May 14, 1964

Arkansas Baptist State Convention
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On saying 'amen,' page 5
MARIA enjoys a refreshing glass of ice-cubed lemonade at the Edinburgh airport. Left to right Mrs. Donald Stephen and her mother, Mrs. L. H. Henriksen, and Mrs. Stephen.

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW, April 30.—This will be the longest day of the year for Maria and me (and for our friends from “Down on Bunker”—Clabe and Sal Hankins.) We are aboard one of Alitalia’s huge jetliners, more than 30,000 feet up, traveling 550 miles per hour, en route from London to New York. Somewhere along the way, as we fly over time belts, we’ll gain five hours. The gain normally would be six hours but for the fact New York has run its time up an hour for “daylight saving.” Already I have run my watch back from 1:25 p.m., the time it is in London, as we take off for New York, to 8:25 a.m., the time it is in New York. And we’ll gain two more hours between New York and Little Rock.

Thinking about the increasing speeds planes are being made to travel; Clabe says it won’t be long “till a feller can get on in London and make it to New York before he starts.” (Now you leave London at 1:25 p.m. and arrive in New York at 3:45 p.m.)

Today started leisurely enough for us, in historic and scenic Edinburgh, Scotland. After a hearty breakfast of kipper, for me, and sausage and eggs, for Maria, at our hotel, the St. Andrew, we were picked up, by Presbyterian friends Donald and Hilda Stephen and Hilda’s mother, Mrs. L. H. Henriksen, all of Edinburgh, and taken to the airport for the one-hour flight, at 10:30 a.m., by British European Airline, to London.

We had got to know the Stephens while they were in Little Rock recently for more than a year, during which time Donald was associate pastor of Westover Hills Presbyterian Church and Hilda taught in the Little Rock schools.

(Incidentally, Donald comes from “awful good stock,” being a member of the MacDonald Clan.)

These friends thoughtfully brought along a generous supply of ice cubes and a big bottle of so-called “lemonade,” giving us our first really cold drink in these three weeks abroad. For, in Europe, a “cold drink” is any drink that has not been heated. (Most homes do not have so much as an old-time icebox, let alone a “frig,” as they call an electric refrigerator.)

Although we had nearly two hours at the London airport before boarding the Alitalia jet, this time was largely consumed by all the checking in that is required, including paying the London airport tax (15 shillings each), and changing our British money, at the bank exchange, for good, old U. S. dough.

Seeing us off at London were two of our new Baptist friends from the London Baptist Association, Mr. and Mrs. W. Howell Lewis. Mr. Lewis it was who met us on our arrival in London three weeks ago. We had the honor of being in the Lewis home for tea and of having Mr. and Mrs. Lewis as our guides on a day of sightseeing in London.

One of the real values of travel is getting to make new friends—meeting people. We will be richer from now on because of friends we have made all along the way. In a number of cases, as with the Lewises, we have been in homes. But in multiplied other instances, it has been “as ships that pass in the night.”

Everywhere and under many and varied circumstances, we have found the people friendly and help-}

(Continued on page 4)

IN THIS ISSUE:

JON Kennedy, a member of Park Hill Church whose cartoons have often graced the pages of this newsmagazine, is the subject of an article on pages 6 and 7. We tell how Mr. Kennedy’s work is implementing the fight against one of America’s major problems.

DID you agree or disagree with the Editor’s thoughts on saying “amen!” in our April 23 issue? Whichever your views, you’ll find someone in agreement in our letters column on page 5.

SUPPORT a family and give full time service as a pastor for $35 a week! It can’t be done! Read the lead editorial on page 3.

COVER story, page 14.
HOW can a man serve full-time as pastor of a church and support himself and a family on a salary of $35 a week?

This is a question that came to me over and over as Mrs. McDonald and I visited Baptist churches in England, Ireland and Scotland.

With many strong points in their favor—they are ahead of us Southern Baptists in worship, church attendance, and per capita giving to foreign missions—the failure of churches to provide adequately for their ministers is one of the serious problems of the Baptist churches of the British Isles.

Seven hundred pounds (approximately $2.80 per pound) is about average, Baptist friends told me at all along the way, for a pastor’s salary. In addition to this, a home is usually furnished, and there is no income tax.

One of the interesting features in the London Daily Telegraph and Morning Post for April 21 was an article on family budgeting, by a pastor’s wife. Although the denomination is not indicated, the terminology seems to point to a denomination other than Baptist. But the economic facts are probably not too different from what they are in the average Baptist parsonage.

Possessed, fortunately, of a sense of humor, the pastor’s wife writes:

“Strange reasoning

A NEWS release out of Stockholm indicates that the thirteen bishops of the Swedish State Lutheran Church are considering whether or not the church should soften its stand on pre-marital sexual relations.

Calling for a new look at the Swedish Church’s pronouncement of 1951 that categorically branded pre-marital sexual relations as a sin is Carl Gustaf Boethius, editor of the Church’s official weekly publication, Our Church. Mr. Boethius argues it is “pointless” for the Church to continue to oppose pre-marital relations when they are indulged in by “at least 80 per cent of all young Swedes engaged to be married.”

He is reported to have cited statistics showing that more than a third of the married Swedish
mothers who bore their first children in 1960 had been pregnant at the time of their wedding.

"The only possibility the Church has of getting on speaking terms with young people is not to say no to what so many people do," Editor Boethius said in an interview.

This is strange reasoning indeed from a churchman. We wonder if he does not still have in his New Testament Romans 12:2: "And be not conformed [fashioned according] to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

When a church conforms to the standards of the world, it is no more, spiritually, than a country club.—ELM

Catholic increase

WITH Roman Catholics, membership increase is largely just a matter of natural, biological process. According to the 1964 Official Catholic Directory, published by P. J. Kennedy & Sons, New York, there are now 44,874,371 Roman Catholics in the United States—a gain of 1,026,433 over the previous year. The figure, as of last Jan. 1, includes all Catholics in the 50 states and members of the armed forces and their families in this country and abroad, as well as the diplomatic and other services overseas.

Baptists—and many others with us—believe the plain teachings of the New Testament that there is an experience called regeneration, or the new birth, that is necessary for each one before that one is eligible to join a church. This spiritual transformation takes place only through the power of God, in Christ, and through the exercise of faith in Christ by the individual.

One may be a Baptist, it is true, "because I came up in a Baptist home." But one of the major Baptist emphases is that far more than family and physical birth is involved. Who could grow to the years of accountability in a Baptist home without being aware of Eph. 2: 8-9: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that, not of yourselves: it is the gift of God; Not of works, lest any man should boast." And a person is saved by his own faith, not by somebody else—no even that of parents.

Baptist friends in Belfast, that part of Ireland that is still predominantly Protestant, predict that in a few years the Catholics will take over that part of the country by sheer procreation. One pointed out that there were only three children in two Protestant families living next door to each other, while there were 17 children in the next two families, both of which are Catholic.

Protestants may be majoring too much on birth control. But they have the words of life on what is required for spiritual birth:

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again!" (John 3:6-7).—ELM

Personally speaking

(Continued from page 2)

ful. As the old saying goes, "People are the finest folks in the world."

Look with me at some of our neighbors in this packed Alitalia plane. As you would know, since Alitalia is an Italian line, the crew and a big percent of the passengers are Italian. The elderly Italian couple who are my seat mates are going to Kansas City. We smile at one another and are obviously friendly, but we are separated by one of the great barriers that still remain in this jet-nuclear age—the language barrier. My communication has to be limited to "Welcome to America!" and "Kansas City O. K."

From one who speaks Italian and English I learned that this couple are immigrants going to Kansas City, where they have relatives, to make their home.

Just ahead of Mrs. McDonald, and across from me, is a statuesque, young African mother from Kenya, with and eight-month-old son, a good-natured goosing and cooing little fellow who does not know about another cruel barrier—the color barrier. He responds to his mother's caresses just the way any other baby responds to such loving. The mother, though from a remote land—remote to us, that is—speaks good English. She is traveling more than 24 hours by jet to visit African friends from Kenya, now in the United States. Her baby is one of twin sons—the lighter of the two, she says with a smile. The other baby is being cared for by her husband and her mother while she is away.

In the seat ahead of me is an attractive Jewish mother, fortyish, on her way back to New York and home after a several weeks' visit in phenom­enal Israel. She speaks English. Although a member of a race often despised and persecuted, she is most friendly and neighborly to everyone. She is enthusiastic about the miracles her people are working in Israel.

Time fails us to mention others. But the more we get to know people—all people—the better we can understand and appreciate them.

Edwin L. McDonald
On saying ‘Amen’

ACADEMICALLY, and probably in
intellectually, the repetitious use of the word “Amen” in our Bible would seem to be appropriate as a conclusion for the ritual. Experientially, a word used at the strategic points at which this word is so emphatically pronounced must have more significance than just a period at the end of a ritual.

“Amen” is a word of experience. Experience evokes expression. If this expression comes out spontaneously from the experiences of God’s people it would be an injustice for ritual to condemn this expression.

The Old Testament describes the “Amen” following the curses of the Law. (Deut. 27:15) The New Testament places the “Amen” following the blessings and promises of the Lord. There are those experiences which provoke the desire of my heart. The soul cries for it’s deepest desire. “Amen,”... “Let it be so!”... “This is what I want to happen.” Such pronouncements should evoke an “Amen” uttered vocally or quietly in the heart, when the plan, the purpose, or the will of God is proclaimed. “To Him be the Glory both now and forever.” “Amen.” ... I desire the presence of the Lord to come now and forever. This great desire cannot be concluded with a period to conclude a ritual. The heart must respond and this response may sometimes locate the lips to quickly say... “Amen” ... This is the desire of my heart!

My conviction and conviction is involved in the experiential “Amen.” Those great truths by which I must live and which grip my soul can hardly be concluded with a period at the end of a ritual. Do we believe that Jesus Christ is glorious both now and forever? Let the heart say it. Let the lips say it too! Is Jesus Christ present in the experiences of the soul and shall he be active in history? To this my heart must say “Amen.” My lips may say it too! This “Amen” must be the consent of the heart to the function of God in the experiences of man... “Amen.” The vital truth corresponds to the experience of my heart. I believe it and by this truth can I live. “Amen.”

There is the “Amen” of joy. Can joy be characterized by a period at the conclusion of a ritual? The crowning of the King once brought the public response of political subjects in a joyous “Amen.” Those truths to which the heart responds with joy can never be experientially indicated with a period at the end of ritual. The early Christian people were rejoicing people. The crowning of the King was a joyous experience. If there is joy in the heavens over one who comes to repentance there should be joy here on the earth. This great triumph of Christ over a life which, like Isaiah, is “undone” will evoke a joy of the heart. “God hath highly exalted Him...” (Phil. 2:9) When a man places Christ on the throne of his heart and sets forth to live under His lordship, it is too much to expect him to say the “Amen” of joy in his heart and allow the pressure of the ritual to suppress it. When the blessings of Jesus make the heart happy, to this the heart will respond... “Amen.” The lips may respond too.

There is, further, the “Amen” of resolution. “In the name of God, I will make it so.” The “good news” demands a response from the heart. Sometimes, it evokes response from the lips also. “With the heart man believeth unto righteousness. With the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Rom. 10:10). There are those claims of God which should come forth in the worship which present an invitation to sinners. A period at the end of a ritual is not sufficient encouragement to decision. In the benediction of 1 Peter (5:18), there is a voice from the heaven... “Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” There is also a voice from the earth too... “To him be the glory both now and forever... Amen.” In the name of Jesus Christ and according to divine instruction... “Amen!” I am resolved to make so!... The public worship, does involve others. The public which wills not want to bind themselves to the ritual in such a manner that suppression of those experiences which are evoked by the presentation of God’s message will be tied to a period at the end of a ritual! The heart may say “Amen,” give the lips the liberty of saying it too!—E. Warren Rust, Tower Grove Baptist Church, St. Louis

JUST a quick note to say, “Amen!” to your editorial on, “Amen.” One of my pet peeves is to have a preacher or anyone else try to coerce me into “amenning” something he says or does, and plenty of them try to do this.

Let me express appreciation also for the reprint of Dr. James’ article entitled “What Makes a Deacon.” We will be glad for you to “make the motion” and let our Texas editor second it.—Jennie L. Jones, Jr., BSU, Fayetteville.

A thank-you from Luck

AS you may or may not know, I have resigned from the faculty of Ouachita College to assume a similar position on the faculty of Mary Hardin-Baylor College in Belton, Tex. My work will officially end here Sept. 1, and on that day I will begin my new work there.

To some of you, this letter will be one of thanks for the very gracious way you have entertained me and my singers in your homes and churches, while on trips representing Ouachita during the past several years. It would be impossible for me to share adequately my feeling of gratitude for your hospitality and kindness both to me and to my kids on these occasions.

It was always a real joy to have fellowship with you and to present a portion of the most wonderful student body in the world you have.

To some of you, this letter will be one of thanks for the privilege which has been mine to share the most intimate concerns you have had for your children attending this school. I shall find it very hard to forget the times when we have discussed the inadequacies and inadequacies, joys and sorrows, and hoped and unimaginations we have had for your offspring.

To some of you this letter will be one of thanks for the way you have warmed my heart on many occasions with expressions of love and appreciation. The only recourse I have to you is to acknowledge here that without these many words of encouragement and faith my task would have been much more difficult. I trust that you will continue to give such loyal support to my successor.

To those of you in places of significant leadership in our denominational life this letter will be one of thanks for all of the untold hardships and sacrifices you have had to suffer in order that I might enjoy the continued hope and strengthening of the total program at Ouachita. None of us is “frustrated” but without this kind of allegiance to the school we could not continue to exist.

Finally to those of you who have attended Ouachita during my administration this will be my most personal statement of all. No teacher can exist without long without coming to the realization that his efforts are profusely futile if there does not exist a strong and virile student-teacher relationship. With some it has been almost like a father and son or father and daughter relationship. With others, it has been almost like a brother and sister relationship. I cherish more than you will ever know, the many wonderful and exciting experiences we have had working together for the common cause of promoting Christian Education on the campus of Ouachita College.—James T. Luck, Chairman, Division of Fine Arts, Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia.
JON Kennedy, a member of Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, has utilized his talents to lead a nationwide campaign against school drop-outs.

Kennedy, for 20 years editorial cartoonist for the Arkansas Democrat, is familiar to readers of the Arkansas Baptist News magazine as the artist whose drawings on Hot Springs gambling and drop-outs have been reprinted in numerous editions.

The wide distribution of the Kennedy cartoons began last year after a request from a student guidance counselor in the Baton Rouge, La., school system for a dozen of the cartoons which had appeared in the Democrat.

Mr. Kennedy printed a brochure to mail to school officials offering the series at a nominal fee. The response was immediate. Orders poured in first from Texas, then from other states. Every state but Nevada and Hawaii has subscribed. Schools have been joined by religious groups interested in the problem, by juvenile
courts, childrens' home and Rotary Clubs.
The largest orders by states have come from Ohio, Kentucky, Florida and California.
Mr. Kennedy is now busy readying two additional series—on smoking and safe-driving. Both are pointed to the youth of America.
The Kennedy editorial cartoons have been widely reprinted—in the New York Times, Saturday Review of Literature and numerous other publications.

Before You Quit School, Kid. Take a Good Look at Me.
Courtship, Marriage and the Home

The problem:

Teenage marriages

ONE day last week an hour of instruction in Counseling and Crisis Experiences was so down-to-earth, so applicable that I found myself fairly aching to have my beloved teenagers in Arkansas experience the hour with me. There was also a “yen” to have at least a part of it piped out to the parents. Because such an arrangement was out of the question, I resolved right then to share with you my notes on the lecture. Here is the performing of that resolve.

Subject: Teenage Marriages.

Problem: This year there will be 300,000 marriages of young people under eighteen years of age. 15,000 young people will be divorced during this calendar year—before they are eighteen years of age.

Causes: 1. Cultures playing up romantic love in such a way that it appears to be just sex.
2. Marriage as an institution has been glamorized.
3. Steady dating is encouraged—even by parents in some cases.
   The instructor, recently mingling with eleven and twelve-year olds on a certain school campus, listened to their talk of steady dating. Some of it is just kid-talk to impress the gang; but some of it is true.
   Instructor knows by survey and observation that many thirteens and fourteens are going out alone. By fourteen and fifteen they are real serious, not having dated anybody else.
   By 15 and 16 they feel they might as well get married—some of them must.
   Dr. Rutledge, instructor, feels that the urge to be big, mature is the strongest drive the teenagers have to cope with—stronger even than sex. Responding to this drive becomes an adventure. “The larger your repertoire of experiences, the bigger you are.”
   Kids have no need for the hub-caps they pick up, nor the money they take.

They do have a need to explore. They need help in shaping their understanding of what bigness is. Help in correcting the wrong image they have acquired of what masculinity is.

Picking up things is considered an act of courage and bravery. “They forget that even a dog can pick up things. Dogs are real sharp at picking up a bone and getting away with it.” (Dr. R.)

Marriage comes to be thought of as just another adventure, an experience to be added to the “repertoire.”

5. There is an appalling lack of training for marriage. Kids think they know—but they are doing a lot of bluffing. They have no concept of their places in life: a woman’s place, a man’s place.

They resent being thought of as children.

Recent counselee said that in a certain situation she “felt like a four-year-old.” “I always feel like a four-year-old,” she added.

At this point in the lecture I remembered a wise mother who at a certain period in her daughter’s life, said to her: “I salute you as a fellow-woman.” And she counseled and had good mother-daughter relationship with her, on the plane of a “fellow-woman.”

Resulting situations:
1. Educational achievements are curtailed. Some of the couples are college and university material, but marriage precludes fulfillment.
2. Economic circumstances strained. Good potential, but thwarted.
3. Sometimes economic limitations generate tendency toward crime.
4. Physical problems: girl fourteen is able to reproduce but not fully ready. Physical development is sometimes hampered by marriage and parenthood.
5. Social problems. Find themselves misfits. Marrying sometimes creates a block and even a tendency toward regression.

Here is a boy with good potential. He marries at sixteen. Five years later he is twenty-one. Boy who doesn’t marry at 21 has achieved progress and maturity. Married one discouraged by lack of achievement. Sometimes tends to grow less mature.


Teeners should be growing spiritually. Anything that stops growth is unfortunate.

Fourteen and sixteen marry; parents get them to go to church next Sunday. Find themselves not comfortable. Intermediates—maybe not good for the unmarried teenagers. They tend to identify fallacies in our organizational structure with Christianity and church. Become drop-outs.

What Should Be Done?
1. Church-centered marital counseling and pre-marital guidance stressed.
2. Provision of ways to channel their drives. Continuity and follow through of wholesome recreation.
3. Emphasis on good pastor-youth relationships and parent-patience in guidance.
4. More comprehensive planning, better motivation, and more effective follow-through and continuity in church recreational program.
5. Go over budget with couple insisting on marriage. Explain to them the high cost of marriage and family life.
6. Influence planning-to-marry couple to have a conference with (Continued on page 23)
THE VARSITY TEAM

BY J. I. COSSEY

DO you want to be a member of the varsity team on your ‘game of life’ gridiron? Those who make a varsity football game must know how to play the game and play it. If you would be on a baseball or basketball varsity team, you must want to play, know how to play, and be willing to put all you have into playing the game.

Do you want to play on the varsity team in the game of life? You don’t even have to play ball to get on life’s varsity team. If you do superior work as a preacher, teacher, business man, farmer, or in any other profession, you may achieve varsity rating.

You must launch from the bank, face your task, take a risk, dare to do, and you will be assigned to the varsity team.

A preacher may become a member of the varsity team as a pastor, gospel preacher, administrator, editor, or teacher, but he must play a winning game. Every ounce of his physical, mental and spiritual power must be turned loose on the task at hand.

Making the team of life calls for more than ability, it takes work and continued work. It takes work to get on the varsity team, more work to stay on the team, and still more work to have a winning team. Every Christian may make the winning team if he is willing to qualify for the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

A determination to make the first team is half the battle. You may be among the top dependable pastors in your association or State Convention or even in the Southern Baptist Convention. Personally, I want to be numbered with the dependables. I wish every preacher could have a top rating. If we preachers are not one hundred per cent dependable, what can be expected of others? If we determine to do top-rate work for the Lord, all the forces of evil cannot defeat us.

Challenge yourself to think straight, talk, straight, act straight, make friends, and be dependable for Christ’s sake. We must not be satisfied with less than top-rating.

Uncle Deak writes

Dear ed:
Ye know this is the time of year a lots a folks start slasin up in there givin. We decided this year we wuz goin to do somthin bout it tho. So we had a Demonstration Day, I think thats what they called it; last Sunday. It wuz a special day when everybody wuz sposed to bring a tithe of there income. It was a sorta “try the Lord” day I reckon. A lot a folks brung there tithe and sum started fer the first time. The Sunday before they passed out some Demonstration Day folders, tellin what it wuz all bout, and sum Demonstration Day money holders fer the people to put there tithe in. Ye know we usely get bout $100, but we got near to $160 yesterday. We’re sendin in a bigger check fer missions to.

Uncle Deak
ARE those who die in infancy saved? Roman Catholics teach that an unbaptized infant will enjoy a state of natural happiness, where it will know and love God; but “it can never see the Face of that God who created it, nor can it enter the Kingdom of Heaven for which it was destined” Manual for Nurses, Ostler, published by St. Anthony Guild Press with the Imprimatur of the late Patrick Cardinal Hayes). Hence their emphasis upon infant baptism. But this position is not based upon scripture.

Baptists and others believe that those dying in infancy are eternally saved in heaven. There is no specific scripture verse that teaches this. It is based upon the character of God as He is revealed in Christ. Luke 18:15-17 reads, “And they brought unto him also infants (brepe, babies), that he would touch them. . . [and Jesus said,] Suffer little children [pao-dia,] very young children, infants to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.”

The Bible teaches that Adam and Eve were created in innocence but with a tendency toward evil (Gen. 1:27; 2:7). It was not until their fall in their deliberate choice of evil that they became actual sinners (Gen. 3). Infants are born in sin in that they inherit the Adamic transgression or a sinful nature (cf. Ps. 51:5; Rom. 5:12-21). But until they reach the age of accountability, capable of making a personal choice between good and evil, they do not become actual transgressors. Both personal sin and personal salvation, are determined by the ability of self-consciousness and self-determination. Since an infant possesses neither he does not know personal guilt. Nor can he make a personal choice of Christ unto salvation. Therefore, up to the point of accountability or self-competency the atonement covers the sins of those who die before that stage of development. Thus infants and incompetents who die are saved by the grace of God in Christ.

This agrees with our knowledge of God as both just and loving. It coincides with Jesus’ teachings these qualities which exist in infinite degree in the human heart. And that which man possesses finitely, God possesses infinitely. We can trust the Judge of all the earth to do right (Gen. 18:25), and in keeping with His love and grace. Thus we may know that our little ones who die before they are capable of choosing Christ for themselves are “safe in the arms of Jesus.”

The preacher poet

A worthy wife

A wife is more than quips and sights,
More than ever meets the eyes.
There is a thing tho’ that applies,
Not just the way she makes replies;
How she, her office, magnifies,
Yea, what she handles, sanctifies.
A wife may not be greatly wise
How she, her office, magnifies,
Yet in pure goodness a true prize.
A goodly wife, who can despise
A worthy wife, who can despise
How she, her office, magnifies,
Yet in pure goodness a true prize.
And love for her, who can disguise?

—W. B. O’Neal

(Who speaks from experience: He’s lived with one for 54 years.)

ARKANSAS BAPTIST
ARKADELPHIA — Two men who made their contributions to Ouachita College in the 1920's, one as its president and the other as its all-time greatest athlete, will be given the Distinguished Alumnus award at the Ouachita Commencement on May 31.

They are Arthur B. Hill, Little Rock, who served three years as president (1926-29), and Carey Selph, Houston, Tex., who quarterbacked the Tiger football teams of 1922-25, during the period of greatest success.

After graduating from Ouachita in 1904, Mr. Hill was a public school teacher and administrator for 22 years. He taught in his native Union County and El Dorado, and served as principal at high schools in Texarkana, Hot Springs, and Little Rock. Between 1917 and 1927 he was at times director of Vocational Education and superintendent of Public Instruction for Arkansas.

Hill and Selph to be honored

He returned to Ouachita as president in 1962 and served until ill health forced his retirement in 1929, after leading the school through a period of expansion.

Mr. Hill served terms as executive secretary of the Arkansas Taxpayers Association, and was a commissioner in the Arkansas Department of Public Utilities. In 1931 he was made a representative of the Union Central Life Insurance Company.

Sports writers of his day rated Carey Selph equal to or better than any other college football player then in action. Where others did one thing well, Selph was a master at running, passing and kicking, and added outstanding field generalship to the combination, they said.

During his days on the gridiron, the Tigers met such major college teams as the University of Arkansas, Mississippi State, Baylor, and Texas. He led Ouachita to victory over the Razorbacks, 13-7, while only a freshman, and over Mississippi State 12-0, as a junior, and drop-kicked the field goal which tied the Mississippians the next year.

After completing his college football career, Selph played as a brilliant shortstop for Houston of the Texas League, and wound up his baseball career in the majors with St. Louis and Chicago. After crowding Hall of Famer Frankie Frisch out of the Cardinal second-base spot, Selph broke a leg during spring training and never regained top form.

He went back to Houston and as playing manager led the Buffs to a pennant in 1933. Once the league's most valuable player, he hit around .300 in his five seasons in the league.

After quitting baseball in 1933, Selph went into insurance business at Houston and quickly attained honor status by selling more than a million dollars worth of business several years in a row.

Selph was elected a few years ago to the Arkansas Hall of Fame.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FETED — Members of First Church, Camden, were weekend hosts recently to a group of foreign students attending college here. Refreshments were served at the home of Dr. and Mrs. John H. Miller before a sightseeing tour in the church bus. Dinner at the church followed. The international students performed during the evening and discussed their countries. A question on Christianity was put to Dr. John R. Maddox, pastor, who explained what Baptists believed. The students were special guests at Sunday School and morning worship services. (Left to right:) Onur Ali Akincliar, from Turkey, student at Ouachita College; Marshal Sheikhvand, of Iran, Southern State College; HoSoO Blum of Korea, Ouachita College; Eddie Allameh, Iran, College Heights A.&M. College; Michael Makoshlo, Southern Rhodesia, Ouachita College; Chavali Barazande, Iran, Southern State College; Dr. Maddox; Salim Nouvahar, Iran, Southern State College; and Dr. John Miller.

Foy leaves Helena

ALFRED Foy, who has served as minister of music and education at First Church, Helena, since November, 1961, has resigned to accept a call to Roxboro Church, Roxboro, N. C., as minister of music.

His resignation becomes effective May 31.

Mr. and Mrs. Foy have two sons, Michael and Barry.

Land to Tulsa

REV. David Land, who has served his second pastorate of the First Church, Barling, for the past 29 months, has resigned to accept the pastorate of the 800-member Phoenix Avenue Church in Tulsa, Okla.

Before coming back to Barling for his second pastorate, Mr. Land was pastor of Immanuel Church in Muskogee, Okla. Prior to that he served the Barling pastorate for two years and the Cedarville Church, north of Van Buren, for four years.—Reporter

DETON Hughes has accepted the pastorate of Pilgrims Rest Church, Independence Association. (CB)

MRS. J. D. HANCOCK, member of Pike Avenue Church, North Little Rock, recently was awarded the Approved Workman Diploma with red, blue, and gold seals for the completion of 20 required studies in the Church Study Course curriculum. Of the total of 40 books completed for these awards 30 of them were done in the Home Study Plan. Mrs. Hancock has also completed seven additional studies toward the Master Workman award. The award was presented by her pastor, R. H. Dorris

Paper wins honors

ARKADELPHIA—The Signal, student newspaper of Ouachita College, won the sweepstakes trophy and third place in general excellence, at the annual spring convention of the Arkansas College Press Association at Hot Springs April 27.

Ouachita student writers and photographers won five first places, four seconds, and two thirds to capture the sweepstakes for individual work.

Individual OBC winners were Linda Marie Davis, feature; Bobby Joe Howell, sports feature; Gerald Congleton, photography; and Carl Willis, editorial.

Butch Montgomery won second place in the sports column category, and Linda Mashaw won third in the sports feature class.

The Signal also won first in headlines, second in advertising make-up and typography, and editorial effectiveness.

MISS Melanie Smith, Little Rock, has received a resident hall award at Oklahoma Baptist University for her selection as Miss Congeniality of Kerr dormitory.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST
On mission endeavor

FOR the 15th consecutive summer, Southwestern Seminary will send a team of students to the Bahamas for an eight-week mission endeavor. Working with missionary families and nationals, these students will lead Bible schools and revivals.

Arkansas students chosen to represent the seminary in this "ambassadorial" capacity are Johnny Irish of Arkadelphia and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Petty of England. The Pettys will go as team captains.

Other team members include Lee Schaffer, Oklahoma; Ann LaFon, New York; Nona Bickerstaff, Texas; Linda Stephens, Missouri; and Joyce Johnston, Arizona.

Team members, whose expenses are financed entirely by the seminary family, will drive to Miami early in the summer and fly from there to Nassau. With Nassau as headquarters, they will travel by boat to out-islands for mission work.

TWO Arkansas Students at Oklahoma Baptist University are on tour through nine states with the Bison Glee Club. They are John Gardner of Fort Smith and Margie Yearout of Russellville.

MISSIONARY Amos Greer points out places where new churches are needed to Dr. C. W. Caldwell, superintendent of State Missions. The two participated in Harmony Association "Mission Night" Apr. 21 at First Church, Pine Bluff, where 76 members represented 22 churches. Gerald Taylor, moderator, presided. Others on the program were Robert Mashborn, Pine Bluff city planner, and Charles Gordon Jr., president of Southern Federal Savings and Loan Association. A special offering will be taken in all churches in June for new church sites. An estimated $103,000 is needed for seven sites all ready pin-pointed.

The graduates of May

A NUMBER of our Arkansas men and women will be graduating from our seminaries during the weeks of May. We have placed in the hands of the associational missionaries a list of these among this number will be a number of pastors, ministers of graduates with a brief biographical sketch concerning each person, music and education, and other full-time church related workers.

I am confident every one of these persons is supremely interested in God's will being done in the matter of their location. We are confident God will lead them to the place of His choosing if our churches are given the information and prayerful concern is exercised by everyone concerned.

Of this, we are all confident that our churches need the best leadership possible. These men and women have sought diligently to prepare themselves for the finest type of service. Our state needs the strength that will come from well qualified leadership. We are simply seeking to enlist the prayerful interest of all our people on behalf of these young men and women as they attempt to find the place of service to which the Lord would lead them, and to urge prayerful consideration on the part of our pastorless churches.—S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary.

HAROLD Ray, Calvary Church, Blytheville, has resigned to accept the pastorate of Nettleton Church. (CB)
Revivals

DE LAPLAINE Church, Apr. 18-19; Jack Parchman, Mt. Pleasant, Tex., evangelist; Mrs. Emma Jones, pianist; Mrs. Joy Compton, song leader; 14 by baptism; 12 other professions; 7 rededications; 16 young people, Intermediates, and Juniors took stand against worldliness in personal lives; Marion Berry, pastor.

FIRST Church, Leslie, Apr. 5-12; Charles Chesser, evangelist; Mrs. Leon Wilson, pianist; 7 for baptism; 6 by letter; Homer Allred, pastor.

STANFILL Church, Jacksonville, Apr. 19-26; Rev. Elmer Madison, pastor, evangelist; Bob Shannon, Second Church, Jacksonville, song director; 2 for special service, 18 professions of faith; 14 by baptism. 

CALVARY Association reports 19 churches participated; 80 professions for baptism; 8 by profession of faith; 35 by letter; 1 surrendered to ministry; William Burnett, missionary, director of revivals.

FIRST Church, DeQueen, Apr. 26-May 3, 18 for baptism; 7 by letter; 8 professions of faith; more than 100 rededications; the Paul Carlin Evangelistic party, Houston, Tex. led the meeting; Dr. E. Butler Abington, pastor.

DENNISON Street Church, Little Rock, Apr. 26-May 23; Rev. Don Jones, Greenlee Memorial Church, Pine Bluff, evangelist; Ed Haynes, minister of music, song director; 11 for baptism; 7 by letter; Rev. Charles A. Sewell, pastor.

FIRST Church, Alma, Jack Parchman, Mt. Pleasant, Tex., evangelist; 18 professions of faith; 1 by letter; 70 rededications; 15 baptized; O. L. Langston, pastor.

FIRST Church, Nashville; Dr. Rheuben South, evangelist; Bill Nimmons, music director; 47 decisions; 4 by profession of faith; 7 by letter; 1 commitment to special service; Mike Carozza, pastor.

Boone-Newton Association

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<tr>
<td>Bill H. Lewis is Chairman of Evangelism.</td>
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Crosby to Warren

E. L. CROSBY Jr. will become assistant to the pastor of First Church, Warren, May 24.

He has served for the past five years as Minister of Music and Education of First Church, Harrison. Mr. Crosby will serve in the fields of music, education, youth work and administration. Dr. James T. Draper is pastor.

Mr. Crosby is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary, with a Master's degree in both music and education. He and Mrs. Crosby have four children.

DR. and Mrs. W. Maxfield Garrett, Southern Baptist missionaries to Japan, may now be addressed at Seinan Jo Gakuin, Nakai, Kokura-ku, Kitakyushu, Japan. He was born in Batesville and grew up in Conway; she is the former Dorothy Carver, of Louisville, Ky.

The Cover

When green floods mountain range and vale
When eye can find no single flaw
Then faith abounds and all doubts fail
For spring has come to Arkansas.

—Betty Woods

ARKANSAS BAPTIST
Baptists will tours of the Northeast when they journey to Atlantic convention and other meetings May 18-24.

Paul James, first vice president of the SBC and missions director of Southern Baptist work in metropolitan New York, announced plans for a bus tour up the Hudson Valley for May 25.

The tour, sponsored by the Metropolitan New York Association, is the third offered visitors to the Northeast. Previous tours announced include one of the Philadelphia area for May 22, and one into New England for May 25-26.

James said the Hudson Valley tour will leave from the Manhattan Baptist Church and visit pioneer Baptist churches and historical sites in the valley, including the home of Washington Irving, West Point Military Academy, the Roosevelt home in Hyde Park, the Vanderbilt mansion, as well as passing other points.

Tickets, costing $7.50 will be on sale at the Northeastern area booth in the exhibit hall during the Southern Baptist Convention.

Layman proposed as Convention president

BALTIMORE—In light of the announcement by K. Owen White that he will not stand for re-election to the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention, The Maryland Baptist has editorially proposed a Maryland layman for the position.

In the May 7 issue, Editor Gainer E. Bryan, Jr., advocates Francis A. Davis, a Baltimore businessman with a long and impressive record of denominational service, for the presidency.

"The choice of a layman this year would fittingly recognize the growing awareness of the place of the layman in our denominational life," Bryan says. "Only six laymen have had the denomination's highest office in this century. One of these, Joshua Levering of Maryland, was a spiritual forebear of the man now being proposed, who inspired him to serve his denomination."

Noting that the District of Columbia has never had a president of the SBC and that Virginia has not had one since McDaniel in 1924-26, the Maryland editor says that election of "Mr. Maryland Baptist" [Davis] "would be a salute to Baptists of the entire northeastern seaboard."

The SBC has met in Maryland Convention territory only twice in the past, Bryan states. "It is not likely," he writes, "that such a propitious opportunity to recognize the contributions of Maryland to Southern Baptist life will come again for many years."

Davis has been president of the Maryland Baptist Union Association (now Baptist Convention of Maryland), president of the State Mission Board, unpaid editor of The Maryland Baptist and is now president of the Church Extension Society, the editorial relates.

In Southern Baptist Convention affairs he has been a member of the Executive Committee, trustee of the Foreign Mission Board, Southern and New Orleans seminary boards and is now on the board of the Baptist Foundation.

April income up

NASHVILLE — A financial statement from the treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention shows April income for SBC through the Cooperative Program went above income for two comparative months.

Treasurer Porter Routh of Nashville reported the 28 cooperating state Baptist conventions sent in $1,684,523 through the Cooperative Program. This topped the March receipts of $1,597,154 and those of April, 1963, which were $1,520,310.

The April receipts brought Cooperative Program total for 1964 to date to $6,878,211. This is 10.1 per cent over the figure of $6,247,062 for the first four months of 1963.

Horatio Alger award

NEW YORK—Carr P. Collins, founder and board chairman of Fidelity Union Life Insurance Co. in Dallas, Tex., has been selected to receive a 1964 Horatio Alger Award.

Collins, a prominent Baptist layman who is now president of the board of the Baptist Foundation of Texas, was selected because his career was typical of the "rags to riches" success stories written by Horatio Alger, said Kenneth J. Beebe, who announced Collins' selection here.
Conference at Ouachita

A MEETING that should be of great interest and practical worth to our ministers is to be held on the campus of Ouachita Baptist College, June 5 and 6, 1964. The college is serving as co-sponsor of “The Institute in Economic Education and the American Way of Life.”

Dr. Ewing Pope Shahan, the Conference’s consultant, will present the background and environments that have brought about the forms of socialism, capitalism, and communism that we know today. Basic information so necessary in today’s complete world will be presented here. This will be no “textbook approach” to economics; rather it will be an intensive and incisive look at the major economic ideologies of the world today. This is information that successful men and women in any field cannot afford to overlook.

Subjects like: “Challenge to the American Ideology” and “How Shall We Counsel the Dropouts” will be discussed. The program for June 5 has a special appeal for ministers. The cost of registration will be $5.00 and this will include the luncheon at noon and the banquet Tuesday evening.

Our pastors will receive a letter enclosing an application to the conference next week. We hope it will be possible for many of our pastors to attend.—S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary

Women in majority

BOSTON (EP)—There are six women to every four men in church on Sunday and if two-thirds of the pews in Massachusetts Protestant churches were removed there would be “no seating problem,” according to a survey held here.

Religious Education

Arkansas Baptist Assembly

Siloam Springs, Ark.

RATES

SEND name, address, age (if under 17), sex, church, accommodation number, a $2.00 reservation fee, and the week you plan to attend, to Mr. Melvin Thrash, 401 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock. This fee will apply on the total cost of the assembly.

ACCOMMODATION NUMBER TOTAL COST
1. Assembly-owned dormitories—Cot, mattress, all meals, registration, and medical and accident insurance $16.50
   Children 5-8 years inclusive 13.50
2. Church-owned dormitories—Cot, mattress, all meals, registration, and medical and accident insurance 16.00
   Children 5-8 years inclusive 13.00
3. Deluxe Buildings—Room, all meals, registration, and medical and accident insurance 19.00
   Children 5-8 years inclusive 16.00
4. Faculty Building—Room, all meals, registration, and medical and accident insurance 18.00
   Children 5-8 years inclusive 15.00
5. Children under 5 years who eat in dining hall 8.50
6. Children under 1 year 1.00

Individual meals—Breakfast $.75 Lunch $1.00
   Dinner $1.00

NOTE—Registration and medical and accident insurance for part-time campers—$6.00 plus meals and accommodations.—J. T. Elliff, director

Foundation

A final accounting

IN the parable of the talents we have the teaching of Jesus that there is to be a final accounting of our stewardship. The talent in the day of Jesus was money and the parable deals with material possessions. To each was entrusted the amount equal to his ability. Each knew that it was a trust, not a gift to spend or waste. In the end, there is a day of accounting for the trust committed to each individual. The setting of this story tells us that the day of accounting will be when the Lord returns. Let us note further that the amount to be accounted for was not a tenth, but all.

Today many seem to feel that the nine-tenths is theirs, not a trust, to do with as they please. From the Words of Jesus we are told that this is not true. We know that we brought nothing into the world and we take nothing with us when we leave. Everything comes as a trust from God and we are His stewards. God expects us to use these possessions wisely and it is a part of our stewardship to dispose of them wisely at death.

Through a properly drawn will, we can be good stewards at the final accounting of our trust. Only in this way can we leave a portion of our blessings to carry on the Lord’s work after we have “entered into the joys of our Lord.” If you would like for us to help you or your attorney in this, contact Ed. F. McDonald, Jr., Arkansas Baptist Foundation, 401 West Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas.
FIVE SESSIONS

July 6-11
July 13-18
July 20-25
July 27-August 1
August 3-8

(All ages included in all sessions)

COST

$3.00—Payable now in WMU Office, 310 Baptist Bldg., Little Rock

$15.50—Payable at camp

Get duplicate Registration Cards from your GA Counselor
Do you have these?

THERE are a number of printed and mimeographed materials which Training Union workers should read. Let us suggest a few of these materials which the Training Union Director may order from the State Training Union Department.

1. Guides in Planning for Learning. This is a two-page reprint of a Training Union Magazine article which explains the six guides. Every group captain or study leader should have a copy of this to better understand how to improve the quality of Sunday night programs in order to change “ordinary programs” into “learning experiences.”

2. What’s New for Adults? This printed pamphlet explains ten new features and gives the adult units through September, 1964. Get your copy now. This will not be reprinted.

3. Using Audio-visual Aids effectively is a printed pamphlet which illustrates effectively the use of learning aids which you can use to improve your programs.

4. Alternate Adult Organization. This is a printed pamphlet which gives an explanation of the simplified organization for adult unions. It also gives the alternate Sunday night schedule.

Ask your Training Union director to order these materials so that you may keep up with what is new in Training Union.—Ralph W. Davis, Secretary

Student Union

Shown above are the newly elected officers of the Arkansas Baptist Student Directors’ Association. President is Mr. Paul Larsen, director at Arkansas State Teachers College; secretary is Mrs. Carita Taylor, office secretary in state office; and vice president is Mr. Dick Bumpass, director at Arkansas State College. The association meets annually at Directors’ Workshop, and usually has called meetings at BSU Convention, Spring Planning Retreat, and International Retreat. The association handles special projects such as the publication of the Arkansas BSU Directors’ Journal, the administration of interest coming from an endowment fund with the Baptist Foundation, and the Ridgecrest-Glorieta Loan Fund.—Tom J. Logue, Director.

Evangelism

Spiritual Growth

(Continued from last week)

I. Pastor and wife should visit the new member. They should learn the names of all members of the family, and show an interest in the entire family.

Paul went back occasionally where he had won people and encouraged them in the work. Be informal and just pay a social or neighborly call. Let their problems be your problems. Love them, love and patience and prayer will heal a lot of hurts.

II. When members move. The pastor should write a letter to a pastor in the town or city where the member has moved. He should use the introduction card EV001. The pastor should write a letter to the member and urge him to transfer his membership to a church where he lives, use encouragement card EV002. When the member joins a church where he lives the pastor should send notification card EV003 to the home church. If after a few months he doesn’t transfer his membership, send him a copy of the new budget and a pledge or tither’s card and let him know you expect him to support his church. Usually a member responds by transferring his membership to a local church where he lives. This is the desired result.

III. Revise the church roll each year. Church discipline is almost a thing of the past, but we need to come back to it. People who are running liquor stores or beer joints should be approached by a proper committee of the church and if they refuse to get out of that kind of business they should be excluded from the church.

Names should not be added to the church roll until members have been baptized or the letters have been secured from sister churches. Love, patience and determination can get results and see “Spiritual Growth.” — Jesse S. Reed, Director of Evangelism
The offer more for boys than other lowship, sports, outdoor activities, work, Royal Ambassador weeks to camp. Be a camp for Crusaders, boys 9-14 years of age. Now is the time to begin plans to attend one of the camps. There will be new building, new beds, new play equipment, and many new ideas for use. There will be new buildings, new beds, new play equipment, and many new ideas for use at camp. A large swimming pool is already completed and ready for use.

Following the first camp for all age groups on June 8-12, there will be a camp for Crusaders, boys 9-11 years of age, on June 15-19. The last camp will be June 22-26, and will be for Pioneers, boys 12-14 years of age. Now is the time to begin plans to attend one of the weeks to camp.

State Royal Ambassador Camps offer more for boys than other camps. In addition to the fun, fellowship, sports, outdoor activities, and campcraft and handcraft work, Royal Ambassador Camps provide an opportunity for spiritual growth through Bible study, mission study, and worship. These spiritual activities provide an opportunity and guidance for each boy to place himself in the right relationship to God and to find God's will for his life, including his responsibility to his church and denomination. Every Baptist boy should have the privilege of attending at least one state Royal Ambassador Camp during his developing years.

Information and registration materials have been mailed to all pastors, counselors, educational directors, and Royal Ambassador leaders. If more information is needed, write to the Brotherhood Department.

AN EXCELLENT CONGRESS

The State Royal Ambassador Congress held on May 1-2 was an excellent meeting. There were about 350 in attendance. The attendance represented churches from nineteen associations from every section of the state. Each person on the program did a superb job and their messages were a blessing to all those attending.

—C. H. Seaton, Associate Secretary

### Hope Association

#### Revivals

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“Complete history of Baptists in America”


$3.95 at your Baptist Book Store

Planned and written with the help of a number of Baptist leaders, this long-awaited book presents the history, the basic beliefs, and the remarkable accomplishments of American Baptists—all in a single fascinating volume that every Baptist will treasure.

Published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc.

408 Spring St. Little Rock, Ark.

May 14, 1964
Judy had often wondered what a growing seed looked like. How could she find out when the flower and vegetable seed she had helped her mother plant in the garden were all hidden snugly beneath the rich black dirt.

"Isn't there some way we can watch seed grow?" Judy asked Mr. Spencer, her science teacher.

Mr. Spencer knitted his brows thoughtfully. "I believe there is, Judy," he replied. "Shall we try an experiment and see."

The next day Judy brought a handful of dry brown beans to school. Instead of planting them in the ground, Mr. Spencer took a piece of paper toweling and folded the beans inside. Then he fastened both ends of the paper with rubber bands.

"Now we must moisten the paper," said Mr. Spencer. "Tomorrow we shall look inside and see what is happening."

The next morning Judy and the other boys and girls looked anxiously inside the paper towel. The bean seed looked exactly the same.

"They are not growing," Judy said disappointedly.

"Why, Judy," exclaimed Mr. Spencer, "we must be patient. Dampen the paper toweling again and wait until tomorrow."

Two more days passed. Each morning Judy and the other boys and girls unwrapped the paper toweling to look at the seed. On the fourth day Judy could hardly believe her eyes.

"It's almost like magic," she said.

Carefully Mr. Spencer helped Judy uncover the bean seed. All but two had a crack through the middle where a tiny white leaf was beginning to uncurl.

"Let's grow some more seed," suggested Judy. "Will you help us, Mr. Spencer?"

Mr. Spencer's eyes sparkled. "Yes, indeed," he said. "I already have some things here to show you."

Mr. Spencer brought out a brown paper bag and emptied it on the table.

"That looks like a carrot top," cried Judy, pointing to a bunch of green leaves.

Mr. Spencer nodded. He held up another green bunch. "This is the heart of a celery stalk," he told the class.

He took three short glasses from the paper bag and placed them on the window sill. He filled each one half full of water.

In the first glass he placed the carrot top. In the second he put the celery heart and in the third the sweet potato.

Before the month was over, all the seed had sprouted. Some had more roots than tops. One popcorn seed had only one fine thread for a root.

"Now we know what happens to seed when they are planted in the ground," said Mr. Spencer. "We also know how some plants will grow in water," reminded Judy.

All the boys and girls looked happily toward the window where the carrot top and celery stalk grew a little taller each day. The sweet potato curled round and round in a long green vine.

"Why don't you try watching some seed grow just as Judy and her friends did?"

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)
Nursing Scholarship Contest

Five Baptist hospitals in the Mid-South will each award three tuition scholarships to their schools of nursing beginning with the 1964 fall term.

Young ladies who are interested in nursing careers may enter the scholarship competition by writing an essay of not more than 500 words on "WHY I WANT TO BE A NURSE." Contestants must meet the admission requirements of the school to which they submit essays.

First place awards by each school will be full tuition scholarships. Second place winners will receive two-thirds of their tuition and third place winners will earn one-third of their tuition.

Entries should be submitted BEFORE JUNE 1, 1964 to the NURSING SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST at the School of Nursing in care of one of the following participating hospitals:

- BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, Memphis, Tenn.
- ARKANSAS BAPTIST HOSPITAL, Little Rock, Ark.
- BAPTIST HOSPITAL, Nashville, Tenn.
- EAST TENNESSEE BAPTIST HOSPITAL, Knoxville, Tenn.
- MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST HOSPITAL, Jackson, Miss.
Alcohol in a complex society

BY JIM TILLMAN, PASTOR

FOREST HIGHLANDS CHURCH, LITTLE ROCK

MAY 17, 1964

PROVERBS 23:29-35; MATTHEW 18:5-14; ROMANS 13:11-14:23

IS “black” really black, or is it just a dark gray? The reason for this question is that we live in a day when it is harder than ever to say that something is evil or wrong. A minister wrote a book about his experiences during and after his nervous breakdown. I remember that during his deepest depression he observed that the sky, flowers, trees and grass were all gray. This was an abnormal time in his life, and I feel that it is an abnormal time in our lives when we can look at something as black as our modern day alcohol and call it anything but black.

Let us approach this lesson in the same spirit as Dr. A. C. Miller did in the December, 1956, Christian Life Bulletin, “Don’t be led around by the nose by the false claims of the liquor crowd. And don’t think you can beat this traffic by denouncing it. Let’s get the facts and shoot it to death with the truth.”

I. Creates problems

(Proverbs 23:29-35)

Before we can help solve a problem we must first of all admit that there is a problem. This passage of scripture is a very clear description of the problems that are created from drinking alcohol. They are listed in the twenty-ninth verse in this order, “Woe, sorrow, contentions, babblings, wounds without cause, and redness of eyes.” We must face the reality that “alcohol in our complex society” is a psychological problem, a moral problem, a health problem, a social problem and a religious problem.

We have all been made aware of the problems of health in the past few years, and alcohol is a major problem that is very seldom presented as a problem to health. In the Sept. 11, 1959, issue of The Survey Bulletin, this shocking statement is made, “Alcoholism in the United States is now seven times more prevalent than cancer. There are six times as many alcoholics as there are active and inactive cases of tuberculosis. Here are the figures: Alcoholism, 5,015,000; tuberculosis 800,000; cancer, 700,000.” There is no way to determine how many problems this one indulgence is creating in our world today, but there will be those that will study this lesson that know first hand what it can do to a life.

II. Creates darkness

(Romans 18,12b)

The Apostle names drunkenness as one of the works of darkness in this passage, A true Christian will be convicted about the use or sale of alcoholic beverages in any way. This scripture is directed to create such a conviction. He states that we need to cast off these works of darkness, walk honestly (which cannot be done as long as this drunkenness is a part of our lives) and put on the Lord Jesus Christ in place of these works. This is a rather clear picture as to where the Christian should stand in relation to alcohol. Jesus was the Light of the world that came and now we are the light that remains.

“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not know the truth:” I John 1:6. It is also interesting that this chapter in Romans is closed by the exhortation not to tempt the flesh with these works of darkness. In other words, “Not only should we not be drunk, but we should not even tempt ourselves or any one else to be drunked.

III. Creates stumblingblocks

(Romans 14:13-21)

A person that “drinks” does not have the testimony for Christ that he should have as a Christian. If then we are not a testimony for our Lord we become a stumbling-block. This is important to recognize, because too many people have the attitude... “it’s none of my business.” In Matthew 18:5-14, we find how Jesus feels about hurting or offending “one of these little ones which believe in me.” He continues by saying, “it were better for him that a millstone was hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.”

The tragedy in this area, as I have already mentioned, is how little we care if we hurt someone. We feel that every man has to take care of himself and we can’t be concerned with others. A pastor of a great church in a great city visited the liquor stores of that city to invite the owners and sales people to attend a revival. He found it heartsickening that these stores were not in the hands of atheists, agnostics, scoffers and unbelievers, but rather in the hands of the professing Christians and church members of the city. Sixty percent of the people behind the counter were women. We need a rebirth of concern for our fellowman.

He provides a word of strength to the Christian that tries to avoid things in life that will be a stumbling block, “For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.” Romans 14:13-17. These things that we may “give up” for our brother are not the important or necessary things of life.
**Word association**

This little jewel comes to us from Mrs. Roy Hannah of Walnut Street Church, Jonesboro:

"Last evening when our beginning Sunbeams dismissed, one little four-year-old looked up at the Sunbeam director, Mrs. Stone, and said, 'Goodbye, Mrs. Brick!'"

**On the right wave length**

OUR thanks to M. T. McGregor, Hope Association missionary, for this one:

And then, there was the little girl who always closed her prayer at night with these words: "And bless Mommy and Daddy, and Little Brother, Amen and FM."

**TV influence**

Little Mary almost had it—the 23rd Psalm from memory, but Mother recited it to her each night before retiring.

One night it happened that Mother, exhausted from the day’s chores, left out the phrase, "Thou anointest my head with oil."

An immediate reaction came from Mary: "Mommy, you forgot the part about the hair oil."

**Typical Scotsman?**

"WELL," said the insurance agent to the newly-wed Angus, "now that you’re married I’m sure you’ll want to insure your wife."

"Awi’ wi’ ye,” said Angus "She’s no’ that dangerous."

**Know-how**

THE book salesman knew his job.

"This book," he said, "will do half your work for you."

"Good," was the reply. "I’ll take two."

**Dissatisfied customer**

MAGISTRATE: "But why did you break into this shop four nights running?"

Defendant: "I got a new dress for my wife and she made me go back and change it three times."

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**Church Attendance Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Sunday Training Addl. School</th>
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<th>Union Ins.</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Westside</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>62</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INDEX**

A—Alcohol in a complex society (BB, p29; Amen, on saying (letters) p6; Arkansas Baptist Convention, Contest deadline (SS) p11
B—Baha missionaries (p13; Bookshelf p10
C—Cameron, First Church feasts International p12; Children’s Nook p20; Cover story p14; Crosby, A. L. Jr. to Warren p12
D—Dry, Alfred to North Carolina p12
G—Gammoporee p13; Gibson, C. W. receives degree p12; Graduates of Arkansas p12
H—Hancock, Mrs. J. D. awarded diploma p12; Happy Hollow Church p13
I—Infant salvation (BB) p10
K—Kennedy, Jim fights drop outs pp6-7
L—Land, David to Tulsa p12; Luck, James T. (letter) p6
M—McDonald, E. L. Notes in transit (PB) p12, p24; Ministry, more than is meet (E) p12
O—OBO, Graduation p11; Hill and Selph honored p11; Signal trophy p12
R—Revelations p14; Reasoning (E) p8-4
S—Teenage marriages (CMH) p6-2
V—Vasty team (MR) p6

Key to listings: (BB) Beacon Lights of Arkansas p13; B-Baham missionaries p13; C—Camden, First Church feasts International p12; Children’s Nook p20; Cover story p14; Crosby, A. L. Jr. to Warren p12
D—Dry, Alfred to North Carolina p12
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H—Hancock, Mrs. J. D. awarded diploma p12; Happy Hollow Church p13
I—Infant salvation (BB) p10
K—Kennedy, Jim fights drop outs pp6-7
L—Land, David to Tulsa p12; Luck, James T. (letter) p6
M—McDonald, E. L. Notes in transit (PB) p12, p24; Ministry, more than is meet (E) p12
O—OBO, Graduation p11; Hill and Selph honored p11; Signal trophy p12
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**Know-how**

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**Dissatisfied customer**

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Defendant: "I got a new dress for my wife and she made me go back and change it three times."
In the world of religion

PRESIDENT Lyndon B. Johnson participated in the recent launching of a $1.5 million national drive to move a 17th century war-damaged London church to a United Presbyterian college in Fulton, Mo., as a memorial to Sir Winston Churchill. The president said the memorial would symbolize the esteem and respect with which Americans held Great Britain's Prime Minister in World War II. He described Sir Winston as a "great national leader, great world statesman, and above all, a great human being."

A series of seminars on the United Nations will be conducted by the interdenominational Church Center for the United Nations May 11-Sept. 11. The seminars, primarily for visitors to the New York World's Fair, are designed to give an inside view of the United Nations through tours, briefings, attendance at sessions and lectures by officials and delegates. They will range from one to three days long.

Membership in the Lutheran Church in America reached $227,157 during 1963. This is an increase of 25,974 over the previous year. Covered in the report were the denomination's 31 constituent synods in the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean.—The Survey Bulletin

Faculty study leaves

MILL VALLEY, CALIF.—Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here has announced four faculty members will take their sabbatical leaves and other time off for special study.

Clayton K. Harrop, associate professor of New Testament interpretation, will study textual criticism and backgrounds of New Testament. He will leave after the first summer term and will study at University of Chicago until Jan. 1, 1965. Then he will go to England.

Lawrence A. Brown, professor of missions and comparative religions, will visit Los Angeles area libraries this summer. He will study comparative religions. Brown also hopes to go to the Orient to study Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam for a writing project on great teachers of the world's religions.

Miss Geil Davis, director of the child care program, will work this summer for a doctor-of-education degree at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. When her sabbatical leave begins in the summer of 1965, she will return to Southern Cal for 15 months to finish her doctoral work.


Assemblies anniversary

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (EP) — Nearly 10,000 delegates and guests at the Assemblies of God biennial General Council marked the denomination's 50th anniversary at a prayer meeting here.

Officiating at the service was the Rev. Thomas F. Zimmerman of Springfield, general superintendent of the Assemblies since 1960.

Mr. Zimmerman cautioned that "if we assume our role in the Assemblies of God is only to follow after the other denominations, then we are doomed as an effective organization."

Founded at a constitutional convention in Hot Springs, Ark., in April, 1914, the Assemblies of God is the largest Pentecostal denomination in the world, with 543,000 members in the U. S. and about 1,480,000 in 70 countries abroad.