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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1945-1949

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1-3-1946

January 3, 1946

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 45

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JANUARY 3, 1946

NUMBER 1

## TO— THE NEW YEAR

One song for thee, New Year,  
One universal prayer;  
Teach us—all other teachings far above—  
To hide dark hate beneath the wings of love,  
To slay all hatred, strife,  
And live the larger life!  
To bind the wounds that bleed;  
    To lift the fallen, lead the blind  
As only love can lead—  
    To live for all mankind!

Teach us, New Year, to be  
Free men among the free;  
Our only master, duty, with no god  
Save one—our Maker—Monarch of the sod!  
Teach us with all its might,  
Its darkness and its light,  
Its heart-beat tremulous,  
    Its grief, its gloom,  
Its beauty, and its bloom—  
God made the world for us!

—JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

Twentieth Century Christianity . . .

## THE WORLD CALLS FOR CHRIST

**MEMBERSHIP INCREASE**—Inclusive church membership in the United States showed an increase of 32.8 per cent during the eighteen-year period from 1926 to 1943-44, according to statistics compiled by the Department of Research and Education of the Federal Council of Churches and published in its weekly Information Service Bulletin.

The Census of Religious Bodies for 1926 reported 54,576,346 church members, while figures for 1943-44 place the total at 72,492,669, representing 52.5 per cent of the nation's population.

Among the thirteen largest religious bodies—those with a million and more members—the National Baptist Convention U. S. A., Inc., and the National Baptist Convention of America reported the greatest gain, 99.4 per cent. In 1926, their joint membership was given as 3,192,623. For 1943-44, the incorporated body reported 4,021,618 members, and the other 2,352,339. Both are colored groups.

In the eighteen-year period, the Southern Baptist Convention gained 60.8 per cent; the United Lutheran Church, 39.2 per cent; the Lutheran Missouri Synod, 30.4 per cent; the Roman Catholic Church, 25.9 per cent; the Disciples of Christ, 21.4 per cent; the Northern Baptist Convention, 20.6 per cent; the Protestant Episcopal Church, 19.8 per cent; the Methodist Church, 19 per cent; Jewish Congregations, 13.7 per cent; the Congregational Christian Churches, 8.1 per cent; and the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., 7.7 per cent.

**JAPAN WANTS MISSIONARIES**—A resolution urging the return of foreign missionaries to Japan as soon as possible was adopted by the executive committee of the United Church of Christ in Japan at the final session of the group's two-day meeting in Tokyo.

The committee also advocated immediate temporary rehabilitation of 500 damaged and destroyed Japanese Christian churches. Rebuilding of houses of worship on a temporary basis is planned for the immediate future, as church policy is not to erect expensive buildings until the vast housing problem has been stabilized.

Drawing up of a new United Church constitution has been assigned to a committee which will report to the first post-war general convention to be held in Tokyo in early March. There no longer remains any legal authority to hold the churches within the union, and it is anticipated that some groups will leave.

**CHAPLAINS PRAISED**—Army chaplains "furnished one of the greatest morale factors in the war" according to Gen. Brehon Somerville, head of the Army's Service Forces. He pointed out that the chaplains followed the troops wherever they went, "before battle and during it. The wounded received help and consolation at the battlefront, collecting stations and hospitals; the dead were buried in the cloak of their faiths."

In the last year the Chaplain Corps has distributed 8,000,000 copies of the Protestant Testaments, Jewish Scriptures and the Catholic version of the New Testament, and 1,200,000 hymnals.

The Army Chaplain Corps suffered 387 casualties during the war, 149 of them fatal,

according to a report released by the Office of the Chief of Chaplains. The report also announced that up to December 1, 1,281 chaplains had been awarded a total of 1,685 decorations, including 26 from foreign powers.

There are now 6,845 chaplains on duty. A total of 1,292 chaplains have returned to civilian life from VJ-Day up to December of this year.

**BAPTIST PAROCHIAL SCHOOL**—Believed to be the first church in the Southern Baptist Convention to establish a denominational day school, Lakeview Baptist Church at San Antonio, has begun construction of such a school adjoining the church.

Classes in the four-room stone building will begin next fall, offering the same courses as are prescribed for public schools, plus instruction in Bible and Baptist doctrine. Grades through the sixth—perhaps the eighth—will be included.

**IN RUMANIA**—Rumanian Baptists, meeting for the first time as a legally free sect, have cabled greetings to Dr. J. H. Rushbrooke, of London, president of the Baptist World Alliance.

The message, sent from Arad, western Rumania, where a national convention was held, reads: "The Baptist congress thanks you for your greetings and assures you of our brotherly love. Transmit our greetings to all our brothers everywhere." It was signed by Jon Socaciu, president, and Marin Dumitrascu, secretary.

A decree signed by King Michael last October recognized the Baptists in Rumania as a religious cult. The denomination was outlawed under the Nazi-controlled government of Gen. Ion Antonescu and its property confiscated. It now enjoys equality with all other religious bodies and all its property has been returned.

"If there is anything in all the world more greatly needed than any other in our social order it is to have people look upon the humblest job, the lowest piece of work, if done according to the will of God, as sacred and therefore highly honorable," stated a recent speaker. It is moronic to exalt the liquor lords and beer barons because of their wealth and condemn the milkman, the laundryman, the garbage man, when their service blesses society.

—John D. Freeman.

The world is still honoring the group of Baptist missionaries who received crowns of martyrdom in the Philippine Islands. Too much cannot be said of their heroism and of their devotion. Too little perhaps has been said of the large number of native Christians who befriended these missionaries and who, because of this, were themselves massacred. All over the world during this terrible war period, those who have been brought to Christ by the ministry of our missionaries have faced dangers and death rather than give up their loyalty to Christ, their Saviour and King.

—Watchman-Examiner.

Editor Albert McClellan of the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger makes this claim: "We do not say that the state Baptist paper is Atomic but we do say that it is a tonic to any church desiring to put it in its budget."

## "Going Up?"

A Devotion by B. H. Duncan, Hot Springs

"Set your affections on things above."

Mr. Pace, the Christian cartoonist, produced a suggestive drawing for New Year Day of 1941. He represents Father Time as elevator operator. On the left center of elevator is the placard, "To more CONCRATED living." The lower left-hand corner is marked, "BASEment DESIRES." The upper left-hand corner bears this quotation: "Set your affections on things above, not things on the earth."

The operator is standing in the doorway of the elevator, with his hour-glass slung over his arm, calling, "Going Up!"

The elevator of 1946 is about to start. The operator is calling, "Going Up!" Should we hesitate, looking this way and that, seeing some way of escape into the corridors of the world, where we may get out of hearing distance of that eternal voice called, "Going Up!"

Jesus is up there. In order to have fellowship with Him you must ascend to the upper stories of life. Christian fellowship is up there. Others are going up and in order to have fellowship with them you, too, must take the elevator up. You will find Christian serenity and sacrifice, Christian joys and satisfactions on the upper floors. Up there the atmosphere is purer and the vision is clearer.

The late Dr. A. T. Robertson has said: "Paul does not mean that we should neglect the things upon the earth, but that these should not be our aim, or our goal, or our master. The Christian has to keep his feet upon the earth, but his head in heaven. He must be heavenly minded here on earth and so help to make earth like heaven."

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth." Col. 3:1, 2.

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Robert L. Ripley of "Believe It Or Not" recently told of James Baley of St. Petersburg, Fla., who has played the organ in the Baptist Church of the city every Sunday for 82 years. This is a record that perhaps cannot be matched in the entire world.

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

213 RADIO CENTER, LITTLE ROCK  
Official Publication of the Arkansas Baptist Convention.

C. E. BRYANT, EDITOR  
IONE GRAY, EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Publication Committee: C. W. Caldwell, For Chairman; H. E. Williams, Pocahontas; Ernest B. Salem; R. M. Abell, Jasper; Ralph Dodd, Stuttgart; Clyde Hankins, Mt. Ida; I. M. Prince, Paragould.

Entered Post Office, Little Rock, Arkansas, as second class mail matter. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, October 1, 1913.

Individual subscription \$2.00 per year; Church gets 10 cents per month or \$1.20 per year per church family; Family Groups (10 or more paid annual advance), \$1.25 per year. Subscription to foreign address, \$2.50 per year. Advertising Rates on Request.

The cost of cuts cannot be borne by the publisher except those it has made for its individual users. Resolutions and obituaries published at one per word. One Dollar minimum.

Articles carrying the author's by-line do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of the paper.

# Across the Editor's Desk . . .

## Urgent Need Voiced

### For Mission Volunteers

Southern Baptists are failing to respond in sufficient numbers for service on foreign mission fields to meet the opportunities of the post-war period, Dr. Maxfield Garrott, Arkansan and missionary to Japan, told students of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in a Missionary Day address.

"Southern Baptists are permitting other denominations to send out as high as six times as many missionaries, on the basis of numerical strength, as they are sending," Dr. Garrott said.

"No Christian has the right to decide where he will serve without considering the mission fields," Dr. Garrott declared, as he urged students to face the questions: Where is the greatest need? and Where can I render the greatest service to the Kingdom of God?

Dr. George W. Sadler, missionary to Nigeria, and Foreign Mission Board secretary for Africa, Europe, and the Near East, stressed the responsibilities of Southern Baptists in meeting the real needs of a changed world. We are not beginning to touch the hem of the garment of the need. We must be more liberal with our lives and with the lives of our sons and our daughters, in going out to foreign fields," he said.

## Life Commitment

Dedicated Vocation — Life Commitment Week, January 13-20, is an annual event sponsored by the Student Department of the Southern Baptist Convention. Its purpose is to focus the thinking of Christian young people upon making their life work outstandingly Christian.

Sunday, January 20, has been set apart as a decision time for Life Commitment. An appeal for full surrender to definite Christian service will be made.

This day will be ushered in by a Baptist Radio Hour message on, "Life's Supreme Allegiance" at 7:30 a. m. (C.S.T.) by Rev. W. O. Vaught of Little Rock. Throughout the services of the day an emphasis will be placed upon young people choosing God's first best for their life work.

It is hoped that many will respond to a divine call to full time Christian service on that day. The names of those responding should be sent to the State, Home, and Foreign Mission Boards that these may be followed up in their preparation for their life's calling.

—Wm. Hall Preston.

## New Year's Message

Dr. J. H. Rushbrooke, president of the Baptist World Alliance, has sent the following New Year's message:

"We thank God whole-heartedly that major wars have ended, and that opportunities for repairing their terrible physical and moral damage are now opening. Especially we give thanks that a United Nations Organization for ensuring peace and general well-being is taking form, and earnestly pray that the noblest hopes set upon it may be fulfilled.

"The world is nevertheless very sick. Suspicion abounds. National and sectional interests still override cooperation for the common good. Dangerous strains persist in spite of the appalling and universal devastation which large-scale war would involve.

"The simple truth is that general peace cannot be based on self-interest or on fear; its only enduring foundation is in brotherly love. The responsibility is more urgently than ever brought home to us, to beseech men everywhere to 'be reconciled to God,' and to manifest in their whole life—as individual, as citizen, as members of the human race—the spirit of Christ. 'In none other is there salvation.'

"May grace abound throughout our Baptist fellowship, that in the coming year and all the years we may be faithful and effective disciples and ambassadors of the Saviour of the world."

J. H. Rushbrooke,  
President, Baptist World Alliance.

## Radio Series to Begin

"Following Christ in the Paths of Peace" is the theme for the 1946 Baptist Hour series of messages which will be inaugurated on Sunday morning, January 6, as announced by the Radio Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, S. F. Lowe, Director.

"The Lordship of Christ" is the subject of Dr. W. Marshall Craig, of Dallas, in the first broadcast. Dr. Craig has been pastor of the Gaston Avenue Church, Dallas, for eighteen years, and is one of the leading preachers of the Southern Convention.

Mr. Lowe states that this broadcast will launch a new century of Baptist life and service, since it is the first religious service of the first Sunday of the first year of the second century of Southern Baptist history, and can be heard by practically all the 5,667,000

Baptists in the 25,925 Baptist churches of the Southern Baptist Convention as well as by the public generally.

Music in this popular series of independent network broadcasts will be rendered again by the Baptist Hour Choir, John D. Hoffman, Director, and George L. Hamrick, Organist, and will originate from the studios of WSB in Atlanta.

The program can be heard in Arkansas over radio stations KUOA, Siloam Springs; WFAA, Dallas, Tex.; WREC, Memphis, Tenn., and WHAS of Louisville, Ky., 7:30 a. m., and over KTHS, Hot Springs at 4 p. m.

## Pay While We Can

By C. C. ROBERTS  
State Missionary, Bentonville

Well do I remember the dark days of the early thirties when the Baptists of the state were faced with an impossible task of paying over a million dollars of honest debts. This debt was an honest debt. It was honestly made and the money was honestly spent. Many of the pastors and laymen who grappled with this situation have been called home. But the unpaid balance of an honest debt is not all they left for us to remember them by. They have left our institutions, which have made, and are making great contributions to our work. They have left the churches into which many of our young pastors have stepped and are carrying on in a noble fashion.

When we stop to think of the things which we have inherited, it seems to me that the debt is about the least thing that we have inherited. I well remember when the foundation stones were laid for many of our churches in this state and every one of them cost the life blood of some worthy Christians. Let us not become too busy with the affairs of today to the neglect of the blessings of the past. Since we have come into the day of the greatest prosperity we have ever witnessed, and since we have as fine a group of pastors as have ever filled the pulpits of this state, let us do the big, noble thing in 1946 by paying off this old debt.

I believe if every pastor and missionary would join the "Honor Club," and urge the people to do so, that we would pay this debt in one year's time.

## Prayer

Prayer is the pure upreach  
of the soul's white hands . . .  
When the mind takes wings  
to unseen realms  
where beauty sings  
and truth o'erwhelms  
the faulty syllables  
of mortal speech!

—Basil Martin.

# NOTES OF ADVANCE

W. W. Kersh of Fort Smith was ordained to the ministry December 16 by Rudy Church where he has been called to the pastorate. Missionary W. O. Taylor, Clear Creek Association, served as chairman of the council and as acting pastor of the church. Pastor A. G. Escott, Bailey Hill Church, near Fort Smith, was clerk. The charge to the church was given by Pastor D. O. Stuckey, Alma. Rev. Bill Kersh, son of the candidate delivered the charge to him. Rev. E. C. Egbert presented the candidate with a Bible and W. O. Flannagin led the ordination prayer. Others taking part in the service were Rev. T. L. Rozell and Deacons L. C. Eacret, F. G. Clay, D. O. Shaver, C. E. Boon, R. C. Patterson and Ed Lynn.

That it is possible to have a revival in a rural church in winter was proven at Sidney, December 3-9. Missionary T. S. Cowden, Sharp County, used film strip slides on the life of Christ for six nights and closed Sunday night with the Passion Play. Eight conversions and six additions to the church by baptism resulted.

A check for \$5,000 was given by a family in Trinity Church, Lake Charles, La., December 16, to be used as follows: \$2,000 for special French mission work near Crowley, La.; \$1,000 for a sermon to be broadcast in French over the Lake Charles Radio Station; \$100 for Acadia Academy, and \$1,900 for Trinity Church. E. Butler Abington, who recently left the pastorate of First Church, West Memphis, is pastor. A total of 22 additions were received the first three Sundays in December.

G. L. Veazey of Fort Worth, Tex., who has been a reader of the Arkansas Baptist for 50 years, sends in his renewal.

Minyard M. Barnett, while serving as the evangelist of Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Kan., and of the Missouri Baptist General Association in 1945, spoke at two assemblies, twelve associational meetings, five churches as supply, and preach in eighteen revival meetings. During these meetings 869 people came forward making decisions for Christ and the churches.

Plans for the future in Hope Association include the buying or building of a home for the associational missionary. At the last associational workers' conference at Trinity Church, Pastors W. L. Peppers and Wallace Ely were appointed by Moderator Bruce H. Price to investigate the buying or building of such a home. The next workers' conference will meet with First Church, Fouke, January 25.

Rehobeth Church, Moorefield, broke past records in gifts to missions in 1945 by giving \$240, increased gifts to the Cooperative Program, and gave \$50 to the Thank Offering. D. B. Cook of Oil Trough has been pastor more than a year. Repair work has been done on the building. Pastor Cook led in the building work.

This year's annual Founder's Week Conference of Moody Bible Institute, marking the diamond anniversary, will be held in Chi-

cago, February 4-13. Among the more than 50 outstanding speakers and musicians on the program will be Dr. Robert G. Lee of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Dr. Daniel Iverson, pastor of Shenandoah Presbyterian Church, Miami, Fla.; Dr. William Ward Ayer, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, New York; Dr. John W. Bradbury, editor of Watchman-Examiner, and Dr. Homer Hammontree, well-known gospel musician.

A. J. Hyatt, former Arkansas pastor who was discharged from the chaplaincy in October, has been attending Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. He has been accepted as a graduate student but feels that he would rather return to the pastorate of some church. He may be addressed at 1304 Gambrell St., Fort Worth, Tex.

Pastor J. T. Elliff, Lake Village Church, reports on a recent revival led by Dr. Selsus Tull, Jackson, Miss.: "The favorable comments on Dr. Tull's preaching while here would be too numerous to mention but it is sufficient to say he greatly contributed to our stability and spiritual discernment as Christians. I thank God that a man with such a rich experience and such a forceful message is preserved for the good of our churches."

Chaplain Kyle R. Lawrence has been released from military service after a period of two years and eight months, fifteen months of which was spent in Europe. He and Mrs. Lawrence expect to attend Southwestern Seminary second semester. Until that time they will be located at 267 Pine Street, Memphis, Tenn.

"I am a Gospel singer and will be available for revival work beginning February 3. For reference anyone may write Dr. M. M. Barnett, Missouri State Evangelist, Baptist Building, 1023 Grand, Kansas City, Mo., or Rev. Lloyd R. Simmons, Evans Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex." —J. Thurman Williams.

Arkansas gave \$10,215.76 to Southwide funds in November according to the monthly report of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. Of this amount \$9,477.35 went to the Cooperative Program, \$624.56 for designated causes, and \$113.85 to the Centennial Offering. Southwide total was \$409,591.14.

## PASTORAL CHANGES

Guy Magee from Dell Church to First Church, Carlisle.

L. G. Scott from Clear Lake Church, Blytheville, to First Church, Marmaduke.

B. N. Simmons from Springhill, La., to First Church, Siloam Springs.

Jeff Rousseau from Monument, N. Mex., to Greene County Association as missionary.

Vernon E. Yarbrough from Greenwood Church, to First Church, Wylie, Tex.

Pastor Paul Fox, Immanuel Church, Bluff, is in a hospital in Knoxville, Tenn. from injuries he received in an automobile accident near there December 18. He enroute to Morristown, Tenn., to visit his parents when the accident occurred.

Evangelist McKinley Norman, Dallas, Tex., filled revival engagements in four states during 1945. His last two meetings were at the West Florissant Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., resulting in 34 additions, nineteen baptisms and Hillcrest Church, Dallas, in his third revival of the year, resulting in 44 additions, 27 for baptism.

**Wanted: Capable young woman with stenographic experience to work in Baptist headquarters office. Address: T. J. Editor, Arkansas Baptist, Little Rock.**

Despite what they have suffered during war many overseas soldiers are mission-minded and a number are ready to give their lives in carrying Christianity to the Japanese and others. Pastor Dale McCoy, First Church, Cabot, has received a letter from a young serviceman stationed in Takasaki, Japan, which he said, "If any nation ever needs Christ it's this one. I'd be willing to stay here for years if I knew it would be worth it in the sight of God. I have recently fallen in love with a man who is the only Christian in my part of the country. He was kept in prison all during the war because of his belief. He can teach him a lot about Christianity."

Three former students of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary who left the Seminary to volunteer for service in the armed forces of their country and who lost their lives in World War II were honored at a convocation opening the second term at the seminary. Certificates of esteem and appreciation have been presented to the families of the men: Captain (Chaplain) Clarence Stump, Missouri; Lieutenant W. B. Parson, Jr. (Infantry), Arkansas; and Bombardier Jesse D. Franks, Jr., Mississippi.

## 1,000 at Youth Rally

Dr. R. G. Lee, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, brought his sermon "Pay Some Day" to more than 1,000 representatives of Baptist Churches of Greater Little Rock at a Baptist Youth Rally Friday, December 28, at First Church, Little Rock.

Music was directed by Gale Dunn, Second Church, with Miss Velma Jean Venable playing the organ and Mrs. David T. Lee at the piano. Dr. Lee was presented by Rosalea Webster, president of the Youth Committee to plan programs for such rallies.

## Tennessee Baptists Assume Control of Third College

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has voted to assume control of Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tenn., and merge with it the Tennessee League for Women which has been located at Murfreesboro.

Cumberland previously was an independent of the Presbyterian Church but under a dependent status the past year has been able to meet requirements of accrediting agencies. In accepting the university the Tennessee Baptists agreed to see that the college meet these requirements, primarily through increasing the endowment to \$5,000,000.

This is the third senior coeducational college of Tennessee Baptists, others being Union-Newman College and Union University.

# Southern Baptist Evangelistic Zeal Increases, With High Hopes for 1946

By FRED C. EASTHAM, General Director  
Southern Baptist Centennial Evangelistic  
Crusade

We are delighted to give you herewith a tentative estimate of the number of souls won during our Centennial year. We have received letters from our state secretaries, directors or other state leaders, representing all but four of the states comprising our Southern Baptist territory. Together, these present a fine picture of the united effort, the earnest cooperation, the zeal and the vision of Southern Baptists. We glean from these letters that our people feel they have just begun to work toward the accomplishment of this great undertaking, and that in 1946 we will win one million souls to Christ.

We have had letters from Arkansas, Illinois, North Carolina and South Carolina, but as yet they are not prepared to make a report. We have had no word from Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri or Texas. We share with you here an excerpt from each of the states reporting to us.

From Alabama, the secretary writes: "The Crusade has done much to stimulate the spirit of evangelism. The indications are that next year will be a very fruitful year in this respect, and we will continue to press the cause of evangelism."

We have an interesting report from the comparatively new work in the Western states of Arizona, California and New Mexico, where Rev. Fred A. McCaulley has just been elected general field worker. Rev. Willis J. Ray, secretary for Arizona, has written that they report 448 baptisms this year, and ten new churches; however, "we have had more than 1,000 professions of faith, but it is very difficult to baptize all of the new converts in this pioneer territory." Let us bear in mind that our goal was a million souls won to Christ, not a million baptized.

California's director, Rev. John O. Scott, states: "We know that there is much gain over last year both in finances and soul winning. You understand that we have a very small beginning here, and the possibilities are not so plentiful, neither are they as easily won as in the Southland. But in spite of everything we are having some great ingatherings."

New Mexico reports a large increase in the number of souls won, and Rev. Harry P. Stagg, secretary, says that much of the work of this year will continue to bear fruit into the future.

The annual report of the Evangelistic Committee of Washington, D. C., reminded its convention that "evangelism is the proclamation of the love and redeeming grace of God for the lost," and the added emphasis on evangelism this year resulted in the greatest ingathering into their churches in the history of their convention. However, it states, this does not represent anything like what our pastors and churches could do if they had the lost multitudes truly upon their hearts.

From Florida, Recording Secretary M. D. Jackson writes that the nineteen associations, of the 35 total, reporting thus far, show a total of 6,164 baptisms, which in comparison with previous years, should mean a substantial gain when all letters are in this year.

The splendid figure Rev. James W. Merritt,

secretary of Georgia, reports from the compilation of associational letters, is 21,057 baptisms for the year.

From Kentucky comes word that the Crusade has been a tremendous success, and partial reports indicate a considerable gain in baptisms over last year, totalling probably 25,000 to 30,000 baptisms for the associational year.

Dr. W. H. Knight of Louisiana assures us of his cooperation for the program of evangelism, and states that the Louisiana Convention heartily accepted the suggestion of maintaining and strengthening the Centennial Crusade organization to press even harder in 1946 for evangelistic results.

Oklahoma has had a glorious year, with all 33 district associations giving a grand total of 15,212 souls won in 1945 as compared with 12,422 in the last associational report for Oklahoma. In their recent convention, they launched an all-out spiritual program for 1946, desiring to increase the number of baptisms 100 per cent in the new year.

Although Tennessee's report is not final, their record shows 23,683 baptisms to date, and we will have further word from Rev. C. W. Pope, secretary.

Rev. H. W. Connelly, director for Virginia, writes enthusiastically that the Centennial effort has meant a great deal to the churches of Virginia. "Evangelism and enlistment have had fresh emphasis in all our associational meetings. A number of new churches and Sunday Schools have been started. One encouraging factor is that of the churches reporting thus far, only nine per cent have had no baptisms so far this year, as compared with 25 per cent in the same group last year.

In conclusion, we have a fine report from Dr. Porter Routh, statistician for Southern Baptists. Associational letters in his office to date do not include Arizona, California, District of Columbia or Maryland, but the 188 letters at hand indicate 250,102 baptisms. On the basis of the figures available, Dr. Routh

estimates 261,132 baptisms for all states, as compared with 218,223 baptisms reported in 1944.

He states: "The report for the calendar year will probably be above the report for the associational year, but it will be impossible to give an accurate picture of the total gain. However, when you consider that the estimated gain in 1945 is 42,000, or nearly three and one-half thousand per month over 1944, you can estimate that the total for the calendar year will run 12,000 to 15,000 above the estimate for the associational year."

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## Interim Editor

Former Arkansan T. W. Croxton, pastor at Sedalla, Mo., is interim editor of the Word and Way, Missouri Baptist publication, pending the election of a permanent editor. The paper has been privately owned by Joseph E. Brown, successor to his father, the late S. M. Brown, founder. It was purchased by Missouri Baptists effective January 1, and is now owned and controlled by the Missouri Baptist General Association. The transfer of this paper leaves only one privately owned state Baptist paper in the South—the Religious Herald of Virginia.

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## Influence

The auditorium was crowded and the people were attentive, especially one twelve-year lad. His eyes were dead-set on me, the preacher.

I went away from the service knowing that he would grow up to be president or something.

In the evening after Training Union he said to me, "Do you see anything different about me?"

"No," I said, "All I see is that you will be a great man some day." He had paid attention to me, you know.

"Shucks," he answered, "can't you see that I have parted my hair in the middle just like yours?"

And that is what he had learned from seeing me preach.

So it goes.

—Albert McClellan.

## Arkansas Chaplain, in Korea, Writes of Our Unmistakable Mission Obligations

Chaplain Clyde C. Godfrey, with the 63rd Infantry, Sixth Division, in the occupation of Korea, writes:

"In this far off corner of the world I enjoy reading the Arkansas Baptist second only to letters from home.

"Out here one really can see the need for missions, and appreciate the work that our missionaries have already done. The need is so great the fields are white unto harvest. I can see what it would mean to live in a non-Christian country. It makes me want to say to the folks back home, 'Awake, awake, get up and shake yourself and do what you are capable of doing to spread the good news of salvation to all men, beginning at home.'

"In the occupation of Korea, we have men spread out over a lot of territory; therefore, I have to drive around a lot to have services

for all of them. Consequently, I see much of the country and the people and their way of life.

"The Presbyterians have a good work here that is fairly substantial. It was started some forty years ago. But the whole of the society is not Christian in the sense that we know it. Until we see life in a non-Christian plane we can't come to appreciate what Christ has done for man in not only saving his soul from hell, but in saving his life in this world from darkness and superstition.

"Everyone here is impressed with the fact that life is cheap. Womanhood is in slavery and bondage. If our women could see the condition of women here I think that first they would fall on their knees and thank God then pour out their hearts to God to send a revival that would start in America and sweep around the world."

## TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR PREACHERS

By J. W. STORER  
In The Quarterly Review

### I.

Make sure your experience of things present is an actuality. Let the bewhiskered illustrations severely alone. If you say it happened to you—be sure it did! You will never need to worry about being a second-hand personality if you are possessed by a first-hand reality.

### II.

Beware of de-humanizing yourself on Sunday—especially from 11 a. m.-12 noon. Most cases of "clergyman's sore throat" are caused by a holy whine or wholly yelling. Pounding the pulpit is not expounding the Gospel.

### III

Guard as Horatio at the bridge, the solvency of your financial affairs. More preachers have been felled by bad financing than by "ardorous" femininity.

### IV

Major on Christian affirmations. These are not the days for apologetic uncertainties in things pertaining to the souls of men and God's grace on their behalf.

### V

Do not stifle your sense of humor—it is a pledge of sanity in the ministry. But keep it under control—a buffoon in the pulpit is an abomination to God and man.

### VI

Watch your personal appearance; what Jude calls "spots in your feasts of charity" should never describe your necktie. And take care that Job 17:1, King James Version, is not true of you.

### VII

Do not preach too long; it is easier to be prolix than it is to be proficient, the nearer empty is a fountain pen the faster it runs. And remember you can always tell what kind of wheels are in a man's head by the spokes that come out of his mouth.

### VIII

Read widely, but wisely. Never bother with the "book of the month"—usually a month is all it lasts. Ahead of all books—know your Bible!

### IX

Practice mental and spiritual concentration: you can discipline your mind so that it will be possible to hear His voice above all the welter of audibles.

### X

See that you do not get mixed up in too many good things. While it is true the world wants preachers to be "good mixers," it is likewise true that God wants them to be good separators.

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Ninety per cent of this year's students at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, have attended college, records in the registrar's office reveal. Of this number, 65 per cent are from Baptist colleges, a drop of ten per cent in this category as compared with the average for recent years. Twenty per cent of the college men come this year from state schools and fifteen per cent from schools of denominations other than Baptist.

Dr. Kyle M. Yates, pastor of the Walnut Street Church, Louisville, has accepted the pastorate of Second Church, Houston, and is expected to begin his new ministry the first Sunday in January. Dr. Yates formerly was professor of Old Testament interpretation at Louisville Seminary.

## Dr. Bridges Will Speak At Southern Seminary

Dr. B. L. Bridges, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, will be the honor guest at a banquet in Louisville, Ky., on Monday night, January 14, given by the Arkansas group attending the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Woman's Missionary Union Training School. The following day, Dr. Bridges will speak at the regular chapel exercises of the Seminary.

Three Arkansans enrolled at the Seminary with the opening of the second term, November 26: Dale Taylor, formerly of the business staff of Ouachita College, and Ernest Lee Holloway and Frank Pitts, who received their discharges recently from the army. This increases to 31 the number of ministers from the Wonder State now at Southern. Omitted from the list published recently in the Arkansas Baptist were the names of Thomas Lindley, Pine Bluff; Ed Tull, Jonesboro, and J. R. Dobbins.

The program given at the monthly meeting of the Arkansas club, December 12, included the singing of Christmas carols; scripture reading by Carl Overton; a vocal quartet by T. N. Shaddox, John Ed Steely, Ernest Lee Holloway, and Mr. Overton; a reading by Mrs. Holloway; and a solo by Mrs. Edmund Walker.

—Erwin L. McDonald.

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## "Did You Say That Was My Circular?"

By A PASTOR

We were discussing reducing our mailing list from a thousand families. One criticism was that the patrons threw away the church paper before they left the postoffice. The pastor urged that it continue to go to every prospect in the Sunday School. It was from prospects in the Sunday School and elsewhere that the growth must come. It was the absentee member that needed the contact and the paper most.

The pastor pleaded for time and a thorough test as to whether they were thrown away. On a careful check the following two weeks only two papers out of the thousand were found in the postoffice waste basket. Pretty good average.

The pastor sought out a prominent advertiser. "Mr. Reese," he said, after telling him his problem, "You scatter your circular advertising drugs on my porch every Friday. I do not read it. I wish you wouldn't do it. It litters up my porch. But you have some reason for doing it. It must pay you. What is it?"

"Did you say that was my circular on your porch?" he queried.

"Certainly," I answered.

"How did you know that it was my circular?" he asked with a smile and a twinkle in his eyes? He saw that I got the point.

"Yes," he said, "we feel that we will do well to get a fourth of the people to read the circular. And you along with three-fourths of the folks will throw it away. But I will tell you one thing that you will do before you throw it away. You will look to see who it is from. When you saw my store's name I got my money's worth."

I wonder when a family takes the Arkansas Baptist out of the box and lets it lie about

the house, if we do not get our money's worth just in the reminder about church, God things religious? Is it worth two cents to invite a prospect to services? The rest is pr

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## Southwestern Bible Conference Planned

Dr. M. E. Dodd announces the 32nd annual session of the Southwestern Bible Conference to be held in First Baptist Church, Shreveport, January 13-20. In making this announcement Dr. Dodd says: "The Bible continues to be the supreme source of instruction and inspiration for every Christian. An opportunity to study it under such outstanding able expositors, teachers and preachers as will be heard during this Bible Conference is one that every Christian will want to take full advantage of."

Among the speakers announced are Dr. M. Yates, Dr. W. H. Rogers, El Paso; Dr. H. Knight, Shreveport; Dr. J. D. Grey, Orleans; Dr. E. L. Carnett of the Southern Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; Duke K. McCall of the Baptist Bible Institute, New Orleans, and others to be announced later. Mel and Ruth Dibble, nationally known song leaders of Philadelphia will have charge of the music of the conference.

Sessions will be held from 10 to 1 o'clock each day and from 7 to 9 o'clock in the evening. Panel sessions will be held under the direction of the most capable teachers for pastors, (2) pastors' wives, (3) for church members, (4) for chorister, choir leaders, (5) for ushers.

All active ministers and their wives are invited to attend this conference as the guests of Shreveport Baptists, to be entertained at the Harvard plan, bed and breakfast. All those expected to attend are asked to notify Mr. K. Walker, Box 16, Shreveport, La.

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## Japanese Ask for Two Million Testaments

The telegraphed appeal of Japanese Christians, through a veteran Southern Baptist chaplain, for two million copies of the New Testament, in the Japanese language, one of the features of a recent meeting of the advisory council of the American Bible Society, held in New York City.

Sixty thousand copies of the New Testament in Japanese have already been shipped on their way to Japan and plans are being made to send an additional 400,000 as they can be printed and additional copies obtained. Returning visitors from Japan report that the demand for the Scriptures is so great that a small New Testament which sold for five cents in Tokio, now sells for \$3.75.

It was reported that more than twelve million Scriptures in all languages were distributed by the American Bible Society during 1944. The Bible is now published in 150 languages. More than six million Testaments were distributed to men in the services.

Southern Baptists gave more than \$1,000,000 for this work through special offerings to the American Bible Society for the twelve-month period ending November 31, 1945. This amount was exceeded only by the Lutherans and Methodists.

—Porter R.

# When A Church TAKES STOCK

WILLIAM P. PHILLIPS  
Baptist Sunday School Board

Introspection or self-examination, taking stock of oneself is an interesting procedure. Likewise is it true with business concerns and institutions. Such process is sometimes indicated as "taking stock." This is effected in order to discover one's assets or capital. It provides an accurate picture of the true condition, and in some cases, the solvency of the business or institution. It is thus enabled to determine its capital.

In the case of a church our concern would not be its financial condition, but rather its membership which is really its capital stock. Its members are its true and real assets. There should be no liabilities. But in all too many cases great numbers are just that, perhaps through no fault of their own.

## 1. Its Church Roll

Like the merchandise on a merchant's shelves and counters, when a church proceeds to take stock, its source is its roll of church members. Out of an extensive and varied experience in the study of church rolls it is interesting the way some churches keep them. Often it has been said, many are "wonderfully and fearfully" kept. Some are difficult to locate.

The manner in which they are kept varies. Some churches have the record of members in a book; others in a card index file. It is not so much how but the accuracy of the roll of members.

Keeping up with the membership of a church is a vital and difficult task. In small churches it is usually left to the church clerk. In larger churches where there is an office and a secretary it is done by such worker in cooperation with the church clerk.

The record of church members should include all information about each individual necessary to proper contacts and essential ministries of the church and its several agencies to him. Periodically the church clerk or secretary, together with the pastor and a committee selected for this purpose, should study the roll of members, making necessary corrections as to addresses and various relationships.

The church's record should be so kept as to indicate the member's relationship to Sunday School, Training Union, W.M.U., Brotherhood, and financial support of the church. Death, removals, dismissals, marriages, or any other changes should promptly be noted. The Sunday School and other church agencies should possess an accurate list of names of resident church members not identified with these agencies. A separate roll of non-resident members should be kept and every effort should be made to contact them periodically and their addresses kept up-to-date.

## 2. Its Neglected People

The members of churches who are non-resident are a sadly neglected group. "Out of sight—out of mind," surely characterizes the attitude of our churches toward them. Very few of our churches likely ever contact them. They are gone and mean little or nothing to them. Their names are transferred from the active roll and are "dead" as far as the church

is concerned. Those in sight are their only concern.

An experienced church secretary states that churches which keep in touch with their non-resident members have a high percentage of requests from them for letters in order to affiliate with a church in their new community.

Some churches periodically write them expressing the hope that their absence is only temporary, sending them the church bulletin regularly. They are regularly urged to affiliate with a church in the community there if their removal is permanent. These contacts with them is a vital ministry and should definitely be maintained. It is a reminder to them of their Christian obligation and stewardship.

Then there is the large group of resident members unidentified with any of the church's ministries. Unless identified with some agency of the church little is known about them. Other than the non-resident members, they are perhaps the church's most neglected group. The pastor cannot contact all of them. Unless the responsibility is assigned to some church agency there is little chance of it being done. Likely this agency should be the Sunday School.

One church through its Sunday School went after its resident members for Bible study. It was discovered that one of them had joined a church of another denomination and was serving as the superintendent of its Sunday School. At one time or other these inactive and drifting members were joyously received and welcomed into the membership of our churches. Too long we have neglected them. Our churches need to take stock of these neglected people. Membership in the Sunday School is the surest guarantee of their enlistment in other phases of church life.

## 3. Its Immediate Responsibility

Few church buildings today could adequately house and care for their own resident members who are not enrolled in Sunday School. Yet many of these churches undertake an enlargement campaign with a religious census. Every church should take a religious census once a year in order to know its total

possibilities and responsibility. Only in this way can the unsaved people and unaffiliated church members be located. Also a census helps to locate many resident members who have been lost track of due to removals and incorrect addresses.

However, as helpful as a census may be any church that will definitely take stock of its church roll will surely find more of its members who are not enrolled in its Sunday School than its present building could house were they to attend.

One church participating in an Inside Enlargement Campaign discovered that 342 of its 762 resident members were not members of its Sunday School, the enrolment of which was 670. The enlistment of the 342 resident members in Sunday School would mean a 50 per cent gain.

It has been demonstrated regularly that since fully 95 per cent of these unenlisted church members are adults, their enlistment means the coming of one other for every one reached and enrolled. Herein lies a superlative opportunity for Sunday School enlargement by reaching those of our own who sustain an obligation and stewardship to their church unlike those on the outside. But this obligation will never be discharged until these members are enlisted in Bible study. Attention to these would seem to be a church's immediate responsibility.

## 4. Its Positive Assets

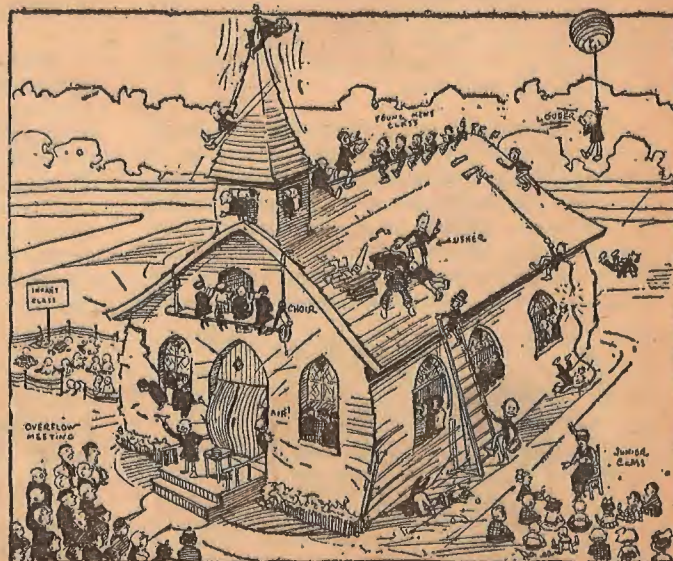
When a church takes stock of its membership, it will find that its resident church members who are not enrolled in its Sunday School are positive assets. Really, they are hidden assets. Rarely are they ever seen in any of the activities of the church. Occasionally they may attend the morning worship services, or perhaps they may be seen on such special occasions as Easter Sunday or Mother's Day. Rarely are they visited other than for a financial consideration.

It is wonderful to contemplate and analyze the "frozen" assets of one great church with two thousand resident members not enrolled in its Sunday School. They will continue to remain "frozen" until "thawed out" through Bible study in the Sunday School. It is difficult if not impossible to even estimate what Bible study would mean to these in the release of talent, money, and power for Kingdom service.

Our Sunday Schools cannot enlarge without additional officers, teachers, and equipment.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT)

Is Your Church  
Reaching All  
Its Possibilities?





## For Sobriety's Sake

A new Liquor Ad Crusade has been started. Annual conferences of church bodies have endorsed it. It is simple. It is easy. It is effective. Every temperance-loving friend may take part in this crusade.

All one has to do is clip from his local newspaper the liquor ads, and write across the top, "I object to liquor ads in your paper;" sign your name, and mail in an envelope to the publisher of the paper, from which the ads were slipped.

That is all there is to it. This is something all can do. Christian leaders from coast to coast are enthusiastic over the plan. Bring the matter before your group.

—The National Voice.

## When a Church Takes Stock

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN)

These hundreds of church members not identified with our Sunday Schools are assets that must be tapped before it can be done. They are our only available source of supply. Their interest and response will not be aroused until the need is seen. Bible study is really the answer.

In knowing who and where these people are and a visit to them is very revealing. There are abundant reasons for their defection. Those most patent are the inadequate and unattractive provision for them in our Sunday Schools, and the lack of interest and concern on the part of our churches. Great numbers of them are as able and even superior in any phase of church service, as those already enlisted. But they must be gone after and enlisted just as was done for those now in service.

### 5. Its Physical Needs

When a church takes stock of its membership, it provides itself with an accurate gauge as to its physical needs. In every instance when a church surveys its church roll it invariably discovers its inability to house all of its church members should they actually attend its Sunday School. This condition does not take account of the great masses of unaffiliated church members and non-Christian people in every church community numbering practically as many as the entire church membership. Our churches are as responsible for these as their own.

A church should measure its physical needs in the light of its possibilities. A survey of the church roll and a religious census articulates the deficiency of most of our churches at this point. Dozens of Sunday Schools in a survey of the church roll discover that fully 95 per cent of the church members not en-

rolled in Sunday School are adults. They would start more classes and additional departments so greatly needed for them but have not place for them in or out of the present building.

Today, as never before a church must take stock of its building in the light of its total possibilities and the trends and development for adults in Southern Baptist Sunday Schools.

It is wonderfully revealing when an individual or institution takes stock of its strength, powers, and resources. To Southern Baptist churches may I say, "Awake! Awake! Put on thy strength!" "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thy habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes."

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## Mission Tour in Hope Association

Hope Association sponsored a Mission Tour recently in which foreign missionaries spoke in nearly every church in the association. Enough churches across the Texas line participated to make up for the few in the association which were unable to make arrangements to take part. The missionaries spent three weeks in the association and gave from one-night to one-week programs according to the requests of the churches. They spoke in both white and Negro schools and in several Negro churches.

The program was arranged and supervised by Missionary Ottis E. Denney. Missionary speakers were Miss Jennie Alderman, South Carolina; Mrs. John A. Abernathy and Miss Alda Grayson, Fort Smith; and Robert F. Ricketson, Little Rock.

Contacts made during the tour totaled 7,251. More than \$229 were given to Foreign Missions Relief. Fifty-four subscriptions to The Commission and 24 to Home Missions were secured.

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## Baptist Missionary Decorated by Cubans

Dr. M. N. McCall, veteran Baptist missionary, has been decorated by the Cuban Government with the Order of Carlos de Cespedes for his work in that country.

A native of Georgia, Dr. McCall left a pastorate in Dalton, Ga., in 1905 to go to Cuba, and has worked in that country ever since. In recent years he has been superintendent of Baptist missionary work in Cuba.

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"When Admiral Perry anchored off the shores of Japan and issued his heavy-artillery ultimatum to open up or be opened up, Japan changed the methods and procedure but not the direction of her civilization," Dr. M. Theron Rankin, Executive Secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, stated at Baptist Bible Institute. "However, Japan has now begun the renovation of her civilization, thereby presenting the greatest challenge to the Christian world in the history of missions."

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World conditions are not altogether deplorable. On the spiritual and moral side there are unlimited opportunities. Baptist leaders in Japan are sending glowing reports of the change in Japanese thought. At the present Japan presents a wonderful opportunity for a national Christian conquest.—M. T. Rankin.

## B·R·O·W·N·S·I·N·G in the BOOK STORE

This week has been a busy one here. We are closed to take inventory. Everyone has been working hard even though it is a very uninteresting job. Four of our girls have been out with the flu but they are gradually beginning to come back. We shall be closed for business Wednesday, January 2.

We trust that this year is going to be a very fine one and that with our new quarters which we are to get next door, we will be able to serve the state much more effectively. The reason that our orders have become much smaller in the past is because we have so little stock in which to fill the mail orders. The new stock will be brought downstairs on the main floor where we will be more comfortable for our work.

The store will probably have more space for display of books. We do not plan to buy more furniture in the store but to simply rearrange more room to what we have. In this way we will be able to browse and to find the items that they want without bumping into other customers.

For the next week or two we want to show you the schedule as to our operations in the store. We believe that you will appreciate and understand our work here if you know the details of this.

We shall have four young ladies on the main floor to help us take care of trade orders that come into the store. Each one of them will be assigned in a certain section to keep up stock. In this way, definite responsibility is delegated and each one knows exactly what her responsibilities are.

The customers who come into the store are two types. They are either the customer or the charge customer. Then, of course, as soon as they charge the item, the particular bill goes to the girl who charged it. It begins its round in the office. Next she will explain how the orders are being taken care of in the mail. We believe that you will be interested in the details of this.

Have you ordered your Sunday Helps for 1946? We have a good supply on hand now. Everything is in the hands of TARBELL'S and it should be here soon. We will find listed the following which will help you in your study of the Sunday lessons in 1946.

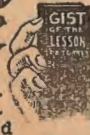
- DUMMELOW'S COMMENTARY ON THE HOLY BIBLE
- THE ABINGDON BIBLE COMMENTARY
- CRUDEN'S COMPLETE CONCORDANCE
- IRWIN'S BIBLE COMMENTARY
- PELOUBET'S BIBLE DICTIONARY
- WESTMINSTER DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE
- THE WESTMINSTER HISTORICAL ATLAS TO THE BIBLE
- BROADMAN COMMENTS
- POINTS FOR EMPHASIS
- PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES
- GIST OF THE LESSON
- SNOWDEN-DOUGLAS SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS
- ARNOLD'S PRACTICAL COMMENTARY
- TARBELL'S TEACHERS' GUIDE
- HIGLEY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPS

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# Ouachita College

*Arkadelphia, Arkansas*

Dear Friends of Ouachita College:

January 1, 1946

1945 has ended. 1946 is beginning. Thanks to you, 1945 was one of the best years in the sixty years of Ouachita College. The present enrolment of 540 will go beyond 600 before the second semester is over.

Of the 300 students in 1945 summer school, more than half were new students. We expect a still larger enrolment next summer. This will make a total enrolment for this year of more than 750 students.

From 1937-1944 Ouachita erected and equipped eight brick buildings free of debt. In 1945 Ouachita erected nine cottages for married ministerial students. We could have rented forty. The government is lending Ouachita twenty-five house trailers to be installed by January 28. Arrangements are made for a large number of government cottages to be moved here in time for spring or summer term. Trailers and cottages are for veterans and their families.

Christmas vacation was spent by a score of workers, some students, repairing, painting and altering Ouachita's two large dormitories. This much-needed work has been done with part of the \$30,000 coming from the Fannie B. Wilson will.

We dread to face the demand for dormitory rooms next September unless a new dormitory for women can be erected before that time. The Million Dollar Campaign calls for four buildings - two dormitories, a science hall and a library building. We are hoping to have the women's dormitory ready by September.

A large enrolment means very little except increased opportunities and responsibilities. If the friends of Ouachita College and Christian education will make it possible for Ouachita to admit more students, we shall do our best to meet our increased opportunities and responsibilities. The world was never in greater need of trained Christian leaders.

Sincerely,

J. R. GRANT,  
President

## Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Arkansas Baptist State Convention

209 Radio Center Building, Little Rock

Mrs. J. E. SHORT, *President*

Mrs. C. H. RAY

*Executive Secretary and Treasurer*

MISS MARGARET HUTCHISON

*Young People's Secretary*

### Ann Hasseltine Y.W.A.'s Give Liberally to Foreign Missions

Recently we published the goals for our college Young Women's Auxiliaries for their Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Reports are in: Ouachita College Y.W.A. gave \$136.26, a great increase over last year's though not quite their goal; Central College gave \$87.30, their goal being \$75. The University of Arkansas Y.W.A. gave \$63.70 passing their goal of \$50. Although the Baptist Hospital Y.W.A. set no goal, their first report was for over \$80 with more coming in. We look for good reports from the A. and M. College Y.W.A. The Y.W.A. of Southern Baptist College has remitted \$11 which surpassed their goal by \$1.

### Please Return the Borrowed

Misplaced: Dr. John Miller's Chinese suit and shoes. Please, whoever knows anything about this, let Miss Hutchison know. Many costumes, missionary objects and other aids for mission teaching are often lent from the WMU office with only the one request that they be handled with care and returned promptly. Many auxiliaries have benefitted by this offer and many others yet will. But it is embarrassing to come up without some object of some missionary. Please help me find this suit and shoes! Thanks. Young People's Secretary of WMU.

### Dixie Jackson Offering

We are rejoicing over the total receipts for the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions to date (December 28) of \$13,672.35, which is \$1,172.35 over the set goal. Gifts for this offering are still being received.

### Miss Mildred Matthews Honored for 25 Years' Service in China

A letter has come from our Arkansas daughter, Miss Mildred Matthews in Cuba, telling of the honor given her by Cuban Baptists at the close of her 25 years of service among them. Telegrams, letters, gifts and flowers were showered upon her as well as a service. The program for this service printed in silver and lavender, though in Spanish, by a deal of guessing on our part revealed that special music, prayers of thanksgiving for this faithful servant and speeches of appreciation from representatives of four different organizations made up the service. One song, a parody on a well-known hymn, was dedicated to Miss Matthews. The pastor gave a review of her 25 years of service. We are happy indeed to know of these expressions of love and appreciation and only wish we had realized this celebration time was here so we could have sent greetings, too.

### New Foreign Books With Teacher's Helps

For Intermediates, NEIGHBORS HALF A WORLD AWAY at 25c with free booklet of teacher's helps. Ask for this booklet when order is made at Baptist Book Store. For Juniors, HOW IT BEGAN, 25c, with a 5c WORK BOOK for the pupils. Order these as well as the texts from the book store. For Sunbeams, MAKE-BELIEVE VISITS, 30c, with free helps for teachers.

### Higher Forward Step Work

Those Girls' Auxiliary members who are expecting to be recognized in the Coronation Service at the Intermediate Girls' Auxiliary Conference at Central College, March

## Fred McCaulley to Work in West

Election of Chaplain Fred A. McCaulley as general field worker in New Mexico, Arizona, and California by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has been announced by Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary-treasurer.

A former Baptist Training Union secretary for Oklahoma Baptists, pastor in Texas, and publicity director for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chaplain McCaulley expects to begin his work January 1, 1946, Dr. Lawrence said.

The field worker, according to Dr. Lawrence, will promote Home Mission work in the three Western states with special emphasis on evangelism, schools of missions, and surveys of property.

Next year the mission agency expects to spend around \$100,000 in these three Western states, Dr. Lawrence said. Activities will include mission work among Indians and Spanish peoples, erection of church buildings, and the promotion of Baptist work among Anglos.

### Freeman and Caylor Accept

Dr. John D. Freeman, editor of

the Western Recorder of Louisville, Ky., has accepted the position of field worker in the rural department, Dr. Lawrence announced. He will begin his work February 1. Dr. Freeman was elected at the board's annual meeting on November 28.

Dr. John Caylor of Shreveport will assume the position of secretary of education of the Home Mission Board January 1, Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary-treasurer, has announced.

Dr. Caylor was elected by the board at its annual meeting in November. He will succeed Rev. Joe W. Burton who goes after ten years to Nashville where he will head a new department of home curriculum with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Home Mission offerings the first eleven months of 1945 have totaled \$1,383,000, a 25 per cent increase over the same period last year, Dr. Lawrence reported. In November the Home Mission agency received \$80,000, a 37 per cent increase over November receipts of 1944.

1-3, as Queens-with-the-Scepter or Queens Regent must send their work in to be approved by the State Young People's Secretary. Two girls who were to have been recognized last year but were not because the conference could not be held will receive recognition this year. They are Mayrene Baxter of Horatio as Queen Regent and Elizabeth Ward of Nashville as Queen-with-the-Scepter. All work must be in this state office by January 15 if recognition is expected at the March conference.

### Quibbling

By W. C. LANGSTON, M. D.  
University of Arkansas, Little Rock  
Shakespeare said "... the devil can cite scripture to his purpose." Greek philosophers argued long and vociferously on the question of whether 5,000 or 6,000 angels could stand on the point of a needle! A preacher once told my

father that he did not believe in this new-fangled Greek and Hebrew scriptures; he believed in reading the Bible just like it was "writ"—in "plain old English."

The hecklers of Christ often tried to get him to quibble but they never succeeded. Christ always looked straight through them and their devices and pointed out the truth. Truth can't be quibbled! They asked him about paying their taxes to Rome and he said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

When the 'meat of the thing' is right in your hand why fight over the husks? Why contend over the chaff and lose the wheat? We can't see the forest because of the trees! We argue about the form and lose the substance! Much criticism is directed at the church today; they say the church is not fulfilling its mission. Why isn't it?

## CENTRAL COLLEGE CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Distinctively Christian—a Junior College granting a college degree—Associate in Arts. The only college in Arkansas exclusively for girls. For illustrated folder, "The College for the Girl Who Cares," write: Ed. S. Preston, Pres., Box CE.

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# Religious Education

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RALPH W. DAVIS  
Training Union Secretary

MISS ROSALEA WEBSTER  
Student Union Secretary  
MRS. B. W. NININGER  
Church Music Secretary

EDGAR WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR  
Radio Center Building, Little Rock

## Happy New Year

As we come to the end of one year and begin another, our hearts are filled with gratitude to the pastors, educational workers and all workers in the Sunday School, Training Union and music organizations in the churches and to the advisers, leaders and workers among the students in the colleges throughout the state. This has been a good year.

We are hoping, planning, praying and working that the year 1946, which will be the first in a new era for Arkansas Baptists and the first in a new century with Christ for Southern Baptists, will prove to be the best year for Christ that Southern Baptists have ever had. That this may be so, the workers of the Religious Education Department re-dedicate themselves to Christ for all-out service during this coming year.

We pray that the new year will bring peace, happiness, contentment and prosperity to all who work together with Christ in the effort to reach the multitudes, for the teaching and preaching of the Word and the Training and nurture of all who profess to know and believe on Him. A happy and prosperous New Year to all!

EDGAR WILLIAMSON  
R. W. DAVIS  
MRS. B. W. NININGER  
ROSALEA WEBSTER  
MRS. GRACE HAMILTON

## Sunday School

### Baby Talk

An increasing number of Arkansas pastors are realizing the importance of making adequate provision for the Nursery Departments of the Sunday School.

Rev. Ralph Dodd, pastor of First Church, Stuttgart, gives a good report of the work of the new Cradle Roll Superintendent, Mrs. L. C. Carter, the wife of the General Superintendent of this Sunday School. In a recent Sunday School emphasis week, provision was made for three nurseries. Mrs. Andy Gunnell has charge of Nursery Nos. 1 and 2. She has assistants in both rooms. Mrs. Rodney Hagen and her assistants work with the three-year-olds in Nursery No. 3. They plan for four Nurseries when they build.

In a recent Sunday School Campaign at Southside Church, Pine Bluff, where Rev. Lloyd Sparkman is the pastor, the Cradle Roll and Nursery Departments were organized according to the new plan. Mrs. Frank Forgey has taken the work as Cradle Roll Superintendent, ministering to the babies in the homes. Mrs. James Crawford is superintendent of Nursery No. 1

and Mrs. D. F. Carpenter is serving as superintendent of Nursery No. 2. They are overcrowded now and realize the need of at least two more nurseries and have this in mind when they build.

Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff, has organized the Cradle Roll and Nursery Departments according to the new plan and Rev. Paul Fox is very enthusiastic about it. Mrs. Ira Stone has taken the work as Cradle Roll Superintendent and is enlisting visitors to minister to the babies in the homes. Mrs. J. J. Whitaker is the superintendent of Nursery No. 1 and Mrs. J. T. Scallian and her helpers have charge of Nursery No. 2, the three-year-old group. They realize the need of more space and have it in their plans for future expansion.

West Helena Church, where Rev. D. D. Smithers is pastor, has bought a nursery building next door to the pastor's home. This gives this church almost the whole block fronting on the main street for its new building program. Mrs. Anderson has taken the work as Cradle Roll Superintendent, and they have four nurseries in the house they bought. Mrs. E. S. Guyton and her helpers have charge of Nursery No. 1, Mrs. Walter Lloyd and her helpers, Nursery No. 2, Mrs. Earl Watson and

her helpers, Nursery No. 3 and Mrs. Gus Herrin and helpers, Nursery No. 4.

Miss Leatherwood says the Cradle Roll and Nursery Departments have two survival values: building a permanent constituency and winning the lost to Christ.—Mrs. Edgar Williamson, State Cradle Roll, Nursery and Beginner Worker.

## Training Union

### Have You Reported Your Study Course?

It is very likely that a number of Training Union Study Courses are held each year which are never reported. The records for awards for 1945 were closed on December 22nd. All churches are requested to send in their reports of Study Courses though you did not get them to us before records were closed. The Arkansas goal for 1946 is 15,000 Study Course awards. Every church should plan at least two all-church training schools for the Training Union.

### Intermediate Sword Drill Contest

The Intermediate Sword Drill Contest will be conducted at the Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, July 2-11, and the state winner will be eligible to represent Arkansas at the Southwide Training Union Assembly, Ridgecrest, during the summer of 1946. The Sword Drill is an exercise in handling the Bible, and the purpose is to help Intermediates develop skill in handling the Word of God. Every Intermediate in every Intermediate Union should be led to participate in the Sword Drill regularly. Write to your State Training Union Secretary for the Southern Baptist



*Southern Baptist  
Intermediate  
Sword Drill*

Intermediate Sword Drill tract which explains the rules and scriptures for the Sword Drill.

### Youth Week

Youth Week in Southern Baptist Churches has been set for April 7 to 14, 1946. A youth tract on Youth Week in Southern Baptist Churches contains the following paragraphs: "What Youth Week Is," "Preparation for Youth Week," "Duties of Youth Week Officers," "Procedure for the Week," and "Conserving the Results of Youth Week." Order this tract from your State Training Union Secretary and make your plans now for Youth Week in your church during the week of April 7-14, 1946.

### Youth Emphasis

If you are interested in helping the youth in your church or association you should write your State Training Union Secretary for the tract, "An Important Announcement Concerning Youth Emphasis in the Training Union." This tract contains two suggested programs for Youth Rallies which will be of great assistance to those planning programs for young people.

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## DID YOU KNOW . . .

That Southern Baptists own and operate ten colleges for girls, seven of which are located east of the Mississippi River? Mary Hardin-Baylor College is the only senior Baptist college for girls in six Southwestern states.

GORDON G. SINGLETON

# Baptist State Hospital Treats Average of 237 Patients Daily; Expansion Is Essential

This past year has been a year never before reached in amount of work done and patients cared for. The demands for service upon your hospital have reached unprecedented peaks and indications are that it will continue. New building additions and additional beds opened up has alleviated the situation but still has not met the demand.

During this past fiscal year, there were 1,121 patients and 86,380 patient days care rendered, with a daily average of 237 patients.

## Annex Opened

During the year the hospital acquired the old Shrine Country Club property with a view to making it into an annex of the hospital devoted to the care of convalescents and the chronically ill. During November, this has been opened for the admission of patients and all indications are that we will soon have it full and it should prove a success. Since there was included in this property 445 acres of ground, we are attempting to meet another need—a means of supplying your hospital with meat and produce, with an ultimate goal of establishing a dairy farm to supply us with milk.

We believe that this Pine Lake Annex will through the years be an increasingly important adjunct to our hospital property and well worth the investment that has been made.

During the year the Board has obtained the services of the Rev. J. F. Queen to be our hospital pastor and chaplain. We believe that we can safely say that his work has met with extremely favorable reactions. He serves as a counselor and gives spiritual guidance to not only the patients, but all those who enter our doors, and to all of the employees. Brother Queen is extremely well liked due to this tactful, understanding attitude. The longer he remains with the hospital the larger are the demands on his services. It is absolutely impossible for him to get around to see all of the patients, but he sees as many as he can. Requests are made throughout the state for him to come and fill the pulpit and tell the story of the hospital. This he does as often as he can.

## Space Is Inadequate

Demands for admissions to your hospital have taxed the clerks in the admission office and the business office to the utmost. They have held up under very trying circumstances in attempting to meet these demands or, if unable to do so, due to no vacant beds, in attempting to explain to the patient or the doctor why we could

*Excerpts from annual report of the Baptist State Hospital presented by Pastor T. K. Rucker, Malvern, at the 1945 State Convention.*

not admit them. It has been extremely trying at times upon them but we have tried to meet the situation as best we knew how.

We realize that many people have been disappointed in not being able to be admitted to the hospital but it simply could not be helped. We have always tried to admit the most seriously sick and have not given preference to anyone judged solely by their denomination, and certainly not by their financial status.

The hospital needs additional bed space, that is true. The hospital will continue to need additional bed space because it has grown and the demands are growing and have been growing for some years and in our opinion will continue to do so for years to come. Whether or not we can meet that demand and satisfy it, is a question for the Convention to decide and only the Convention can do so.

The challenge is there for the Baptists of Arkansas, and the Baptists of Arkansas can meet that challenge and accept it if they so wish. It is scriptural, and our instructions are to preach, to teach and to heal. To minister to the sick and afflicted is of grave importance and should occupy our prayers and our sincerest efforts. We can foresee a great place in our state, in our brotherhood, and in our work, for your hospital, and we would hate to see this opportunity pass us by.

## Profits Decrease

The hospital in the last year did a gross business of \$538,885.11, an increase over the previous year of \$46,000. Of this amount \$46,678.63 was for charity and discounts, and \$26,514.53 for bad debts. Our expenses amounted to \$428,925.59, an increase over the previous year of \$91,847.46. This was an increase of 11.5 per cent income over the previous year and an increase in our operating expenses of 27.2 per cent over the previous year. Our cost per patient day was \$5.51 compared to \$4.67 the previous year, an increase of 84 cents per patient per day. Our net earnings for the year dropped from \$122,615.19 to \$85,145.05. This amounted to 30.5 per cent under the previous year.

Construction on the Nurses' Home addition and the various

additions to the hospital has been completed. During this two-year period there has been spent \$256,600 on new construction work.

The Pine Lake Annex purchase and remodeling cost and equipment has totaled \$92,823.90. This includes the purchase price, the cost of improvements, the equipment for the annex, livestock, poultry, etc. From the above it can readily be seen why and where our cash balances have gone. However, now that all of this is out of the way, and if collections hold up reasonably well, and with our increased facilities for the care of patients, such as Fifth Floor East Wing of the hospital and the beds in our Convalescent Annex, within a reasonable time, we should be operating again very nicely.

At the last meeting of the Hospital Board it was unanimously voted to give free hospitalization to all ministers and their families. This motion was passed with the wholehearted approval of the medical staff of the hospital.

## Recommendations

We recommend that the profits of the hospital be used to improve the hospital and its equipment, reduce hospital cost to the patients, and increase the amount spent for charity.

We recommend that the Baptist ministers of our state urge their members to patronize the Baptist hospital and urge their doctors to bring them to Baptist Hospital.

## Preparation Brings Result

First Church, Lake Wales, Fla., Leon M. Gambrell, pastor, began preparation for a revival three years ago. When it was held recently more than 450 people responded to the invitations. Hyman J. Appelman was evangelist, Homer Britton was song leader.

First Church invited the Westside Baptists to unite with them in the revival and they joined heartily in all that was done. For a year the churches have observed 9:00 o'clock in the morning as prayer hour. Three months before the revival began the people began to pray more intensively and the week preceding the revival there were 25 special prayer meetings.

Advertising was done in every possible manner for two months before services began. The two local papers gave space for stories and pictures. Fifteen hundred large desk blotters with bold advertising were distributed. Large posters were used in store windows and on cars. Thousands of hand bills were distributed. Pastor Charles Crofton of Westside Church went up and down the streets and to neighboring communities with his loud speaker. Morning messages were broadcast. Results tabulated from a thorough and complete census were used. Letters of announcement and invitation were sent to the prospects.

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Correspondent Analyzes Significance of . . .

## THE END OF STATE SHINTOISM IN JAPAN

By **RICHARD T. BAKER**  
Religious News Service

**TOKYO**—Christians and Buddhists expressed gratification here over General Douglas MacArthur's directive ousting Shintoism as a state-supported religion and decreeing freedom for all religious sects in Japan.

Under the American commander's directive, the state can no longer use Shinto as a test of good citizenship, compel attendance and the offering of gifts at Shinto shrines, or teach Shinto doctrines in schools. The practice whereby officials visited shrines to report on public matters has been stopped. Shinto shrines in state-supported offices and institutions are now prohibited and must be removed immediately. Meanwhile, all religious discriminations are legally banned.

### Bulwark of Imperialism

Through skillful use of Shinto mythology and ethics stressing Japan's divine creation, deification of the emperor, and complete devotion to the nation as a primary moral tenet, militarists and ultra-nationalists erected an effective ideology to bulwark imperialistic schemes. It is this ideology of Japanese superiority and divine destiny to rule the world which is now being broken.

General MacArthur's directive prohibits the sponsorship, support, perpetuation, control and dissemination of Shinto by government and officials, separates militarism from Shinto doctrines, and closes it to Shinto teaching.

### Frees Religion

Shinto shrines which received public funds and compelled gifts from the people suffer a setback, but it is believed the purely religious aspects of the faith will undoubtedly prosper. Shinto priests, one of their spokesmen told American military headquarters, will gladly give up state support in exchange for freedom of religion.

A total of 112,970 shrines throughout the country have been receiving 2,500,000 yen directly from the state. This subsidy was insignificant, however, beside the huge gifts drawn from the people by compulsion.

State Shinto, which is really a form of spiritualized patriotism, is only 75 years old in Japan. It is a clever hoax whereby empire builders' propaganda has skillfully convinced the Japanese people that Shinto is inseparable from Japanese history and tradition.

### Shintoism Itself Continues

Shinto is an indigenous religion of Japan, while Buddhism and Christianity were imported. As a

simple faith Shinto stressed the myths of divine creation and morality and filial loyalty. Sectarian Shinto, of which there are 17,500,000 adherents, maintained this simple faith. Its doctrines are not molested by the present order. It is free and as legally protected as any religion in Japan today.

Shrine Shinto, however, by which the Japanese were trained to believe there is no difference between being Japanese and being Shinto, has had its wings clipped. After political phases of Shrine Shinto have been removed as ordered, adherents may form a legal religion of the faith remaining.

During the past 75 years Shrine Shinto, persecuted and eradicated sects of Shinto which taught doctrines varying even by a shade from the official government line, but these sects are most likely to show a strong revival, as simple faith is deeply rooted in the people.

### Christianity Gains

Christianity, being a minority religion with about 400,000 adherents, gains most from the new freedom and protection. Some Japanese correspondents hold that the new directives are an effort to encourage Christianity over Shinto.

Such is not the case. "All creeds, religions and faiths are placed on exactly the same legal basis," said Brigadier General Ken R. Dyke, chief of the civilian information and education section of Allied headquarters. "The Shinto sect will continue to enjoy the same protection and freedom as any other religion. Militaristic and ultra-nationalistic doctrines are taken out of religion. Shinto shrines that have a real religious following will be able to exist on voluntary contributions."

### Emperor Not Molested

Nothing is said in General MacArthur's directive regarding the emperor himself, who is the Shinto high priest and its focal point of reverence. But it was explained by Brig. Gen. Dyke that the emperor's private religion and his subjects' respect for him as head of the state is not molested.

As an individual, the emperor can go to Ise to report to his an-

cestors and make gifts to shrines, but Dyke indicated that budgetary control of the imperial household might restrain excessive grants from the emperor's funds to religious organizations.

### Shintoism a Military Tool Throughout History

Military-manufactured Shinto, dating from about 1870, claimed the Japanese were of divine descent and therefore superior, that the emperor came in lineal descent from the sun goddess and therefore had a divine right to rule all lands and peoples. These were the tenets the national government in 1875 drew up in ritual and creeds. No variance from official beliefs was permitted except by special permit. The Government issued textbooks and commentaries expounding the faith. The circulation of these volumes is now banned, and new textbooks will be prepared.

With this creed the government began the systematic indoctrination of all Japan. Priests were brought under government control by appointment, support, discipline and dismissal. Shrines were organized systematically from small local shrines to the chief shrine at Ise.

In 1899 the government banned all religious instruction in schools and then insisted state Shinto was not a religion and made instruction in its doctrines compulsory. Through textbooks, indoctrinated teachers, impressive ceremonies, all the threads of Shinto's nationalistic policies were woven in the students' minds, producing submissiveness in everything the government did. Thus, Shinto in Japan has been used to bring militarists to power easily and to lead the nation to aggressive wars.

The American command's sweeping directive was prepared on the basis of research made by naval Lieutenant William K. Bunce, former Dean of Otterbein College at Westerville, Ohio, and now in charge of religious matters in the section headed by Brigadier General Dyke.

## Letters to Editor

### Says Christians Are Greatest Criminals

I have read from many of our Christian papers and heard from many of our pulpits, "If Christians had been faithful to the cause of missions, we would not have this war."

If this premise be true, do not put us in a bad standing before God. As we stand looking upon the battlefields of the world, viewing the rivers of blood, flowing from the bodies of multiplied millions crying unto God against us, shall we say as one of old, "A my brother's keeper?"

The Hitlers of earth have made their millions in the flesh, making it too strong to say we are not only guilty as to the death of the body, but also of the souls of millions?

Peace is here and our boys are returning by the thousands. Churches have hoarded up millions while our boys were being and dying on the battlefield in a war that we have been responsible for, according to the premise from which we are making these deductions. We are planning upon taking this money to build to ourselves fine churches and Sunday School buildings, getting the open doors which have at this time. Who shall say where this money should be used? Since it has been placed upon God's altar, it is holy to Him. Should it not be used for the purpose for which Christ died?

I believe that many things have entered in to bring on this war. As the great Mississippi river has many tributaries, so this war has had many influences entering in to make it possible. I fully believe the neglect of Christian missions.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIFTEEN)

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# God's Eternal Concern for Oppressed People

## Assures Divine Deliverance for His Followers

By R. PAUL CAUDILL

With this lesson we begin a study of the history of Israel from the period of oppression in Egypt to the Coronation of Saul. The general theme of our study is "A Nation in the Making." This historical unit follows in logical sequence "Studies in Genesis," our topic during the third quarter of 1945. It is highly desirable that we maintain the continuity of these historical units even though they be divided in the cycles' schedules. In this particular study of the nation of Israel we find values of permanency given. It will be the purpose of these lessons, one by one, to bring to light these values.

### Bitter Bondage

Our lesson opens with the nation of Israel sighing and crying in the throes of bitter bondage. For more than 400 years they had been in Egypt, growing in number from seventy souls to more than 600,000 in all, men, besides women and children. There had been days of prosperity, but those days were gone, for "in process of time" the friendly king of Egypt died. An unfriendly king had come to the throne who was insanely jealous of the blessings that had come to the children of Israel. Taskmasters laid upon them grievous burdens and yielded not unto their cry for mercy.

There are few today who do not have or have not had their night of bondage. Sometimes the taskmaster is a specific sin, or an undesirable quirk of temperament, or an evil impulse that enslaves and robs one of his highest and best. Countless souls yearn for deliverance from the prisonhouse of self. That is why the experience of Israel reminds one so much of life today; their trials were so human, so close to earth, so like our own.

That which is of greatest importance, however, is not one's bondage, no matter how slavish and mean-spirited it may be, but, rather, the manner in which he reacts to his trial. The Children of Israel realized their own inability to cope with their problem and cried out to God. However far they may have drifted from His love and care, they recognized that their ultimate source of deliverance was God. To Him, therefore, they made their cry.

There is much for the church to do at this point today. So few know how to carry, in a satisfying manner, their sorrows unto God. More and more ministers of the Gospel, Sunday School teachers, and Christian workers should prepare themselves for counseling and give themselves over to this vast realm of opportunity with increasing devotion.

### Divine Concern

"And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them." These words tell us of God's concern for His oppressed people, Israel. But

they are carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof . . . the Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge." Or, consider His words to Joshua, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee" (Josh. 1:5).

And, again, the words of Christ remind us of this truth: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1). Jesus tells us that the very hairs of our head are numbered (Matt. 10:30) and that we are of far greater value than many sparrows, the fall of even one of which is not able to escape His compassionate concern.

### God's Deliverer

God did not stop with mere concern for His oppressed people. He translated His concern into a living reality. He prepared for them a deliverer.

The story of the call of Moses is familiar to all Bible students. God found him tending the flocks of his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, over on the backside of the desert near Mount Horeb. Unto him the angel of the Lord appeared in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush and laid upon his heart his holy calling.

Moses was not easy to convince or at least to persuade to accept his mission. But the words of the Lord must have given him the needed reassurance, for he said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people . . . I know their sorrows; And I am come down to de-

liver them." It was to be no draw victory. They were to have total deliverance.

The people of God can have deliverance today from their bondage of sin, if they will but turn to Him who is able to deliver. God's arm is not shortened, nor His strength abated, by reason of the years. He can still lead us out of our sorrows, bondage, and night!

As we begin the new year, let us resolve ever to be mindful of the fact that God is concerned with the oppressions of His people. No matter how far removed they may be from the path of right, His heart continues to ache for them when they are in the throes of trouble.

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### Letters to the Editor

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOURTEEN)

by God's people has helped to make these world wars possible.

We had better be very careful just how we use God's money which has been laid upon His altars. It is fine to exhort the individual Christians to be faithful with the Lord's money as he lays it upon the altar of God. But it seems to me if anybody ever should be faithful it is those who are in responsible places. They should use their influence to see that the Lord's money goes where He would have it go.

This holy money is His money. One dare not redeem it, take it back or divert it without meeting the disapproval of the Lord.

If we who are in responsible places be guilty just here we may cry unto God as we prostrate ourselves upon His altar as the priest of old did. He will say to us as he said to them, "I will not hear you." It seems to me there must be a repenting all along down the line if God is to hear and bless.

L. P. GUTHRIE, Little Rock.

### Sunday School Lesson

For January 6

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-2

they tell us more than this; they declare unto us the eternal concern of God for people of every generation in their hour of extremity.

It is true that the Children of Israel were chosen, appointed by God for a special ministry, that, in the providence of God, was to be worldwide in scope. In the call of Abraham (Gen. 12) God had expressly said, "And in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Moreover, he would say a little later "and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation" (Ex. 19:6). But it is of equal concern to God today that His child of every race and clime likewise find help in hours of adversity.

The Scriptures are replete with assurance of God's concern for our woe. Think of Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear though the earth be removed and though the moun-

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## 1945 WAS A GREAT YEAR

We have again passed out of a calendar year and it has been a great one. Our Baptist work has been sent forward in a splendid way. We will not be able to report on the exact amount of money received until about the tenth of January, but the amount has been large.

### *The Cooperative Program*

The Cooperative Program, the financial main spring of our work has yielded more in 1945 than in any other year. We have not quite reached our budget goal, but the receipts have been so much larger than in former years it has constituted a great work.

When the Cooperative Program succeeds, all our work succeeds. All the departments of our work have gone forward in a better way than ever before, they have had more money to pay the expenses of their work, and to use more employees, and the results have been gratifying.

One notable advance has been in the work of state missions. Dr. Whittington, the superintendent of missions, has set this phase of our work forward in a material way. There are more preachers employed as missionaries. We could do that much in 1945 because our financial yield for State Missions in 1945 was almost exactly twice the amount of money received for State Missions in the previous year. This made it possible for us to employ more men and to make larger salaries possible. Dr. Whittington is a great leader and he endeared himself more than ever to our people.

### *Southern Baptist Centennial*

This has been the year of the Centennial Crusade for Southern Baptists. The inspiration coming to us this year because of the blessings of the Lord upon us during the 100 years of organized work of the Southern Baptist Convention has brought us closer to the Lord. We have depended upon Him, and we have thanked Him more for His blessings, and we think we have worked harder, and we think the results have been much greater this year because of this inspiration than they would have been without it. The Crusade Thank Offering has been a blessing both to state and southwide interests. This offering has been over and above the regular contributions.

### *The Retirement Plans*

The retirement plans that are operating in Arkansas are in tiptop shape. Our Convention Ministers' Retirement Plan stands at the head of the parade of Southern Baptist states. If we were to make no gains at all in enlisting men, even then we could finance every annuity until the year 1958. But we will make other gains and we will keep years and years ahead in our possibilities of financing the annuities.

We now have twenty men receiving annuities through the Arkansas Baptist Conven-

tion Ministers Retirement Plan, and there are others that are eligible now to retire. These men who are receiving their annuities say that they are unable to realize what on earth they would do if it were not for the check that is coming each month. Any minister is making a very sad mistake if he is not joining the Retirement Plan whether he be young or old.

### *Our Honor Debts*

Another mark of progress during 1945 was the payment of some \$90,000 on our moral obligations. This gracious movement has not only brought the favor of God on us but it has also brought the respect of men and women throughout the nation to our churches and denomination. Up to the present time we have paid approximately one-third of this old moral obligation without hampering any of our work. Yes, it has been a great year for us.

### *Overhead Expenses*

We handled nearly one-half million dollars in 1945. The percentage of cost was a little less than three and one-half per cent. Our enemies falsely accuse the Baptist Conventions of taking more than ninety per cent for overhead expenses. Such a statement is purely false propaganda conceived in prejudice, nurtured in envy and repeated in jealousy, by those who are utterly ignorant of the great program of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. We further assert if the missionary labors that are interwoven with some administration expenses were detached from administration expenses the overhead expenses of our Convention work would be little more than two and one-half per cent.

Can you think of any other organization that operates on so small a percentage of the amount of funds it handles? This efficiency is the result of the cooperation of our churches who believe in the New Testament way of doing things and who cooperate with each other. If your church sends a contribution to a foreign missionary it will cost much more on a percentage basis than it will to cooperate with the other churches in doing this great work.

### **NOW FOR 1946**

It is good to look back over the journey which we have traveled, but we can not have time to relax and quit; we must go forward. 1946 must be the greatest year in the history of our work. Our Lord wants it to be the greatest, and we ought to give ourselves in earnest prayer that he may make it the greatest.

Our budget calls for larger giving and we ought to do it. We seriously doubt that our contributions in 1945 have been equal to our ability to support the cause. If we did not do our best in 1945 it will be difficult to square

ourselves with our God. The condition of world has demanded our best.

In 1946 we ought to make up some of 1945 failures. We ought to be better preachers, we ought to pray more fervently, preachers ought to preach more passionately and all of us ought to give more sacrificially.

### *The Cooperative Program*

As we have said over and over again must major on the Cooperative Program. It ever occur to you that when you support the Cooperative Program you are supporting our colleges? Did it ever occur to you that when you support the Cooperative Program you are supporting the Orphans Home? It ever occur to you that when you support the Cooperative Program you are supporting Foreign Missions, and Seminaries, and other causes that are wrapped up in the cooperative?

Did it ever occur to you that when designate some of your money instead of giving it through the Cooperative you are doing some blessed cause that is embraced in the Cooperative Program? Any Christian has the perfect privilege to give his money for anything. But there is nothing more blessed than cooperation in pooling our funds for equable distribution to the various causes which all of us hold dear.

### *The World Needs the Impact of Our Love And Labor and Intercession*

The world needs our assistance; the world needs our resistance. The causes that Baptists represent need our undivided support. If denominations would take care of theirphanage and hospitals and other institutions there would be very little need for a community chest.

Let us pray and work, let us fight the traffic in liquor and in other forms of immorality, let us preach Christ as the one and sufficient Saviour, let us preach repentance from sin and faith in Lord Jesus Christ God's ultimatum to a lost world. Let us reunify the churches. Let us offer Christ's Saviour to all who repent and believe. Let us make 1946 the greatest year, by the help of God.

### **Cullendale Strong for Mission**

First Church, Cullendale, did not increase its Cooperative Program twenty per cent in 1946, it increased it fifty per cent. E. Morgan is the aggressive pastor of this splendid church. Morgan is a missionary down his heart; he never asks what the Convention is doing for him or for his church. He knows that the Convention is simply a means through which his church responds to the will of his Lord to make disciples in all the earth.

"If Baptist Christians will only become concerned about winning the world to Christ as they were about winning the war, Japan and the world are ours."—M. T. Rankin