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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 51

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, DECEMBER 18, 1952

NUMBER 50



—H. Armstrong Roberts

"And there were shepherds . . . keeping watch over their flocks . . . and, lo, the angel of the Lord said unto them . . . unto you is born this day . . . A Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:8-11

The Secret of the Vanishing Self

By G. H. O'DONNELL

One of the famous Scotch preachers was accustomed to tell a story of his own experience, which illustrated one great secret of effective preaching. The Scotchman had been out fishing along one of the trout streams, but he had very little luck that day. As he walked along the stream he came upon a countryman who had made a catch of a number of fine trout. The Scotch pastor asked the man the secret of his catching of so many fine fish. The countryman gave this answer: "When you fish three things are necessary. First, keep yourself out of sight. Second, keep yourself further out of sight. Third, keep yourself still further out of sight."

The advice is indispensable to good preaching. The preacher must keep himself out of sight. He must so present Jesus Christ that the Christ will be allowed to make His appeal to the hearers, unhidden by any thrusting of the preacher or the preacher's talents to the fore. Paul gives an admirable summary of this truth in I Corinthians 2:1-5: "I, brethren, when I came unto you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. I was with you in weakness and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

Obscuring Christ

Paul's words point out to us very clearly the fact that any attempt on our part to display our skill or our achievements in education will obscure the Christ whom we are preaching. Skill in the use of words and language, ability to use speech attractively, thorough educational training, are all of great value to preachers so long as they enable us to reveal Christ to men. But if we make a show of these abilities, they become an effort to win the admiration of men, and they then inevitably draw the attention of men from the Christ who is being preached to the man who is doing the preaching. Paul in another place wrote, "We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus." Sometimes we do preach ourselves, but when we do, it is the poorest sermon we ever preached. We should portray Jesus Christ to men in simple, easily understood language, keeping ourselves always as nearly out of sight as possible. Then our Master will be able to speak through us.

The Power of the Cross

The secret of the power of Jesus Christ was His Cross. He lived continually the crucified life, the life that could end only on a cross. The sacrifice of the cross was in the heart of God and in the heart of Jesus from the very beginning. God gave His only begotten Son. Christ came willingly. He counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be seized and held on to selfishly. He emptied Himself and became obedient even unto death, death on the cross. And one great secret of the power of Paul's preaching was that it was based on the power of the cross of Christ. "I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." Undoubtedly the Christ of the cross has been the secret of successful Christian preaching

in every age. A missionary who would go to a heathen land without a risen, triumphant Christ to preach, would end in utter failure—and he would deserve to end in failure. A pastor who would go into his pulpit without a risen Christ to preach would end in failure—and he would deserve to so end.

Vanishing Self

When we feel securest and take most pride in having brought a splendid message, we may be sure that we have to a large extent set forth ourselves in the place of Christ. Paul writes, "I was with you in weakness and in much fear and trembling."

The secret of effective preaching is the secret of the vanishing self—keeping ourselves out of sight and allowing the Christ whom we preach to make His own appeal to the congregation by the work of His Spirit in the hearts and minds of the people. The power of unselfish manhood, genuinely dedicated to the ministry of the gospel, is indeed great. Such a life furnishes a channel through which the grace of the Master can flow out to others. But selfishness, self-interest, desire for the praise of men, for worldly glory, all dim the light of Christ as it passes through us. Let us learn the secret of the vanishing self; let us keep ourselves out of sight, and preach Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

—The Baptist Observer

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Through Foreign Eyes

A while ago 14 Austrian coal miners visited this country under the Mutual Security Program. A Pennsylvania newspaper devoted a page of pictures and text to describing their amazement at the unbelievable living standards enjoyed by the American miners.

The Austrians couldn't believe at first that all the cars they saw parked near the pits belonged to the miners. They were astounded at the comforts and luxuries, ranging from refrigeration to TV sets, they saw in miners' homes. They were amazed to find that all you had to do to get hot water in one of these homes was to turn a faucet.

When an interpreter told them that the average American miner earned over \$18 a day the Austrians assumed he had made a mistake—that the \$18 was for a full week's work. They were dazzled by the welfare and retirement benefits our miners receive. And when the president of the coal company they were visiting passed by and said hello to a group of miners they thought they'd seen a miracle of democracy. It seemed even more miraculous when the president said, "Of course I speak to them. They're my friends. I play cards with them." It's still pretty much the rule in Europe that bosses are bosses and workers are workers and never the twain shall meet.

The Austrians saw something that too many Americans overlook. Under free enterprise—the much reviled capitalist system—labor has made the greatest gains in all history.

—Industrial News Review

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Wrote Dwight Morrow once to his son: "The world is divided into people who do things and people who get the credit. Try, if you can, to belong to the first class. There's far less competition."

The Great Physician

A Devotion by the Editor

"Wilt thou be made whole?"

Jesus is Himself the great physician. He healed the people when He was here upon the earth in physical person. We have no reason to doubt that He heals people today. I should not want to go through a single day without committing my physical well-being to Jesus, I should not want to take any remedy for a physical ailment without asking His blessings upon it, I should not want to consult a physician without asking that He guide the physician in his diagnosis and prescription.

In a large metropolitan hospital there is a surgeon who insists upon having a moment alone before entering the operating room. Because of his great skill many of the younger doctors wondered if there might be a relation between his success and this unusual habit. When one of the interns put the question to the surgeon, he answered: "Yes, there is a relationship, a very close one. Before each operation I ask the great Surgeon to be with me, and guide my hands in their work. There have been times when I didn't know what to do next, and then came a power to go on—power which I know comes from God. I would not think of performing an operation without asking God's help."

"Rise, take up thy bed, and walk," commanded Jesus. If you want to get well, then get up and remove even the very sign of your illness, the pallet on which you were lying, and walk. This was a strange command to an invalid who had suffered for thirty-eight years, and if we did not know the outcome, we might consider it preposterous. But the commands of Jesus in every instance are intended to inspire faith, a faith in that which one had formerly considered impossible.

No greater aid to health and happiness and well being is possible to us than a vital, living faith in Jesus Christ, a faith which induces in us the most joyous obedience to His commands and to the obvious laws of life and health.

There is a clever little hint here that one should make no provision for a relapse. "Take up thy bed," and carry it away. Do not leave the invalid's pallet lying conveniently by, and be tempted to return to it if and when one may feel a disposition to revert to one's illness. Accept the cure as final and face life with confidence and assurance.

"Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." John 5:8.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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MRS. HOMER D. MYERS ED. ASST.

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B. H. Duncan, Editor

Mrs. Homer D. Myers

Mrs. E. F. Stokes

Miss Bertha Lou Wilson

Mrs. Harry Giberson

What Place Will Christ Have in Your Christmas?

Gaudy tinsel displays—a mockery of the name which gives this season of the year its significance! High pressure sales appeals—commercializing the memorial of the event which holds the greatest spiritual significance for the world! Drunkenness and revelry—dragging the name of the Christ child into the gutter and the brothel! The exchange of gifts—well, what do you think about it? Do these gifts convey any thought of the gift of God through Jesus Christ our Lord?

The Enemy

Yes, the sower sowed good seed in the ground; but the enemy also sowed tares. They are both growing together: Evil is growing in the world, but Christianity is also growing. You may make sure of this, that the day of separation is coming.

We may well deplore the irreverence, the blasphemy, the commercialism, and the selfishness, all of which become rampant during the Christmas season. But this very situation should drive the Christian closer to his Lord and cause him to seek divine guidance in the midst of the turmoil, the hustle and bustle, and the din of the world, all of which are augmented, intensified, and reach a crescendo of blatant disregard for all that is holy and spiritual at Christmas time.

True Disciples

There are those, millions of them, who come close to their Lord at Christmas time, who review the story of His birth and childhood, who renew their love and loyalty to Him whom they call Lord and Savior. In the privacy of their devotions they turn seeking devoted hearts to Jesus; in their places of employment they thank Him for their blessings; in their associations and relationships they inject the spirit of the Christ.

Not only so, but they gather in the churches to sing His praises together, to offer up their united prayers in thanksgiving and devotion, to sit together in worship and to renew their faith, their love, and their allegiance.

They Knew Him Not

In the first chapter of John's gospel, verses 10, 11, and 12, it is said, "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believed on his name."

Does Jesus find it any different today?

The eternal Christ steps out of eternity into time and walks upon this little planet that he spoke into existence. The eyes of some are so accustomed to the glaring lights of a sinful world that they see not the divine radiance in the countenance of Jesus. Their ears are so accustomed to the raucous sounds of a sinful world that they detect not the divine accent in the words of Jesus. Their spiritual sensibilities are so benumbed by the sins of life that they feel nothing when touched by the Lord of life.

When a committee from the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem came down to the Jordan to investigate John the Baptist, he said unto them, "But there standeth one among you, whom ye know not . . ." Countless thousands of people will go through this Christmas season not knowing the Christ of Christmas, the Christ who lives and reigns and who stands in the midst of those who are desecrating His name in this our day.

There are many others who should be His own, many who have heard the gospel message all their lifetime and who know enough gospel truth to save the world, many who have felt the appeal of the gospel and of Christian influences in their homes, in their communities, and yet they resist all these appeals and influences and reject the Christ of Christmas who came to redeem them from sin and save them to everlasting life. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not."

Rediscovering the Christ

But aren't you glad that 12th verse is added, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power, to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." Though there are many whose spiritual sensibilities are so paralyzed by sin that they feel nothing when touched by Jesus; though there are many others who should be prepared to receive Him and who do feel His appeal but reject Him; our hearts rejoice that there are others who do hear the message and feel the appeal and respond to Jesus by accepting Him as Lord and putting their trust and faith in Him.

And it is "as many." There is no limit to the number who may claim Him as Lord, who may receive Him into their hearts by faith. And He gives them power, that is the authority, the right, the privilege to become sons of God upon the condition of their implicit faith in Jesus. And this is our hope, that there are hearts that respond to Jesus and receive Him. This is the hope of the world, it is the hope of God in the world.

Therefore, this Christmas season should become, to us who have received the Lord,

a challenge; a challenge to a closer walk with Him; a challenge to more devoted service to His church and kingdom; a challenge to a more effective testimony to His saving grace; a challenge to follow Jesus in seeking out the lost and winning them to Christ as their personal Savior.

How will you spend this Christmas season? As one who knows Him not? As one who receives Him not? Or as one who receives Him and so becomes a child of God?

May the Christ of Christmas be rediscovered by countless numbers of people during this Christmas season. If you rediscover the Christ of Christmas, it will be the most glorious Christmas season you have ever spent. Try it, won't you?

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A Personal Greeting

Mrs. Duncan and I wish to express Christmas greetings to every reader of the *Arkansas Baptist*. We wish for you a joyous Christmas and New Year Season. We hope you will be happy and experience the joys which come with felicitations of loved ones and friends.

Beyond the joys and satisfactions of temporal, social, and material values, we hope that you may know the greater joy of fellowship with the Lord, whose coming to earth made possible this joyous season and whose redemptive grace restores us to the felicitations of a redeemed society, to the family of God, and to eternal life.

May the Christ of Christmas be real to each one of you is our best Christmas wish.

B. H. Duncan.

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THE BIBLE FOR THE WORLD

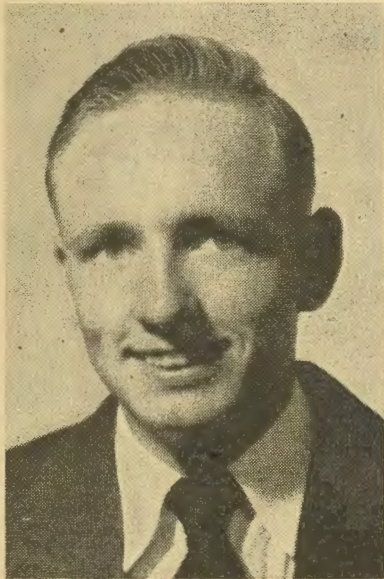
All the world must have the Bible now if the people of the world are to know Christ—the one hope of men and nations. It is the one primary source of knowledge of Him.

Today when millions of people around the world are turning to the Bible as never before and when there is a severe shortage of missionaries in many fields—Bible distribution is more than ever a "must." The Bible is the missionary's chief tool. The Bible itself is a missionary. It can go where the human missionary cannot go, stay when he must leave, and keep on working in a man's heart.

The American Bible Society aids in Bible translations, publishes the Scriptures without note or comment, and distributes them, without profit and usually below cost, for use in mission work around the world. You can make a gift through your church to the American Bible Society.

Kingdom Progress

Minister Ordained



FRANKIE PICKARD

First Church, Cabot, Samuel Phillips, pastor, ordained Frankie Pickard to the gospel ministry on Tuesday evening, December 9. The pastor served as moderator of the council and E. H. Lenderman as clerk. E. O. Martindale conducted the examination; Charles Templeton led in the ordination prayer. Wilson C. Deese preached the ordination sermon.

Mr. Pickard is pastor of Brownsville and Wattensaw Churches of the Caroline Association. He is a sophomore in Ouachita College and plans to enter Southern Baptist Seminary as soon as his college work is completed.

News from Ouachita

Who's Who in 1952-53

Nine Ouachitonians have received the honor of being selected as students from this school whose names will appear in the publication, "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for 1952-53."

They are: Calvin Austin, Van Buren; George Balentine, West Helena; Winston Beard, Cullendale; Lucien Coleman, Little Rock; Mary Sue McDonald, West Helena; Tommy Purnell, Pine Bluff; Donna Sullivan, North Little Rock; Lloyd Thrash, Hope; and June Williams, Little Rock.

Life Service Band

Among the activities of the Life Service Band of Ouachita, a group of seventy-five students, under the leadership of President Lucien Coleman, are: A series of Youth Emphasis programs at the Third Street Church, Arkadelphia, November 22-24; services at a Negro mission on the east side of Arkadelphia; street services on Main Street in Arkadelphia. **Student Contest**

Bennye Sims has been selected to enter a contest sponsored by "Baptist Student Magazine" which publishes its selection of an outstanding student of the month, taken from the students selected by colleges all over the South. Bennye is a senior speech major. Her home is in Camden.

New Pastor at Trinity, Fort Smith

Trinity Church, Fort Smith, has called Mason E. Bondurant as pastor to succeed P. J. Crowder.

Mr. Bondurant is a native of Birmingham, Alabama, and holds the A.B. degree from Howard College. He also received his M.R.E. and B.D. degrees from the Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, in 1949.

After serving as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Wirt, Oklahoma, for two years, Mr. Bondurant entered the chaplaincy and has just recently returned from Korea and received his discharge. While in service Chaplain Bondurant received both the Commendation Medal and the Bronze Star for Meritorious Achievement.

Mrs. Bondurant is the former Margaret Montgomery of Hartselle, Alabama. They have two children, Paula Sue, 3, and John Lee, 1. His duties as pastor at Trinity became effective November 23.

Youth Week at Canfield

Canfield Church in Hope Association closed a week of youth services on November 30. The Canfield Church is at present without a pastor but the young people of the church conducted this youth week with the assistance of Missionary M. T. McGregor of Hope Association, who secured speakers for the occasion. Don Williams of Calvary Church, Texarkana, was the visiting speaker for the morning services, and Charlie White, First Church, Texarkana, was speaker for the evening services.

The Canfield Church recently celebrated its eighth anniversary and took the occasion to launch a building program for an educational building.

Deacons Ordained

On November 30, Franklin Nicholas and Aden Parish were ordained as deacons by the Harmony Baptist Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan. The Harmony Church is affiliated with the Motor Cities Association which in turn is affiliated with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The ordaining council was composed of pastors and deacons of the churches of the association.

Pastor Fred Lewis of the Harmony Church served as moderator; Ernest Gower of Lansing conducted the examination; Pastor White from Detroit offered the ordination prayer; Marion Boyd Jr. delivered the ordination sermon.

Weekend Revival

First Church, Judsonia, and Pastor C. R. Lyon, had a youth team from Ouachita College for a weekend revival, December 5-7.

The team consisted of: Sardis Bever, leader of the team and preacher; Hugh Hairston, song leader; Miss Delores Eason and Miss Shirley Joplin, personal workers. There were five additions to the church on profession of faith and baptism.

Pastor Lyon speaks in the highest terms of appreciation for these young people in the service they rendered in the Judsonia Church.

Available for Supply Work

By L. H. DAVIS

I have learned that L. L. Jordan has retired from the active pastorate, and is available for supply work. I suspect I know this man of God as well, or better, than most any other pastor in the State. I have conducted four revivals for him, and have reason to know him.

Wherever he has served the work has grown, gifts for denominational causes have increased, and the churches have grown. The growth of his men has marked all of his pastoral work. He is as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar, as orthodox as Paul, and as fervent as Appollos. He is as co-operative in denominational affairs as any man in Arkansas. Any church or pastor will be blessed with his preaching. Brethren, use this good man. He can be reached at Lake City, Arkansas.

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Church Responds to Big Challenge

The response of the Hilton Baptist Church of Warwick, Virginia, to the 1953 budget indicates that church people will respond more readily to a big challenge than to a little one.

Pastor Loyal Prior of the Virginia church reports that the members of the church subscribed \$25,000 toward a budget of \$40,000 in 1952. The budget for 1953 is double that of 1952, or \$80,000. On one day, November 23, the members of the church subscribed \$69,000 and the total pledges as of December 6 amounted to \$69,500. According to Pastor Prior, it is expected that when the entire membership has been contacted, the pledges will amount to more than the \$80,000 budget.

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First Church, Warren Makes Progress

Pastor Gerald W. Trussell did his own preaching in an evangelistic meeting at First Church, Warren, November 23-30, with his brother, Mr. Joe Trussell of Houston, Texas, directing the music.

There were 15 additions to the membership of the church. The Sunday School and Training Union attendance reached an all-time high with 718 in Sunday School on November 23 and 241 in Training Union on November 30.

Pastor Trussell announced that bids were opened on December 9 for the construction of the new auditorium. The Warren Church has issued bonds in the amount of \$125,000 for the purpose of constructing the church auditorium and practically all these bonds have been sold.

BAPTIST HOUR

DATE: December 21

SPEAKER: Charles Wellborn

SUBJECT: "What If There Were No Christmas?"

ARKANSAS STATIONS:

KHOZ, Harrison, 8:15 a. m.

KELD, El Dorado, 2 p. m.

KENA, Mena, 2 p. m.

KDRS, Paragould, 10 a. m.

KUOA, Siloam Springs, 7:30 p. m.

KOSE, Osceola, 5:30 p. m.

KVMA, Magnolia

KOTN, Pine Bluff, Sat., 8:30 p. m.

KRLW, Walnut Ridge, 10 a. m.

KTFS, Texarkana, 2 p. m.

Consult local paper for time.

Afraid to Witness

By OTTIS E. DENNEY

In one of our regular prayer services I asked for a show of hands to see how many of our people, if any, had spoken to a lost soul about Jesus during the past week. Only one hand went up. Then I asked why the rest of our people were not witnessing. One lady spoke right out and said, "We're afraid of losing the sinners' friendship." Another said, "We're afraid we might offend the sinner." Another said, "We're afraid we don't know enough Bible." Then someone else said, "We're afraid of our past lives—afraid the sinners might throw it up to us." And last, someone added that, "We're afraid we might drive the sinner farther away from God."

These are the reasons why many Christians do not lead lost souls to Jesus. It isn't because they do not love lost souls or have a compassion to see them saved. But because they are simply afraid to try. I have seen loved ones hold their breath while I led a son or daughter or parent to Christ, for fear "we might drive them away."

The above "fears" may be overcome, when we take seriously Acts 1:4-5. Jesus here tells us first "wait" for the endowment of the Holy Spirit. This is brought about through much prayer and a complete surrender to His will. Second, He says to "go" in the power of the Holy Spirit, not doubting anything, but counting on Jesus to be with you; not depending on self, but on the Holy Spirit to convince and to save; go with a determination to win the lost or die trying.

Briefly, here is the plan I use and it has proved most effective. First, the sinner and I discuss the Person, Jesus. Then I ask him if he has sinned against Jesus, and if he is sorry. Next I read to him a portion of the third chapter of John or the tenth chapter of Romans. After this, both of us drop on our knees for prayer. Then, following my prayer, the sinner is asked to pray (leading him, if necessary), confessing his sins, asking God's forgiveness, and trusting Jesus for salvation. A hand of fellowship is then extended, with the new convert giving "his testimony."

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Recent Broadman Books

Learn From Me

Compiled by J. E. Lambdin \$1.75

The writers of the twelve sermons on the Training Union theme for 1953, "Learn From Me," are twelve outstanding preachers of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Homes That Last

Arthur B. Rutledge Cloth, 75; Paper, 50c

This new study course book is especially for those families that are trying to make their homes genuinely Christian. It stresses the home as the center of religious life, of heavenly sunshine, of human and divine love.

Effective Work With Intermediates

In the Sunday School

Mary Virginia Lee Cloth, 75c; Paper, 50c

This new administration book for Intermediate Sunday School workers replaces Intermediate Sunday School Work.

Points For Emphasis, 1953

Clifton J. Allen 75 cents

Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary, Baptist Sunday School Board. He is a thoughtful Bible student and successor to Hight C. Moore, writer of Points for Emphasis for thirty-five years.

Broadman Comments, 1953

R. Paul Caudill \$2.25

R. Paul Caudill, the illustrious and capable pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, has been preparing Broadman Comments since 1949. He has greatly enlarged the teaching effectiveness of those who present God's Word each Sunday in

Arkansas News Briefs

From Here and There

Fifty per cent of the members of Second Church, Camden, have pledged to tithe. The Camden church held a stewardship revival November 8-19 with Pastor Tom Lenley of Elliott as visiting evangelist. There were also two additions to the church on profession of faith and baptism and two by letter during the revival.

Pastor Graham Fowler says, "This has proved to be one of our best revivals. Many new family altars were started in the revival."

Clarence Jones was ordained a deacon by the Pitman Church, Pitman, Arkansas, on November 30. The ordaining council was composed of Missionary H. W. Johnston of the Current River Association; Pastor Barney E. Rickman of Reyno; J. W. Whitlock of Poca-hontas; deacons, Omar Pender and J. R. Reynolds of Reyno, Lester Hill and Roy Foster, Columbia Jarrett, Walter Vester and Harlie Legate of Mt. Pleasant.

The annual report of W. M. U. of Second Church, Little Rock, reveals a total expenditure of \$10,271.34. Notable items in this financial report are: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, \$5,701.50; Annie Armstrong Offering, \$1,397.28; Dixie Jackson Offering, \$873.24.

Pastor Coy Sims and Bethel Baptist Church of Roseville, Michigan, were assisted in a revival meeting recently by Evangelist Kenneth Chapman. There were 11 additions to the church on profession of faith and baptism. Two others have been received for baptism since the meeting closed. Bethel Church is a member of the Motor Cities Association which is affiliated with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Forty-eight members have been received into the fellowship of the Roland Church at Roland, Arkansas, during the past year. Pastor Marion Grubbs assumed his duties as pastor of the Roland Church, December 15, 1951. The Sunday School, with a membership of 42, was the only service being held at the church at that time. Under the leadership of Pastor Grubbs a Training Union has been organized and regular midweek prayer services have been conducted each Wednesday evening. The church program has been expanded along all lines and all services have experienced record breaking attendance.

The First Church of Tyronza and Pastor W. M. Pratt were assisted in a stewardship revival the first week in December by Dr. B. C. Land of Jackson, Mississippi. The stewardship revival resulted in the Tyronza Church adopting a budget of \$28,740.

churches and Bible schools over the world.

"Little Treasure" Series

God's Good Gifts

Ruth S. Gray 65 cents

Ruth S. Gray has worked with children for many years. She has written several books of Bible stories and furnished ideas for their illustration. Here is a collection of simple poems and stories. Each poem and story is beautifully illustrated in full color and each one is followed by a simple Bible verse that picks up the thought.

They Saw Jesus

Robbie Trent 65 cents

Robbie Trent, elementary editor, Baptist Sunday School Board. Author of more than a dozen successful books. Six Bible stories based on Gospel accounts of people who saw Jesus.

Error in Orphanage Ad

The second line in last week's Orphanage ad on page 14, ARKANSAS BAPTIST, should have read: "When we raise \$100,000 for buildings, two men will give \$10,000 each."

The figures were correctly set once, but another error in the line necessitated resetting the line, at which time a naught was accidentally dropped from the first figure, reducing it considerably. We regret this error and gladly correct it.

—Editorial Staff.

A Long-Needed Crackdown

The General Accounting Office, which has the all-important duty of supervising the spending of government departments and bureaus and seeing that the wishes of Congress are carried out in this regard, recently inaugurated a long-needed reform. Comptroller General Warren has cracked down on government agencies which commit more money for projects than Congress appropriated and then come back and demand more money to pay the bills. These overcommitments, it has been ruled, are illegal, and Mr. Warren has taken the position that his office will henceforth refuse to approve payments on contracts in excess of approved authorizations. One result of this policy is that the Interior Department has been forced to cancel plans for going ahead with a hydroelectric project in Alaska, having already overcommitted the funds voted by Congress.

Judged by its effect on the taxpayers, and by the still more important yardstick of responsible, Constitutional government, this is about as beneficial a step as could be imagined. It has long been a practice of bureaus to submit low estimates to Congress, to get the requested appropriations, and then to go ahead and authorize the spending of additional millions and tens of millions in the knowledge that Congress would have little choice but to make up the deficit. What this meant, of course, was that purely administrative agencies, consisting entirely of political appointees, were taking over the duties and responsibilities of the legislative branch of the government.

Interior has long been the worst offender. Its offenses have been largely committed on projects—such as government hydroelectric developments and multi-purpose dams—whose primary purpose, despite all the camouflage, has been to advance the cause of state socialism, to create a Federal electric-power monopoly, and to undermine state and local rights to the point where they'd exist in name only. Interior's estimates, in case after case, have been so far below actual costs as to be absolutely ridiculous. And that has also been true of the estimates of the Corps of Engineers.

The Comptroller General and the General Accounting Office have performed a great service to the nation. May they make it stick!

—Industrial News Review

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Pastoral Change

Stanley C. Swinney has resigned the pastorate of the Pine Ridge Church to accept the pastorate of a church in Oklahoma.



Christian Horizons



By Religious News Service

Canadians in Drive Against Indecent Literature

A drive will be made at the present session of the Canadian parliament for legislation to ban the distribution of indecent literature. The campaign is backed by the Roman Catholic Church and Protestant bodies.

E. Davie Fulton, member for Kamloops and a Roman Catholic layman, has given notice of motion for action as follows:

That the Government should consider the advisability of appointing a joint committee of both houses of parliament for the purpose of studying and recommending legislation, or other measures, under which the growing volume of filthy literature circulating in Canada can be effectively dealt with, without at the same time improperly restricting the freedom of the press or of genuine literary or artistic expression."

Meanwhile, Senator J. Hayes Doone of New Brunswick, who headed a Senate investigating committee at the last session, said that the probe of objectionable literature had been only half completed and the 20-member committee will soon resume hearings.

"The public demand for a continuation of our work has been enormous," he said.

It is believed certain that the Senate committee's recommendations will call for stronger teeth in the Criminal Code and restriction to prevent the import of indecent literature.

South's Religious Faith Held Nation's Great Hope

A newspaper editor suggested that the South is "the great hope of the United States today" because the people there "are still religious."

Samuel L. Latimer, editor of *The State*, Columbia, S. C., daily paper, said that because the South's people "cling to great fundamentals for which they are willing to give their all" the region could "keep the nation intact as new forces, already apparent, seek to destroy our republic."

His remarks were made at funeral services in tiny White House Methodist church for Arnold Murray, last remaining Confederate veteran in the Carolinas, who died at the age of 106.

Gov. James F. Byrnes and former Gov. J. Strom Thurmond were among the dignitaries attending the state funeral for the veteran.

Congressional Group to Resume Radio, TV Hearings

Public hearings will be resumed by a Congressional committee investigating advertising and alleged immoral programs on television and radio.

Chairman Oren Harris (D., Ark.) announced that testimony will be given by the Federal Communications Commission and representatives of the television and advertising industry.

Earlier this year the committee heard

witnesses from religious groups urge the enactment of curbs on "beer-casting" and the increasing volume of advertising devoted to wine and to "mixers" for whiskey and gin.

The Harris committee, created as a special group within the House Committee on Interstate Commerce by a resolution of the House, must make its final report by January 5.

Canadian Churches Defeat Sunday Sports

An almost solid front by the churches was credited with bringing about the defeat in six Ontario cities of a proposal to legalize sports on Sundays.

Ottawa's mayor, Charlotte Whitton, prominent Anglican churchwoman, strongly supported the church campaign.

The vote in Ottawa was 40,418 against Sunday sports to 29,261 in favor, despite threats by backers of Ottawa's International League baseball club that they might have to disband the team if Sunday games were not legalized.

Other communities in which local option elections resulted in defeat of the Sunday sports proposal were Kingston, Oshawa, Gananoque, Smith's Falls and Neelon-Garson.

Cleveland Clergy Curb Divorces

This city's clergymen have been credited with a major role in curbing divorces.

Working in close co-operation with the department of domestic relations of Common Pleas Court, the clergymen went to the aid of 450 distressed couples in the past year.

This was in addition to thousands of cases handled before petitions were filed.

While full reports are not yet available on the results of the work, individual clergymen said they were able to effect reconciliations in approximately 60 per cent of the cases.

Appellate Judge Julius M. Kovachy, who inaugurated the co-operative movement seven years ago, said he had been "happily surprised at the success of the effort."

Colorado Voters Reject Slot Machines

Colorado voters rejected a state constitutional amendment which would have legalized slot machines. The vote was 265,592 to 121,586.

The measure was fought by churches, taxpayers' groups and civic organizations. Opposition was led by the Colorado Council of Churches.

At the Council's request, clergymen in more than 1,000 churches preached against the amendment on the Sunday before election.

The amendment would have legalized slot machines unless communities voted to ban them—a sort of local option in reverse.

Smile or Two

A young mother was bathing her baby and a neighbor's little girl was holding a doll minus an arm and a leg.

"How long have you had your baby?" asked the little visitor.

"Three months," replied the mother. And the little girl said:

"My but you've kept her nice."

—Public Utility News

The third grade was learning the letters of the alphabet.

"What comes after T?" the teacher asked. Ella quickly replied, "V."

"Yes," said the old man, "I have had some terrible disappointments but none stands out over the years like the one that came to me as a boy."

"And what was it?"

"When I crawled under a tent to see a circus—and discovered it was a revival meeting."

—Quote

During a dust storm at one of the Army camps, a recruit sought shelter in the cook's tent. After a moment, he remarked to the cook: "If you put the lid on the kettle, you wouldn't get so much dust in the soup."

"See here, my lad," said the cook, "your duty is to serve your country."

"Yes," said the recruit, "but not to eat it."

The fancy questionnaire a household appliance company used to survey Iowa housewives brought equally fancy replies. To the question, "What make of garbage disposal unit do you use?" one woman wrote: "Four hogs."

Uncle Henpeck: "You boys of today want too much money. Do you know what I was getting when I married your aunt?"

Nephew: "No, and I'll bet you didn't either."

The important man was about ready for his speech when a news-photographer was observed jockeying for a vantage point, for an action shot. The chairman, fearing that the speaker would be annoyed, called the photographer and said: "Don't take his picture while he is speaking. Shoot him before he starts."

—Quote

Mrs. Brown: How children's tastes do change.

Mrs. White: Yes, when my two were small, Johnny just loved soldiers and Mary was crazy for brightly colored dolls. Now Mary is crazy about soldiers, and John runs after every painted doll he sees.

Hurried Traveler: "I want to catch a late train to New York."

Information Clerk: "Take No. 9—that's usually as late as any."

A deer hunter arrived for his first season at a Wisconsin lodge and began unpacking his large assortment of equipment. Attached to one of the guns was a drawing of a deer and below it a message from his wife: "Here's what one looks like."

Baptist World Alliance Sunday

February 1, 1953

TO FELLOW BAPTISTS IN ALL LANDS—Greetings,
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Church of Jesus Christ is supernatural in origin and supernatural in position. The gospel of grace levels all national, racial, and social boundaries erected by man. We are knit together by ties not made with hands, and no human power can break them, nor can principalities of darkness destroy them.

While gladly acknowledging our unity in Christ with believers in other denominations we have convincing reasons based on Scripture and supported by history and accredited scholarship for maintaining our separate witness. That witness finds its focus in and derives its force from the sole Head of the Church Himself; and Him we gladly obey. "One is our Master even Christ, and all we are brethren." Therefore our boast is not in our denominational history, numerical strength, theological position, names of great scholars and leaders and preachers, or phenomenal growth. It is in our God and our common Savior Jesus Christ, to whose gracious sovereignty we submit.

We suggest that Baptist World Alliance Sunday be universally observed in such ways as will bring added glory to our Lord.

In times when many are being lured by lesser loyalties, and when many more are confused by the clash of contending claims, the day could be used to declare our undivided loyalty to Christ, with a clear perception of all the implications and applications of such loyalty. We could also, with advantage, dedicate ourselves anew to more consistent living and constant witness to Christ.

Many of our brethren and sisters in Christ are suffering persecution at the hands of civil or ecclesiastical authorities. Uncounted numbers in Europe and Asia are beyond the reach of our messages of goodwill because of restrictions imposed by their governments. Some who are living in nom-

inally Christian lands are the objects of racial discrimination. We can reach and help all by way of the throne of grace. Where prayer avails, divine power is manifest.

Thousands of Baptists in many lands are still in extreme poverty through the ravages of war. In many cases their churches or chapels are heaps of rubble and dust. Our love can be shown in practical ways through the Baptist World Alliance Relief effort.

The year 1953 marks the 160th anniversary of noble William Carey's landing in India to begin his mighty labors in missionary exploits. His ringing challenge needs to be heard and responded to with more determination, intelligence and with the full consecration of all our powers. "Expect GREAT THINGS from God; attempt GREAT THINGS for God." We dare not give God anything less than our best. How better could we celebrate the anniversary of that Baptist missionary pioneer than by venturing GREAT THINGS for God in world-wide evangelism, starting in our own community and reaching out to the uttermost parts of the earth? For the love of our Lord, and that He may get what He died for in our lives and the lives of our contemporaries, shall we not accept still greater tasks as individuals, local churches, associations, conventions, or unions?

Mighty things have been accomplished for Christ in many parts of the world by Baptists during the past year. Together let us go on with Christ to greater victories.

In Memphis the associational Brotherhood, every member of our fellowship.

F. Townley Lord, President
C. Oscar Johnson, Past-President
Arnold T. Ohrn, General Secretary
W. L. Jarvis, Vice-President
W. O. Lewis, Associate Secretary
Joel Sorenson, Youth Secretary

Three Schools at Southern Seminary

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will be organized into three separate schools, including a new School of Religious Education, if the recommendation of a Trustee subcommittee is adopted by the full board of Trustees at the annual meeting in March, 1953.

Meeting in Louisville, Tuesday, November 25, a special committee headed by Dr. Wade Bryant, pastor, First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia, chairman, voted to accept the unanimous faculty recommendation that a new School of Religious Education be established in Louisville, to open in September, 1953. The Trustee committee was appointed by the full board in March, 1952, to consider the training for non-pastoral ministries of students at Southern Theological Seminary.

In order that the new school may be an integral part of the Seminary, it was recommended that the Seminary be organized in a School of Theology, a School of Church Music, and the new School of Religious Education. The last two schools will be administered by a dean under the direction of the president of the Seminary.

A proposed catalogue for the new School of Religious Education was approved. Courses of study leading to the Master of

Religious Education Degree and the Doctor of Religious Education Degree were outlined in detail. This catalogue in the form of a prospectus of the new school will be printed for distribution at an early date.

Three members of the present Seminary faculty volunteered to request transfer by the trustees to the faculty of the new School of Religious Education. These are Dr. Gaines S. Dobbins, Basil Manly Professor of Church Administration, Dr. Findley Edge, Associate Professor of Religious Education, and Dr. Denton Coker, Assistant Professor of Religious Education.

Fourteen other members of the present faculty and staff of the Seminary were designated to teach courses in religious education.

Action of this Trustee committee makes almost certain the opening of the new school in 1953 "if funds are available." It was agreed that the School of Religious Education would not be inaugurated if it jeopardized the present plans for strengthening of the theological faculty.

President Duke McCall stated, "The creation of this new School of Religious Education is both made possible and necessary by the action of the W.M.U. Training School, which is changing its function from

Yale Group to Analyze Papers

Southern Baptists along with twelve other American denominations will be subject of a two-year survey to be conducted by Yale Divinity School. The literature produced by these denominations will be carefully examined "to determine the extent of racial and religious bias and prejudice it contains."

Dean Liston Pope said that the survey, financed by a grant from the American Jewish Committee, can make "a very important contribution to the battle against bias and prejudice in this country."

"We have every reason to believe," he added, "that the religious editors themselves will be glad to co-operate in making improvements."

When an example of bias or prejudice is discovered in any piece of writing, the matter will be called to the attention of the editor or publisher under whose name it has been issued. The survey committee will notify the editor or publisher as soon as an illustration of bias has been discovered, rather than wait until the survey has been concluded two years hence. In addition to citing the offending passage, the committee will transmit its view on how the biased matter can be eliminated.

Brotherhoods Sponsor Man-Boy Probation Plan

Something new in Christian service is being sponsored by Baptist Brotherhoods in two Tennessee cities.

In Memphis the associational Brotherhood under the leadership of W. C. Hornsby, a Baptist layman, has arranged with the local juvenile courts for individual Baptist laymen to sponsor boys placed on probation by the courts. Contact and promotion will be done by the Brotherhood organization. The plan was approved at the annual Brotherhood banquet at which Judge Elizabeth McCain of the city juvenile court was one of the speakers. The arrangement calls for the eventual sponsorship of around forty youths.

A similar plan has been functioning in Knoxville for some time.

—Baptist Press

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Music Faculty Enlarged At Golden Gate

The addition of Dr. and Mrs. Carlyle Bennett to the music faculty of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary has been announced by the president, Dr. Harold K. Graves. They will assume duties with the opening of the spring semester, January 6, 1953.

Dr. Bennett, now Minister of Music of Temple Baptist Church in Los Angeles, will join the Department of Sacred Music as a professor, teaching voice and choral work. Mrs. Bennett will be an assistant professor, instructing in the fields of theory and piano. They have teaching experience in these subjects at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

a school of religious education to a school of professional mission studies."

Other members of the trustee committee: Dr. E. B. Willingham, pastor National Memorial Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.; Dr. W. R. Pettigrew, pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky; Dr. Henry Allen Parker, pastor, First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama; Rev. Franklin Owen, pastor, First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Georgia.

Glorious Achievements

By DR. SELSUS E. TULL, Pine Bluff

(This Message was delivered at the recent meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention)

The most glorious Baptist achievement I know anything about is the monumental fact that the Baptists have survived all the vicissitudes and revolutions of history and stand forth today as one of the most militant and powerful religious bodies in all the world.

No Pope Needed

The amazing consideration in this historic record is that this achievement has been wrought in the total absence of any centralized or superintending organization directing their endurance, growth, and activities. The fact that Baptists have persisted throughout Christian history without a Pope, Bishop, Priest or Presiding Elder, offers unanswerable proof that all such ecclesiastical over-lordship is not only unnecessary and un-Scriptural but comprises a very wasteful and costly ornamentation.

The money spent in buying robes and regalia, and in paying the salaries and upkeep of religious ecclesiastics up and down the earth would go a long way in helping to preach the simple Gospel to a lost world.

If somebody in this Convention were to get up and make a motion that we buy the president of the Convention a robe and a crown, and a shirt which buttoned at the back of his neck, there would be a hundred others to offer a substitute motion that the money to pay the cost of such an outfit be put into the Cooperative Program! If the honored Executive Secretary of this Convention were to parade across this rostrum dressed in a flowing gown with a skull-cap on his head, he would be indignantly expelled from this building for having perpetrated such a clownish act on the proceedings of this great meeting where all messengers here are equal before God and each other.

From Much to More

Baptists have not survived in this world through the charm of sacerdotal pageantry or through the claim of any vested piety or pontifical authority in their leaders. The secret of Baptist perpetuity is found not in a succession of ecclesiastical leadership but in their allegiance to an all-sufficient personal faith in Jesus Christ in the hearts of individuals.

It would be profitable and inspirational to go back through the centuries and study the exploits and achievements of our heroic Baptist past, but for this occasion I shall confine my remarks to a recitation of those achievements which have transpired in the span of my own day of observation.

I grew up in a day when Southern Baptists had no Sunday School Publishing Board. In my boyhood the only literature available to those few churches which operated Sunday Schools was published by The American Baptist Publication Society of Philadelphia.

When I was a student in our Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, that was the only Seminary operated by Southern Baptists. Today we have five such seminaries. There were only three hundred students at Louisville in those days while now there are several thousand in all our seminaries. That was also before the Woman's Missionary

Training School had been founded for the religious education of our women.

I was a pastor before there was a Baptist owned hospital in the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention.

I was present as a messenger in the Southern Baptist Convention which authorized the establishment of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

Up until 1918 all Baptist papers in the South were edited and published under private ownership.

Continued Expansion

It happened that I was the man who introduced the resolution in the Southern Baptist Convention at St. Louis in 1913, which declared our independence from the International Sunday School Lesson Committee with the intent to set up our own Baptist editorship of Sunday School Literature. Following the adoption of this resolution, at this same Convention, Dr. E. C. Dargan was elected the first editor of our own independent Convention Literature under which plan our system of Graded Lessons was inaugurated.

It happened also that I was the man who introduced the resolution in the Southern Baptist Convention at Ashville, N. C., in 1916, which set up a commission to write "A Manual of Church Organization and Methods" with the purpose to set up a standard of Uniform Church Finance and other standard uniform methods of conducting the organizational life of our churches throughout the South.

I was made the chairman of this commission and, as chairmen are usually expected to do, I wrote the book which was published by the Sunday School Board and which was ready for circulation at the next meeting of the Convention in New Orleans in 1917.

This Manual was immediately adopted by several state conventions. It became the first exponent among Baptists of uniform, systematic, single budget finance for our churches.

Unity of Baptist Work

When the "75-Million Campaign" was launched by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1919, the principles set out in this manual were adopted for the campaign in setting up a unified appeal on the percentage basis in allocating the money to the various causes and institutions of the denomination.

The greatest and most far-reaching result of the 75-Million Campaign was not the money derived from the campaign but it was the crystalizing of the conviction of unity in our Baptist work—that all Baptist work is one work.

Out of the 75-Million Campaign came the Cooperative Program which is the most glorious achievement in all modern Baptist history!

It was necessary for the 75-Million Campaign to have a central treasury. This necessitated an executive treasurer. Headquarters were set up in Nashville, Tennessee, and Dr. Austin Crouch became our first Executive Treasurer of our Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program.

These are the circumstances and the historic steps in the development of the most unique and successful program of denominational finance in all the world. When it is remembered that all Baptist work is voluntary and strictly co-operative with no super-organization to dictate quotas and allotments—that nothing exists of any impelling consequence to control the thousands of churches and the millions of individuals in the membership of these churches, and when we now see our great denomination having arrived at a unity in conducting all its world-giving enterprises, you have before you an amazing achievement unmatched by any type of comparison in all Christian history.

Along with his achievement of uniformity in finance there has grown up also our uniformity of methods in operating the auxiliary organizations inside the churches—Sunday School methods, WMU methods, BTU methods, Brotherhood methods. This marvelous uniformity now completes our organizational set-up to where our Baptist people today possess all the necessary organizational facilities to carry out the whole commission of Jesus Christ at home and around the world.

A Great Gospel

As one who has witnessed with his own eyes in the last fifty years the processes which have brought this glorious achievement of uniformity in all the endeavors of our Baptist people, I submit that it is impossible for you younger pastors in this Convention to even imagine the dis-united and haphazard type of our Baptist work back before this day of unification in our church and denominational methods.

Let me recite for your benefit the situation as it was when I began my first full time pastorate at Kosciusko, Mississippi, after I left the Seminary in July, 1903: We had no Baptist hospitals. We had no denominationally owned Baptist papers. We had no Annuity Board and Pastor's Retirement Plan. We had no departmentalized Sunday Schools. We had no Graded Sunday School Lessons. We had no B.T.U. We had no chair of Church Administration in our one Seminary. We had no department of music in our one Seminary. We had no sort of study courses for the churches. We had no field men such as our Sunday School and BTU and WMU secretaries. We had no departmentalized WMU with its Junior auxiliaries. We had no Men's Brotherhood. We had no Baptist Student Union. We had no Daily Vacation Bible Schools. We had no Summer Assemblies. We had no Cooperative Program!

You might ask: "What did we have?"

We had a great Gospel. We had a great doctrinal loyalty. We had a great evangelistic passion. We had a great spiritual unity under the supreme headship of Jesus Christ over His churches. We had men and women of great vision who led out in great and wise planning on strictly scriptural outlines which pointed the way to the ideals which we have today attained.

The Secret

There is just one secret which explains all these glorious achievements, and which sets out the Baptist people in their strategic position before the world today. That secret is the historic allegiance of the Baptists to the supreme lordship of Jesus Christ over His blood-bought churches. There is a banner which Baptists have held aloft throughout all Christian history, and that banner is inscribed with these words: "One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren." This banner we hold up before the gaze of the confused world of today.

The Pastor and His Devotional Life

By DON HOOK, Pastor, First Church, Malvern

What is one's devotional life? Is it not that life which is most closely related to God? Is not your devotional life that time when you find the sweetest and best fellowship you ever experience with God? Could we say that one's devotional life is the dynamo where generates all the right currents of our entire life?

Adoration

There cannot be genuine devotion without adoration. What do we mean by adoration? Adoration is the soul's highest, deepest, and best love. It is the highest respect and reverence of which the human soul is capable. Adoration must be the expression of the whole being—soul, mind, body, and heart. It is the out-pouring of our most sincere respect, our most binding allegiance, our most fervent and devout worship, and our highest and best service.

When we speak of our devotional life, we mean primarily that it is the time when we remove our shoes on Holy Ground, fix the eyes of our soul upon God, open our ears to hear what God has to say to us, and make a complete surrender and dedication of our wills to Him. It is the time when we:

"Turn our eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of this world will grow
strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace."

Prayer

Another essential element of real devotion is prayer. If we really "turn our eyes upon Jesus" and make a complete surrender of wills, the resulting question is always, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" There must be prayer for guidance, for direction. There must be confession. There must be an earnest seeking for succor.

God communes with us through His Word, through the Holy Spirit, through nature, and through other divinely appointed agencies. God has infinite ways and means of speaking to His children. But the only way that you and I have of communing with God is through prayer. And how little the average preacher really prays! Prayer makes a wonderful theme for some of our sermons and as pastors we become mighty proficient in the art of telling others about all the benefits of prayer but, brethren, do we pray as we ought?

How often do we find real and genuine communion with God? How often do we really confess our sins? How often do we get so much of God in our souls that He becomes "real in our souls?" How often do we approach so closely to Him that it becomes unlawful for us to tell what our eyes beheld and what our hearts felt? Do we really pray till a blessing comes? Do we?

Are our sermons the product of prayer as well as of research and study? How many of us have ever prayed until God set our souls on fire and filled our cups so full, and we got so much of His glory that we cried for Him to stay His blessings lest we die of sheer ecstasy? And yet, brethren, isn't that what ought to happen occasionally in our devotions? Well, isn't it? I tell you we need some "Holy Roller" Baptist preachers who are willing to forget about programs and meetings and appointments and budgets and buildings long enough to seek the secret place where God can fill our souls so full of Himself that the glad halle-

lujahs will break spontaneously from our lips, and our stiff knees be loosened, and our cold hearts melted until they flow out all over our congregations.

Our great God is a dynamo of power, His Word is more powerful than a two-edged sword, the Holy Spirit works in a mighty demonstration of power. And yet we, His ministers, spew and sputter like dying candles when we ought to be flames of fire. We betake ourselves out to banish the Philistines and all too often wist not that our power had departed from us; powerless because we are so prayerless; dying embers when we ought to be burning bushes; just little disappearing sparks when we ought to be roaring furnaces. And all because we make so little of our devotional life.

Meditation

A third element of real devotion is meditation. Here is where God's Word is vitally related to our devotions. His Word is food. The value of food is in its proper assimilation by the body. Meditation is actually the spiritual process of assimilation and digestion of God's Word by our souls. Mr. Webster says that meditation is rumination. And rumination is what the old cow does when she coughs up her food and chews it so that it can be digested.

You and I graze through the pasture of the Book. Most of it is pleasant to our taste. Some of it is not. Then, we seek the quiet place and "cough up" what we have read, chew it over and over, and try to digest it for the strength of our souls. And from this meditation comes the spiritual stamina, muscle, sinew, backbone, that a pastor must have.

There is no description in all the Bible which so vividly sets forth many blessed experiences of a genuine devotional experience than the great Shepherd Psalm. In it we find that one experience is:

Renewed Sense of Relation

Thank God, I rediscovered that the Lord is MY shepherd. I have been recommending Him to others, I have insisted that He is lovingly concerned about them, and that He will supply all their needs. How blessed it is to reassure my own heart that Jesus is MINE. Oh, my brother pastor, when our problems perplex us, our burdens beset and break us, and our heartaches hurt and hinder us, when we are under constant pressure to do so much and with so little time in which to do it, and all too often so little help from our members—then is the time when we need to reassure and encourage our own hearts with the sweet refrain, "The Lord Is MY Shepherd."

Experience of Rest

"He maketh me to LIE down." We live in a noisy world that clamors incessantly for our attention. How blessed it is to have access to green pastures and still waters where our souls can be still and hear the voice of God. It is the experience of many of us to walk through pastures that have been seared and depleted by the burning blasts of sin. Many of the fences are down and the Devil's ravenous beasts roam at will and roar at us and tear at us. Many of the waters by which we walk are tempestuous. The winds are contrary, the billows dash high, our boats of life are threatened with destruction. But, thank God, there is rest, and quiet, and safety in our great

Attention! Southern Baptist Pastors

Dear Brethren:

In June, 1952, a Convention-wide movement was launched by our Sunday School leaders to enrol a net gain of one million members in our Southern Baptist Sunday Schools in 1954, for Bible study. A challenge of such magnitude requires thorough preparation, intelligent planning, and earnest participation of all of our people.

Our first step in the matter of preparation is to inform the people of this movement. We therefore request you and the superintendent of your Sunday School to announce the program in all services of your church on the first Sunday in January, 1953. I venture to hope that you may be led of the Holy Spirit to deliver a special message challenging your people to join you in accepting your full share of this great undertaking.

Counting on your whole-hearted co-operation in this primary mission of our churches, and assuring you of my prayers and best wishes, I remain

Your fellow servant

C. C. Warren, Charlotte, N. C.
Chairman of Pastors for
"A Million More in '54"

Notice

According to custom, there will be no Arkansas Baptist the week of December 25, which is next week. Your next paper will be dated January 1.

—Editor

Shepherd's pasture where the still waters flow.

"There is a place of quiet rest,
Near to the heart of God,
A place where none can e'er molest,
Near to the heart of God."

Restoration

By the still waters, into the Shepherd's attentive ear, and under His searching eye is the best place and time to confess our sins and have our souls restored. If we wrestle with the beasts of sin, and are called upon to stand against spiritual wickedness in high places, if we walk in the midst of a people with unclean lips, then in all probability there is some of the stench of the beasts, some of the greed, lust, and hatreds of the masses clinging to us. How we need purging, cleansing, forgiveness, and restoration. And "He restoreth my soul."

Repast

There are green pastures and prepared tables, even in the presence of our enemies. Hallelujah! Let no man, demon, or devil, keep you from the bounteous table of the good Shepherd. In your devotional life, you ought to find Bread and Water to sustain your growth in grace. Here is milk for the weak, meat for the strong, and bread for us all. Here are all the delicacies of the Lord. Here your cup is filled to overflowing. Here your souls become fat in the Lord.

Reaffirmation

"Thou anointest my head." Oh, how I like for God to reaffirm my position! I know that God has only to say a thing once and we ought to believe it. But, my, how I like for Him to say again that I am the sheep of His pasture, one of His anointed ones. In my devotions, I am assured anew that He has named and numbered me and shall never forget, forsake, or lose me.

Baptist Brotherhood of Arkansas

NELSON F. TULL, *State Secretary*

Our New Worker

J. D. Wagon, pastor of First Baptist Church, Zwolle, Louisiana, and for five years Royal Ambassador Secretary of Louisiana, was elected by the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, to be Associate Secretary of the Brotherhood Department. Mr. Wagon will begin his work with Arkansas Baptists on January 1.

Mr. Wagon's major field of work will be the promotion of Royal Ambassador Chapters and their work, and the promotion of Young Men's Brotherhoods. About one-fourth of his time will be given to Brotherhood promotion.

We are happy to welcome Mr. Wagon into the Arkansas Baptist fold, and to the Brotherhood office. His coming will make possible the broadening of the scope of the work of the Brotherhood Department to include co-operation with the Woman's Missionary Union in the promotion of their wonderful program of work with boys.



J. D. WAGON

Pray for Mr. Wagon as he comes to labor with us. Call on him!

Physical strength is measured by what one can carry; spiritual, by what one can bear.

"The man who drinks now and then usually drinks more now than he did then."

Woman's Missionary Union

MISS NANCY COOPER, *Executive Secretary*

Christmas Greetings

With gratitude in our hearts for the privilege of serving Arkansas Baptists, your workers in Woman's Missionary Union send to all readers of this column something of the assurance we feel as we strive to extend the Kingdom through the organization through which we serve:



"Our God will not be mocked Men will give glory to their God, and nations

Will yet turn to Him, unified at last; Class after class of high and lowly stations And race after race will turn, their warring past,

And brother will kneel by brother, each tongue naming

One name, and like a spring flood thus release

Their pent up praise, too long withheld, proclaiming Him Counselor, the mighty God, the Prince of Peace."

Nancy Cooper
Mrs. W. C. Edwards

Doris DeVault
Frances Winstead

Mrs. R. E. Hagood
Ruth Skiles

DAY OF PRAYER FOR COMMUNITY MISSIONS

January 23, the closing day of W.M.S. Focus Week is the time set aside for the Day of Prayer for Community Missions in Arkansas. Plans for observance of the week have been sent each president and the December issue of Royal Service contains others. But the Day of Prayer for Community Missions is a special, ultra-day, when we hope members of each organization of Woman's Missionary Union will consider themselves as missionaries in their own communities.

Special suggested program and materials will be sent each president, B.W.C. chairman, young people's organization counselor, immediately after Christmas. Be on the look out for it. But in the meantime be sure that the time is "cleared" and do publicize the importance of the observance.

CONCERNING MISSION STUDY INSTITUTES

"Come January" our minds will turn toward the Home Mission Season of Prayer and the best possible preparation will be the study of the new series of books which will be available very early after Christmas. And the best possible service a Mission Study Chairman in an association can render is to call together the po-

tential teachers of the association for a Mission Study Institute where the new series will be introduced and teaching plans freely discussed.

Is one scheduled in your association? Be sure to attend. It will be of inestimable value as you approach the important season to be observed March 2-6, 1953.

GLEAN WELL AND REMIT

It is a thrilling time when offerings taken during the seasons of prayer begin coming into the office of the State W.M.U. Treasurer! Already checks, post office money orders, etc., are coming as remittance of the Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions. The first was for \$5 from a small group for whom an offering of \$5 was so very commendable. May we all give as sacrificially as they!

We are not rushing you, but we are anxious that every person be given an opportunity to give and then that the offerings be sent to us as early as possible. Lottie Moon Offerings are acceptable any time. Send check or post office money order, for protection, to State W.M.U. Treasurer, 209 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

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DR. A. C. GETTYS
Acting President

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Church Music Department

MRS. B. W. NININGER, Director

Don't Miss January "Church Musician"

Arkansas is well represented in the January issue of the **Church Musician** with a splendid article by Mrs. Carl Clark of El Dorado entitled "Make your Association Music-Minded." Mrs. Clark points out in this article five definite steps which have been taken in Liberty Association to create a more active interest in the development of Church Music there.

The first of these steps is the quarterly Hymn-Sings which have been carried on for a number of years. These have grown to such proportions that it is necessary to have monthly zone Hymn-Sings to take care of the number of people who wish to participate.

The second step is a progressive Associational Music School which was held in April, 1948, in a different church each of five nights.

The third is a centrally located Church Music Emphasis Week which was held in September, 1950. More than 700 people were registered for this school of training in all phases of Church Music. A large faculty was recruited through the State Department and included several teachers from out of the state.

The fourth step is the establishment in the Fall of 1951 of a quarterly Music Conference. At this Conference three Workshops are conducted simultaneously — one for pastors, directors and singers, another for accompanists, a third for workers with young children.

The fifth step is the employment of one of the Music Department's associate workers for the entire summer to conduct individual Church Music Schools throughout the association and to work in the camps. This project was brought to successful fruition in the summer of 1951. It was so helpful to all the churches that an enthusiastic demand has come for a similar program to be conducted in the summer of 1952. Arrangements have already been made to use one of the ap-

proved associate music workers.

The pattern of Music Education set for her association by Mrs. Clark may well be copied by all Associational Music Directors since it has proved to be of great value to every associational agency as well as to the individual churches. The use of the **Church Musician**, which is the monthly music publication, will inform all music directors how better to do their job, and will inspire them to undertake a larger service.

If you are not now receiving the **Church Musician**, write at once to the Church Music Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, 161 Eighth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tennessee, and ask to be put on the subscription list for this fine magazine. It should be ordered in sufficient numbers for every singer in your adult choir and every accompanist throughout the church. Not only does it contain helpful articles of value to all church musicians but it also carries 16 pages of simple, beautiful, and suitable music for the average church choir. A free sample copy may be obtained upon request by writing to Mrs. B. W. Nininger, 212 Baptist Building, Church Music Department, Little Rock, Arkansas. **You cannot afford to be without the Church Musician.**

—000—

A CHRISTIAN WORLD

The vast majority living today, almost two thousand years after Christ, are living as if he had never come. Some day all the peoples of the world must realize the truth in the inscription of a mural in Rockefeller Center, New York City: "Man's ultimate destiny depends not upon his ability to learn new lessons, nor to make new discoveries or conquests, but upon his acceptance of lessons taught two thousand years ago."

—000—

A wise man profits by his own experience. A wiser man profits just as much by the experience of others.

Baptist Student Union

MISS RACHEL QUATTLEBAUM, Office Secretary

"Christ Must Reign"

With the theme, "CHRIST MUST REIGN," the Arkansas State Baptist Student Union Convention met December 5-7, at Second Church, Little Rock. Over 300 students attended the five sessions of the convention; Tommy Purnell, state BSU president, presided.

Dr. Dale Cowling, pastor of Second Church and Acting Director of State Baptist Student Union Department, opened the convention with a welcome and challenge to the students. Five students spoke to the group on "Christ Must Reign" in various areas of campus life: social, athletic, devotional, scholastic life and in making decisions. J. T. Elliff, pastor of First Church, Fordyce, brought the evening message on "CHRIST MUST REIGN AS MY SAVIOR."

W. O. Vaught Jr., pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, spoke to the youth on Saturday morning on "CHRIST MUST REIGN AS MY LORD." Other program personalities of the morning were Dr. Robert Carnahan, Assistant Supervisor of State Hospital; Mrs. Ladd Davis, speaker at Ridgecrest last summer; and Mr. J. M. Shults, Shults Furniture Company, Pine Bluff.

Saturday afternoon the students met in Waller Chapel for a period of recreation. The BSU at the School of Nursing and Little Rock JC were in charge of this hour of fun and fellowship. Seminars Saturday afternoon provided an opportunity for study in smaller groups. In the seminars, discussions were held on such subjects as "CHRIST MUST REIGN—In my choice of a Life's Companion" led by William Hall Preston; "In my choice of a Life Work," led by W. O. Vaught Jr.; "In Race Relations," led by W. H. Hicks; "In Witnessing for Christ," led by Raymond Lindsey.

Student testimonies, a film on stewardship, and the address of William Hall Preston, Associate in the Southwide Department of

Student Work, Nashville, Tennessee, were the highlights of the Saturday evening session. Mr. Preston spoke on "CHRIST MUST REIGN ON MY CAMPUS." Testimonies were given by college students concerning their work on youth revival teams and their summer mission work.

Another highlight of the convention was the special music presented at each service by the different colleges. Gene Layman, student at the University of Arkansas, had charge of the song



service.

Following the Sunday School lesson period which was taught by Juanita Straubie, Student Secretary at Arkansas Baptist Hospital, and Jamie Jones, Student Secretary at the University of Arkansas, the closing message of the convention was brought by Sam Reeves, pastor of First Church, El Dorado. He spoke on "CHRIST MUST REIGN AROUND THE WORLD."

There were many moments of inspiration, happy fellowship and fun. Students thought, meditated, sang, worshiped, and had a glorious time together. Everyone went away challenged, encouraged, and enlightened and with the feeling that CHRIST MUST REIGN on the campus and in the life of each student.

—000—

"A real worker for God never has any spare time." Whenever a Christian sees a cross, he knows he is on the right road.

—C. F. Banning

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Sunday School Department

DR. EDGAR WILLIAMSON, *Secretary*

A Cause For Gratitude

"... The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for the things that they had heard, and seen, as it was told unto them." Luke 2:20.

To see and hear the wonders of the nativity of Christ and so understand the significance in God's plan of human redemption is to express our gratitude to God by word and deed.

We are grateful to God for you—for your preaching, teaching, and witnessing ministry. As the message of the Bible is proclaimed people are won to Christ. We are grateful to God for the evidences of God's blessings in growth in every field of Sunday School work. In enrolment, teacher training, Vacation Bible Schools.

We are grateful for the privilege of service. To labor by your side to the end that the genuine significance of Christmas may be understood, and that souls may come to know Him as a personal Saviour.

So in gratitude, we of the Sunday School Department wish for you and yours a

Dr. Edgar Williamson, Secretary

George H. Hink, Associate

Mrs. Grace Hamilton, Office Sec'y

Mrs. Erma Davis, Office Sec'y



GETTING READY TO REACH A MILLION MORE IN '54

A. V. WASHBURN

Foundation laying is a mighty important business. It comes first in point of time and determines the solidarity and durability of the later structure.

If Southern Baptist churches are to add a million people to the Sunday School enrolment in 1954, a prior step in preparation must be made by all of our churches now—finding, enlisting and training 150,000 new workers. This foundation laying cannot wait. It is top priority. It should begin as early as possible.

Back of the enlistment of a host of workers is the process of inspiring and warming the hearts of the members and potential workers. Let January Bible Study Week serve such a purpose this year. Make special effort to get all the church members into this study—and particularly those who should begin training now for service as an officer or teacher for the fall of '53.

January Bible Study Week can be a step, a very important step, in stimulating a desire for service and enlisting capable men and women in a training program which will lead to great growth and fruitful work. Make 1953 a year of preparation in your church—and begin with a successful Bible Study Week, January 5-9.

SOME 1953 DATES

February 2-3—State Vacation Bible School Clinic.

July 2-7—Arkansas Baptist Assembly.

July 9-14—Arkansas Baptist Assembly.

September 1-2—State Associational Leadership Conference.

September 15—Associational Sunday School Planning Meetings.

October 12-13—State Sunday School Convention.

October 11-16—State Administration and Teaching Clinic.

—000—

THIS I KNOW . . .

God is in every tomorrow,
Therefore I live for today,
Certain of finding at sunrise,
Guidance and strength for the way;

Power for each moment of weakness,

Hope for each moment of pain,
Comfort for every sorrow,
Sunshine and joy after rain.

—000—

When an optimist gets the worst of it, he makes the best of it.



"Make two prescriptions of that. My friend Mrs. Tippel has the same symptoms I have."

Training Union Department

RALPH W. DAVIS, *Secretary*

Facts About the Training Union Convention

1. Time—March 13-14, 1953.
2. Place—Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock.
3. Attendance—No limit on attendance, but there will be a limit of twenty from any one church to receive bed and breakfast. "A few people from many churches instead of many people from a few churches" will be our goal.
4. Bed and breakfast Friday night and Saturday morning furnished free by the churches of greater Little Rock (limit of twenty from one church).
5. Speakers—Dr. Kyle M. Yates, pastor of Second Church, Houston, and Dr. Joe Burton of the Home Curriculum Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.
6. Featured soloist and song leader, Mr. Euell Porter of the Music Department of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas.
7. Eight workers from the Training Union Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee.
8. Speakers' Tournament and Sword Drill held in sectional

meetings, Friday afternoon with finals at the Friday night session.

9. Junior Memory Drill Saturday morning. Wanted: 100 Juniors in the Memory Drill!

10. Friday night session in the Robinson Memorial Auditorium that seats 3,000 people.

11. Sectional meetings with conferences for information. Great messages for inspiration.

The subjects to be used in the Speakers' Tournament for 1953 are: Learn from Me (ASV), The Value of a Life, I am the Way, The Way of Salvation, The Meaning of Salvation, God's Title to Me, The Path to Power, Sowing and Reaping, The Meaning of Church Membership, The Meaning of Christian Stewardship, How Great IS God's Love?, Thanks Be to God, Preparedness and Service (Christian Education), The Wisdom of Total Abstinence, Jesus Calls Us, Does God Care?, How Can We Keep Our Freedom?, Can Democracy Survive?, The Supremacy of Christian Character, The Christian and His Money.

Figures To Inspire

Sunday, December 7					
	S.S.	T.U.	Ad.		
Little Rock, Immanuel	1368	403	8	Alma, First	266 125
Including Missions	1519	479	11	Little Rock, Hebron	258 132 4
Fort Smith, First	1216	608	16	Fort Smith, Temple	250 163
Including Missions	1456	707		Pine Bluff, Second	248 97
Little Rock, Second	1077	224	9	Fort Smith, Spradling	244 118 3
Including Mission	1177			Carlisle, First	243 112
Little Rock, First	1027	437	1	Morrilton, First	238 81
El Dorado, First	982	264	4	Including Missions	283 89
Little Rock, Tabernacle	751	282	2	Van Buren, First	272 152
Pine Bluff, South Side	707	266	4	Including Missions	352 211
Benton, First	673	154	3	Augusta, First	227 90 1
Including Mission	751	222		Including Mission	202
Texarkana, Beech St.	656	318	1	Hot Springs, Piney	218 160
Fort Smith, Grand Ave.	646	247	3	Gurdon, Beech St.	204 103
Fayetteville, First	615	258	1	Berryville, First	204 100
Including Mission	650			Dermott	204 68
El Dorado, Immanuel	585	326	2	Star City, First	194 72
Camden, First	576	196	2	Including Mission	220
Including Missions	636	246		Crossett, Mt. Olive	189 118 2
Forrest City, First	562	198		Harrison, Eagle Hts.	180 157 5
Paris, First	545	247	18	Pine Bluff, Central	181 87 3
Hope, First	538	141	3	Pine Bluff, Bethel	176 119
Crossett, First	528	260	2	Springdale, Caudle Ave.	189 110
McGehee, First	555	193	2	Benton, Calvary	159 82 2
Including Missions	665	267		Fort Smith, North Side	125 70
Paragould, First	524	255	1	Camden, Second	112 68 2
Including Missions	708	388		Little Rock, Trinity	112 46 8
Warren, First	521	160	2	Hot Springs, Grand Ave.	111 55
Springdale, First	520	213		Jenny Lind	88 66
El Dorado, Second	503	271	1	Magnolia, Immanuel	86 86 2
Siloam Springs, First	500	296	2	Hot Springs, Emmanuel	62 37
Including Mission	525			Wright, Plum Bayou	36 40
Booneville, First	496	128	5		
Hot Springs, Central	465	182			
Cullendale, First	450	221	3		
Including Mission	487				
West Helena	441	129			
Pine Bluff, Immanuel	439	237	4		
Fordey, First	423	129			
Including Mission	495				
Conway, First	420	117			
Hot Springs, Park Place	414	162	6		
Stuttgart, First	407	179	1		
Including Mission	460	204			
Jonesboro, Walnut St.	395	107	5		
Little Rock, So. Highland	392	165	2		
Smackover, First	389	151			
Texarkana, Calvary	380	176	11		
El Dorado, West Side	376	129	2		
Fort Smith, Calvary	376	150			
Hot Springs, First	354	105			
Jacksonville, First	346	155			
Including Mission	492				
Fort Smith, South Side	331	140	1		
Monticello, First	330	206			
Mena, First	309	117	2		
Including Mission	342	134			
Norphlet, First	285	195			
Levy	275	145	2		
Paragould, East Side	272	120			



Department of Missions

C. W. CALDWELL, Superintendent

Evangelistic Conference Program

January 19-21

Theme: The New Testament Church

MONDAY EVENING

"The Duty of the Church"

- 7:00—Song Service _____ W. Hines Sims
- 7:15—Evangelism—A Church Centered Program _____ E. E. Griever
- 7:45—Special Music
- 7:50—No Pentecost Without Plenty Cost _____ I. L. Yearby
- 8:20—Special Music
- 8:30—Sermon—"Compassion - A Preacher's Must" _____ Ramsey Pollard

TUESDAY MORNING

"The Message of the Church"

- 9:00—Song Service _____ W. Hines Sims
- 9:10—Scripture and Prayer
- 9:15—Message—"Salvation" _____ D. Douglas Scrivner
- 9:45—Conference—"Drawing the Net" _____ C. Y. Dossey
- 10:15—Special Music
- 10:20—Message—"Justification" _____ David Moore
- 10:50—Special Music
- 11:00—Message—"Sanctification" _____ K. Owen White
- 11:30—Sermon—"The Holy Spirit in Evangelism" _____ Ramsey Pollard

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

"New Testament Churches Co-operating in Evangelism"

- 1:45—Song Service _____ W. Hines Sims

- 2:00—Message—"The Value of an Associational Simultaneous Crusade" _____ D. W. Stark
- 2:25—Song
- 2:30—Conference—"Preparation for an Associational Simultaneous Crusade" _____ C. Y. Dossey
- 3:10—Conference—"Locating the Prospects and How to Win Them" _____ L. L. Hunnicutt
- 3:40—Special Music
- 3:45—Message—"Let's Have Baptisms in Every Church in 1953" _____ I. L. Yearby

TUESDAY EVENING

"Perennial Evangelism in a New Testament Church"

- 7:00—Song Service _____ W. Hines Sims
- 7:15—Showing of Film Strip, "The Evangelism Church Council and Personal Soul Winning"
- 7:35—Special Music
- 7:40—Conference—"A Million More in 1954" _____ Harold E. Ingraham
- 8:15—Special Music
- 8:25—Sermon—"He Must Increase" _____ Ramsey Pollard

WEDNESDAY MORNING

"A Church's Source of Power"

- 9:00—Song Service _____ W. Hines Sims
- 9:15—Conference—"How to Use the Organizations in a Revival" _____ Othar Smith
- 9:45—Message—"Counting Numbers or Making Numbers Count?" _____ B. H. Eustis
- 10:15—Special Music
- 10:20—Message—"The Value of Prayer and How to Organize an Association and a Church for Effective Prayer" _____ J. T. Elliff
- 10:50—Season of Prayer and Testimony
- 11:20—Special Music
- 11:30—Sermon—"Ye Must Be Born Again" _____ Ramsey Pollard



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It isn't too late to have a part in helping your Orphanage provide the much needed buildings. Offerings are coming in in a wonderful way, but still short of goal of \$100,000 needed to build the two cottages next year. Contributions up to 20 per cent of income may be deducted from this year's Income Tax. We are most grateful for the sacrificial gifts thus far.

Let's Build Two In '53 - 1952 Is Almost Gone

BOTTOMS BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

Monticello, Arkansas





Home Board Accepts Dr. Lawrence's Request For Retirement

By JOHN CAYLOR

The annual meeting of the Home Mission Board was held in Atlanta, on December 3, with all state members present except three. It was characterized by harmony and a progressive spirit.

DR. LAWRENCE MAKES REQUEST FOR RETIREMENT

Upon the re-election of Dr. J. B. Lawrence as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Home Mission Board for his twenty-fourth year, he presented a statement accepting the responsibilities of the office but requesting that at the end of 1953 he be allowed to retire from his executive duties. The Board voted to ask a committee to recommend to its next annual Board meeting that Dr. Lawrence be made secretary emeritus and be given the duties of radio minister and writer for the Home Mission Board.

Dr. Lawrence has been secretary of the Home Mission Board since 1929. His statement to the Board revealed that his first election came as a shock and that it was after much prayer that he finally found the will of the Lord to accept the position. He said there were three things in his mind as objectives for the work when he took up the arduous duties as secretary of the Home Mission Board. First was that of paying the debt, interest and principle, in full and save the credit of the denomination. Another objective was to secure a permanent home for the Board, and the third was to develop a program for home missions that would be comprehensive, adequate, and efficient. He stated that the first two objectives had been accomplished and that he hoped that by the end of 1953, with the help of the Board and its special committee which for two years will have been studying the program of the Board with a view to the enlargement of the work, the third objective should be realized.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTED

In accepting Dr. Lawrence's request for retirement the Board named a committee consisting of D. H. Hall, O. M. Seigler, George M. Sparks, and J. C. Wilkinson of Georgia; J. Ralph Grant, Texas; Hugh R. Bumpas, Oklahoma; Claude Ammerman, of Alabama; James T. Horton, of Louisiana; and Frank Brasing-

ton, of District of Columbia, to nominate to the Board in its August session at Ridgecrest a successor to Dr. Lawrence. Dr. D. H. Hall, of Decatur, Georgia, is chairman of the committee.

BUDGET ADOPTED

The budget for the Board for 1953 is to be \$1,710,000. It is a slight increase over the present budget but is not enough to add new work. Fortunately an announcement by Porter Routh encouraged the Board to provide for some temporary work in anticipation of the 1952 over-and-above mission fund which is now being received.

SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Harold Sanders, chairman of the special committee on survey, reported the findings of the study of his committee during the past year. Advances were recommended and proposals for increasing the budget in order to increase the work are being studied.

OFFICIALS OF THE BOARD

The Board re-elected G. Frank Garrison as president and W. A. Duncan as vice president with Mrs. Ralph Smith as recording secretary.

Administrative officers of the Board were re-elected.

—00—

A CANDIDATE FOR BAPTISM

A convert was about to be immersed in a river. The pastor asked if he had removed everything from his pocket. The man replied he had, all except his pocketbook. The minister suggested he should leave it with a friend but the man said, "No, I want it baptized too." The crying need of the church today is for baptized pocketbooks.

—00—

IF JESUS CAME BACK TODAY

If Jesus came back today
What would the people say?
Would they cheer Him and strew
the way
With garlands of myrtle and bay
As they did on that distant day
When he came to Jerusalem?
What would America say
If Jesus came back today?

—00—

"It goes without saying," speakers claim—Which means they'll say it just the same.

—Quote

—00—

"It is a well-known fact that if people are right on the question of giving, they will be right on most kingdom enterprises."

A silent night... a father's thoughts

It's late . . . way past 12. The house is so quiet. At that, we have things finished pretty early this year.

Best tree we've ever had. The presents look good. Grace makes pretty packages. Wish we could afford a bike for Tommy. Maybe next year. I guess a father always wants to give his kids more than he can.

A lot of things look different when you have a child. Like what the school board does. What happens in Washington. And the UN.

Will he grow up in a world at peace — or at war? Will he be really free—or like the children in countries where the government runs everything? What is it they say? "Liberty is every American's birthright."

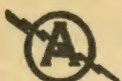
A man wants to give his son the best of everything. A chance to feel free and independent. To make up his own mind and work out his own life. No "isms" to worry him. And peace — certainly peace.

A good world to live in, that's it. And part of that is up to me and all of us. Most of all — people who have children. That brings it pretty close to the Christmas message . . . a Child makes all the difference.

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Emmanuel—God With Us

By Mrs. HOMER D. MYERS

The center and circumference of our Christian religion is the coming of Jesus into the world and the reason for His coming. To the Baptist, redemption is the theme of Christianity. To some thinkers, Jesus came to revolutionize living conditions, to raise social standards, to teach justice, to set good examples before men that they might see love at work. If all mankind could suddenly be redeemed from sin, and saved from the arch tempter—all social conditions would automatically right themselves. Sin is the first cause of all our troubles.

NECESSARY CONDITIONS SURROUNDING OUR REDEMPTION

1. God is the first factor in redemption. There is no redemption of mankind apart from God. There is no redemption for any man until he first accepts the fact of God. "He that cometh to God (for redemption) must believe that God is." If God is the basic factor in our redemption, then God must engineer our redemption. He is the guiding factor.

2. The immutable law of righteousness says that the soul that sinneth must die. That by one man sin entered the world and all have sinned.

3. God is faced with the fact that before Him stands the entire human race, all sinners, all worthy of eternal death. No man can save himself—much less another person.

4. If man's sin debt is paid, God Himself must pay it; man cannot.

5. On the other hand, man's salvation must be voluntary on his part, just as his entrance into sin was voluntary.

6. Then man must be approached in a manner in which he can understand God's plan of redemption. In other words, redemption has to be ordered on man's own level. God has come down to our level in order to teach us, and reach us with the gospel. The story is told in this lesson title: Emmanuel—God with us! Read it again in Hebrews 2:14-18.

Since the children are flesh and blood, Jesus also became flesh and blood, that He might destroy him that hath the power of death, that is, the devil. He did not take on Himself the nature of angels, to be above us, but He took on Himself the seed of Abraham, and became a human being like Abraham, that He might resemble His brethren in every respect. He suffered all the temptations of any other person, in order to know the needs of mankind, that He might be our high priest, and that He might be able to help us in every human need.

Sunday School Lesson for December 21, 1952 Matthew 1:18-25

HOW COULD GOD BECOME A MAN?

"Now the birth of Jesus was on this wise: When Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost."

The Bible story tells us that Joseph was alarmed and would have quietly annulled their plans for the future, but an angel intervened. "Thou son of David fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." Thus we have the incarnation of God in a human body. "A body thou hast prepared me," said the prophet. All life comes from the father of the species, and nourishment from the mother. So Jesus came from His Father, God, and Mary was merely the channel, the natural way through which to manifest Him to the human family.

Jesus had to be virgin born if man is redeemed. If any man was the father of Jesus we are still in our sins, without hope, without a mediator with God. All this quibbling about the virgin birth is plain stupidity. The "preacher" who denies the virgin birth is not a preacher, but an imposter. He is consistent with himself in denying all the fundamental factors of redemption: the virgin birth, the blood atonement, human depravity, and teaches salvation by following the examples of the "good man, Jesus." If Jesus was not the virgin born Son of God, he was NOT A GOOD MAN. Jesus was all He claimed to be, or He too was an imposter and deceiver.

FUNDAMENTAL FACTS OF OUR REDEMPTION

Those of us who know the truth must realize these fundamental facts of redemption cannot be separated from each other:

1. THAT JESUS WAS EMMANUEL—God with us. God manifested to the human race in terms they can understand.
2. That God prepared a special human body for His Son.
3. That God was His Father, and not a man.
4. That His mother had to be a virgin if God was His Father. He could not have two fathers.
5. That He had to live a perfect life if He was to save the

world. One imperfection, one flaw, one fault, would have made Him a sinner like the rest of us.

6. That the sin debt of the human family HAD TO BE PAID BY SOME ONE. As sin entered the world by the first federal head—Adam, that salvation must also be obtained by one man.

7. That Jesus fulfilled all the laws of God and gave His life a ransom. A ransom is the payment required to free a captive. Jesus met all the requirements of justice to redeem the human race, or to "buy back again" that which Satan has destroyed by sin.

"Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save . . ." The name Jesus means deliverer, but Jesus was more than a deliverer. He was Emmanuel, God with us. All we know of the Father, of His love, compassion, mercy, grace, long suffering, was revealed to us through the Son, and in His person. "God so loved the world that He gave His son" to live on earth for a season, to suffer, to die, to reconcile sinners and God. But death cannot hold the God of life. Death was not the end of His life, it ended Satan's dominion;

it was the end of Satan's power over the grave. Christ arose, victorious over death, hell, and the grave, and He lives forevermore to give life to each and every son of Adam who will simply accept that life on the basis of His atoning death and saving power.

Emmanuel; Savior of sinners; Matchless; Immaculate Son of God; Redeeming those in bondage; paying the ransom price for captives of sin and Satan; conqueror of death, victor over the grave, lover of the souls of men, robbing hell of millions of victims.

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Executive Board STATE CONVENTION



B. L. Bridges, General Secretary, 200 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Dr. Yearby Comes January 1



DR. I. L. YEARBY

Dr. I. L. Yearby of Oklahoma City is moving to Little Rock, and will take up his duties as Secretary of Evangelism in the State beginning January 1, 1953. We are printing his likeness on this page today. If you need to contact Dr. Yearby, you can get in touch with him by writing him. His address is 204 Baptist Building, 403 West Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dr. Yearby comes with all of his rich experience as an evangelistic preacher which he has gained through a number of years of actual service in evangelism. It would be difficult to find a greater evangelistic preacher than I. L. Yearby. He will be available for some revival meetings himself, and he will promote among us the cause of Evangelism and soul winning, and from year to year we trust that this department will grow under his leadership.

Arkansas Baptists Top Donations By \$69,178

Arkansas Baptists had given \$275,929 through June, 1952, for the support of Southern Baptist Convention causes and agencies for the first half of the year.

That figure represents an increase of \$69,178 over the total which the state gave for the same period last year, Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Convention's executive committee reports.

Paragould and Duffer

East Side Church in Paragould is doing better than answering our prayers. We had asked for \$1,750 for the Cooperative Program from this good church in 1953, but their budget proposed to yield about \$1,800. You know, Pastor Duffer is one of our fine optimistic, joyful, and aggressive leaders both in the local church life and outside of it. Thank the Lord for the progress that this church is making.

A Merry Christmas To You, From Us

B. L. Bridges L. E. Coleman Sr.
Bonnie Brandon
W. Dawson King Betty Garton

"We are happy to report the great victory which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord. On November 2, the Little River Church, a mission of First Church, Horatio, was organized into a church, co-operating with Little River Association, Arkansas Baptists, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Russell Armer, pastor of First Church, Horatio, has led these people in a great way. They have built a beautiful tile brick church in which to worship. I preached in their first revival. God blessed in a marvelous way in the saving of souls.

"On November 23, Oak Grove Mission of First Church, Ashdown, was organized into a full time church. Dell Hames, pastor of First Church, Ashdown, served as moderator; Mrs. Homer Allred as clerk; members from Mineral Springs, Rock Hill, Brownstown, Dierks, Wilton, Ashdown, and Nashville churches formulated the council. Carroll Gibson led the dedication prayer. I discussed the Articles of Faith and Church Covenant, Which were adopted. W. E. Perry of First Church, Nashville, brought the inspiring message. Charles Edwards offered the benediction. This new church is in a stewardship revival at this time. Claude Steward, pastor, First Church, Lockesburg, is doing the preaching. Homer Allred is their pastor.

Pray for these churches, brethren, as they endeavor to proclaim the gospel."

—Jeff McCuller, Missionary

Miley and Marianna

We are impressed with the steady, progressive, sound policy exercised in church leadership by Pastor Miley of Marianna. This man is not "spurdy," but he has a disposition to build a great spiritual congregation step by step, and it always has an upward trend. We notice that their proposed budget for 1952 calls for more than \$8,000 for the Cooperative Program. Pastor Miley has some fine men and women upon whom he can depend, and they are all working together in a beautiful spirit.

Your Christmas Present

Why not give a nice Bible for a Christmas present? The Baptist Bookstore has a good assortment of Bibles and Testaments. We suggest that you give a King James version or the Old American Revised Version. There is an old adage that says be not the first to take the new nor be the last to take the old. We consider that the King James version is a dignified and stately presentation of the Word of God and is about as trustworthy as any of them. The American Revised version, however, is excellent and does have some improvement over the King James translation, but we recommend either one of them.

The Time Is Shorter Than You Think

This will be the last issue of the paper during 1952. Have you sent your final check for the Cooperative Program? Do not overlook it please. A few churches have given nothing for the co-operative missionary program during 1952. Surely, surely they will catch up this month. Other churches have given along during the year, but have not sent in anything for the cooperative missionary program during this last quarter. You still have a week or two, brethren, to get in to keep from having a "big goose egg" opposite your name when the final report is made. We know you do not want your church to draw a zero report on Christ's great world mission program for the entire year of 1952, or even for a quarter or for a month as to that matter. Brother Pastor, you would not want to claim to be an ambassador for Christ, or a missionary Baptist preacher, and let your church fail in its support of Christ's great world mission cause. This, of course, means that you, yourself, would personally fail on it if you gave nothing through your church for it. We are confidently expecting your church to help us before the year is out. Do not delay, the time is shorter than you think! Please, please.

The Revised Standard Version Of the Bible

We have received very many inquiries both by letter and telephone regarding the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Some are very much opposed to it while others are willing to "give it a chance."

The Arkansas Baptist State Convention has made no pronouncement about this book. Neither has the Executive Board. It has never approved the revision nor expressed an opinion about it.

It is our information that the copyright of this book is owned by the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN THE UNITED STATE OF AMERICA, and we understand, than this organization is a successor to the FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. Our Southern Baptist organizations and our State Convention are refusing to mix up with the Federal Council of Churches, and we have not contributed to it. The Convention has no agency or agent that is authorized to distribute this new version of the Bible.

We still have plenty copies of the King James Version and of the American Version of the Bible. Many of us have read them until we understand their terminology pretty well, and especially the emphasis that they put upon the Divinity of Jesus.

Calvary and E. W. Johnson

We notice that Calvary Church in Pine Bluff has proposed a budget that calls for an increase of 20 per cent for cooperative missions for 1953. This is some increase and we are grateful. You could hardly expect any less, however, when Elmo Johnson is at the helm and is putting his leadership into the work of his church. Johnson is one of the most dependable, and faithful, and earnest, and aggressive leaders that we have.