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5-22-1952

### May 22, 1952

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 51

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, MAY 22, 1952

NUMBER 21



*-Religious News Service Photo*

*So You Are Graduating - - Congratulations!*

Page three

## Who Should Partake of the Lord's Supper?

By W. BARRY GARRETT

A question constantly arising in the minds of many is, Who should partake of the Lord's Supper? Because the correct answer to this question is not understood, many church members never participate in this ordinance. Because it is not understood, many outsiders get their feelings hurt and think that they are being branded as non-Christian when they are not offered the bread and the wine.

There is only one proper approach to this problem, and that is to discover what the Bible teaches and govern ourselves accordingly. The Bible, not sentiment, should rule us. Relationship to Christ, not kinship with one another, should be our only motivating force. But in following the Bible we must not act ugly, ungentlemanly, untactfully nor repulsively. It is our opinion that more people have been offended by our tactics than by our belief in relation to the Lord's Supper. Most people will respect the belief of another if it is explained in the spirit of Christ.

There is one thing certain in the Scriptures—the Lord's Supper is not for any and every one in the world who takes a notion that he wants to participate. It is not even for every Christian. There are certain requirements, and when a person meets these requirements there is a divine command to participate.

We believe that the requirements for participation in the Lord's Supper can be summed up in three statements. 1. The participant must be a disciple of Jesus Christ—in other words, a saved person. 2. That person must have followed his Lord in baptism. 3. Church fellowship is essential for proper observance of the Lord's Supper.

This divine order is clearly outlined in Acts 2:41, 42, "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized; and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." There you have it—first,

salvation; second, baptism; and third, church fellowship.

The same thing is seen in the Great Commission of our Lord in Matthew 28:19, 20 (RSV). "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." There it is again—first, salvation; second, baptism; third, church fellowship.

In applying these principles we must remember that salvation is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and is not by baptism or by keeping ordinances or by the works of men. Certainly those who preach otherwise are perverting the gospel and cannot be in fellowship with New Testament Christians.

We must remember also that all that is called baptism is not baptism. Sprinkling a few drops of water on the head of a believer is not baptism. Baptism is the immersion of a disciple of Jesus Christ in water by the authority of a New Testament church. Immersion of an unbeliever or immersion for the purpose of securing salvation is not baptism. Neither is immersion of any Tom, Dick, or Harry, who might assume unto himself such authority, to be considered baptism. Only a properly constituted church according to the New Testament pattern has the right to administer baptism.

Even a New Testament church must have harmony and fellowship before it has a right to observe the Lord's Supper. Read I Corinthians 11:16-34 and draw your own conclusion. Paul plainly says in verse 20 that a divided church cannot participate in the Lord's Supper.

Finally, those who meet these requirements are commanded to observe the Lord's Supper. Jesus told his disciples, "Drink ye all of it," which in current English says, "All of you drink of it." He also commanded, "Do this in remembrance of me."

—Arizona Baptist Beacon

## Could We Be Next?

By DR. FINLEY W. TINNIN

"There is nothing new in state interventionism," said Mr. Spruille Braden, well-known United States diplomat in an address before the American Political Science Association. "It is as old and reactionary as social organization itself."

Continuing, he said, "Babylonia, 2,000 years B.C., was wrecked by imposing controls over wages, prices, production, and consumption." Government extravagance and bloated bureaucracy killed individual initiative and led to the downfall of Greece. Planned economy and state maintenance of the slothful, plus excessive taxation, brought the collapse of the mighty Roman Empire. In the early history of the Americas the welfare state of the Incas so weakened those people that they became easy prey for Pizarro and his Spanish conquistadors, he told his listeners.

Referring indirectly to the current exposures of dishonesty in our government, Mr. Braden summed up: "History discloses that the measure of morality in public office will be in inverse ratio to the amount of state interventionism which may exist."

The epidemic of corruption and graft which has spread throughout the vast, sprawling federal bureaucracy in the United States seems to give added evidence that Mr. Braden is correct. Recently a man called to Washington to ferret out and prosecute corrupt governmental officials was summarily discharged by the Attorney General when the questioning finger was pointed toward him—and the Attorney General, in turn, was "bowed out" of office by the President of the United States. And the people are left wondering.

—Baptist Message

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More than 52,000,000 motor vehicles travelled 465 billion miles in 1951. In establishing an all-time record, they killed 37,100 and injured nearly two million persons. And, 47,330 accidents involved drivers under 18 years of age. Male drivers were responsible for 93 per cent of all fatal accidents.

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The tools seem dull when a person is tired.

## Self-Sacrifice for Others

A Devotion By the Editor

"Now therefore, . . . let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondservant to my lord."

Note that from a long line of events circumstances were so arranged, by divine planning, that a situation was produced which evoked from the soul of Judah this superb plea that he be allowed to take another's place of condemnation in order to spare another unspeakable suffering.

That was revolutionary in that day and marked one of the great advance steps in the development of a missionary religion. It is inevitable that a missionary religion will involve its adherents and propagandists in self-sacrifice and suffering on behalf of those whom it would win to God. One must see the hopeless condition of others. One must realize that the suffering and sacrifice of others leads to no worthy end, but only to despair and destruction. And one must realize that by his own suffering and sacrifice he cannot only relieve the fruitless suffering and sacrifice of others but give them hope and security. But in order to do this one must himself have a hope which his self-sacrifice cannot destroy.

This principle of self-sacrifice was perfected in Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for men, the just for the unjust. He gave His life upon the cross for all men.

Jesus made His own self-sacrifice the basis of the salvation of men, and because of the penalty which he paid for our sins, we are forgiven.

Jesus told His disciples that He was expecting the same thing of them. Not only was self-sacrifice one of the cardinal principles in the inauguration of this religious movement, not only did Jesus make His own self-sacrifice the basis of human redemption; but the same self-sacrifice is an indispensable requirement on the part of Christian people in maintaining and propagating the Christian movement.

"For thy servant became surety for the lad unto my father, saying, If I bring him not unto thee, then I shall bear the blame to my father forever.

"Now therefore, I pray thee, let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my Lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren.

"For how shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me? lest peradventure I see the evil that shall come on my father." Genesis 44:32-34.

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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B. H. DUNCAN EDITOR  
MRS. HOMER D. MYERS ED. ASST.

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Walnut Ridge, Chairman; Hugh Owen, Pine Bluff;  
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## From The Editor's Desk

### So You Are Graduating - Congratulations!

Since we are speaking of our young people on this page, there is another word that should be said. The boys and girls in the grammar schools, in the junior high schools, and the young people in the high schools are being advanced to higher classes. They have passed another milestone in their education careers. While we are focusing attention upon the graduating classes, let us not forget the boys and girls and the young people who have advanced to a higher grade even though they have not yet reached the point of graduation. We are pulling for them as well as for the graduates, and we are counting on them to continue advancing from one grade to another until the day of graduation.

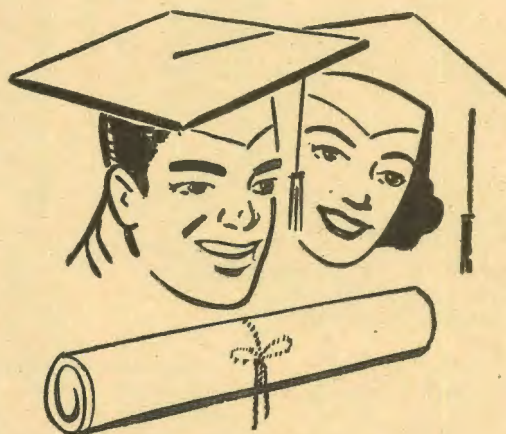
Many of the finest young people are graduating from high school. This is a very important event in their lives. It is a great achievement and worthy of celebration. Graduation from high school marks these young people as good students, capable of applying themselves in such fashion as to master the course of study assigned them. They have proven themselves capable of sticking to their assignment until it has been finished, and they are appropriately awarded with their certificate of graduation.

For many of these high school graduates this event may mean the end of their formal education. Many of them find gainful employment and so begin to plan a business career.

However, there are many others who will continue their educational career in the college or university. It is to be hoped that as many of the high school graduates as possibly can will do just that.

There are large numbers of our young people who are also graduating from college and the university. These have gone on to achieve a still greater accomplishment in their educational careers. Four years more of study have prepared them for professional careers or for managerial posi-

tions or for greater opportunities perhaps in the business world. We hope, too, that this additional four years of college or university training has prepared them for greater usefulness in their churches wherever they may be located and in their service to the Lord.



We heartily and sincerely congratulate these young people and wish for them every blessing of the Lord and every success in life that is in accord with the purpose of God's will for them.

There are still others among our young people who are going on from college and university to graduate schools. It may be to our seminaries to prepare themselves for the ministry, or mission work, or other full-time religious service; it may be to the law school, or the medical school, or the business school. Some may be preparing for a teaching profession, or other professions of equal importance.

So we extend to our boys and girls and our young people throughout the state the heartiest of congratulations and our sincerest good wishes and with most earnest prayers for them in the days to come.

### Our Arkansas Baptist Young People

Each year we are making further discoveries of the tremendous spiritual resources of our Baptist young people and our Baptist young people are responding in ever greater numbers and with growing enthusiasm and interest to the appeals of Christian service and devotion to the Lord. These same young people are finding adequate channels in our church and denominational programs for the expression of their testimony, their devotion to Jesus, and their practical Christian service.

Our Baptist young people are being discovered and are discovering themselves through the long established church organizations such as Sunday School, the Training Union, the auxiliary organizations of the W.M.U., and other general church activities.

#### V. B. S.

The Vacation Bible School is growing in the thoughts and the planning of our local churches. It has come to be an established feature of the church program of most of our churches. This organization takes the boys and girls of junior and intermediate ages and gives to them two weeks of practical Christian teaching and training. There is no way by which the results of the Vacation Bible School can be measured.

And just now is the season for the Vacation Bible School. The program of the Bible school has been enriched and expanded from year to year. Special emphasis is now placed upon making the contribution, which is always a feature of the school, to the Cooperative Program. This means that

the boys and girls are learning to give of their means through this channel to all the causes that their own local church and the denomination support.

#### Summer Assemblies

The summer assemblies constitute another method and means of discovering the spiritual potentialities of our young people and directing their spiritual energies in Christian channels. These summer assemblies may be sponsored by an association, or by a group of associations, or they may be state sponsored institutions, or, like Ridgecrest and Glorietta, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention through the Sunday School Board at Nashville.

If a survey were made to discover the young people who are leaders in their local churches, it is very likely that one would find the most of these young people have attended some summer assembly and perhaps made their decision for deeper consecration and greater loyalty to Christ in these assemblies. Also, decisions for full-time Christian service such as the ministry, missionary service, religious education, and other types of Christian service, were decided upon by our young people in these assemblies.

The summer assemblies have become a major feature of our church and denominational life.

#### B. S. U.

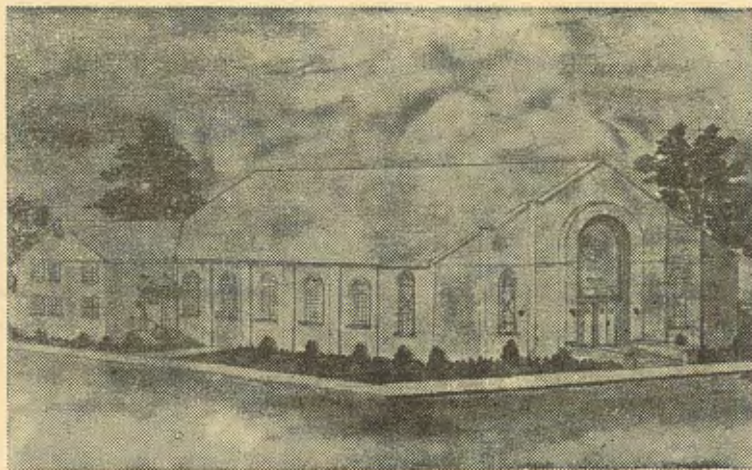
Another feature of our training program for young people is now receiving more attention than in former years: The Baptist Student Union. Through this agency we follow our young people onto the campuses of the colleges in which they are enrolled. There an organization is set up and the young people are enlisted in a type of Christian service that challenges their initiative and resourcefulness and their youthful enthusiasm.

A feature of the B. S. U. program which has only recently been developed is the youth team. This program calls for a team of young people to go into our churches, sometimes for a weekend youth revival, sometimes for a full week youth revival, in which the young people themselves do the preaching, the directing of the music, and carry out the visitation program. It should be noted that not more than two ministerial students are used on any one of these teams, usually the one who does the preaching and perhaps the one who directs the music. Other members of the team are the young men and young women who will become our leading laymen, the directors of the programs in our local churches later on. They are learning to bear personal testimony to the salvation of Christ. They are learning to become soul winners. They are learning how to organize for a visitation program and how to enlist the young people of the churches in such a program.

One of the most encouraging outlooks of our church and denominational life, both in Arkansas and throughout the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention, is the growing numbers of our young people who are training for leadership in our churches and who are assuming larger and larger responsibilities in the churches.

# Kingdom Progress

## First Church, Stamps Dedicates New Building



First Church Stamps, and Pastor Floyd G. Davis, dedicated their new \$75,000 auditorium on Sunday, April 27, with Dr. B. L. Bridges delivering the dedicatory sermon.

The building is of semi-Gothic design with masonry of red brick. The elevated choir loft and baptistry are finished with paneled oak. The walls are pastel green with memorial windows. Two sound proof nurseries are located in the rear of the auditorium where attendants may see and hear the

church services. Seating capacity is 610, which includes balcony space for 150 persons.

Mr. Davis has been the pastor for two and one-half years. During this period the church has made notable progress; there have been 150 additions to the church; contributions total \$80,000; in 1949 the church was giving \$125 per month to the Cooperative Program, it is now contributing \$290 per month.

## Arkansas News Briefs

### From Here and There

Dr. Dale Cowling, state B. S. U. secretary, was with the Central Church, Mineral Springs, for three days of special services, May 2, 3, and 4, Clifford R. Lyon, pastor. There was one addition to the church on profession of faith and baptism, and one by letter. Doctor Cowling was ordained to the gospel ministry by the Central Church of Mineral Springs in 1942. These special services were held in the new auditorium.

Pastor Jay D. Tolleson, Immanuel Church, El Dorado, reports the reception of 79 members during the month of April. Sixty-three of this number were received during the revival meeting in which Pastor Tolleson and the Immanuel Church had the services of Pastor Ira H. Peak from the Queensboro Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana.

Pastor Russell K. Hunt and the First Church, Altheimer, had the services of John R. Stratton, associational missionary, Boone County Association, in a recent revival meeting in which there were six additions to the church on profession of faith and baptism and five by letter. Pastor Hunt says, "God is showing us what He will do when folks love Him and work together."

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"A Communist is a guy who says everything is perfect in Russia, but stays here because he likes to rough it."

## T. H. Jordan Assists Louisiana Church

Dr. T. H. Jordan, First Church, Van Buren, recently assisted Pastor J. E. Callaway and the First Baptist Church, Hodge, Louisiana, in revival services. There were 24 additions to the church on profession of faith and baptism, and two by letter. This is the second revival that Doctor Jordan has held in the Hodge church.

Pastor Callaway has been with the Hodge church for eight years and has recently completed a new educational building.

## Deacons Ordained

North Vale Church, Harrison, recently ordained three deacons: Herman Scroggins, Jimmie Olson, and Carl Hudson. Hugh Cooper conducted the examination of the candidates, Elmer Cox delivered the ordination sermon, and John Stratton, the ordination prayer.

L. C. Tilley is pastor of the church.

## Fred Cherry Assists First Church, Cullendale

First Church, Cullendale, and Pastor J. Elmer Morgan, had the services of Evangelist Fred Cherry of Oklahoma City, in revival services April 13-27, which resulted in 99 additions to the church, 72 on profession of faith. There were 15 more additions to the church the two Sundays following the revival.

Bill Lowry, Southern Seminary, became the education-music director for the Cullendale church on May 4. Mr. Lowry was in charge of the music for the revival.

## Four Generations Baptized



Flat Rock Church, near Mountain Home, has seen four generations of the Haney family baptized. From left to right are Mrs. Ann Haney, who came from the Methodist Church in 1938; her son, W. S. Haney; grandson, Melvin Haney; and two great-granddaughters, Clara Jean and Ruth Haney.

Troy Melton is the pastor.

## Ouachita Graduates

Sixty-seven seniors received their diplomas during commencement exercises at Ouachita College Monday, May 19. There were fifty-five Bachelor of Arts degrees given, eight Bachelor of Science and four Bachelor of Music Education degrees.

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the new J. R. Grant Administration Building and the new boy's dormitory were held as part of the services Monday. Other ceremonies included a military parade for ROTC graduates.

## Correction

We were in error last week when we reported that Dr. J. F. Queen assisted in a revival meeting at the First Church, Hampton, April 13-27. Doctor Queen preached in a revival meeting at Thornton.

## Arkansan Wins Award

President Lawrence T. Lowrey has announced the annual award winners at Blue Mountain College. Miss Marion Mayes, Blytheville, was given the Purser Speech Medal, which goes to the senior speech student who best represents the ideals of the department of speech, including expressiveness in body and voice, interest and participation in speech activities, Christian spirit and promise of future accomplishment.

## Bruce Visits Alaska

President H. D. Bruce, East Texas Baptist College, Marshall, Texas, recently did the preaching in a series of evangelistic services with First Church, Anchorage, Alaska. There were forty-one additions to the church.

Felton H. Griffin, a former student of East Texas Baptist College, is pastor of the church, which was organized in the summer of 1944. The membership has grown to 600. President Bruce reports that First Church has assisted in the construction of four other churches in Anchorage, and several others in other Alaskan cities.

Mr. Griffin is president of the Alaska Baptist Convention.

## Free Trip To Ridgecrest



PEGGY STONE

Miss Peggy Stone, member of the Second Baptist Church in Hot Springs, was selected by the Central Baptist Association B.W.C. Federation for an all-expense-paid trip to the Y.W. A. Camp at Ridgecrest this summer. Miss Joan Gore, member of First Church, Hot Springs, was selected as alternate should anything prevent Peggy from attending.

Miss Stone is the president of the Life Service Band of her church, a member of the Youth council, active in Sunday School, Training Union, and Y.W.A. She also is a member of the church choir and sings solos. She sings second soprano in the Treblettes, a sextett of young girls.

Peggy plans to enter Ouachita College next fall.

"If a minister takes one step into the world, his hearers will take two."

"Many a church member would be scared to death, if he could only feel his spiritual pulse and find how nearly dead he is."

—Copied.



Listen to The

## BAPTIST HOUR

DATE: May 25

SPEAKER:  
Charles Wellborn

SUBJECT:

'Are We Progressing?'

ARKANSAS STATIONS

KELD, El Dorado, 2 p. m.  
KENA, Mena, 1:30 p. m.  
KDRS, Paragould, 10 a. m.  
KUAO, Siloam Springs, 4:30 p. m.  
KOSE, Oscealo, 6 p. m.  
KVEC, Arkadelphia, 2:15 p. m.  
KRLW, Walnut Ridge.

Consult local paper for time.

## The Need For Enlistment Of Nonresident Church Members

By PORTER ROUTH

To Southern Baptist Convention, May 16, 1952

Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, is a native of Texas and a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University. He is a former editor of the Department of Information, Survey and Statistics of the Sunday School Board from 1945 until last September when he was named executive secretary. He has been senior secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention since 1946.

AWOL has become a term well understood in the American vocabulary.

If the morning headlines should tell the startling news that one fourth of the American soldiers were absent without leave, we would immediately become disturbed about our defenses. Congress would call for an immediate investigation. Top generals would scurry to the Pentagon for round-the-clock conferences. The Kremlin would start its propaganda mills grinding out the hilarious news that the American army was falling to pieces.

Yes, we would have a right to be disturbed, but we become complacent when we read year after year—and I might say parenthetically that this problem is not one which has arisen within the last few months—that 25.2 per cent of Southern Baptist church members are nonresident, or absent without leave, to use a more common term.

The problem is one which must be faced by the pastor in the city and in the open country, for the records show that 22.8 per cent of the membership reported by city churches is nonresident, while 30.5 per cent of the open-country church membership is nonresident.

It is a problem which is present in every state, although some states seem to have kept better records than others. For example Maryland reports only 15 per cent of its membership as nonresident, while Arkansas, Illinois, and Oklahoma all report slightly more than 30 per cent of their membership as nonresident.

The greatest problem is in the open-country churches with services only once a month. In Arkansas, in these churches with services only once a month, nearly half of the membership is reported as nonresident. The same is true for Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. For the Southern Baptist Convention as a whole, 33.7 per cent of the open-country church membership with services only once a month is reported as nonresident.

To see the real need, one must study these amazing facts for only a moment:

In the fields of evangelism, if we can assume that the 375,000 baptisms were reported as the result of the labors of the five and a half million resident members then we can see that the 1,900,000 nonresident members, if found and put to work with the same efficiency or inefficiency, the same zeal or the same lack of zeal, we would have reported last year 133,000 more people won to Christ.

If we can assure that most of the \$225 million in gifts to the churches were given by the five and a half million resident members, then if the nonresident members could be found and enlisted with the same sense of stewardship or lack of stewardship as the resident members, Southern Baptist churches would have reported last year nearly \$80 million additional gifts.

And in the field of promoting a world-

wide missionary objective, if these nonresident members would have been enlisted and would have given as the resident members gave, then mission causes in the Southern Baptist Convention would have received more than \$13 million in additional funds during the past year.

The need is evident, but may I take this last moment to forget the millions, to forget the thousands, to forget the hundreds, and recall to my own life that I am interested in one. He is a nonresident church member. He needs the influence of the church. The church needs his service. We must seek to win the hundreds and the thousands and the millions back to a vital relationship, but we must never forget that we must win them one by one.

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### Washington Afloat In Alcohol Says Federal Judge

*But 33 successful years in politics have confirmed his conviction that one doesn't have to drink one's way into politics.*

The diplomatic and social life of our national capital is "engulfed in an alcoholic sea," Jed Johnson, Judge of the U. S. Customs Court declares in the June issue of *Christian Herald*. But he adds—and proves it—"Nobody has to drink his way into politics or drink to stay in."

Judge Johnson, who served ten terms as U. S. Representative from Oklahoma, stresses that "extremely few of our lawmakers who are excessive drinkers have reached positions of importance and power."

He vigorously attacks the view that drinking is a social requirement in Washington. Nor, he maintains, is "champagne diplomacy" indispensable to carrying on diplomatic relations with foreign governments.

Judge Johnson recalls his first experience in politics when, despite advice of experienced legislators, he ran on the platform: "I promise, if elected, to remain absolutely sober." He has stuck to that rule throughout 33 years of public life. And, he discovered, he was not alone in this determination. "Many influential members of the Senate and House," he points out, "were and are non-drinkers."

After his appointment to a Federal judgeship, he summed up his experience in a word of advice to a young man planning a career in politics. "I still say 'no thank you,'" he said—"and make it stick."

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### Felsenthal Receives 20

In a recent simultaneous revival Felsenthal Church, Liberty Association, had twenty additions, ten for baptism. J. Bryan Ritchie is pastor. The Arkansas Baptist has been going into the homes of this church for only about two months. Pastor Ritchie says, "it is probably through the paper that some of these people were saved."

# ★ ★ ★ Christian Horizons ★ ★ ★

By Religious News Service

## Bill Would Extend RFC Loans To Non-Profit Groups

A bill which would make it possible for religious groups and non-profit institutions to obtain loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has been introduced in Congress by Senator William Langer (R.-N. D.).

The measure, S. 3088, has been referred to the Senate Banking and Currency Committee. Senator Langer said he introduced the measure after learning that a North Dakota veterans group could not obtain help from the RFC because of its non-profit status. He said the legislation is broad enough to cover all non-profit groups.

Loans would be available only when credit could not be obtained from private banks. Satisfactory proof of solvency and ability to repay would be required, as for all other RFC applicants.

## Catholic Groups Criticize Bingo Shut Down

Shutting down of bingo and similar games of chance resulting from more rigid recent enforcement of the state's gambling laws has drawn indignant comment from Roman Catholic groups in Delaware.

The campaign for stricter enforcement followed a grand jury investigation of gambling that resulted from widespread charges that the laws were not being enforced. Local police authorities and the attorney-general's office let it be known that, in the future, they would consider bingo games as gambling and that operators of such games would be subject to prosecution.

In a statement announcing that St. Elizabeth's church in Wilmington had given up bingo games, Msgr. James M. Grant, pastor, deplored the abolition of "honest games of chance" and expressed the hope that public opinion would bring about repeal of "these antiquated gambling laws."

## Pennsylvania Episcopal Diocese Rejects Women Delegates

The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania at its 168th annual session refused to admit women delegates to its annual conventions. The vote was 263 to 215.

The convention overruled the pleas of several clergymen that women, being "equal in the sight of God" and constituting probably more than one-half the Church's membership, deserved a proper voice in the church.

Opponents held that the business aspects of vestries and of diocesan affairs should remain "a man's responsibility" and a means of stimulating the men's spiritual interest.

## Reports 10,000 Escape Iron Curtain Each Month

Despite a dangerous border planted with land mine and patrolled by armed Red sentries with police dogs or in watchtowers, 10,000 refugees each month are streaming into Western Germany from Communist-dominated countries.

This was revealed by Dr. John Schmidt,

senior representative in Germany of the Lutheran World Federation Service to refugees.

The Lutheran executive said that some persons, enticed by Voice of America or Radio Free Europe broadcasts, or spurred on by the danger of arrest or intolerable conditions in the Communist countries, lose their lives in the hazardous border crossings.

## Reports Korean War Prisoners Interested in Christianity

Three-fourths of the war prisoners in Korea "manifest an interest in learning something about Christianity and the Bible," Major General Ivan L. Bennett, newly-appointed Army Chief of Chaplains, said in New York.

He told the 136th annual meeting of the American Bible Society that "great numbers" of North Koreans and Chinese have "made open profession of faith in Christ, and have declared themselves committed to Him and His way of life."

He also said that "vast numbers" have petitioned UN authorities "to save them from the ordeal they know awaits them if they are returned to Communist control."

Chaplain Bennett reported a "great demand" for Scriptures by the armed forces of the Republic of Korea and by the civilian population as well.

The Korean conflict has demonstrated the "inadequate capacity of leadership" in Korean youth, he said, and "we cannot even begin to measure this potential of leadership for the nation and for the churches."

"Anyone close to the situation must agree," he added, "that it portends a tremendous potential for the future of Christianity in Korea. And the men who will lead Korea tomorrow are reading the Bible today."

## General Conference Acts Against Methodist Federation

By an overwhelming vote, the General Conference of The Methodist Church requested the unofficial Methodist Federation for Social Action to remove the word "Methodist" from its name and to move its offices from the Methodist building in New York.

It did this, the General Conference said in a resolution, because:

"... In times past, confusion has arisen in the minds of the public regarding the right of . . . (the) federation to speak for The Methodist Church.

"... Many members of The Methodist Church have been embarrassed by certain pronouncements" of the federation.

The federation has frequently been accused of promoting left-wing activities.

Charles C. Parlin, Englewood, N. J., chairman of the conference committee on the State of the Church, which recommended the action of the federation, admitted that the Church cannot "legally" control the word "Methodist" or oust the federation from its present quarters.

But it is to be hoped, he indicated, that the federation will respond to an official request of the General Conference.

# A Smile or Two

A witness was being questioned during a charge of assault.

"You saw these men fighting," said the magistrate. "Why didn't you go to the assistance of the defendant?"

"Well, sir," replied the witness, "at that time it was impossible to foresee which would be the defendant."

A small boy went to a Sunday School picnic but it hardly lived up to his expectations. He was stung by a bee; he fell into a creek; a little girl pulled his hair; he got badly sunburned. Late in the afternoon he reached home in an extremely disheveled state. As he limped up the front steps, his mother greeted him and said:

"Well, son, what sort of a time did you have at the picnic?"

"Mama," slowly replied the little lad, "I'm so glad I'm back I'm glad I went."

—Wall Street Journal

A high school graduate was filling out an application for employment. The personnel director, noticing that the young fellow was somewhat puzzled, went over to help him. The first entry that caught his eye was the answer to the question, "Salary desired?" Beside it was the word "Yes."

Man: "Have you any wallpaper?"

Clerk: "Yes Sir,"

Man: "Is it the kind I can put on myself?"

Clerk: "I suppose so. But it would look better on a wall."

A tourist visiting a Florida golf course for the first time teed up, took a cut at the ball, and missed it completely.

"I'm glad I learned one thing right off," he said. "This course is at least 2 inches lower than the one I've been playing at home."

For 30 years the two old bachelors, one of them illiterate, had been partners on the little farm in Vermont. Today Nathaniel, returning from the village with the usual minimum supply of groceries, said, "I had to spend an extra nickel, Abner, to buy me a new lead pencil."

"Always expenses," Abner said, taking from his pocket the grimy stub of a pencil. "I've carried this one for 20 years."

"I know," his partner answered, "but it makes a heap of difference — having to write out Nathaniel J. Allenbaugh, or just signin' a cross like you do."

—Quote

Free Enterprise: You furnish your own ladder and the government merely stands by to steady it as you climb.

Socialism: The government furnishes you a ladder for free, but with no rungs.

Communism: The Comrades, finding you already well up the ladder, jerk it out from under you, bust it up and beat you to death with the pieces.

At the recent eclipse of the moon one college freshman arrived at the observatory with her camera. She said that she wanted to take a picture of the moon when it would be entirely eclipsed. Someone remarked that she wouldn't get much of a picture, but she was unperturbed.

"Oh, don't worry. I have a flashbulb attachment."

# Report of Southern Baptist Convention

Miami, Florida, May 14-18, 1952

By the Editor

## Pre-Convention Meetings

Literally thousands of Southern Baptists poured into Miami for the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention and other meetings related to the Convention meeting proper.

Miami at this season of the year is able to take care of the influx of Southern Baptists and really not feel the impact too much from the standpoint of accommodations, that is, hotel rooms and facilities for taking care of the needs of the messengers and visitors to the Convention. This is the off season for the Miami tourist business and there is an abundance of hotel space and other facilities for meeting the needs of the Baptist visitors.

Someone has remarked that Miami is the recreational capital of the most luxury loving nation in the world, and that seems to be an accurate appraisal of this city.

Actually, the messengers and visitors to the Convention began to arrive the week before the Convention was scheduled to meet. There were a number of visiting Baptists in the city of Miami on Sunday, May 11, and they continued to come in ever larger numbers on Monday and Tuesday, even some arriving on Wednesday, the day the Convention sessions opened.

Perhaps the biggest meeting outside of the Southern Baptist Convention was the W. M. U. Convention which began on Sunday afternoon and continued through-out Monday and Tuesday.

Another meeting which has grown in importance and in numbers through the years is the pastors' conference which opened its sessions Monday evening and continued through Tuesday with morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. This is an inspirational program and attracts a great many pastors and others to its sessions.

Then there are other meetings of smaller groups, but meetings which are very important. There is the meeting of the Southern Baptist Press Association which held its session on Tuesday evening with a dinner at the McAllister Hotel. Then the organization of the state secretaries had a meeting also on Tuesday evening. On Monday evening Doctor Matthews, superintendent of evangelism, called a meeting of the state secretaries, the state editors, the heads of the agencies and institutions of the Convention, and as many other interested parties as would come, for the consideration of the crusade to reach the unenlisted Baptists. This meeting was held at the Trinity Methodist Church where the ladies of the church served dinner. The readers of the *Arkansas Baptist* will read more about this campaign to enlist the unaffiliated Baptists as time passes.

The Executive Committee of the Convention held its meeting on Tuesday as usual. This is a regular scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee just prior to the meeting of the Convention. Then there are numerous other committees which meet prior to the opening sessions of the Convention and there are many committees that will be meeting during the sessions of the Convention.

In fact, it is a busy time for all those who are connected with any of the committees, organizations, or institutions, or agencies of the Convention. The several days in the Convention city just prior to the opening session of the Convention are

important for these various groups, and the personnel of these groups give themselves diligently, earnestly, and prayerfully to the responsibilities which they have in hand.

## Time of Fellowship

Another feature of these pre-Convention days, and a feature which continues throughout the sessions of the Convention, is the renewing of contacts with acquaintances and friends from far and near. These renewed contacts and the resultant fellowship are rich and revitalizing in the experience of all who attend the meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention. This fellowship not only enriches the ministry of the individuals themselves, but it enriches the sessions of the Convention. This fellowship with friends and kindred spirits helps to determine the very atmosphere of the Convention sessions. We feel as we enter the Convention sessions and hear the reports and hear the discussions of the reports that we are fellow Christians and personal friends, working at the business which the Lord committed to our hands. We are not strangers to one another. The very fact that a person knows a few hundred people who attend the Convention and perhaps meets personally a hundred or more of them, he comes to feel that he knows everyone and that everyone is a personal friend.

This fellowship with comrades, acquaintances, friends, and fellow workers, gives one a real lift and an inspiration; it broadens one's vision when he meets his friends from Texas, the Carolinas, Virginia, California, Oklahoma, Missouri, Georgia, Alabama, and all the other states in the territory of the Convention. This Convention fellowship and inspiration helps to get one out of the ruts and to give him new ambition and impulses; it pushes back his horizons and he sees with a greater clarity the entire program of Southern Baptists and all its mission fields whether at home or abroad and all of its opportunities far and near. One cannot return home with the same limited vision and the same narrow conception of the commissions of Jesus after having met with from ten to fifteen thousand Southern Baptists who gather from all parts of the Southern Baptist territory for the purpose of promoting such a comprehensive program as Southern Baptists are now carrying on.

## First Convention Session Wednesday Morning

The ninety-fifth session of the Southern Baptist Convention got off to a good start on Wednesday morning, May 14. The Convention was called to order by President J. D. Grey, and following the devotional service led by John R. Ferguson of California, the recording secretary reported 3,820 messengers registered. This number was taken as the official body of the Convention with the provision that other registered messengers should become members of the body as they appeared.

The auditorium was well filled and the attendance was expected to reach a high figure of between ten and fifteen thousand people including messengers and visitors before the closing session on Sunday night.

The welcome address was delivered by Ralph H. Ferrell, Miami attorney, and

deacon in the Central Baptist Church of Miami. Mr. Ferrell gave a very warm hearted welcome to the Convention messengers and visitors. "We welcome you," he said, "because we expect the germinating power of the sunshined gospel will express itself through you as it did when it fell upon Wittenburg and Luther answered with the Bible; as it did when it fell upon Geneva and Calvin answered with the institute of theology; as it did when it fell upon England and Wesley answered with the freedom of choice; as it did when it fell upon the new world and Jonathan Edwards answered with his freedom of will."

The response to the welcome address was delivered by Dr. R. E. Milam, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Oregon. Doctor Milam outlined the potentialities for Baptists in the Washington-Oregon area and told something of the growth during the past few years, stating that one person was born to Christ for every three Baptists in that area. "Southern Baptists," he said, "stand today in an hour as significant as Kadesh-Barnea. This hour has been prepared for us by centuries of Baptist blood, by patient enduring in a thousand dark dungeons. It has taken one hundred years for us to test the ground and lay the foundations. Now in Christ's holy name let us rise and build."

Dr. J. D. Grey, president of the Convention, delivered his "president's address," using as the basis of his message a statement in the preamble to the Constitution of the Convention, which sets forth the purpose of the Convention as follows, "... for eliciting, combining, and directing the energies of the denomination for the propagation of the gospel. . . ."

Doctor Grey reviewed to some considerable extent the history of the Southern Baptist Convention, its growth, its purposes, and its challenge and opportunities in the present. Since we plan to publish a digest of Doctor Grey's message, we will not undertake just now to give the full substance of his address.

Following the address of President Grey, fraternal messengers and visitors were recognized and then special music was rendered by the Stetson University choir from Deland, Florida, under the direction of Harold Giffin. The music by this choir was superb.

The Convention sermon was delivered at the close of the morning session by Dr. Ramsey Pollard, pastor of the Broadway Baptist Church of Knoxville, Tennessee. Doctor Pollard delivered his message with great earnestness and sincerity. Since we published Doctor Pollard's sermon in a former issue of the *Arkansas Baptist*, we will not discuss it here.

## Wednesday Afternoon

The Wednesday afternoon session of the Convention was opened with a devotional service by Dr. Sam C. Reeves, pastor of First Church, El Dorado. Following announcements and appointments of committees, the Executive Committee of the Convention made its report. Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary, presented the report and had a number of the members of the Executive Committee to read the various

(Continued on Page 8)



## Report of Southern Baptist Convention

(Continued from Page 7)

recommendations from the Executive Committee for consideration by the Convention. We shall publish these recommendations in full and shall only make comments on one or two of them in this connection.

One recommendation of special interest to every Southern Baptist church and which should engage the earnest attention of every Southern Baptist is the "transfer church week" for all non-resident members of our Southern Baptist churches, September 14-21, 1952. This is an effort to reach the unaffiliated Baptists who have moved from one community to another but who have not transferred their church membership. It is estimated on fairly accurate statistics that 26 per cent of the membership of Southern Baptist churches are non-resident. That is, they have moved from one community to another without transferring their membership. Therefore, they are practically a total loss to the whole church and denominational life of our Baptist fellowship. This effort to enlist these thousands of Southern Baptists in active participation in the church programs in the communities where they live should prove to be very fruitful and at the same time should recover the lost energies and spiritual potentialities of these people. We shall have more to say about this program later on.

A ten million dollar goal for the Cooperative Program was adopted for 1953 for Southern Baptist Convention agencies and a 34 million dollar goal was adopted for the Cooperative Program for 1954, this goal to include all state and Southern Baptist Convention causes.

### Promotion Program

The report of the Executive Committee was closed by a report from the promotion committee of the Executive Committee, Dr. Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion. Doctor Moore reported that Southern Baptists have launched a program calling for a week of stewardship study in each of their 28,289 churches on October 18-25, 1953.

Objectives in this promotion program include: A school of stewardship in every Baptist church, October 18-25, 1953; budget day for the adoption of the church budget, and pledge day, for subscribing the church budget in each church; a leadership rally in each association prior to the school of stewardship. The plan calls for a stewardship committee in each association and a stewardship committee in each church.

Dr. Thomas B. Lackey, executive secretary in Oklahoma, spoke to this report by Doctor Moore. Doctor Lackey emphasized the necessity for schools of stewardship and the following of the plan of pledge Sunday and stated that the time for preparation is now. He made a strong plea for 100 per cent co-operation throughout our Southern Baptist territory, and by all our denominational agencies and institutions, by our pastors and our churches.

The closing message of the afternoon service was delivered by Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, pastor of First Church, Jackson, Mississippi.

Doctor Hudgins declared, "If we accept Paul's teaching about the church, there is not the slightest doubt but that the church has existed from the beginning of time in the mind and heart of God along with His plan for world redemption through Jesus Christ, its head."

Doctor Hudgins dwelt at some length upon the function of the church and God's purpose in the church. "Through the church," said Doctor Hudgins, "in its worldwide effort to bring men of every race, color, and heritage to the Son-ship of Christ, earth and heavenly realms were to witness the complete wisdom of the eternal God." He closed his message with the statement that "churches have had 2,000 years in which to think; now, it is time to act."

### Wednesday Night

The Convention program reached a great climax in the Wednesday night session. Following the devotional service conducted by W. W. Long of Georgia, the Woman's Missionary Union was recognized and Mrs. George R. Martin of Virginia presented the report.

This report revealed that there was a gain of 6,685 new missionary organizations in the Southern Baptist churches in 1951. The largest gain in the number of organizations was among the young people's groups, a gain of 5,292, and a gain of 1,393 organizations among the women. The total membership gains for the year were 71,051.

There are now 1,067,582 members in the various organizations in 16,101 local organizations.

The Woman's Missionary Union publishes a number of periodicals which reached a total subscription of 421,382. These periodicals include *Royal Service*, *World Comrades*, *The Window of the Y. W. A.*, and *Ambassador Life*.

It was reported that there are 330,580 tithers among W. M. U. women. This is a gain of 55,279 for the year.

Dr. Duke K. McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary of Louisville, Kentucky, delivered the principal address for this feature of the Wednesday evening program and brought a stirring and challenging message on worldwide missions.

### Report of Foreign Mission Board

Dr. M. Theron Rankin, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, presented the report for that agency.

Doctor Rankin presented Mr. Howard Jenkins of Richmond, Virginia, who has been a member of the Foreign Mission Board for 36 years and president of the board for 20 years.

The secretary reported that there are now 860 missionaries assigned to more than 30 countries around the world. In these countries where the Foreign Mission Board is working, there are 1,874 organized churches, and 3,600 out-stations, with a total membership of approximately 200,000. There were 18,500 baptisms in 1951; 2,600 Sunday Schools with 190,000 members; 1,200 Training Unions with 38,000 enrolled; 900 Woman's Missionary Societies with 25,000 members and 1,280 auxiliaries with 23,000 members; 48,000 students studying in 393 Baptist schools, including lower and higher primary schools, colleges, seminaries, and training schools; 5 publishing houses providing literature needed by the churches and institutions; and 5 hospitals, 10 dispensaries, and 4 clinics ministering to 41,700 patients during the year.

It will be noted from this report that the Foreign Mission Board is carrying on the same program with the same organizations

in these foreign lands that we find in the homeland.

Dr. Boyd Hunt, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Houston, Texas, was presented by Doctor Rankin and delivered an inspiring and helpful message on the triumph of the churches because of the presence of Christ among them. He used the scene as presented in the Revelation where John, on the isle of Patmos, saw the seven candlesticks which represent the seven churches and one like unto the son of man standing in their midst, who held in His hand the seven stars or the destinies of the churches.

Next were presented the new missionary appointees and Doctor Rankin stated that 50 new missionaries had already been appointed this year and it was expected that 50 more would be appointed during the year. It was an inspiring sight to see these young people who have dedicated their lives to foreign mission service.

The dedication service for these new appointees was very impressive. Dr. I. N. Patterson, Missionary to Africa, delivered the charge and Dr. J. D. Grey, president of the Convention, offered the dedication prayer.

Doctor Patterson reminded the new missionary appointees, as well as the congregation assembled, that missionary service requires the ability to endure hardness, for there are many hard and difficult experiences which the missionaries will meet. He also stated that the missionaries must possess the ability to adjust themselves in their new environment and their new human relationships, both of which will be unlike anything that they have experienced in the homeland. He also reminded the appointees that they must have a rich fund of inner resources to sustain them during the periods when there is little stimulus or resource to depend upon.

The closing message of the night session was delivered by Dr. Monroe F. Swilley, pastor of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia. Doctor Swilley spoke on "The World and the Church" and literally brought the whole world before the vast congregation and presented it to Southern Baptists as the field of opportunity for them in this day of high challenge.

"Since we feel justified," said the speaker, "in laying claim to the whole world, it is fitting that we examine the progress that we are making in this world venture." Briefly sketching the progress of the Christian movement up to the present time, Doctor Swilley stated that in the twentieth century we are facing dangerous frontiers which challenge the consideration and concern of the followers of Jesus everywhere. He mentioned the political frontier, the intellectual frontier, the economic frontier, and the spiritual frontier of life.

"As we face our new task," said the speaker, "let us recapture the spirit of the early Christians, who were to tarry in Jerusalem until 'endued with power from on high.'" He asked, "What is to be the mood of the Christian in such a day as this—apathy or advance, fear or faith, cowardice or courage?"

### Thursday Morning

Following the devotional service led by R. Maurice Hall of Missouri, Dr. S. F. Lowe, director of the Radio Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, made the report for that agency.

Doctor Lowe stated, "This is the greatest coverage we have ever had, by far," referring to the Baptist Hour being carried

by more than 300 stations and covering 26 states and four foreign territories.

Dr. J. D. Grey, president of the Convention, and pastor of First Church, New Orleans, Louisiana, will be the Baptist Hour speaker for July, August, and September. His theme will be "Questions That Count."

Doctor Lowe stated that television work has been started with some fifteen-minute television films already being prepared, featuring Howard Butt Jr., young millionaire businessman and lay evangelist; Frank Boggs, Baptist Hour soloist; and Jack Ham, artist and art teacher at Baylor University.

At the present time, the Commission is making several new fifteen-minute devotional programs for its "Chapel Upstairs" series, first started in 1948. These programs have been used regularly by some 200 stations, and more than 70 government hospitals. These records are sent without cost to anyone interested in using them.

### Special Music

A word should be said concerning the special music provided for the Convention sessions. This special music is provided mainly by university choirs. We have already referred to the special music rendered by the choir of Stetson University. Another university choir that has rendered special music is the Furman University Singers from Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina. The choir from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma, is also scheduled for special music during the sessions of the Convention. Other special music was rendered by the Bison Glee Club, Oklahoma Baptist University of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and by the graded choirs of the Allapattah Baptist Church of Miami, Florida.

Soloists who sang to the delight of the Convention audience were Miss Jo Ann Shelton of the Oklahoma Baptist University, and Mrs. I. N. Patterson. Also, the choir from Hardin-Simmons University rendered special music.

### Guest Speaker

Dr. Kenneth S. Latourette, president of the American Baptist Convention and professor of missions and oriental history at Yale University, delivered a message on the subject, "The Church and World Missions."

Doctor Latourette declared that we are living in one of the greatest days of the church, using the term "church" in its generic sense. He said that it is a great day for the church for two reasons: The achievements of God through and in His church, and the opportunity with which God has challenged His church.

The speaker said that Christian churches are more widely distributed over the face of the earth than in any other previous age, and that they are more deeply routed among more people than ever before.

He also stated that "Christians the world over are more and more realizing their essential unity as disciples of our common Lord and Savior, and are learning to have fellowship with one another in prayer, planning, and action." The speaker went on to say that this does not mean what we usually call organic union. "As I read history," he said, "I am convinced that this (organic union) is a deadend street, a blind alley." But rather that this unity is seeking expression in various organizations and organizational patterns, but none of these must be regarded as final.

Doctor Latourette laid great stress upon the opportunities for the spread of the

gospel throughout the world today. He said, "We Baptists of the United States are in a unique position to respond to the challenge of the nations of the world and give the gospel to the restless throngs of the under-privileged." He declared that the challenge of the present day calls not only for more money, but for the best of our youth. He declared that "we are under the command of our Savior and Lord to make disciples of all nations." He declared that this commission of our Lord is "breath-taking." He concluded by saying that this commission "would be hopelessly frustrating were it not for the assurance and the promise which are inseparable from it. All authority has been given to Him who issued the command whether on earth or in heaven."

### Report of Sunday School Board

Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee, presented the report of that agency. The report reveals that the Sunday School Board receipts last year from all sources were \$10,693,333, including \$5,820,774 from sales by the 42 bookstores. Out of the total incomes of the Sunday School Board it not only maintained its own expanding ministry but contributed \$1,247,135 to denominational agencies and interests.

One achievement gratifying to the Board and to the Convention will be the completion this year of the new twelve-story administration building in Nashville, Tennessee, for the use of the Sunday School Board. The new building will be paid for from available funds now in the hands of the Board.

Nearly 46,000,000 periodicals were issued in 1951, an increase of 3,000,000 over the previous year. The Broadman Press has achieved its largest printing of any single book well over a quarter of a million copies of *The New Testament Doctrine of the Church*, by J. Clyde Turner, having been issued in connection with January Bible study week.

The report was spoken to by W. Maxey Jarman, a prominent Nashville layman and chairman of the General Shoe Corporation of Nashville, Tennessee.

Mr. Jarman spoke on the business management of the Sunday School Board. He stated that to know whether any business is doing the right kind of job, one must look at its financial structure, its growth, its control of costs and expenses, and how the business in question uses its resources. An important test of any business is the service it renders to its customers. Applied to the Sunday School Board these principles revealed the efficient manner in which the business of the Board is conducted and the service which it renders to the Southern Baptist constituency and the Southern Baptist churches.

The final message spoken to the report of the Sunday School Board was delivered by Dr. R. G. Lee, of the Bellevue Church, Memphis, Tennessee. Doctor Lee first called the attention of the Convention audience to the various phases of the work of the Sunday School Board, its different departments and their functions, covering to such a great extent the program of the local churches.

Doctor Lee emphasized in his own characteristic way the teaching of the Bible in the Sunday School classes of the churches throughout the land.

### Thursday Afternoon

Following the devotional by O. B. Mylum

of Kentucky, Dr. Walter R. Alexander, executive secretary of the Relief and Annuity Board, presented the report for that agency. The report revealed that the Relief and Annuity Board now has assets totaling \$23,333,014; that the income for 1951 was \$5,144,134. This represents an increase both in assets and income over 1950.

Benefits paid out during 1951 amounted to \$1,459,438, and total benefits paid since the organization of the Board in 1918 exceeds \$15,000,000.

The function of the Board is twofold as indicated in its name: "Relief and Annuity." There is the annuity department which provides annuities to persons, ministers, and other employes of church or denominational agencies upon the payment of certain percentages of the salaries, both by the annuitants and by the churches or the boards or agencies participating in the plan. The relief department undertakes to provide so far as funds are available for the disabled ministers and the retired ministers who are not eligible for the annuity plan. Doctor Alexander stated that "the primary motive for our promotional activities must forever remain the broadening of the ministry we are constituted to perform. We promote, not to enrich the Relief and Annuity Board, but that the Relief and Annuity Board may be a source of blessing to still others; therefore, a very vital part of all promotional activities remains the seeking of vast sums of endowment, that our retirement plans may be strengthened thereby and our ministry extended."

### Southern Baptist Hospital

Dr. Frank Tripp, administrator of the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans reported that the \$2,000,000 south wing addition to the hospital was completed during the past year and a proposed \$1,250,000 institution in Jacksonville, Florida, is being planned.

Southern Baptist Hospital received more than 31,000 patients in 1951.

The people of Jacksonville, Florida, have purchased a site consisting of approximately 22 acres on which it is proposed that a 150 bed hospital be constructed. The people of New Orleans have also provided \$1,250,000 for the construction and equipment of the proposed hospital.

The board of directors of the Southern Baptist Hospital asked for and received authorization from the Convention to borrow up to \$750,000 for the construction of the Jacksonville hospital. This project has been under consideration since 1946 and the Southern Baptist Convention had previously committed itself to the project.

There was considerable discussion on the question of authorizing the board of directors of the Southern Baptist Hospital to borrow the \$750,000 in question. It seemed to be the sense of the body that the cause of former commitments which encouraged the Jacksonville people to purchase the site and raise more than a million dollars in cash for the hospital in that city that the Convention should keep faith with the people of Jacksonville.

The authorization to borrow the \$750,000 was granted and it is expected that the loan will be repaid out of the earnings of the hospital. No money is taken from the current budget of the Southern Baptist Convention, nor is it anticipated that any money will be required from the Southern Baptist Convention in the years to come to retire this loan.

(Continued Next Week)

## Church Music Department

Mrs. B. W. NININGER, Director

### What About Summer Music?

Several dates are still available for the Summer Music Schools. All of the associate music workers are the best and each of them will bring a great blessing to the church in which they serve.

Summer Music Schools are usually of two-weeks duration and offer Morning Classes for Primaries, Juniors and Intermediates in Music Fundamentals, Sight Singing, Hymn Stories and Rhythm Studies. Evening Classes for Young People and Adults present instruction in the Rudiments of Music, Conducting, Hymn Interpretation and Specialized Choir Training.

Cost for the school is \$35.00 a week plus traveling expenses and entertainment of the worker. Write today requesting a music

worker and giving two choices of dates to: State Music Director, Mrs. B. W. Nininger, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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### Associational Hymn Sing Reports

Pulaski County Northeast Zone, held at Sherwood, April 20, 33 present.

Pulaski County, Southeast Zone, held at Martindale, May 4, 41 present.

Pulaski County, Northwest Zone, held at Cedar Heights Church, April 20, 107 present.

Liberty Association, Southwest Zone, held at Three Creeks, May 4, 79 present.

## Baptist Student Union

DR. DALE COWLING, Director

### Little Rock Junior College Organizes B. S. U.

By MARGARET DUGGAR

A Baptist Student Union was organized on the Little Rock Junior College campus Tuesday, April 4, with a group of sixteen attending. Dr. Dale Cowling, state secretary of the BSU, attended to assist the group in organizing. Betty Sue Holt, Junior College, freshman, was elected president.

Other officers elected were an executive council composed of Jerry Norried, vice president in charge of enlistment; Carolyn Kelly, social director; Mildred Glover, devotional vice president; Margaret Duggar, secretary; David Adams, song director and Martha Cash, pianist. Orville W. Taylor will serve as faculty sponsor and Walter Hill, assistant pastor of First Church, Little Rock, will serve as pastor advisor.

The group plans weekly devotional meetings on the campus which anyone who wishes may

attend. It is the only organization of a religious nature in the school and will seek to provide a spiritual atmosphere on the campus. Although there have been BSU organizations there in the past, none had been active this year.

Besides other activities that will be undertaken by the group, several of the students attended the Student Retreat held at Camp Couchdale April 25-27.

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"The history of liberty is the history of the limitation of governmental power, not the increase of it. When we resist . . . concentration of power we are resisting the powers of death, because concentration of power is what always precedes the destruction of human liberties."

—Woodrow Wilson

There are two kinds of leaders in the world—one is interested in fleece and the other in the flock.

### SHOE SHOP FOR SALE

If you want an income while you go to college, buy my shoe repair shop on the campus of Southern Baptist College. No competition, 1,000 population. I have finished school and would like to move. Reasonable terms. Will trade for car or truck. Contact

TROY L. SMITH  
College City, Walnut Ridge

## Training Union Department

RALPH W. DAVIS, Secretary

### Attention

If two women would like reservations for second Training Union week at Ridgecrest, to stay in Crystal Springs in a room that has a connecting bath (\$4.25 per day per person, including meals), write to Rev. Ralph W. Davis, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock, IMMEDIATELY.

### Looking Ahead!

It's a long way off, but let us tell you about it now! At the State Training Union Convention which will meet at Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, Friday and Saturday, March 13-14, 1953, Mr. B. B. McKinney will direct the music. Dr. Kyle M. Yates of Second Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, and Dr. Joe Burton of the Home Curriculum Department, Baptist Sunday School Board will be the main speakers. We will again meet in the Robinson Memorial Auditorium on Friday night for a great service and Mrs. B. W. Nininger will lead the Pulaski County Choral Club in a music festival. Workers for each department will be present from the Baptist Sunday School Board. So why not mark your calendar now! It's March 13-14, 1953.

But you don't have to look so far ahead to see the big Nursery, Beginner, Primary Leadership Workshop to be held in Little Rock on Tuesday, October 7. It will be five and one-half hours packed full of real work! It won't be just speech making. Those who attend will have part in prepar-

ing a unit of work and in preparing materials for the unit. They will learn to do by doing. We have Miss Ann Huguley and Mrs. Doris Monroe coming from the Baptist Sunday School Board and Miss Ann Bradford coming from Southwestern Baptist Seminary. It will be something big for one day in Arkansas and will meet the greatest need that we have in Training Union work now.

Dr. Porter Routh in the May, 1952 issue of the Training Union Magazine gives the following facts concerning Training Union work for 1950. Fifty-seven percent of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention had Training Union work. These churches reported seventy-nine percent of the total membership. They reported eighty-two percent of all baptisms. They reported eighty-three percent of the Sunday School enrolment. They reported ninety-seven percent of all Brotherhood membership, and ninety percent of all W. M. U. enrolment. Ninety percent of all gifts are reported by churches with Training Unions, and 93.4 percent of all gifts to missions were reported by churches with Training Unions.

It is sometimes said that Training Union will work in the city but not in the country. It is interesting to note that here are 6,105 Training Unions organized in open country churches, and only 4,195 Training Union organizations located in the city. There were nearly one thousand new Training Unions organizations started in open country churches during the past year.

## Holding The Lines

By CHARLES A. WELLS

We are deceiving ourselves these days about the importance of human leadership. It is true that weak and inadequate men can certainly make matters worse, but there is a tendency to think that by putting stronger and more able men into places of leadership we can correct the evils that beset us and bring under human mastery the forces of history. We are seriously overrating what one man or any team of men can

do. It is moral law and divine will that govern the direction of history. When, throughout our nation, moral law is ignored and spiritual values are trampled upon, no election can bring a cure. We must make decisions dealing with God, and not just choices between political parties, if we would bring order and character to our world. Man's strength can be adequate only as he is working with divine purpose.

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## Woman's Missionary Union

MISS NANCY COOPER, *Executive Secretary*

### Off To Ridgecrest, Women

The 1952 south-wide W. M. U. and B. W. C. Conferences will be held at Ridgecrest August 7-13. No week in the year offers as much to a member of Woman's Missionary Union! In it will be packed daily contact with scores of missionaries who will speak in individual classes and to the entire assemblage; conferences on the organization's methods and plans; a real study of a portion of the scripture; contact with south-wide denominational leaders and world figures; fellowship in the "land of the Sky" with hundreds of women from over the convention territory; sightseeing in one of the most scenic sections of our country. All this and more is available for those who attend.

Type of transportation and accommodation at Ridgecrest determine the most of the trip. It is only an over-night trip by train or bus from Memphis. And if a group share expenses of a car, it is quite an inexpensive trip. All rates at Ridgecrest are per person per day with meals: HOTELS: Rooms with private baths (limited number) are \$4.25 to \$5.50; with connecting baths, \$3.75 to \$4.50; with baths on hall, \$3.50 to \$4.00; in dormitories, \$3.00 to \$3.75. Unless deluxe mode of travel is chosen, \$65.00 will cover actual cost! It is a bargain! Let's go!

Reservation fee of \$2.00 per person should be sent immediately to Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, North Carolina, with request for type accommodation wanted—with understanding if that is not available that you will take the next best. Or send your registration fee to Miss Nancy Cooper, 209 Baptist Building, Little Rock, and she will be glad to forward same to the management at Ridgecrest with request for your reservation.

Ridgecrest is a golden experience that every member of Woman's Missionary Union should have. For additional information, write Miss Nancy Cooper, 209 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

### Special Summer Worker

Miss Jane Averitt has been committed by the W. M. U. of Arkansas to work in summer camps and in other capacities during the summer. Miss Averitt is from Calvert, Alabama, where her parents were missionaries to the Indians of that section for many years, serving under the Home Mission Board. No one excels her in her missionary zeal and following her graduation from Judson College, she returned to the field where her parents served to become a teacher in one of the schools there. As a young woman growing up on the mission field, she served beside her parents, and

was regarded by fellow-missionaries as a real colleague. She was one who was sent by the Baptist Student Union to Hawaii as special summer field worker. With a great missionary heart that has found a way of service all her life, Miss Averitt plans to enter Southwestern Seminary in the fall for further preparation to serve wherever God may call.

Miss Averitt will serve as missionary speaker in the two young people's camps to be held at Ravenden Springs, at the State Baptist Assembly at Siloam Springs, and in the girl's camps which will be held at Ferncliff. In addition to those speaking responsibilities, as Miss DeVault's assistant her duties will be varied and many.

We welcome Miss Jane Averitt to Arkansas for the summer of 1952! Fortunate is the state to secure her services and witness!

### State W.M.U. Executive Board

The State W. M. U. Executive Board will meet at 10 A. M., May 27th, in the Waller Chapel of the Second Baptist Church, Little Rock. Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, president, will preside and will announce committees to serve during the coming year. Other items of important business will be discussed.

New officers and Board members elected at the Annual Meeting, April 3rd, will be presented. They are: Mrs. Irl Paul, Mountain Home, president of North Central District; Mrs. S. A. Whitlow, Hope, assistant recording secretary; Miss Elma Cobb, Keo, state stewardship chairman; Mrs. J. C. Fuller, Little Rock, state B. W. C. adviser; Mrs. Buford Bracy, Little Rock; Mrs. Bernes Selph, Benton; Mrs. James Harris, Texarkana; Miss Dollie Hiatt, Little Rock. Mrs. Lawson Hatfield, Little Rock, and Mrs. Roy Snider, Smackover, were recently elected by the Board to fill vacancies occasioned by resignations.

Lunch will be served by the hostess church to the group attending.

SUMMER TIME IS CAMP TIME! See last week's Arkansas Baptist for schedule. A missionary camp will make a difference in the life of any young person. Send them. Bring them.

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## Be Careful — The Child You Save May Be Your Own



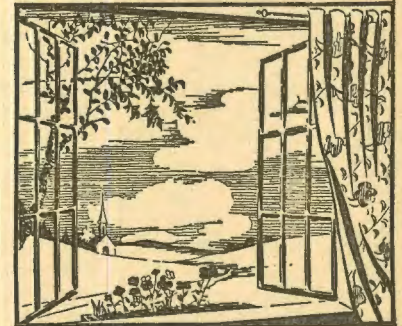
Here's the dime he couldn't stop on!



Think you can stop your car on a dime? Don't kid yourself. Youngsters at play don't always give you time to. Better slow down near schools and playgrounds. A dime's a pretty small target.

A Southern Baptist Publication for Southern Baptists

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## BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

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# Department of Missions

C. W. CALDWELL, Superintendent

## Rural Church Conferences For Arkansas

Monday afternoon, June 2, will be the opening service for a Rural Church Conference at Ouachita College. A program will be mailed to all pastors a few days before the conference opens. We regret the delay in getting the programs published and mailed. Let us assure you, however, that it will be a splendid program and we urge all pastors of rural churches to attend. Dr. Porter M. Bailes of Tyler, Texas, will be the guest preacher for both conferences.

The colleges will furnish room and bed. It will be necessary, however, for each person to provide his own bed linen and towels. The meals in the cafeteria will be very reasonable. The conference at Ouachita College will close Wednesday at noon.

Wednesday afternoon, June 4, a similar conference will open at Southern Baptist College, with the same program. Of course, it is not expected that all pastors

attend both conferences. They will select the one that is most convenient. The Missions Department will help pay transportation to all those having four in their cars. We would like to urge both missionaries and pastors to pull for a good attendance in these conferences.

### RATIO OF BAPTISMS

We give below the number of baptisms and also the ratio according to membership in the states of the Southern Baptist Convention. They are listed in the order of ratio of baptisms. Naturally, the states with very few Baptists had the highest ratio. It is encouraging, however, to know that among the larger states only Florida exceeds Arkansas. Our record should be considered good in view of the fact that our state population has decreased and Florida's has increased over 80 per cent during the past twenty years.

State	Baptisms	Ratio to Membership
Washington	392	1 to 6.5
California	5,074	1 to 8.0
Kansas	976	1 to 8.6
Oregon	315	1 to 9.0
Alaska	142	1 to 9.1
Arizona	1,512	1 to 9.4
New Mexico	3,892	1 to 12.9
Florida	18,918	1 to 15.7
Illinois	6,662	1 to 16.3
Arkansas	14,612	1 to 16.9
Oklahoma	19,259	1 to 18.2
South Carolina	21,739	1 to 18.3
Maryland	1,679	1 to 18.4
Texas	63,102	1 to 19.3
Tennessee	32,105	1 to 19.5
Louisiana	14,896	1 to 20.3
Kentucky	26,562	1 to 20.6
North Carolina	34,620	1 to 20.8
Georgia	32,641	1 to 21.5
Alabama	25,664	1 to 21.6
Missouri	16,287	1 to 22.1
Virginia	15,710	1 to 22.4
Mississippi	17,527	1 to 22.8
District of Columbia	1,239	1 to 24.4
Southern Baptist Convention	375,525	1 to 19.6

It is impossible to mentally or socially enslave a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the ground-work of human freedom.

—Horace Greeley.

“The men who try to do something and fail are far better than those who try to do nothing and succeed.”

“Let your light shine” does not mean being lit up.

It costs to be a Christian—you can't be good for nothing.

## The Problem Of Retirement

By S. L. MORGAN, Sr.

Wake Forest, North Carolina

We have close to 19,000,000 people above 60 years of age, of whom an estimated ten or eleven million are idle, discontented, many of them desperate. With rising costs they see their savings dwindling, their old-age pensions and their “social security” daily shrinking in value.

Census figures are fairly accurate for the group above 65 years. They number close to 13,000,000. Of these, 3,000,000 are gainfully employed, and an estimated 2,000,000 are too old or too sick to work. Between these two groups are seven or eight millions in the 65-age group able and eager to work, but who are denied the privilege. They are cut off by age limits arbitrarily set by industry and government, almost regardless of physical or mental capacity to work efficiently. Since 1900 the proportion of older workers in industry has decreased by close to one-half.

Almost all areas of life begin to feel the demand to displace older workers by younger ones. A friend of striking personality and commanding ability applied for a job with a great firm. They searched his record and gave him their decision: “Your record is perfect, but we must train a younger man and then keep him.” He said, “It staggered me; I was 36!”

I was invited to visit a church looking for a pastor. Then came a telegram canceling the invitation. An old minister in the church wrote me, “I'll tell you why; the church has passed a resolution not to call any pastor over 45, and they learned you are older.”

This situation renders the problem of retirement, or even of changing jobs, acute in every area of employment. The minister, the teacher, the manual worker, faces even at 50 the peril of being squeezed out of employment altogether if he changes jobs. Caught in the cultural lag that demands younger workers, he feels the pressure to move on and give place to someone younger. But at his age moving is difficult, for the new place too is looking for someone younger. For what person or firm, corporation or church, wants to run the risk of having on its hands an aging employee!

### Retirement Both a Financial and Psychological Problem

At present living costs, retirement is a grave financial problem for the majority of workers. Retirement pensions and “social security” seldom insure against want. Annuities to ministers provided by the churches are usually altogether inadequate even for comfort at present living costs.

But the psychological problem of retirement is quite as serious as the financial. Money can give no

psychological insurance against the misery of idleness and boredom, or against the corroding sense of being a cast-off and useless, of being dependent and a burden. In everyone, there is an emotional hunger to feel one is acting a creative part in the life of his community, of doing a needed part of the world's work, of feeling useful and important, and of having a future and a goal to live for.

Dr. George Lawton, noted authority on old age and retirement and author of *Aging Successfully*, tells of an able business executive who advertised in a New York City newspaper for a job. He said, “Five years ago I retired at 46 with an assured income for life of \$35,000 a year. I regret my retirement, and want to work, and work hard at some business. Salary is immaterial. I'm in perfect, vigorous health. I'm tired of golf and play, and of pleasure resorts north and south. All my ‘do-gooding’ leaves me unsatisfied. I need to work.”

A retired businessman with a conscience confessed to walking the streets of his city two years in shame, knowing he could and ought to be doing some creative work along with his fellow-citizens.

Dr. Lawton says that several years ago a poll taken in New York City showed that 750,000 workers over 65, who were fully insured, and with retirement benefits assured for life, refused their benefits and gladly stuck to their jobs.

### A New Conscience Regarding the Idle Aged

Happily a new conscience is stirring across the land in the interest of our aging millions. Governors are calling conferences and appointing commissions to deal with the problem of old people. Many communities are aroused.

Retirement for most is not a chance to “rest and play” and prolong their days; rather, it is a sentence to a slow death from a sense of being useless and unwanted and in the way.

Millions of our aged, constituting a vast reservoir of physical and mental energy, are under that sentence: skilled and unskilled laborers, ministers, judges, teachers, able executives. It is a cruel injustice, a prodigious waste. Happily, the nation's conscience is at work to correct it. And many methods are in the making.

You can't take it with you—  
And taxes make clear  
The also sad fact  
That you can't keep it here!  
—S. Omar Barker.

### EAST TEXAS BAPTIST COLLEGE

Marshall, Texas

Summer School, June 2, 1952

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Applications Should Be Made NOW

# Sunday School Department

DR. EDGAR WILLIAMSON, *Secretary*

## Additional Credits in Training Course

By A. V. WASHBURN

In conference with the state Sunday school secretaries and the workers in the Sunday School Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, it has been agreed that additional credits may be had on any book in the Sunday School Training Course beginning immediately—that is, individual book certificates may be earned each time a person fulfills the requirements (including a rereading of the book) in a training class or by the Individual Study Method.

May we call attention to the requirements for granting awards as they are printed in the front of each training course book. Teachers of training classes are urged to review these requirements with their classes at the beginning of each school.

Those who follow the Individual Study Method are requested please to send their papers directly to the state Sunday School Secretary, Dr. Edgar Williamson, 215 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

### Ridgecrest Sunday School Weeks

The three Sunday School Weeks,

June 19-25, June 26-July 2, and July 3-9, will each offer the same program in the regular age group conferences and in the general periods. There will be special conferences in each of the three weeks on church libraries, church buildings, visual aids, Vacation Bible school work, and associational Sunday school work. Mr. J. P. Edmunds will hold special conferences during the week of June 19-25 for associational clerks.

It will be easier at this date to secure desirable space for the first or second weeks. The people who desire to attend both the Sunday school and a Training Union week prefer the third Sunday school week.

Come either of the Sunday school weeks and you will find the same program. You are urgently invited to come to Ridgecrest for one of the three weeks.

### STANDARD DEPARTMENTS AND CLASSES

In April the following Departments and Classes qualified for the Standard recognition:

Beginner Department, First

Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Mrs. Gus Sanders, Department superintendent.

Nursery Department, First Baptist Church, Luxora, Mrs. W. C. Howard, Department superintendent.

Young People's Department, South Side Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Mrs. Frank A. Harris, Department superintendent.

### Young People's Classes:

South Side Baptist, Pine Bluff, Mrs. Aubrey Davis, teacher.

South Side Baptist, Pine Bluff, Mrs. V. F. Copeland, teacher.

South Side Baptist, Pine Bluff, Mrs. L. D. Davis, teacher.

South Side Baptist, Pine Bluff, Mrs. Luke Bashears, teacher.

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### Coming Events

June — Vacation Bible Schools.

July 1-9—Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

September 2—Associational Sunday School Leadership Conference.

September 16—State-wide Special Associational Planning Rallies.

October 13-14—State Sunday School Convention.

### Hold The Line

A woman telephoned the business manager of a large concert hall that she had lost a valuable

diamond pin there the night before, and asked if it had been found.

The man said to hold the line. Search was made and the pin was found, but when the manager went back to the telephone the call had been cut off. He waited for the woman to call again, but never heard anything from her, even though he advertised.

How often we act that way concerning our own requests to our Father in heaven; if our requests are not answered immediately we weary of waiting, our faith gives out and we fail to "hold the line", so that when the time comes for the requests to be granted, we are not there to receive it.

—000—

### GOD IS OWNER

God owns all things. He owns them by creation. He owns them by redemption. We are not our own, we are "bought" with a "price." God owns us and owning us He owns all that we possess.

God never transferred His ownership to man. He gave man "dominion over." Dominion means authority—not ownership.

Therefore, we do not own the things we call ours. We are simply stewards, holding and administering them in trust for the real owner, God.

—Church Bulletin.

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The doctrine of justification in the Bible is shown to produce holiness.

# OUACHITA BAPTIST COLLEGE

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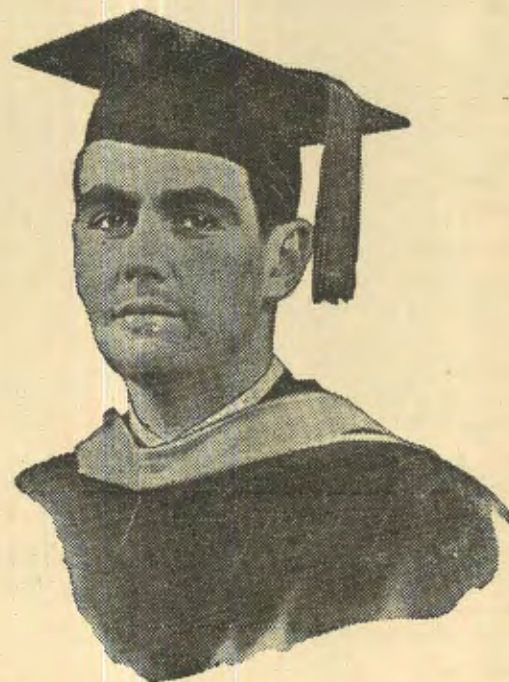
### ON YOUR GRADUATION

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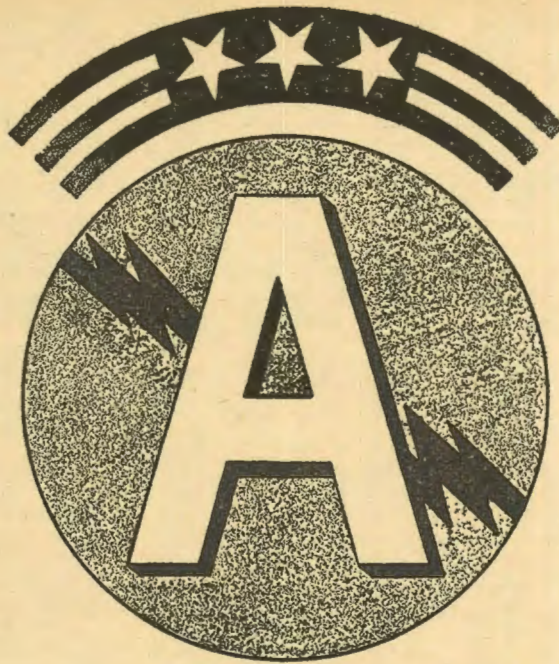
- Visit the campus anytime this summer.
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Write to:

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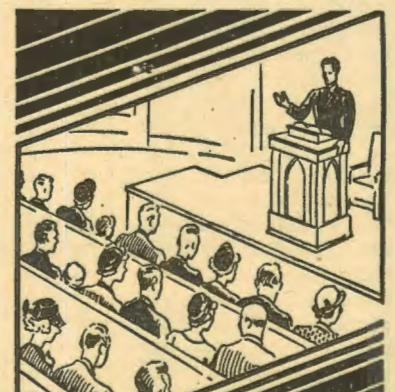


- that the future welfare of our Company depends on the friendship of the two million people of our State;
- that preserving this friendship calls for continually improved electric service at lowest possible rates;
- that our employees must be assured good working conditions, decent wages, and training in citizenship;
- that those who own our Company are, and must be, entitled to a fair return on their investments;
- that through our efforts and guidance, the communities we serve may achieve their full potentialities;
- that for all Arkansas we must boldly and frankly help lead the way to a better life in a great state.

*Arkansas* **POWER & LIGHT** *Company*  
HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

## Figures To Inspire

	Sunday, May 11	S.S.	T.U.	Ad.
Little Rock, Immanuel	1384	428	4	
Including Missions	1504	471		
Fort Smith, First	1217	467	3	
Including Missions	1318	500		
Little Rock, First	1052	427	9	
El Dorado, First	974	231	1	
Including Mission	1062	271		
Little Rock, Second	750	160		
Pine Bluff, South Side	694	239	1	
Fayetteville, First	677	243	2	
El Dorado, Immanuel	607	298	2	
Including Mission	657	351		
Camden, First	585	141	8	
Including Missions	857	339		
Texarkana, Beech St.	571	286		
Siloam Springs	547	337	3	
Benton, First	540	95		
Hope, First	532	166	2	
Forrest City, First	530	192	3	
Magnolia, Central	529	163	2	
Including Mission	588			
Little Rock, Tabernacle	520	218	2	
Warren, First	520	141		
Fort Smith, Grand Ave.	508	185	1	
Paragould, First	507	255	1	
Including Missions	706			
Hot Springs, Central	502	187	2	
Little Rock, Pulaski Hts.	498	200	3	
Springdale, First	489		1	
Including Mission	583			
El Dorado, Second	478	185	1	
Hot Springs, Park Place	439	154		
West Helena	438	123	3	
Conway, First	437	99	31	
Pine Bluff, Immanuel	425	178		
Cullendale, First	414	187	4	
Little Rock, So. Highland	413	153	2	
Paris, First	374	139		
Stuttgart, First	373	168	1	
Including Mission	397	183		
El Dorado, West Side	358	110		
Hot Springs, First	355	123		
Osceola, First	334	54	1	
Jonesboro, Walnut St.	331	74		
Smackover, First	330	163		
Mena, First	327	101	2	
Including Mission	397			
Fort Smith, South Side	325	112		
Hamburg, First	298			
Wynne	277	51		
Levy	275	134		
Monticello, First	275	104		
Fort Smith, Immanuel	266	105	1	
Pine Bluff, Second	258	88		
No. Little Rock, Park Hill	253	71		
No. Little Rock, First	227	59		
Hot Springs, Piney	211	164	1	
Springdale, Caudle Ave.	206	85		
Berryville, First	205	99		
Gurdon, Beech St.	203	94		
Star City, First	202	65		
Dermott	201	69	1	
Augusta, First	192	57		
Including Mission	243			
Crossett, Mount Olive	191	111	3	
Warren, Immanuel	150	140	4	
Bauxite, First	305	146		
Grannis	117	34		
El Dorado, Galliee	107			
Little Rock, Woodlawn	102	49		
Lonoke, Steel Bridge	99	77		
Hot Springs, Grand Ave.	84	70		
Hot Springs, Emanuel	72	42		



WE PREACH  
NOT *ourselves* BUT  
**CHRIST JESUS  
THE LORD**

2 Cor. 4:5

# God's Estimate Of Human Life

By Mrs. HOMER D. MYERS

*Lesson based on "International Sunday School Lessons; the International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching," copyrighted 1951 by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.*

"Thou shalt not kill, said the God of the universe.

God is the author of life.

Life is God's institution; He maintains it; He controls it.

Life is God's gift to mankind. Only God can give life, only God should take life. People should never take anything that belongs to another. People should never take anything they cannot return nor make restitution for.

There are many killers abroad in the land. Some of them carry a gun; others merely drive an **AUTOMOBILE**. Some of them glorify crime and make it seem attractive to youngsters in moving pictures, on radio or television shows; others operate well swept, highly polished, brightly decorated liquor stores with beautiful neon signs to direct its victims to its doors. Anything that destroys life, or character, or morals is a **KILLER**.

There are teeming thousands of others who are killers at heart, who never did or never shall own a gun; hearts that are filled with hatred, envy, and the bitterness of gall toward their fellowman. Jesus brought the definition of murder right down to the human heart. He said that a man or woman who claimed to love God, but who hates his brethren is a murderer and a liar. For one cannot love God and hate a human being at the same time.

## KILL THE OPPOSITION?

Take the example of His own disciples in this lesson, Luke 9:51-56: Jesus and His disciples were going to Jerusalem. In passing through Samaria the disciples asked them for a place to stop or to spend the night. They refused Jesus that privilege. James and John suggested that the Lord just call down fire from heaven to devour their enemies. "Let's just show them a thing or two," was the idea. Jesus rebuked them, and said, "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of." Throughout the ages there have been people who would destroy all opposition. Our enemies are the creation of God as much so as we ourselves.

How simple it was for Jesus to move on to another village where He was accepted. And that should be our attitude today. We cannot control the world. But most of the time we can move on and like the little boy said, "Take our business somewhere else."

It is the spirit of Pharisaism and Judaism, and sad to say it

## Sunday School Lesson for

May 25, 1952

Ex. 20:13; Matt. 5:21-26;  
18:5-6; Luke 9:51-56

thrives among us today, to insist that everybody else believe exactly what we believe; that the other fellow must see things exactly as we see them or he is a heretic. And what is more, the other person must express his belief in the same words, he must be careful to use the same phraseology that we use, or he is a miserable failure.

That "no one is right but I" is a wicked spirit. "I have the right to believe exactly what I want to believe, and reject all I do not wish to accept: but that other fellow over there must agree with me or I'll have him cast out of the synagogue," is the attitude of too many human beings.

God placed such value upon each individual as to give each one the privilege of thinking and living for himself. And no man or woman has a right to take that privilege from another.

Men go about destroying others, and taking their rights and privileges. But Jesus never did such a thing. He refused to harm a human being while on earth. Not one life did He remove or destroy. The only thing He ever cursed was a barren fig tree. He pronounced some woes upon the wicked for their unbelief, but that was in way of a warning, giving them the opportunity to turn from their wicked ways and be saved.

## MANY KINDS OF KILLERS

God said, "Thou shalt not kill"—but any form of carelessness toward the physical safety of others is a form of murder. The great majority of people who are being slaughtered on our highways are the victims of other's carelessness, or victims of drunken drivers. People who leave open wells, or other death traps for little children to fall into, are careless killers.

God said, "Thou shalt not kill"—but hatred and gossip are murderers. Only eternity will reveal how many lives have been ruined, who would otherwise have been useful and prosperous, by lying tongues.

"Thou shalt not kill"—but he or she who would hurt another's character in any way is a killer.

In Matthew 18:5-6, Jesus gave us the picture of an innocent child, and He frequently used children as our examples. Surely, no one but a fiend can hate a little child. God pity the mind and heart that despises one of His tiny creations, yet we have

seen church members who loathed some child because they disliked its parents. And we have seen other church members who did not want other children to have the same opportunities and advantages that their children received.

Lord help us to get right! Help us to know that God values human life—**ALL HUMAN LIFE!** That all of us are made of the same stuff and that God sees **US ALL ALIKE**. That He sees no difference in my child and other children.

## BE AS CHILDREN— IN SOME WAYS—

Jesus wants us to have the same faith and humility that a little child has. A child will believe anything you tell him. And we should believe anything that God tells us in His word. Children have a pure faith, unmixed with doubt or fear, where their parents are concerned. Children trust their parents to do what they say they will. We should trust God the same way.

A child is humble. He hopes, he anticipates certain blessings, but he has to look to his father or mother to fulfill his desires. We, too, should hope, expect, yet

be submissive to the Father's will, never in a demanding spirit.

Children forget their hurts quickly. They "forget" to hold a grudge. They do not know malice until they get to be "big children" like father and mother.

Two small boys about eight years of age were playing once. One was trying to convince the other of what he thought to be the truth about something of interest. He could not get the other to accept his point of view, he became so provoked he said, "I'm not going to like you any more." The second child said, "I don't care, I'll like you anyhow." That's the spirit we're talking about. Hate never accomplished anything but evil. Bitterness and sarcasm are tools of Satan; never, never can they be used effectively for Christ.

It doesn't cost anything to love. And if God places such high estimate upon the life of the individual, surely we should respect the creature of God, because of God, if for no other reason. We should in no wise hurt, harm, nor destroy the handiwork of God, for man is made in the image and likeness of the Creator.

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## Simultaneous Revival Crusade

At the time of this writing the simultaneous revival is in progress in Southwest Arkansas. This scribe is in Texarkana, and there is a group of other preachers in the simultaneous meetings. Tom Dove is the evangelist at Arabella Heights Church and Roy Kilgore is the singer. Dr. C. W. Caldwell is the evangelist at Calvary Church and David White is the singer. At First Church on the Texas side, John Hagai is the evangelist and Mark Short is the singer. This scribe is with Pastor L. E. Holt in Highland Park Church and the assistant pastor, Charles Lowery is the singer. At South Texarkana Church, Ansel Pruitt is the evangelist and Ed Miller is the singer. In Beech Street Church, Dr. James L. Sullivan is the evangelist and C. E. Lewis is the singer. At Eastview Church Theo James is the evangelist. In the Fouke Church, Allen McCurry is the evangelist. At Myrtle Springs Church, Preston Taylor is the evangelist and Pierce Wilcox is the singer. In the West Texarkana Church, Clyde Martin is the evangelist and Malcolm Sample is the singer. At Trinity Church, Y. C. Whitlock is the pastor-evangelist.

Some of these meetings began a week ago and are closing out at this writing and they are reporting splendid ingatherings as a result of their campaigns. In other instances, even as that of Highland Park Church, we have just begun, but good interest is reported everywhere. The Lord is pouring out His spirit. All these churches are doing splendid work. This scribe is assisting Pastor L. E. Holt in Highland Park Church just on the Texas

side. Pastor Holt is an Arkansas man, but has spent most of his ministerial life in Texas. He has served two great churches including the Highland Park Church in Texarkana for about twenty years. L. E. Holt is a mighty preacher of the word of God. He did not depend upon schools and institutes and training courses to make him a great preacher. God made a great preacher out of L. E. Holt. He comes from a family that has been outstanding with the Lord. His father, G. E. Holt, was a great preacher in Arkansas when this lad was in knee trousers. Holt is also a church builder. In both instances where he has served as pastor in Texas during these twenty years he has left a great deposit of physical property that affords workshop space in good measure for both these churches. The other pastorate was in Kilgore, Texas. A man of Holt's ability as a preacher and with his understanding of church buildings, his ability to draw plans and to give directions in construction work, all of these things make him a most useful man indeed in the Kingdom of God. It is fortunate that God gives us men who can not only be preachers, but who are builders and who do constructive work and who can stay on the job through the years and see the fruition of their labors as year after year produces results.

In every instance in Texarkana, the pastors are proving to be equal to the occasion and the churches are experiencing a great growth under their leadership and ministry.

### Davis and Stamps

Young Floyd Davis is the pastor of First Church in Stamps. They have recently erected a new building. What a beautiful thing it is, and it is commodious. It will serve this church well through the years that are ahead. Of course, they will have to build now an educational plant, but they have had some experience that will encourage them, and they will take care of that situation.

Floyd Davis is the son of C. G. Davis, who is pastor of the College Hill Church in Texarkana. Floyd recently came out of the seminary and came to Stamps with all the vigor and consecration of a God-called Baptist preacher. He faithfully, persistently, and heroically led the church at Stamps in this building program. It is marvelous to see what they have done for such a small amount of money.

Brother Davis has some of the salt of the earth in his membership at Stamps. It is a great church. God bless this great congregation and this young preacher.

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"All the armor in the world will not save a nation shot through with corruption, political greed and vacillating leadership."

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If you want to be great—forget yourself.

### Pity The Preacher

A Texas paper comments as follows: "The preacher has a good time. If his hair is gray, he is old. If he is a young man, he hasn't had experience. If he has ten children, he has too many; if he has none, he isn't setting a good example. If his wife sings in the choir, she is presuming; if she doesn't, she isn't interested in her husband's work. If a preacher reads from notes, he is a bore; if he speaks extemporaneously, he isn't deep enough. If he stays at home in his study, he doesn't mix enough with the people; if he is seen around the streets, he ought to be at home getting up a good sermon. If he calls on some poor family, he is playing to the grandstand; if he calls at the home of the wealthy, he is an aristocrat. Whatever he does, someone could have told him how to do better."

—The Churchman.

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### Eddie Rickenbacker: "We Must Recapture A Living Christianity"

Famed flyer Eddie Rickenbacker urged renewed and strengthened faith in God, saying "We must recapture and sustain a living Christianity in all things if we are to be victorious." He was honored recently with the Christian Athletes Foundation award.

—Arkansas Democrat.

### We Will Get It, But How About Your Church?

We will get the \$25,000 to help build the storm torn churches, but do you want us to get it without your church having a part in it? If your church has not responded thus far, surely you will as soon as it is convenient for you to do so. We are sure that you have great sympathy and even pity for the people whose church houses have been torn asunder by the tornadoes. "But whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (I John 3:17). Wasn't this verse written for such a time and circumstance as this?

### Pictures Are No Substitute For Word of God and Preaching

By R. T. SKINNER

From here and there, over the state and beyond, comes word of a gradual movement which seems to be underway—the substitution of slides and moving pictures for regular worship services.

This editor is not trying to dictate to churches, but he does have the right, and we think, responsibility, to speak his convictions. Nothing should ever be made a substitute for the reading and study of God's word and the preaching of the truth from the pulpit.

Visual education is a new and valuable means of imparting information to old and young alike. Through the eye we learn more rapidly than through the ear. Visual education is a wide-open door to effectively serving the people and many churches are taking advantage of this opportunity to inform and challenge.

However, in the opinion and deep conviction of this writer, such things ought never to substitute for the preaching of the gospel.

The people are hungry for something that is real from the heart of God and the good pastors. They yearn for Spirit-indited preaching! The man of God does well to see that both his message and his heart are thoroughly prepared for the high hours of worship; and in this writer's conviction he does well to see that nothing breaks in on that holy hour.

—Western Recorder.

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It's no secret that women control this country's purse strings. The U. S. Chamber of Commerce's Committee on advertising now reveals that they own 70 per cent of private wealth; 55 per cent of savings accounts; 44 per cent of public utilities; they inherit 60 per cent of all estates; and they buy 80 per cent of all consumer goods.

—Quote.

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It is not generally known that 74.8 per cent of all the money received by the government from income taxes is taken from those receiving \$10,000 or less per year.

—H. E. Sawyer.