfected; Alcohol-Narcotics Education Classes Set

THE CHRISTIAN Civic Foundation of Arkansas, now in its first year of operation as the successor to the Temperance League of Arkansas, has completed organization of local chapters in 43 of the state's 75 counties, Dr. William E. Brown, executive director of the foundation, reported Sept. 5, at a meeting of the foundation's executive committee.

Dr. Brown said that he expected to organize chapters in the remainder of the counties by Oct. 1.

The executive committee voted to begin publication of a monthly newsletter to be edited by its corresponding secretary, Dr. Erwin L. McDonald, editor of *Arkansas Baptist*. The publication will be mailed regularly to the members of the county CCF chapters, to members of the board of directors of the state CCF organization, and to pastors of the state.

A committee composed of Paul Meers, Dardanelle, and J. Albert Gatlin, North Little Rock, was named to locate a suitable building to house the headquarters office of CCF, with a view to purchase. At present the offices are located in the Waldon building, in downtown Little Rock.

The Foundation expects to be ready to begin teaching classes on the evils of alcohol and narcotics by the beginning of the second semester of the current school year, Dr. Brown reported.

County leaders of the Foundation are now enlisting volunteer teachers with educational backgrounds of training qualifying them for the teaching assignments, Dr. Brown said. Committees from the county units will work with public school officials to schedule the special classes on a home-room basis, he said.

Fourteen of 30 all-day workshops which will be held over the state to train the volunteer teachers for the liquor-narcotics instruction have been scheduled as follows:

Oct. 22, at Winfield Methodist Church, Little Rock.

Oct. 23, at Southside Baptist Church, Pine Bluff.

Oct. 31, at First Baptist Church, Russellville.

Nov. 7, First Baptist Church, Harrison.

Nov. 11, First Baptist Church, Jonesboro.

Nov. 12, First Baptist Church, Searcy.

Nov. 13, First Methodist Church, Monticello.

Nov. 14, Beech Street Baptist Church, Texarkana.

Nov. 21, First Methodist Church, Batesville.

Nov. 23, First Baptist Church, Fayetteville.

Nov. 24, First Methodist Church, Fort Smith.

Dec. 5, First Methodist Church, Forrest City.

Dec. 9, First Baptist Church, Arkadelphia.

Dec. 10, First Methodist Church, Camden.

Each workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue till 4:30 p.m.

The program for the first two of the workshops, for Pine Bluff and Little Rock, will include a talk, "Effects of Alcohol on the Human Body," by a local physician; "Motivations for Drinking," by Miss Emogene Dunlap, of Nashville, Tenn.; "Effects of Drinking on Society," by Dr. A. C. Miller, Nashville, Tenn., all in the morning session.

The program for the afternoon will include: "Alcoholism," by the Rev. Robert Regan, of Washington, D.C.; "Pornography," by Miss Dunlap, who will show a film, "The Accused," and "Education in Arkansas Public Schools," by Dr. Brown.

Similar programs will be held at the other workshops.

The executive committee adopted a resolution commending Little Rock enforcement officers and others who are taking action against lawlessness and for civic morality. ■

Attendance Report

September 6, 1959

Church	Sunday School	Training Union	Ad- thous
Camden, Cullendale 1st	413	206	0
Crossett, 1st	607	176	0
El Dorado, Immanuel	603	303	2
Mission	16		
Ft. Smith, Calvary	302	88	5
Hot Springs, Park Pl.	434	125	4
Huntsville, 1st	101	47	0
Little Rock, Tyler St.	219	101	0
Magnolia, Central	650	245	2
McGehee, 1st	465	215	2
Mission	41	32	
N. Little Rock, Amboy	307	152	0
N. Little Rock,			
Baring Cross	729	224	5
Springdale, 1st	482	148	3
West Memphis, Calvary	241	132	0

Sunday School Proves Worth

SYDNEY, Australia —(BWA)— The all-age Sunday School, serving young people and adults as well as children, is relatively new in Australia. The Australian Baptist recently gave front page headlines to celebration of the first anniversary of the all-age school at Rockhampton, Queensland. Rev. Jo Green, pastor, reports growth in all phases of the church life due to investment of adults in Bible study.

Sunday School Board Files Labor Brief

NASHVILLE — (BP) — The Baptist Sunday School Board is preparing to submit briefs to a federal agency telling why it does not feel that the Teamsters Union should represent any of its employees.

A hearing before National Labor Relations Board examiner was held in Nashville, at which representatives of the Teamsters Union and the Sunday School Board appeared.

James L. Sullivan, executive secretary, and Leonard E. Wedel, personnel director, were among Baptist board officials present.

Two questions must be decided by the National Labor Relations Board after receiving briefs and the examiner's minutes of the hearing. First, shall an election be held among Baptist board employees for Teamster Union representation, and second, if an election is called, who will take part in voting?

It is expected that it will be 30 to 60 days before these questions are answered by the federal agency.

The Teamsters Union recently asked for an election among Baptist Sunday School Board employees. The union wishes to represent approximately 94 out of 1,500 persons employed by the board in Nashville.

The Teamster organization effort to organize board employees was launched while staff officers were at Glorieta Baptist Assembly, N. M., for the Sunday School Board's summer session.

An effort a few weeks ago to organize a group of Methodist Publishing House employees in Nashville for Teamster representation was defeated in an employee election. Union efforts are counting among Methodist employees, however.

Sullivan emphasized that the Sunday School Board is not opposed to unions as such. Union labor has been used in the board's large operations

building now being completed here. It was also used in recent construction at Glorieta.

The board, he added, is opposed to Teamster organization because of testimony brought before Congressional committees about criminal and gangster connections.

Affecting the decision by the NLRB on whether a vote will be called is the requirement that 30 per cent of the appropriate unit of employees to be represented shall have petitioned for an election.

While the Teamsters claim voting should be held among 94 employees, the Baptist agency maintains that there are at least 338 employees having the "same community of interest" who should take part in the election.

The statement issued by Sullivan after the examiner's hearing follows:

"The Teamsters' Union filed a petition asking for an election by a small group of our employees which the union estimated at approximately 94 out of a total of 1,500 employees.

"The Baptist Sunday School Board does not agree that the Teamster's Union should represent any group of its employees.

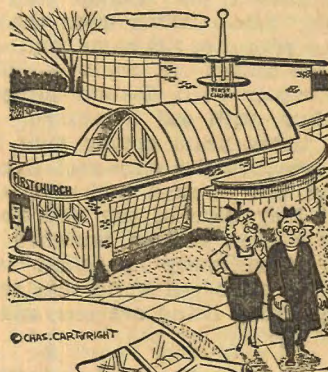
"The hearing by the National Labor Relations Board was primarily to hear evidence so that the Labor Board in Washington could determine just which employees of our Board should be allowed to vote in such an election.

"On this point, it is the position of our Board that if any election at all is to be held it should include at least 338 of our employees who actually do have the same community of interest. For any matter which shall so vitally concern their interest, we believe that all these employees are entitled to a voice and to vote in any election.

"This is for the National Labor Relations Board to decide. Any further comments should be reserved until the Labor Board has acted."

A Smile or Two

Church Chuckles



"You simply don't fit in with your new ultra-modern church, Elbert. Somehow we've just GOT to renovate you!"

Perhaps it won't hurt too bad, Elbert. Modern architectural trends have wrought startling change in the physical appearance of many new church edifices. Fortunately nothing can ever change the Eternal Truths of Christian doctrine... whether one worships amid the splendor of gleaming chrome and glass, or surrounded by the quiet dignity of an age-old cathedral.

Out of Touch

TWO AMERICANS were cast away on a desert island in the middle of the Pacific for nearly three years. One day while they stood on the beach gazing out onto the horizon, one spotted a bottle being washed ashore. He raced out into the surf and pulled it in. It was one of those new king-sized Coca-Cola bottles. He looked at it, then a frightening realization crossed his mind, "Jim," he shrieked, "we've shrunk!"

He Remembered

IN A DISCUSSION of women's styles on a quiz show, an elderly man was one of the contestants. He was asked: "I suppose you are old enough to remember wasp waists?"

"Remember 'em," he exclaimed bitterly. "That's when I got stung."

Shoddy Merchandise

THE YOUNG wife on her first fishing trip was working busily over her line. Finally her husband asked her what she was doing.

"I'm changing corks, dear," she answered sweetly. "This one keeps sinking."

Grounded

PATIENT: "Doctor, you sure kept your promise when you said you'd have me walking again in a month."

DOCTOR: "Well, well, that's fine."

PATIENT: "I don't know; had to sell my car to pay your bill."

Activities for Children

Plants from Fruits And Vegetables

By Dorothy Marshall

SWEET POTATO: Cut a sweet potato in half and place the halves in bowls. Cover with water. Within three weeks you will have two beautiful vines. This plant requires few water changes.

AVOCADO PIT: Plant the pit close to the surface in a potful of pebbles. Always keep the pebbles moist. In about 10 days your plant will start to grow rapidly. The avocado plant has sturdy green leaves and lasts for a long time.

GRAPEFRUIT SEED: Plant a few grapefruit seeds in soil close to the surface. In two to three weeks small shoots with shiny green leaves will spring up. Moisten them daily.

CARROT PLANT: Cut off a carrot one-half inch below the top, and put

the stem and piece of carrot in shallow water. A small dish will do nicely. A fernlike, leafy plant will appear in about a week. Add water as needed. It's fun to add some red food coloring when the plant has started. The leaves will become tinted, showing how a plant drinks water.

PINEAPPLE PLANT: The pineapple plant has to be rooted before it can be planted. To do this place the lid of the pineapple in shallow water. In one week roots will appear. When enough roots are attached, place the plant in soil. Soon this graceful plant will spill over the edge of the table.

ONION PLANT: There are two ways to grow the tall white shoots of the onion plant. You can wrap an onion in cotton and tighten it with a rubber band or a string. Water daily. Or you can put the onion in soil and water. When the onion plant produces an odor, it should be thrown away.

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

No Line Between

FROM THE BEGINNING OF TIME man has tried to disavow any connection between his religion and his everyday life. Calling upon the Lord, singing praises to his name, and asking him for things we want — all are much easier than dealing justly and mercifully with our fellowmen. Jesus spent thirty years among men trying to prove that the only real approach to God was through human relations.

The May issue of the New Zealand **White Ribbon** has an unsigned poem called "Christianity In Action," which says to the modern world that religion and everyday living are one and only one thing:

A man I know has made an altar of his factory bench
And one has turned the counter in his store
Into a place of sacrifice and holy ministry.
Another still has changed his office desk
Into a pulpit desk, from which to speak and write,
Transforming commonplace affairs
Into the business of the King.
A Martha in our midst has made
Her kitchen table a communion table.
A postman makes his daily round
A walk in the Temple of God . . .
To all of these, each daily happening
Has come a whisper from the lips of God.

Each separate task, a listening post,
And every common circumstance
A wayside shrine.

When people say of any social problem, "It has nothing to do with religion," they are merely trying to get to God by the easy way of by-passing his children. Christianity is nothing but an empty word until it goes into action.—Emma Kidd Hulburt, in **The Union Signal**

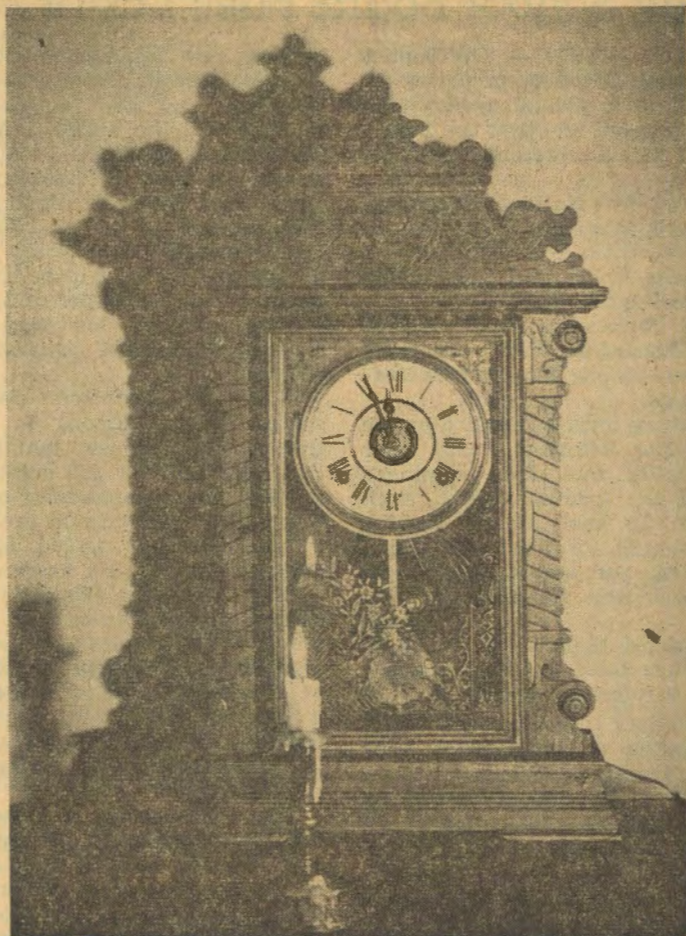
Baptist Highlights

Oklahoma Assemblies Attract 21,000

. . . The United States Information Agency, Washington, D. C., has requested permission to record the audio portion of the Southern Baptist dramatic television series "This Is the Answer" for rebroadcast on radio.

. . . A total of 21,706 persons registered for the 40th annual Falls Creek Baptist Assemblies on Oklahoma's 200-acre camp grounds near Davis, Okla. There were 2,151 public decisions for Christ during the three assemblies.

. . . The Missouri Baptist Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri, the oldest Baptist hospital in the world, will celebrate its 75th anniversary November 9. C. E. Copeland, administrator of the hospital, has announced a \$10 million expansion program for the hospital on a new site in St. Louis. The hospital now has 18 buildings worth \$1,837,334 and a bed capacity of 525.—The **Survey Bulletin**.



**IT IS
TIME**

**To Start Thinking and Planning
For The**

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

We Suggest:

APPOINT AN ORPHANAGE CHAIRMAN

SET A GOAL FOR YOUR CHURCH

USE THE MATERIAL SENT YOU

"Give At Least . . . One Day's Pay"

BE THANKFUL THAT YOU CAN GIVE



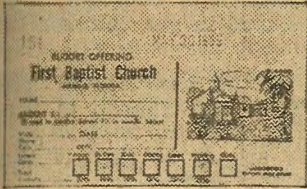
BOTTOMS BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

Monticello, Arkansas

H. C. Seefeldt, Supt.

Jim Jones, Asst. Supt.

BUY NOW AND SAVE



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Moncrief Re-Elected Commission Chairman

RIDGECREST, N. C. — (BP) — Adiel J. Moncrief, pastor of 1st Baptist Church, St. Joseph, Mo., will serve another year as chairman of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was re-elected at the Commission's annual meeting here.

George W. Riddle, pastor, Dwight Baptist Church, Alabama City, Ala., was elected vice chairman and Robert L. McCan, pastor, 1st Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tenn., is recording secretary.

A. C. Miller of Nashville continues as the Commission's executive secretary.

The Commission, which has met at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly for its annual session in recent years, voted to hold its 1960 meeting next summer in Nashville, where Commission offices are located. The date for the meeting will be fixed later.

IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION

According to *Nepszava*, a periodical in Budapest, the publication of atheist literature has been stepped up in Hungary. The magazine has reported that more than 150,000 copies of pamphlets criticizing religion and "the reactionary outlook of the church" were printed during the first six months of this year.

President Eisenhower has proclaimed October 7 as a National Day of Prayer, calling on Americans to "give thanks

for the bounty of Providence which has made possible the growth and promise of our land."

The Departments of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D.C., have reported that church construction set an all-time high record during July, totaling \$85 million, an increase of \$6 million over June and topped July, 1958, by \$10 million. It was the largest volume of church construction in a single month in United States history.

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Preaching, Teaching Build New Churches

NASHVILLE —(BP)— New churches are built around good preaching, good teaching, and an incentive to reach great goals, the keynote speaker at the Conference on Associational Activities here reported.

E. W. Westmoreland, Oklahoma City, secretary of the department of religious education for Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, delivered the keynote address to over 350 associational superintendents of missions in the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Conference on Association Activities was sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board, association missions leaders being guests of the board for a four-day period. It was the first such conference to be held.

"Churches were built first of all by preaching," Westmoreland declared. "First place must be given to preaching."

He said that great churches rely on strong teaching organizations as the Sunday School and the Training Union.

YMCA—Catholic Leaders in Meet

GENEVA, Switzerland (EP) — Twenty-one delegates representing eight countries met in Geneva recently under the auspices of the World Alliance of YMCA's — first international meeting of its kind. An official conference statement declared that YMCA membership has "strengthened the faith of Roman Catholics and contributed greatly to mutual respect between Protestants and Roman Catholics in the YMCA."

Protestants in Spain Organize

MADRID (EP) — Spain's tiny minority of Protestants (about 5 per cent of the country's 30 million people) has formed an "Evangelical Defense Commission" to fight by legal means what were termed "oppressive" acts of a Roman Catholic government. Bishop Santos M. Molina of Madrid, top official of the Spanish Reformed Church, heads the group which embraces various Protestant denominations.

Spanish law prohibits public organizations of this kind, so the defense commission remains a private assembly to combat: rejection of marriage applications, denial of burial permits, housing and employment boycotts, suppression of non-Catholic religious publications, closing of churches and restrictions on theological schools.

Lillenas Dies

Dr. Haldor Lillenas, of Pasadena, Calif., noted Gospel song writer, died suddenly of a heart attack, Aug. 18, at his vacation cottage at Aspen, Colo. A special memorial service was held at the First Church of the Nazarene in Kansas City, Mo., Saturday, August 22, 1959.

Until he retired in 1950, Dr. Lillenas had been Manager and Music Editor of the Lillenas Publishing Company,

"The Sunday School has become the best agency we know for reaching people," he said. "The Sunday school is designed to reach the multitudes, and to teach the Bible not only to those who attend on Sunday morning but also to those who do not come," he continued.

"Our greatest problem and greatest weakness is at the point of the 2½ million Southern Baptists who do not care enough to take their church memberships with them when they move from one place to another," according to Westmoreland.

Harold E. Ingraham, Nashville, director of the board's service division, outlined the purposes of the conference. It was, he said, to build mutual acquaintance between the associational missionaries and Sunday School Board personnel and to determine how the board can help the mission leaders.

The Southern Baptist Convention's movement to establish 30,000 new churches, missions, and preaching stations during a five-year period was another reason for calling the conference, Ingraham said.

music department of the Nazarene Publishing House of Kansas City, Mo. During his long and efficient career as evangelist, pastor and music editor, Dr. Lillenas wrote over 3,000 gospel songs. Among his better known titles: "Wonderful Peace," "Living Forever," "Jesus Will Walk With Me," "Wonderful Grace of Jesus," "Holiness for Evermore," "Where They Need No Sun" and "My Wonderful Lord." (EP)

Denies 'Protestant Problem'

CLEVELAND, Ohio (EP) — Does Spain have a "Protestant Problem"? Loyala Lawrence Knoblauch, a Franciscan priest who has returned here after four years in Spain snaps: "There is no more of a Protestant problem in Spain than there is an Eskimo problem in Panama. There might be a few Eskimos in Panama," he adds, "but there's no demand for special legislation for them."

Pointing out that Spain is 99 per cent Catholic, he adds: "I won't say that Protestants shouldn't have more freedom. But the State is concerned with preserving Spanish unity, and that unity is based on Catholicism."

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday: The Lord of Peace, Ephesians 2:11-22.

Friday: Dwelling in Peace, Psalm 84:1-4,10-12.

Saturday: Prayer for Mercy, Psalm 85:1-7.

Sunday: The Lord Speaks Peace, Psalm 85:8-13.

Monday: Unacceptable Offerings, Malachi 1:6-8,11.

Tuesday: Messenger of the Covenant, Malachi 3:1-6.

Wednesday: "Will a Man Rob God?" Malachi 3:8-12. ■


James L. Sullivan, Nashville, executive secretary of the board, said that the association of churches "is a tremendous unit in our Southern Baptist life."

One of the associational missionaries, H. L. McClanahan of Kennett, Mo., said, "If all the needs of the local churches are to be met, it must be through the association."

The association of churches is the unit in Southern Baptist life which is closest to the individual churches. It often follows county lines. There are 1,111 associations in the 45 states in which there are Southern Baptist churches.

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Fifteen to Go

A TOTAL OF 85 Sunday schools have received Standard recognition to date, which leaves us just 15 short of the 100 goal. All churches not listed below which have reached the Standard are urged to mail their applications to the State Sunday School Department before October 1 in order to receive Standard recognition for the 1958-59 Sunday School year. Let's have 100 Standard Sunday Schools by October 1.

Listed below are the Sunday Schools which have received Standard recognition for the 1958-59 Sunday School year through Sept. 10.

1. 1st, Manila; 2. 3rd, Malvern; 3. 1st, Benton; 4. 1st, McGehee; 5. 1st, Osceola; 6. Yarbrow, Blytheville; 7. 1st, Blytheville; 8. West, Batesville; 9. Providence, Fayetteville; 10. 1st, Dell; 11. 1st, Wilson; 12. Diaz.

13. 1st, Cotter; 14. New Providence, Leachville; 15. Gosnell, Blytheville; 16. Crossroads, Blytheville; 17. Westside, Manila; 18. 1st, Bentonville; 19. 1st, Sheridan; 20. 1st, Fordyce; 21. 1st, Cullendale.

22. 1st, Gravette; 23. 1st, Morrilton; 24. Rosedale, Little Rock; 25. Pilgrims Rest, Batesville; 26. Crystal Hill, Little Rock; 27. 1st, Leachville; 28. Earle; 29. 1st, Sparkman; 30. University, Fayetteville; 31. Pine Grove, Sweet Home; 32. 1st, Altheimer; 33. 1st, Warren.

34. Sunnyside, Rogers; 35. Pleasant Grove, Conway; 36. Highway, North Little Rock; 37. Floral; 38. Maple Avenue, Smackover; 39. 1st, Hot Springs; 40. South Side, Fort Smith; 41. Rosie; 42. Murphy's Corner, Newport.

43. 1st, Grubbs; 44. 1st, Springdale; 45. 1st, Forrest City; 46. Grannis; 47. 1st, DeWitt; 48. 1st, Fayetteville; 49. 1st, Newport; 50. Gaines Street, Little Rock; 51. 2nd, Monticello; 52. Trinity, Little Rock; 53. 1st, West Memphis; 54. Biggers.

55. Elliott, Camden; 56. North Side, Fort Smith; 57. Ruddell Hill, Batesville; 58. Board Camp; 59. 1st, Paragould; 60. Grand Avenue, Fort Smith; 61. 1st, Plumerville; 62. 1st, Stuttgart; 63. Park Place, Hot Springs.

64. Kelley Heights, Ft. Smith; 65. 1st, Hazen; 66. 1st, Ashdown; 67. Park Hill, No. Little Rock; 68. Calvary, Ft. Smith; 69. Canfield; 70. 1st, Stamps; 71. Sidney; 72. Immanuel, Little Rock.

73. 1st, Pea Ridge; 74. 1st, Norphlet; 75. South Side, Pine Bluff; 76. 1st, Crossett; 77. Calvary, West Memphis; 78. 1st, Lepanto; 79. 1st, Stephens; 80. Levy, No. Little Rock; 81. 1st, Ozark; 82. 1st, Brinkley; 83. 1st, Hope; 84. 1st, Searcy; 85. Temple, Crossett. ■

A MAJOR effort is now being aimed at using satellites to improve telephone, telegraph, radio, and television service on a worldwide basis. It has been estimated that a phone call to any receiver in the world via satellites may cost as little as 25 cents.



SHIRLEY JOHNSON, newly appointed assistant to the editor of ARKANSAS BAPTIST, begins the task of pasting up the dummy for a copy of the paper, under the helpful eye of Jerry Tolbert, who gave up the position to continue his studies at the University of Texas.

New Assistant to Editor begins Assignment

A DECISION a few weeks ago to dedicate her life to full-time Christian service is responsible for the beginning of a new career, in Christian journalism, by Miss Shirley Johnson, who became assistant to the editor of *Arkansas Baptist*, Sept. 1.

Miss Johnson gave up a promising career in insurance to accept her new position, leaving a junior executive's post with a Little Rock firm.

A native of DeWitt, Miss Johnson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram S. Johnson, of that city. She is a graduate of DeWitt High School and received her college education at Southern State College, Magnolia, Arkansas A. and M., at Monticello, and the University of Little

Rock, where she is now taking some evening classes.

As assistant to the editor, Miss Johnson will serve as office secretary and will help with the preparation of copy, editing, planning page layouts, and reading of proof.

In the latter duties she succeeds Jerry Tolbert, of Pine Bluff, who was a member of the Baptist staff during the summer and has now gone back to the University of Texas as a senior and journalism major.

Miss Johnson is a member of 2nd Baptist Church, Little Rock, where she teaches a Sunday School class of 15-year-old girls and is leader for a Training-Union of 17-year-old young people. ■

New Foreign Secretary

LONDON, England —(BWA)— Rev. E. G. T. Madge, recently of Calcutta, India, has been elected the new gen-

eral foreign secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, the missions organization of Baptists in Great Britain and Ireland.

Millions of Bats

By Thelma C. Carter

In September one of the strangest sights of nature occurs when bats begin their flying journey to warm winter homes. Looking like small, dark tornado funnels or big snakes weaving about in mid-air, bats pour out of their caves.

Not all bats migrate. Some hibernate in caves or rock crevices during the cold winter months. But thousands upon thousands do take to the air like birds when the first cool air is felt.

A bat is an ugly creature. It looks like a flying mouse with its tiny pinpoint eyes and tiny ears. Its wings consist of a thin membrane extending from the fore limbs to the hind limbs.

Even though the bat is an ugly animal, we know that God created it. "And God created . . . every living creature" (Genesis 1:21).

Bats have a built-in radar system that is amazing to scientists and naturalists. Through the speaking sounds which come from their throats—sounds that human beings cannot hear—bats send out sound waves. When these strike an object, even a fine wire, they return to warn the bats that something is in their path. Bats can fly safely even with a blindfold across their eyes.

In Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and other states, caves contain tens of thousands of bats, even millions. They cling to the roofs and sides of caves in layers. Some bats hang from tree branches, resting by hanging head downward. Others, much to people's dismay, make their homes in attics and empty spaces in buildings. Here they become real pests.

The feeding time of bats is at sunset. They pour out of their cave homes in snake formation to feed upon flying insects, especially mosquitoes. They perform a good service by destroying great hordes of insects. They feed for about an hour and then return to their funnel-shaped flying form to the safety of their dark, usually damp, cave homes.

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Miami Beach Assures Adequate Hotel Space

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. —(BP)— More than 5,500 hotel rooms are available for messengers to the 1960 Southern Baptist Convention here, which should be "adequate," housing officials said.

No reservations requests will be accepted before Dec. 1. The housing bureau will process the applications after Jan. 2. No room deposit will be required.

Application blanks will be published in the state Baptist newspaper and in the Baptist Program magazine during the Fall.

The SBC Housing Bureau will return all applications submitted early with the request that they be re-submitted Dec. 1.



Indians That Made History

By E. M. Hansen

Pocahontas is a name known to almost every school child in the United States, but she was not the only Indian woman who made history.

At the beginning of the seventeenth century, a young Indian maiden was stolen from the Shoshonean or Snake Indian tribe by the Gros Ventres red men. A French trader who saw her was so captivated by her beauty and charming manners that he bought her from her captors and married her.

This Indian girl was Sacagawea, which means "bird woman." She and her husband accompanied the Lewis and Clark Expedition along dangerous trails from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean.

At one time the records of the party were being carried in a canoe, which upset in the rapids of the Columbia River. Brave Sacagawea saved the compass, sextant, and records, as well as the success of the expedition, by diving repeatedly into the whirling rapids until she had retrieved them all. In gratitude, the people of the West have erected a statue in her memory. The beautiful memorial stands in the capitol grounds at Bismarck, North Dakota.

When the early white settlers came to this country, the Indians who met them were in at least one respect no different from the white people themselves. This similarity lay in the many different types of character within each race. There were good Indians, and there were good white men. There were bad white men, just as there were bad red men. There were Indians who

made good history but, unfortunately, there were those who made the other kind as well.

Of the former kind, there was the New Englanders' renowned friend, Massasoit, chief of the Wampanoag tribe. His son, Metacomet, was known to the colonists as King Philip. He tried to continue the friendly relationship of his father, but constant meddling in Indian affairs by rash white men turned the red men against the colonists and led to King Philip's War.

Before being driven from New England, the Indians had attacked over half of the ninety settlements. A dozen of these were completely destroyed. The well-intentioned King Philip was killed; his wife and son were sold into slavery. Such was the tragic outcome of unwise meddling by officious white men.

Other brave Indians who, rightly or wrongly, felt that they had been betrayed by the white men were Black Hawk and Geronimo. The latter, who was a general in the roving, warlike Apache tribe, has had one of the three present-day Apache Boy Scout troops named for him.

Black Hawk, who was a chief of the Sacs, was called Ma-ka-tae-mish-kiak by his own people. Near Oregon, Illinois, there now stands a majestic statue in his memory, sculptured by the famous Lorado Taft. Overlooking the Rock River, the huge gray memorial pictures him gazing out over the scenic beauty where he once roamed. One wonders what pages in history might be rewritten had the red men been treated with more consideration.

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God's Promise of Peace

By J. RICHARD PERKINS

Pastor, Gaines Street Baptist Church, Little Rock

Bible Material: Zechariah 7-14

Sept. 20

THE DREAM of peace has long held captive the hearts of men. There has been so very few years in this world's

when anything like peace has ever reigned that the prospects for it have always been fervently looked for. Certainly this is true in our day of expanded means of devastation that we have given much thought to the pursuit of peace.



MR. PERKINS

The book of Zechariah gives a large

place to the materialization and fulfillment of this dream of peace. However, the first conclusion which must be drawn from Zechariah is that the only lasting peace this world can ever know is the peace that comes from God and this peace can only be obtained when we have met God's condition. From this standpoint alone the book of Zechariah would merit our attention.

The book is easily divided into three sections.

Chapters 1-6 consist of a series of visions regarding the need for the completion of the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem. Dr. Clyde T. Francisco makes a rather interesting observation when he says, "Zechariah and Haggai present an interesting contrast. They were as different as could be with only one thing in common—a passionate enthusiasm for the restoration of the temple."

The second section (chapters 7-8) gives the prophet's instruction concerning the nature of God's ideal ethical and religious standard for His people and the blessing to be realized from the observance of it.

The third and final section (chapters 9-14) give us Zechariah's prediction of the future sufferings of Israel and the trouble through which she is to pass before we are finally told that God will triumph through His people and His blessings upon them will be restorative. This particular section is rich in messianic references and encouraged a deepening expectation in the life of Israel to this end.

I. God requires purity of heart in our religious observance (Zechariah 7:1-14).

UNLIKE HAGGAI, who had lived in Jerusalem prior to the period of exile, Zechariah had never seen the beloved city until he came back as part of the host of repatriates. The intervening years of the exile had left Jerusalem virtually deprived of spiritual leadership and religious instruction. This dearth of religious instruction was the immediate occasion for the inquiry concerning details of their days of fasting. Although

Zechariah was not the only one qualified to answer these questions we are told (7:1) that he was divinely directed to give them an answer.

Zechariah's word to Sherezer, the spokesman, must have come as something of a shock in the light of his introductory remarks. For he begins by saying, "Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?" This was obviously designed to impress the prophet with their continued devotion during the period of exile. Whereupon Zechariah very bluntly and frankly points out that these observances were shallow and empty and from God's viewpoint contained no spiritual value whatsoever. He does this by asking the very cutting and pointing question, "When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month even those seventy years did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?"

Again it was brought to the heart of God's people that God is not interested in our outward show of devotion and ritual but He is infinitely concerned that we have an ear and a heart attuned to His Spirit (7:7).

In the second place, he points out the kind of life that God requires of His people. He very sharply contrasts the type of Godly life which He requires in preference to an empty show of religion. They had in years gone by been oppressive and inconsiderate to widows, orphans, strangers, and the poor while God's desire for them was that they should not even think evil in their hearts one against another.

They are further confronted with their disobedience as he recalls for them that they had stopped their ears that they should not hear and had made their hearts adamant to the end that it was impossible for God to speak to them through His prophets. It is for this reason, Zechariah tells the committee from Bethel, that God had scattered them "with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not."

II. God promises to prosper and bless Jerusalem.

Probably before the delegation turned to leave, after having been so sharply rebuffed, Zechariah continues his word of prophecy from the Lord. In this he tells them that God's reason for His severe treatment of Israel had been that in His heart was a great love for them which prompted His jealous action to win their hearts unto himself alone. He announces, "I am returned unto Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem." Then they are told of his intention for his beloved city and his children.

The following picture of the peace that will reign in Jerusalem is one of great tenderness and pathos, "There shall yet

old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for every age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing the streets thereof."

By contrast this must have been a very pregnant with promise and hope. O, could it be possible that in this ravaged and war-torn capital that the day would ever come when old people would again be secure and little children could run and play in the streets and be unafraid. Yes, it can be true: "If it be marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days," this still did not constitute it an impossibility of God. He concluded his promise to them by saying, "I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country" and by His very presence in their midst would give them a security more substantial than walls and armies. And finally he promises that he would abide with them and "be their God in truth and in righteousness."

III. God promises to make Israel a blessing to the nations (Zechariah 8:9-23).

Our lesson passage for today concluded on the very thrilling note that the house of Jacob will not only be blessed with peace among themselves but that God will make them a blessing unto the nations round about. The prophet says that God has as much intentions and resolution to bless Jerusalem and the house of Judah in these days as He did to punish their fathers because of their disobedience, in former days.

He goes further to say a word of instruction concerning that which lies ahead by urging upon them the necessity to "execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates: And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour." The necessity for a better human relationship in the name of God is as essential to the preservation of peace as any of the laws regarding religious observances.

The fact that Jerusalem is to be a blessing is repeated again and again throughout the closing verses of chapter eight. There shall be such joy and gladness within the city that it will become the subject of observation on the part of her neighbours.

We read in verse 23, "In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, we will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you."

Conclusion

Without a doubt America needs a modern-day Zechariah, a man with an authoritative word from God to bring us again to the awareness "that righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." If we are ever to enjoy the blessing of God we must pay the price of obedience. For we need as a nation abundantly blessed on every hand, to become aware that it is our duty and our high privilege to be a blessing unto others. ■



PASTOR J. D. Passmore sends this picture of the congregation of 1st Baptist Church, St. Joe, and the church building donated to it recently by the Presbyterian Church Extension Committee. SS and TU attendance have doubled in the newly acquired building. Church, 5 years old, had been meeting in a store building.



RECEIVING certificates for summer reading programs were these members of the Summer Reading Club of 1st Church, Blytheville. A total of 950 books were read by members of the club. Forty-nine certificates and 112 seals were awarded by the church librarian, reports Educational Director James B. Johnson.

TRAINING UNION presidents for the eight districts of the state, in an all-day session Sept. 4 at Baptist Building, Little Rock, made plans for the training-planning meetings in the associations this fall and planned the programs for two Training Union assemblies at Siloam Springs next July 4-9 and July 11-16, and for the Youth Convention to be held at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, April 15. Top, left to right: TU Secretary Ralph Davis, Rev. Clifford Palmer, 1st Church, Siloam Springs; Rev. Tommie Hinson, 1st Church, Paris, and Rev. Ray Nelson, 1st Church, Heber Springs. Bottom, left to right: Norman Sutton, educational director, 1st Church, Hot Springs; Rev. Guy Whitney, Eastside Church, Paragould; Rev. R. D. Haygood, TU associate secretary; Rev. Lehman Webb, 2nd Church, El Dorado; Rev. D. Hoyle Haire, 1st Church, Marianna; and Rev. Rhine McMurry, 1st Church, Lewisville.

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