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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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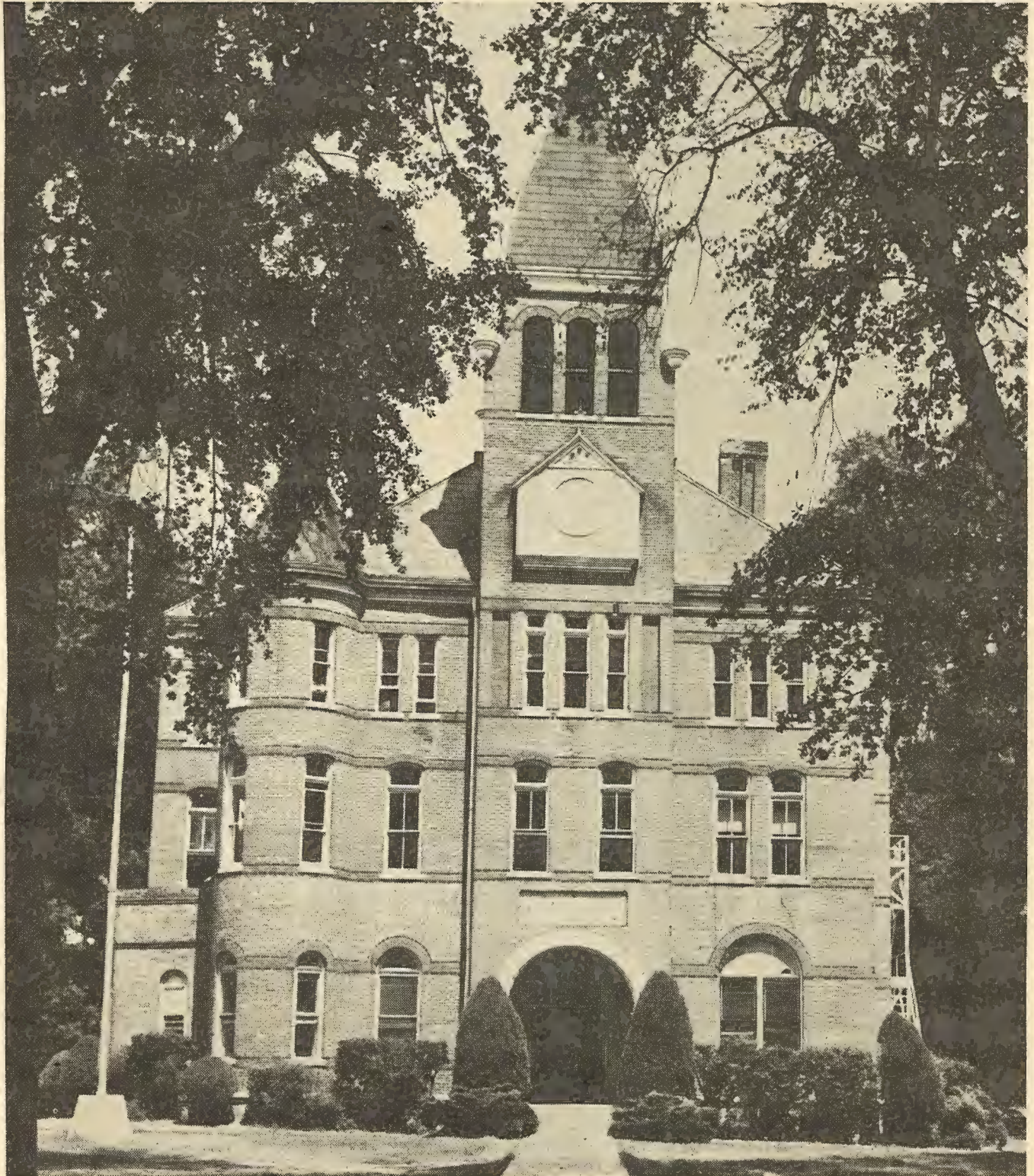
ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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NUMBER 8



Let's Complete...

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Foreign Mission News of Interest

Baptist Mission Work In China To Continue Under Any New Regime

"If the time comes when we have no missionaries on the field in China, it will be because the door has been absolutely shut and missionaries have been thrust out," Secretary Baker J. Cauthen stated in his report read at the February meeting of the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond.

He supplemented this statement of policy regarding missionary activity during the trying situation in China by saying: "We do not know what opportunities for missionary work will be found under a new regime. The time could come when missionaries would find it impossible to function and would be forced to leave. We do not believe that time is immediately ahead of us. We pray it may never come.

"As long as missionaries can maintain freedom and life and their presence be an asset rather than a liability to the work they serve, they will be willing to carry on under whatever regime comes into power."

Units of both the American Navy and the British fleet are standing by in Shanghai and Tsingtao to prevent any disorder threatening American and British life, Dr. Cauthen stated.

When present emergencies began on November 1, Southern Baptists had 162 missionaries with 57 children in China. Now there are 106 missionaries with 22 children in China, most of them in Shanghai and the southern area. Twenty-four of the China missionaries and their children are at Baguio in the Philippines where a language school has been set up for those who had not finished language study in China. Two missionaries have returned to Honolulu to serve and thirty have returned to the United States.

Missionary Risks Life To Pick Up Wounded

Missionary Elisabeth Lee drove through the plains around Beisan with only the fog lights on her car to pick out the dangerous broken bits indicating land mines in the road. It was the middle of the night. Hers was an errand of mercy—to pick up wounded refugees after the Arab-Jewish battle for the village.

When Nazareth was headquarters of Kawakli and his Arab army, Nurse Lee was called upon at any and all hours to go out after the wounded and bring them to the hospital. When she was commanded to pick up the wounded around Beisan she demanded a police escort—to protect the car, not herself. It had been stolen a few weeks before.

She drove out of Nazareth with an armored police car preceding her. But when they reached the Plain, the police car pulled to the side of the road and stopped.

"From here on the road is heavily mined," the police told her. "You go ahead. We will follow you."

Any broken bit in the road would probably be a land mine, they warned her. So she crept along with her police escort behind her until she found her wounded refugees and brought them safely back to the Nazareth hospital.

Later the Arabs surrendered Nazareth to the Jews. It is now a part of the new Jewish state of Israel and the Jews have set up a military government. For a time the missionaries thought they might have to move the George W. Truett orphanage from Nazareth

to some place in Lebanon in order to continue their work with the Arabic people. But now it seems evident that, although in the Jewish state, Galilee will be an Arab section with Nazareth as the principal city. The missionaries are remaining at least for awhile to see what course events may take.

The governor of the district of Galilee is interested in the orphanage. When, at the beginning of the year, the kindergarten lacked desks and benches for the children, he arranged for fifty-six double desks to be brought in for the use of the school.

Missionary Ethel Singleton Married

At its February meeting the Foreign Mission Board accepted the resignation of Missionary Ethel Singleton, effective on February 14, the date of her marriage to Cornelio Gatica at the Second Baptist Church, Santiago, Chile.

She has served in Chile for seven years and although Southern Baptists officially lose a missionary by her marriage, she will continue her service unofficially. She writes that she will always be a missionary at heart. She and her husband will both serve in the seminary at Santiago, he as dean of men. She will continue to work with G. A.'s and R. A.'s.

Mr. Gatica, a lawyer, is an active member of one of the Baptist churches in Santiago.

More Mission Volunteers Needed

Secretaries Samuel E. Maddox and Edna Dawkins of the Department of Missionary Personnel have visited each of the three Southern Baptist seminaries since the first of the year.

They expressed their appreciation of the earnest missionary emphasis evident in each of the schools and the number of missionary volunteers they found there. However, in spite of the increasing list of prospective missionaries, the number is still not great enough to meet the demand. Evacuation of missionaries from some sections of China relieves the need for spring appointments for that area, but many more appointments than are in prospect are needed for Japan, Africa, and Latin America.

Mr. Maddox stresses the demand for good missionary preachers. Teachers, doctors, and nurses are also urgently needed.

Nurse Transfers to Frontier Mission

Miss Ruby Wheat, a nurse formerly in the Baptist hospital at Yangchow which has been taken by Chinese Communists, has transferred to Wuwei in Kansu province to work with Dr. Abraham Hsu at the Frontier Mission hospital. She joins another missionary, Miss Addie Cox, who has been in Wuwei several months.

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Clergymen, Psychiatrists Hold Sessions: A three-day conference aimed at making the resources of psychiatry available to clergymen faced with the necessity of handling human problems was held at the Clifton Springs Sanatorium. New York, according to Religious News Service.

Clergymen and psychiatrists of central and western New York attended the sessions, sponsored jointly by the Federal Council of Churches and other interested organizations.

In addition, a number of professors from Cornell University, the University of Pennsylvania and the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School were in attendance.

Jesus Takes the Initiative

A Devotion by the Editor

"What seek ye?"

John had pointed out Jesus as "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John's disciples began to suspect their teacher's words were intended as a hint to them. So two of them, somewhat doubtfully and hesitantly, made their way toward Jesus.

In their confused state of mind they didn't know how to open a conversation with Jesus concerning whom John made such great claims. Jesus took the initiative and asked: "What seek ye?" The question disarmed them completely, all the questions they had planned to ask Him fled from their minds, and the only thing they could think to say was, "Master, where are you dwelling?" But that was enough for Jesus; He would encourage them with an invitation to accompany Him to His lodging place and by His friendliness overcome their embarrassment and hesitation.

"What seek ye?" The question is not repellent, but inviting. Jesus takes the initiative to encourage every movement of our hearts toward Him. He deals gently with every spark of hope and stimulates every aspiration to seek Him. Something had taken place in the hearts of these men that must not be allowed to die; it must be nourished and developed.

The question also indicates Christ's winning process to help them understand their own minds. It is His effort to open their minds and bring some order and definiteness out of their confusion and uncertainty. "What seek ye?"

While this question has in it the element of encouragement and hope, it also demands close examination of the objects of our search, a discriminating judgment in our choices and decisions. Jesus found it difficult to lead men to separate the chaff from the wheat in their thinking. They confused Him and His purposes with their own worldly aims and ambitions. This question should give us pause today and cause us to re-examine our expectations in Christ. There were many in His day who went back and walked no more with Him, after they discovered that He would not gratify their vain desires. Would we join the ranks of those who went back or follow the example of the disciples who said, "Lord to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." That question will be answered by what we are seeking in Jesus.

"Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, . . . where dwellest thou?"

"He saith unto them, Come and see . . ." (John 1:38-39).

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From the Editor's Desk

Let's Complete...

The Ouachita Campaign

The State Convention in November extended the Ouachita Million Dollar Campaign through 1949. It was obvious that this extension was necessary in order to complete the campaign and realize the full benefits of the work that had already been done toward raising the proposed million dollars for Ouachita.

Since the campaign has been extended for another year, it is just as obvious that it must now be completed within the year. That is, whatever promotional work is done must be done this year, although some churches may find it necessary to extend their payments over a longer period in order to fulfill their commitments.

Organization Proposed

Last fall the Ouachita Board asked Secretary B. L. Bridges to take over the directorship of the campaign for the time remaining to promote it. In addition to his many other responsibilities Dr. Bridges is now promoting associational organizations for the purpose of carrying the campaign appeal to every pastor, every church, and every Baptist within the state. The Arkansas Baptist wishes to add its word of endorsement to this plan of organization for the promotion and for the successful completion of the Ouachita campaign, and to appeal to our pastors, churches, and all Arkansas Baptists to get into this movement energetically and enthusiastically. The Baptists of Arkansas moving together can put this campaign over this year.

It is the purpose of the organization being set up in each association to reach every church in the state. Only a complete coverage of the state will bring complete success. If some of our pastors and churches hold out in this undertaking, two things will be inevitable: they will lose the joy of participating in one of the most challenging opportunities facing our Baptist constituency, and their part in the campaign will be a failure. We sincerely hope that there will be no hold-outs in this final effort to complete the campaign.

This is a co-operative endeavor and every one should share in both the obligations and opportunities which the campaign offers. Ouachita College is ours. It belongs to all the Baptists of the state. Since the college belongs to us, we should experience the pride and satisfaction of ownership. We should rise to the challenge which the institution presents to us. We should fulfill the obligations which we have assumed by virtue of the fact that Ouachita is ours. It is no credit to anyone to repudiate that which is his, or to repudiate his obligations, or to ignore his opportunities, or to deny his relationships. We do not believe that the Baptists of Arkansas will act in that wise as they face the final challenge of this campaign.

Ouachita's Needs

We must realize that Ouachita's needs are our needs. Ouachita needs the resources to train young people, our young people, for successful Christian living in all vocations and relationships of life. We as a denomination need these young people to be trained. We need them to be trained for the ministry and as missionaries. We need them to be trained to take their places in our churches as consecrated deacons, Sunday School superintendents, teachers, Training Union directors, leaders in the missionary societies, and Brotherhood organizations. We need them to be trained also for Christian citizenship so that they will inject into their citizenship obligations and responsibilities Christian principles which will lift the basis of our citizenship until it more nearly approaches the Christian ideals. We need young people who are trained in Christian ideals and Christian principles.

The only way we can raise the standards of business and the professions is to raise the standard of business and professional men and women. The same may be said concerning political life and social life.

If Ouachita College needs adequate support in order that she may train our young people, that need is based upon our need for trained young people. The only justification for the existence of Ouachita College is that she may give to our young people an education with a Christian content, an education, therefore, which will prepare them for making their greatest contributions to the world, to the state, and to the community, by virtue of their training which is definitely Christian.

Provide Facilities

However, Ouachita College cannot render this service to us unless we provide the facilities which she must have in order to meet the demands of Christian education which we have placed upon her. You may have a perfectly good automobile, capable of carrying you to your office or your place of business, but in order for that automobile to function and to meet your needs, you must provide it with gasoline. Ouachita College is perfectly capable of meeting the needs of Christian education in Arkansas, but we must provide her with the necessary facilities.

The farmer's mule may be perfectly capable of the work necessary for the cultivation of the farmer's crop, but the farmer must feed the mule while he is doing the work. We once heard of a colored man who decided that he would teach his mule to do without eating, and to his amazement the colored man said that just about the time he had taught the mule to do without eating, the mule laid down and died.

Arkansas Baptists are well able to complete the Ouachita campaign this year. Surely we

Editors Meet In Richmond

The Southern Baptist Editors' Association met in Richmond, Virginia, February 10-11. Dr. Lewis A. Myers, formerly editor of the Arkansas Baptist, now editor of the Baptist New Mexican, presided over the meeting. The Association is composed of the editors of Southern Baptist State papers and a few others who are connected with other Southern Baptist publications.

Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee, was a guest speaker. Dr. Holcomb spoke on "Co-operation Between the State Papers and the Sunday School Board."

The roundtable discussions which dealt both with the business and editorial departments of the publications were practical and instructive. All the editors were interested in measures of economy which would keep the costs of publication to the very minimum without sacrificing efficiency.

The same problems of increasing cost seem to be common to all the State papers within the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. How to meet these rising costs and at the same time avoid deficits and maintain high standards of publication is of deep concern to the editors composing this organization.

The one purpose common to all the editors is to serve the denomination and all of the institutions and agencies of the denomination; to present to the Baptist constituency of the Convention the full program of Southern Baptists, including the programs of Associations, the State, and the Southern Convention.

The combined circulation of the State papers is now approaching 800,000. The goal is 1,000,000. This goal should be easily reached through the budget plan of subscription. A few more churches and pastors throughout the Convention territory who would put the paper in the church budget could raise the circulation of Southern Baptist State papers to the million mark within a few months.

The Arkansas Baptist now has a circulation of 34,000. Certainly we should reach 40,000 by the end of the current year. We appeal to all pastors and churches who do not now have the Arkansas Baptist in their church budgets to take this matter under consideration and write for any information they may desire on the church budget plan. We shall be glad to co-operate one hundred per cent with any church and pastor throughout the State.

will want to clear this obligation as quickly as possible so that we can unitedly enter upon the new and comprehensive program which has been proposed and authorized by the Convention, and which will include all the agencies and institutions of the Convention.

The Baptist Foundation has been established, which will solicit and receive trust funds and bequests for our Baptist institutions. We will be wise, therefore, to complete the Ouachita campaign at the earliest possible moment.

Bigger things are awaiting us if we will take full advantage of the present opportunities and challenges. We believe that Arkansas Baptists will rise to meet these opportunities and challenges which we face today.

Kingdom Progress

First Church, Dierks

First Church, Dierks, Carroll Gibson, pastor, has called Roy Kilgore, Ouachita College Senior, as choir director and young people's leader.

The church voted to increase its Co-operative Program gifts from \$60 to \$106.56 per year, and to increase associational missions gifts from \$60 to \$106.56 per year.

The church has recently purchased a butane gas system and the pastor's home is being remodeled.

Sunday afternoon, February 6, the Junior boys of Number Nine Church, Blytheville, organized a Royal Ambassador group. Mrs. Bob Stovall is their counselor, and Charles Langston III was elected president.

Pastor R. E. Baucum and the First Church, Murfreesboro, recently had the services of Nelson Tull, State Brotherhood secretary, in a layman's revival. There were 21 additions to the church by baptism and ten by letter. Pastor Baucum assisted Mr. Tull in the services.

Richard Young, fifteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Young, Hot Springs, was licensed to preach February 6 by Park Place Church, Hot Springs, D. C. Bandy, pastor. He preached at the evening service. Richard was converted at the age of eleven, and joined Park Place Church.

In a recent Training Union study course held at Woodlawn Church, Little Rock, 41 persons were enrolled with 40 qualifying for awards. Teachers were E. A. Ingram, superintendent of missions; Felix Williams, pastor, Tyler Street Church, Little Rock; John R. Riggan; and W. E. Parker, pastor of the Woodlawn church. Inspirational messages were brought each evening by Mr. Ingram, who related many of his experiences as a missionary to Brazil.

The first annual session of the Southwestern Bible Conference was held recently at the First Baptist Church, El Paso, Texas, Dr. W. Herschel Ford, pastor.

Visiting preachers were Dr. Perry F. Webb, Dr. J. W. "Bill" Marshall, and Dr. J. LeRoy Steele. Bible teachers were Dr. W. Boyd Hunt, Dr. Kyle M. Yates, and Dr. Fred L. Fisher. R. Virgil Mott led the singing.

The Glenwood Baptist Church, Charles Hampton, pastor, recently purchased a pastor's home. Pastor Hampton says, "The willingness of our congregation to make pledges in addition to their regular ones in order to care for the added expense incurred in the matter caused the pastor to know that the Lord is in our move. It has caused a spiritual revival in our church."

Park Place Baptist Church has been adopted by the congregation of East Side Church, Little Rock, as the name for their church. T. Sherron Jackson is pastor.

The women of the Waldron Baptist Church are meeting regularly at the church to crochet rugs to be given to the Bottoms Baptist Orphanage, Monticello.

Items of Interest From Central College

The Central College choir sang before the North Little Rock Lions Club, Wednesday, February 8. The program of sacred and secular numbers received an enthusiastic response and the choir has accepted an invitation to appear on the program of the State Lions Convention which will meet in Little Rock in May. Miss Marcella Johnson is the director of the choir.

A formal Sweetheart banquet was held February 14 in the college dining hall. The theme for the evening was "The Music of Love" and the program was composed of musical numbers. The decorations, the food and the program combined to make this one of the most successful events at Central this year.

Howard Gladden, promotional secretary for the Governor, spoke in chapel, Wednesday, February 16. Formerly an agent of the F. B. I., Mr. Gladden gave an interesting lecture explaining the work of the Bureau and brought personal greetings to Central from Governor McMath.

The members of the First Church, Norphlet, announce the arrival of their new pastor, Glen E. Crofts, on the field. Mr. Crofts is from Crawley, Texas. The parsonage has been completely redecorated and repaired for Pastor Crofts and his family.

Sunday afternoon, February 13, H. Deming Fox was ordained to the full gospel ministry by the Baptist Tabernacle Church, Little Rock. Pastor Ralph Dodd served as moderator, and Felix J. Williams, Tyler Street Church, as clerk. Dawson King, Hebron Church, directed the questioning of the candidate; William Wright presented the Bible; Guy Wilson, Reynold's Memorial Church, delivered the charge; and the ordination sermon was preached by C. E. Lawrence, Gaines Street Church. The service was closed with prayer by Mr. Fox.

Pastor Douglas M. White closed his ministry at the First Church, DeWitt, Sunday, February 13, from which pastorate he goes to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Bassett, Virginia.

Pastor White's last Sunday in DeWitt was marked by signal success. At the morning service the pastor's own daughter professed her faith in Christ and four others were received into the church membership by letter.

In the afternoon Larkin M. Andrews was ordained to the full work of the ministry. The ordaining council was composed of Pastor White, Clay Roach, Carl Owens, Walter Hill, and Sam Stagg.

Pastor C. S. Ramseyer, Brinkley, would like to locate some used church pews which could be bought at reduced price. Any church having such pews and wishes to dispose of them should contact Mr. Ramseyer.

Pastor H. O. Malone and the Lake Village Church had the services of Ralph Davis, State Training Union director, and T. D. McCulloch, State B. S. U. director, in a Training Union revival recently. The Training Union has grown to 125 in attendance.

Baring Cross, North Little Rock, Meets the Needs of Young Married People

By BONNIE PEEPLES,
Church Secretary

Our Pastor and Educational Director saw a need for a department for young married people of the ages 17 through 24. In October, 1947, the Young People II Department with Mrs. George W. Stuart as superintendent was organized. It started with 3 classes with an enrolment of 31.

In the first quarter's activities the department achieved much in the line of organization, but had no additions to the church. The young people volunteered to choose prayer partners and to make a prayer list for those who needed to make decisions. These prayer partners, twelve couples of them, prayed earnestly for six weeks before the spring revival. Then during this revival 14 young married people made important decisions for Christ and became members of Baring Cross.

During the first six months this department had 54 visitors and 34 new members; they made 555 visits, 829 contacts, and had 14 additions to the church—10 by baptism. Their high attendance was 47 and the average attendance was 35. They reached the Standard of Excellence during the second quarter.

This capable superintendent worked hard with her teachers and officers, leading out in a definite program of visitation. During the next six months they had 28 new members, 89 visitors; they made 1,045 visits and 1,291 contacts, and had 6 additions to the church. The high attendance was 48 with an average attendance of 40.

If they had not had to drop, transfer, or promote any members at the close of the first year they would have had an enrolment of 93. But five left for school, 17 promoted to the Adult Department, nine dropped from the roll, and ten to places of service in other departments. One of these was made Associate Superintendent of the Sunday School, one Associate Superintendent in an Adult department, two became Junior Department Superintendents, and the others teachers from the Intermediate age on down. They began the new year, 1948-49 with an enrolment of 51.

Since October until the present time, they have had 26 new members, 53 visitors; they have dropped or transferred 11 and now have an enrolment of 64. They have made 674 visits and 1,131 contacts. The high attendance was 42 and the average attendance 28. They have had ten additions to the church with three coming by letter and seven by baptism. They gave \$12.66 to the Honor Debt in October, \$41.31 to the orphanage in November, and over \$100 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Their contributions through the regular channel of the church have amounted to \$744.50.

The classes have reached the Standard for several months. Each month there are several 100 per cent pupils. One young Christian man who is president of his class has been 100 per cent since he became a Christian and enrolled in the Sunday School. His wife has this record too, except for one Sunday when their child was ill.

This department has evangelistic worship programs with an invitation being extended two or three times a year. On February 6 they had six of their members to walk the aisles for Christ and six to be baptized on Sunday evening.

Church Union Leaders Criticize Southern Baptists

Refusal of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention to be party to a church union movement has led to a denunciation of SBC leaders by The Christian Evangelist, national weekly of the Disciples of Christ, Chicago.

Reference was to a recent vote of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, of which the SBC foreign mission agency is a member, declining affiliation with the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. "One of the determining elements" of the vote, said the editorial, "seemed to be the threat (of Dr. M. Theron Rankin, SBC foreign mission executive secretary) that if this merger were consummated this body (Southern Baptists) would withdraw its membership."

"It may well be questioned," the editor continued his bombast, "whether a common body (Southern Baptists) so consistently unwilling to co-operate in movements toward Protestant unity should be allowed to halt the progress of the whole co-operative movement now seeking greater effectiveness in its organizational life.

"We can see that many delegates to the Foreign Missions Conference would hesitate to quench the least smoldering light of co-operation shown by this great communion which for generations has stood outside all unity movements throughout the South. It would be unfortunate if the veto, now so unpopular in international relations, should find a place in our interdenominational relations."

—Baptist Press.

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Missionary Day at New Orleans Seminary

Seven students at the New Orleans Baptist Seminary dedicated their lives to the Home and Foreign Mission Fields during the Missionary Day program held on the campus January 27. Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn, General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, brought the principal address of the day.

Students who dedicated their lives are: Ellis Shufflin, Louisiana; Eddie L. Scruggs, Mississippi; James Shewmake, Mississippi; Harvey Headrick, Louisiana; Miss Wilma Cobrun, Louisiana; Bill Beam, Mississippi; and Howard Jones, Alabama.

Calling upon the students to "build the world with the love of God." Dr. Ohrn stated the Christian worker now has unparalleled opportunities to spread the Gospel among many of the European nations.

He told the Seminarians they must give the Gospel to the people of Europe even though they have known Christianity for centuries.

"Any part of the world is a mission field for Baptists, but there is a more urgent field in Germany and other European countries than anywhere else," Dr. Ohrn declared.

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Exhibit Space Applications Due

Baptist institutions and agencies desiring space in the exhibit hall at the Southern Baptist Convention here May 18-22 should make application immediately to George Card, 127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee.

Space in the exhibit is available to "agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention and its related agencies," the latter phrase interpreted to include institutions of the various state conventions.

Mr. Card said that March 1 is the deadline for applications for space.

Arkansas Baptist Boosts Budget

Income of the Lake Village church increased by \$500 to \$600 per month after placing the Arkansas Baptist in the church budget, is the testimony of Pastor H. O. Malone.

Pastor Malone believes in the State denominational paper, which "helps the pastor do everything he attempts."

He says, "To me, the front cover page of our Arkansas Baptist is second to none. It is always attractive, and inviting. The slogan of the Southwestern Engraving Company used to be: 'Your story in picture leaves nothing untold.' Our paper carries pictures that tell a story. Its arrangement and content are far above the average. Since placing the Arkansas Baptist in our Church Budget, over a year ago, our offerings have increased above the income of the previous year from \$500 to \$600 per month. Furthermore, any pastor can tell the difference in a short while after his folks begin reading their State denominational paper. It helps the pastor to do everything he attempts, and it is a constant reminder, and that, we are told by the experts, is the kind of advertising that really pays."

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Seeds Not Now Needed In Europe

The Southern Baptist Relief Center, New Orleans, has received word from Otto Nallingner, European Representative of the Baptist World Alliance Relief Committee, that vegetable seeds are not needed in Europe at the present because of the excellent harvest of last year.

"We request persons who have planned to send money for seeds to send their contributions through their churches and state agencies to the Relief Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention designated simply 'For Relief' so that the funds may be used to meet emergency needs as they arise," Dr. R. Paul Caudill, Chairman of the Baptist World Alliance Relief Committee, said on receiving same word from Brother Nallingner.

"This does not mean that the need for relief in Europe is over. To the contrary, there are still many areas about which the Relief Committee is greatly concerned," Dr. Caudill said. "It may be that next season seeds will again be needed. In the meantime, Southern Baptists are urged to continue sending clothing, bedding, shoes, food, and money with which to purchase vitamins, medicines, etc." Receiving address of the Relief Center is 601 South Olympia Street, New Orleans, La. All shipments should be sent prepaid.

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A flag of Uruguay has been given to Southern Seminary, Louisville, by the newly organized Uruguayan Baptist Convention as a token of appreciation of the Baptists of Uruguay for the contribution of Southern Seminary and of Southern Baptists to the program of world evangelism.

Southern Baptist have today 33 per cent more territory in which they are promoting the Kingdom program than they had 25 years ago, and a population 72 per cent greater than that within the Convention bounds at that time, Dr. Courts Redford, of the Home Mission Board, said in a Missionary Day address recently at Southern Seminary, Louisville. There are 40 per cent more lost people in Southern Baptist states now than a quarter of a century ago, Dr. Redford said.

First Church, Crossett, To Have Stewardship Revival



Dr. B. C. Land

Dr. B. C. Land, endowment secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, will lead the Crossett Church in a stewardship revival February 27-March 6. Dr. Land has developed a remarkable plan of Stewardship Revival which has been used most successfully in many states of the Southern Baptist Convention and will use this same thorough method in the Crossett revival.

Dr. Land is the author of many stewardship books and tracts now widely used among Southern Baptists. We invite all our friends to come worship with us during this time.

J. W. Buckner is pastor of First Church, Crossett.

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First Church, Walnut Ridge, Makes Progress

Under the leadership of Pastor Seibert H. Haley, the First Church, Walnut Ridge, is making considerable progress. Last November the church had the first revival they had conducted for three years. Pastor Haley baptized 32 people at the close of the meeting. Norman Ferguson, Fort Smith, conducted the singing.

Since August, 1948, there have been 60 additions to the church. A Brotherhood has been organized, and 20 men meet every Monday morning at six o'clock for a program and breakfast. The church has increased its gifts to the Co-operative Program and the Associational Mission program. Since December, 1948, more than \$6,000 has been paid on the educational building, and plans are being made for repairing and remodeling the auditorium.

Groups Desiring Reserved Space at Convention

All groups desiring dining hall space reserved for any time during the Southern Baptist Convention should contact immediately Max Stanfield, 5645 Northwest 40 Street, who is chairman of the committee of reservations for breakfasts, luncheons, and dinners. Such space, especially for larger groups, is at a premium.

*** Christian Horizons ***

Ban on Outdoor Liquor Ads Sought: A measure introduced in the Indiana House of Representatives by Representative Lothair Teeter and backed by the Anti-Saloon League would prohibit outdoor advertising of liquor.

Included in the proposed ban would be neon signs, billboards, posters, pictures and all other conceivable whisky, wine, and beer ads, displayed in the cities and rural areas of the state.

Advertising of alcoholic beverages would also be prohibited in or on intra-state public conveyances, such as street cars, taxis, busses, trains and trucks. The bill would allow tavern owners to display liquor ads inside their establishments, however, if the signs were not visible from the street.

"When we attempt by law to limit consumption of liquor and promote temperance, should we permit advertising to increase consumption and intemperance?" Representative Teeter asked.

"I think the industry has gone haywire on liquor advertising and it is about time the legislature did something about it."

—By Religious News Service.

Oregon Conservative Baptist Churches Organize: Representatives of 24 conservative Baptist churches ousted from the Oregon Baptist State Convention last November, met in Portland to form a permanent organization.

The state Convention had expelled the churches for their alleged failure to support the Convention and its parent group, the Northern Baptist Convention.

The conservative churches had long evinced dissatisfaction with the "modernistic" and "liberal" activities of the Northern Baptist Convention.

During the meeting here authority was given to draw up articles of incorporation as well as a constitution for the new group. Both will be considered at a meeting in March.

—By Religious News Service.

Druggist Quits Stocking Comic Books: A Memphis druggist who "began to notice the children" in his store has announced he has quit stocking comic books of any kind.

And the druggist, N. R. Garner—who is also president of the Tennessee Pharmaceutical Association—says he'll recommend to the association at its meeting in June that it "take some kind of drastic action" regarding comic books.

"I began to notice the children in my store," said Garner, who has two children of his own. "The first books they'd pick up were the ones with the wrong kind of covers. I picked up some of them myself and looked through them. They were awful.

"There are 300 to 400 different comic books. I figured I didn't have the time to read through all of them to see which ones were all right. So I just stopped buying them. I'm going to miss a few sales, but that's all right too."

Garner said he also has cut down drastically on the "confession" type of magazine, which he thinks can be just as harmful to teen-agers as the comic books are to the younger children.

He said he believes the drive to clean up comics should begin with the publishers—but in the meantime, he's going to call the whole matter to the attention of the pharmaceutical

association, with the recommendation that "these books should be cleaned up everywhere."

France To Censor Children's Books: A bill calling for censorship of illustrated publications intended for children has been adopted by the French National Assembly, Paris. The children's books have been under fire recently for inciting to juvenile delinquency.

The measure provides that such publications put less emphasis on gangsterism, armed robberies, murders and so forth. Heavy fines will be imposed on violators.

This censorship power will be exercised by a special commission set up under the Ministry of Justice. The commission will comprise representatives of church and public school teachers, artists, publishers of children's books and magazines, and a mother and father chosen by the National Union of Family Associations.

A Communist attempt to bar church school teachers from the commission was defeated.

—By Religious News Service.

Vermont Churchmen Oppose Bingo Bill: Representatives of the Vermont Council of Churches told a House of Representatives general committee that they opposed all forms of gambling, "including bingo."

They held that gambling in any form is detrimental to both State and Church.

The clergymen came to Montpelier to object to a proposed bill which would amend present statutes on bingo so that fraternal organizations and school groups would be exempt from the need for a license to operate a bingo game.

When informed that the law already permits churches to run bingo games, the ministers said they believed the majority of Vermont churches would favor repeal of the present law so as to prohibit bingo being conducted by any group.

Lutheran College Honors Retired Church Editor: Miss Rachel K. McDowell, who retired on January 1 from her post as religious news editor of *The New York Times*, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Valparaiso University, Lutheran, in Valparaiso, Indiana.

The degree was granted in absentia, since Miss McDowell was unable to come here from New York because of illness. She is expected to attend commencement ceremonies on June 5, at which time she will officially accept the degree.

A veteran newspaperwoman, Miss McDowell served with *The Times* for 29 years. In 1908 she was named the first religious news editor of the *New York Herald*.

Marriage Course Launched in Oregon Episcopal Churches: "Successful Marriage and the Christian Family" is the title of a new study course introduced in churches of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Oregon. It is the first course of its kind launched in any Episcopal diocese in the United States.

Inaugurated by A. Ronald Merrix, field officer of the denomination's National Council, the course is said to pull no punches as to subject matter, and covers everything from money problems and in-laws to sex.

A Smile or Two

Old Lady: What rank did you hold?

Sailor: Ship's optician, lady.

Old Lady: I didn't know there was such a rank. What did you do?

Sailor: I scraped the eyes out of the potatoes.

—The Baptist Observer.

Girl (rushing into the hardware store): Quick, give me a mouse trap!

Clerk: Just a minute!

Girl: Don't stand there. I want to catch that man going down the street.

Clerk: Oh, sorry, madam. We haven't a trap that big.

—Exchange.

Michael had taken a rather strong dislike to kindergarten. All persuasion failed, and his mother in desperation told him firmly that he would have to go.

"All right, Mother," retorted Michael, "If you want me to grow up into an old bead-stringer, I'll go."

—Selected

A mountaineer and his wife visited the city for the first time. The husband was interested in the street pavements and concrete sidewalks.

Scraping his foot on the hard surfaces, he said to his wife: "I don't blame them for building the town here. The ground is so hard they couldn't plow it nohow."

—Selected

This really happened!

Harry and Martha were sprawled on the living-room floor gazing intently at a picture of a wrestler in a magazine.

Martha said, "He's perfect."

"Nobody is perfect," said Harry.

"Adam and Eve were," said Martha, to which Harry replied, "Adam might have been perfect, but Eve wasn't; she only had one bone in her and that was a rib."

—Contributed.

Recently the following testimony was received by a patent medicine concern: "For nine years I was totally deaf, and after using your ear salve for only ten days I heard from my brother in Nebraska."

—The Illinois Baptist.

She was a truly formidable female. As soon as she hit the front door of the little book shop she began, "I want a book for my husband. It's for his birthday tomorrow. I want to give it to him as a present. Show me what you have, please."

Then, without drawing a breath, she continued, "Nothing too expensive—nor too cheap. He's not very fond of sports; don't offer me any cheap novels. And don't try to put any dull history or biography on me, either. Come now! I'm in a hurry. I've wasted too much time already."

The quiet-mannered little man behind the counter picked up a chaste volume bound in blue.

"Yes, madam," he said. "Here's just the book your husband will like. It's called, 'How to Handle a Loud Speaker.'"

—Montreal Star.

One thing worse than being alone is to be with someone who makes being alone a pleasure.

—American Farm Youth.

Answer to Open Letter

By ROBERT G. LEE, D. D.

President, Southern Baptist Convention

Prayerfully interested have I been in Dr. Fred Moffatt's open letter addressed to me and the Committee on Order of Business for the forthcoming session of the Southern Baptist Convention—asking that we set aside one day of the Convention for prayer and testimony. This open letter has been published in some of our Baptist papers.

Knowing Dr. Moffatt's consecrated life, having been honored with his friendship for years, we appreciate his zealous interest in the work of our Lord as represented by our Convention and his concern that the churches of our Convention weigh all on God's scales that they should weigh. Moreover, we share his desire that our Baptist hosts be possessed of heavenly power and spiritual passion to the end that the regions round about us and all the ends of the earth shall have the Gospel preached unto them.

At the meeting of the Committee on Order of Business in Nashville last December, which meeting I attended, mention of the need of much prayer was made. And in January last, before I received Dr. Moffatt's open letter, I had written Dr. E. H. Westmoreland, chairman of the Committee on Order of Business, and each member of the committee, suggesting that we call for observance of a day of prayer in all the churches of our Southland, probably in April, before the meeting of our Southern Baptist Convention. All agreed that we should have such a day when all of our people would take time to pray—and then really pray. The calling all our people to repentance and prayer in all of our churches and seminaries and educational institutions was our purpose.

As I see it, the president and the Committee on Order of Business have not the authority to set aside such a day, according to the Constitution and by-laws. And certainly we disparage not Dr. Moffatt's article, knowing full well that he wrote this open letter with the gracious purpose to glorify God and to help our people to be greater Christians and, being greater Christians, to render greater service to our Lord, believing as he wrote that he was led of God. If the Convention votes to set aside a whole day for prayer and testimony, it can, of course, do so.

Of course, all of our preachers know that today men and women are bewildered and distracted by the problems and difficulties of life. There are so many problems that can not be solved, so many dangers that can not be averted, so many burdens that can not be borne by human strength and wisdom, ingenuity, and genius. What we need is what God can do. What God can do will be done for us when God's people pray. There is nothing so necessary in the lives of the churches and individuals today as earnest, continued, importunate prayer. Only through prayer can we have the spirit to co-operate in a world-wide program—and deepen our own spirituality.

It is the conviction of all who have proved the faithfulness of God that nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God. There is no such thing as unanswered prayer when the basis of our beseeching is found within that sovereign will.

We all know this—all know that, as I said in my call to prayer for October 27 last year, prayer should be the portion, pastime, and passion of Southern Baptists.

But, after much thought, I offer this plan for calling our people to repentance and prayer instead of Dr. Moffatt's proposal as expressed in his OPEN LETTER:

That we ask our churches to set aside a day for repentance and prayer in April—stressing the importance and necessity of such in view of the needs and miseries of the world—so varied and complex. If all of our pastors and their people would do this before the Convention, we would have millions praying instead of the few thousand who attend the Convention. Then we have the expectancy that we should begin, continue, and end our Convention in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Humbly confessing our sins, wisely recognizing that what we need most is what God can do for us—through us, let us have prayer assemblies in the Convention hall, before the opening hours of the Convention sessions. Many could thus gather for prayer.

Could we not—let me ask—have many who could and would remain after each session for a season of prayer?

Let us have small group prayer meetings in the hotels after the night sessions—where men and women will intercede with God for all the causes and all the people for whom we should pray.

I would suggest that in journeying to the Convention that there be prayer meetings held on the trains and planes enroute to Oklahoma City such as our Baptist Students have and hold traveling to Ridgecrest and other assembles. And—for all those who come in cars—why not pause occasionally for a prayer in the car on the side of the road or as stops are made at gas stations? And, since it takes only one to drive a car, let those who are not driving hold occasional prayer sessions in the car—as along the highways they journey.

No one is more anxious to do the best thing in all this than am I and the Committee on Order of Business. And nobody could possibly be more concerned than the forthcoming Southern Baptist Convention be an expression of supernatural power when all of us shall be out of sight and Christ exalted—than are we. We agree with many others that it is high time that we "search and try our ways and turn again to the Lord," as Jeremiah says.

But shall we wait for our Convention in Oklahoma City to do this? Would it not be wiser to seek to get our people to repent, to come to an absolute end of themselves and relinquish to Christ everything of self, everything of the flesh, everything displeasing to him before the Convention? If this we bring about, we would have millions praying and giving testimony and humbling themselves under the mighty hand of God all over our land rather than just several thousand doing so in Oklahoma City. This would indeed be great preparation for our Convention. This, it seems to me, would be wiser than Dr. Moffatt's plan. Prayerfully and with no presumptuous step of a know-it-all, do I write this.

Recently Dr. Moffatt wrote me: "I am not really concerned about the way in which this may be accomplished, but I am hoping and praying a day of prayer will become a reality." This is what I, and others wanted when, last October, I tried to call all our churches through our denominational press to a day of prayer. I shall do this again. Until then, and ever, let us remember that prayer and power are cause and effect.

Bubble Gum and the Liquor Store

By HUGH BRIMM

Chairman, Social Service Commission

In the community center where I do my shopping there is a package liquor store with a sign in the window—Bubble Gum for Sale. Through the door can be seen an ice box from which "soft drinks" are sold.

On several occasions I have seen children going into this liquor store to make purchases—not of whiskey to be sure because that would be illegal; rather they go in to buy their favorite soft drinks or the bubble gum which is such a fad with the youngsters. But wait, children in a liquor store?

What is the law? A letter from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control in Frankfort informed me that "the licensee is prohibited by law from selling any alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years of age; however, there is no law prohibiting minors from entering the premises to make purchases of other commodities."

This situation calls to mind the ingenious bartender in New Jersey who recently inaugurated a "Children's Hour" in his saloon. He operates one of the modern "Television Bars" and when it is time for the telecasts which are produced especially for the "kiddies," he calls them in. After the program he turns up the lights and probably says, "Now go home like nice kids and come back tomorrow for some more—"

More what? Tomorrow he means television programs but there are other tomorrows—kids grow up you know and television runs on into the night. Why not come back for the other shows? And why not express your appreciation to the bartender for his generosity by buying an occasional drink?

But back to the "bubble gum and package store"—Are we to look for the time when package stores will put in a toy department or even operate a nursery on the side while Mama does her shopping?

It could be done you see because Kentucky's law does not prohibit "package stores from handling other commodities—" so I was informed by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control in Frankfort.

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Japanese Christian Educators Leave for U. S.

Three prominent Japanese Christian educators, two of them women, have sailed from the port of Yokohama for the United States where they will study American educational methods in secondary schools and colleges.

The three are affiliated with women's colleges in Japan. They are Dr. Senji Tsuru, principal of Yamate Jagakuin of Yokohama city (formerly Ferris Seminary for Girls); Miss Tano Kamishiro, professor of English at Tokyo Women's University; and Miss Taki Fujita, professor at Tsuda English College.

Dr. Tsuru is expected to attend the annual meeting of the Reformed Church in America, to be held in Buck Hill Falls, Pa., in May, and the United Bible Societies Conference, tentatively scheduled to be held in New York during June. He is chairman of the Committee for the Revision of the Old Testament for the Japan Bible Society.

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Omaha Protestant Churches Gain Six Per Cent: Protestant churches of Omaha, Nebraska, gained six per cent in membership last year according to W. Bruce Hadley, executive secretary of the Omaha Council of Churches.

During the same period, he said, the city's population increased by about two per cent.

—Religious News Service.

Church Sovereignty and Volunteer Co-operation

By O. W. TAYLOR

Next to our personal religious liberty, guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, Southern Baptists cherish their local church sovereignty. All groups of twice born individuals, bound together in covenant relationship as churches, knowing that they have access to the leadership of the infallible Holy Spirit, should make their decisions and direct their actions without fear of intervention from any other sovereign group—political or religious. They should make their decisions, map their programs, and execute their plans under one authority, which is Christ, "the Head of the church," and His holy Word. These God-given, government-protected rights have ever been held sacred by Southern Baptists.

As in all cases of worthwhile privileges and blessings there necessarily evolves an equal amount of responsibility. This principle has been duly exploited in relation to our missionary, educational, and benevolent program. Admitting that it is the sacred privilege of any New Testament church to refuse to cooperate with any other church or group of churches, we are forced to the conclusion that such a church assumes the whole responsibility of carrying out the whole Commission of Jesus. This is an impossible task for a single congregation. Our churches are coming more and more to see this principle, and are joining hearts, hands, and purses in the greatest volunteer mission program in all history.

Regarding Church Polity

Concerning the inter-relationship as regards church polity, the acts and decisions of any one church are to be considered authoritative and final; therefore the acts and decisions of all other New Testament churches must be considered authoritative and final. If one church is to retain its local sovereignty it is compelled to respect the sovereignty of all other like bodies.

The laws of the State are expected to respect and protect the legal decisions and acts of any religious body, when such decisions and acts are in accord with that body's established polity. Baptists have no printed and binding laws, other than that laid down in the New Testament.

Church business may be summed up under three heads, viz: property rights, membership, and officers. As to property rights the New Testament is practically silent. The Cannon of the New Testament seems to have been closed even before churches began to own their own homes. But such financial matters as came up were handled by popular vote of the local body, or where necessary, committees were appointed to execute them.

On the basis of these scriptural precedents our churches appoint trustees to make and hold title to property, and usually name buying agents. Where these are duly elected and accurately recorded, the State faithfully defends and protects.

Church Sovereignty

Concerning church sovereignty and church membership, one becomes a member of a New Testament church by a vote of that church—after regeneration and baptism—and in no other way. He retains that membership

on the basis of a consistent scriptural life. Here again, every Baptist body, by virtue of its sovereignty, is bound to respect the acts of all other similar bodies. To refuse a member coming duly recommended from a sister church would be to challenge the other church's authority and scripturalness. To receive an excluded member of a sister church would likewise challenge the other church's rights. So for one church to recognize or refuse to recognize members contrary to the decisions of another church is to deny that church its sovereign right of decision.

Inter-relationship

Concerning the inter-relationship as it affects officers of a church, bishops and deacons are the only officers under consideration. Certainly, they are the only officers set aside for life by solemn ordination. Ordination is for life, but functioning as such officer in any particular church may be terminated by either contracting party, and must be begun in a different church by the agreement of both. Since the ordination is for life, and the individual is potentially an officer in any New Testament church, the scriptures enjoin great caution regarding persons to be ordained. They are to be thoroughly proved, and must measure up to a spiritual standard and doctrinal integrity not demanded of the rank and file of church members. Because of the importance and duration of these positions it is a time-honored tradition, if not definite New Testament teaching, that a church needing to set aside one or more of its members to one of these sacred positions, called in a council of trusted, experienced pastors and deacons to question, advise, and assist in the ordination, so that these sacred scriptural church offices are thus protected from novices, imposters, and heretics.

Examples of Ordaining Councils

To illustrate what I mean—two brethren were being examined as candidates for deacons. It was evident that neither one knew much of general Bible doctrines, and still less of distinctive Baptist practices. In trying to pull out of one tangle the leader of the examination asked one candidate if he would be willing to eat the Lord's Supper with a group of unbaptized people, if he were convinced that they were all Christians. He said he certainly would. The other candidate said that he just did not know. The council immediately recommended that the ordination be postponed, and the church accepted the recommendation.

I knew one brother who was forced to face a council two or three times, with a lot of study between times, before it was ever decided that he was a worthy prospect for pastor of a New Testament Church. It should be remembered that so-called ordaining councils are called not to ordain, but to pass on the spiritual and doctrinal qualifications of the candidate. We who are called on such councils should be true to our trust, and, most of all, true to the scriptures under which authority all Baptist bodies function.

Carelessness on the part of an ordaining council may lead to an embarrassing situation, even to tragic results. Certainly no person should be ordained as a deacon or as a minister of the gospel unless the ordaining church

Majority of Southern Baptist Churches Have Fewer Than 200 Members

By PORTER ROUTH

More than 64 per cent of all of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention have fewer than 200 members, according to information supplied by the associational clerks which will appear in the 1949 Southern Baptist Handbook, soon to be published by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Of the 26,822 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention, 32.8 per cent have fewer than 100 members, 31.8 per cent have between 101-200 members, and 89.3 per cent of the total number have 500 members or less. Fewer than 1 per cent of the churches have more than 2,000 members. Of the 233 churches with more than 2,000 members, 63 are located in Texas. But Texas also has 1,138 churches with 100 or less members.

More than half of the churches in Arizona, California, and Kansas have fewer than 100 members. Of the larger states, Arkansas leads in the number of churches with 100 members or less with 460 churches in this group, or 45.9 per cent. The record of each state, with the number of churches in each group classification will appear in the 1949 Handbook.

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How It Could Happen

By CHARLES A. WELLS

We should never forget that the entire world around us is caught in a flood of economic and social disaster. We are living on an island of good fortune. Any examination of the developments that brought chaos to the rest of the earth reveals that spiritual collapse preceded civil collapse; moral disintegration came before economic and social breakdown. Materialism is the best term to describe the moral and spiritual indifference, the selfishness and the irresponsibility that has undermined modern civilization. That process of disaster is clearly evident in America today. The voice of religion has been sounding a warning—but far too few pay any attention. Many people are worried about our economic and political future—but blind to the fact that our economic and political future depends upon our spiritual present. Must we lose our democratic way of life before we learn that democracy, prosperity—even civilization itself—depends upon the spiritual life of mankind?

has full knowledge of his life and practices. Even then, it is only after a selected council of brethren has conducted a comprehensive examination that the candidate is finally ordained.

Many tragic examples of carelessness in the ordination of deacons and preachers might be cited; perhaps the reader will be reminded of such cases.

We who sit with ordaining councils must be true to our trusts, not allowing sentiment to run away with our loyalty to the scriptures, no fear of criticism to keep us from contending earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints. We do have a distinct church polity and it is all laid down in the new Testament. Let's stay with it without fear or favor. Baptists are indeed a peculiar people.

L. A. Brown Given Direct Mission Post



Dr. L. A. Brown

Dr. L. A. Brown of Los Angeles, California, has been elected field worker in the direct missions department of the Home Mission Board.

He will be assisting Dr. Courts Redford, assistant executive secretary, who is assuming temporary charge of the department until a suitable person can be secured to replace Dr. Alfred Carpenter, who has been made director of the Chaplains Commission for the Southern Baptist Convention. Secretary Redford had charge of this department prior to the time Dr. Carpenter became its leader.

Since 1946 Dr. Brown has been serving the Home Mission Board as field worker among the language groups in the Western states. In his new duties, which he will assume March 1, he will make surveys, help in the opening of new mission fields, check on building projects, and interview prospective missionaries.

Dr. Brown, who speaks four languages—English, Spanish, German, and French—is especially suited to this task. He has been a pastor since the age of seventeen and has been successful in his work among the language groups in the West.

He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Missouri; Central Missouri State Teachers College, Warrensburg, Missouri; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky; and Webster University, where he earned his Ph. D. degree.

Matthews Leads Evangelistic Campaign In Alaska

Five outstanding Southern Baptist preachers will leave Dallas, Texas, by plane on March 11 for Alaska, where they will conduct simultaneous revival services in each of the Southern Baptist churches there.

This tour is under the direction of Dr. C. E. Matthews, superintendent of evangelism for the Home Mission Board, who will preach at the First Baptist Church, Anchorage.

Others making the trip are: Dr. James W. Middleton, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, to preach at Ketchikan; Dr. David Gardner, editor, *The Baptist Standard*, Dallas, Texas, to preach at the First Baptist Church, Juneau; Dr. Ramsey Pollard, Broadway Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, to preach at Fairbanks; and Dr. W. D. Wyatt, First Baptist Church, Muskogee, Oklahoma, to preach at the Second Baptist Church, Anchorage.

It is the purpose of this preaching mission not only to win converts to the Lord Jesus Christ, but to strengthen the churches in Alaska, and to help in the establishment of the work of the Home Mission Board as it opens mission activities in that great land of mission opportunities.

A Chance For You to Help

By JOHN CAYLOR

Because more than one-third of the income of the Home Mission Board comes through the Annie W. Armstrong offering, and because the Board has been cut in its receipts from the Co-operative Program, this year's March Week of Prayer offering is especially vital to the ongoing of the work of home missions.

The Annie W. Armstrong offering presents to Southern Baptists an opportunity to give to a fund which is used solely for mission work. Every penny given through this offering goes to mission work, none is kept out for operating expenses or any other purposes.

The work of the Home Mission Board grows constantly. The newest mission field is in Alaska, that great land of opportunity, where only five tiny Southern Baptist churches and mission stations are now struggling for a foothold.

Those who would like to have a part in preaching the gospel to neglected and unreached people in the United States, Cuba, Panama, Costa Rica, and Alaska may do so through the Annie W. Armstrong offering.

Mission Work in Arkansas

By C. W. CALDWELL,

Superintendent of Missions

Current River, along with many other associations in the state, plans to have an Associational Simultaneous Crusade. It was the privilege of your Superintendent to spend a few days in that association speaking in Corning, Pocahontas, and Biggers. All but four churches have definitely agreed to participate in the Simultaneous Revival.

The Superintendent of Missions has been asked to be the general director of the campaign. Each pastor has been given an outline of the preparation and promotion and at a later date will meet together for a detailed study and the setting up of a complete organization.

Has your association made any plans for a Simultaneous Revival? If so, has your church voted to co-operate? It means so much more to have every church co-operating in such a movement. It distributes responsibility and equalizes all publicity. The revival during the Simultaneous Crusade may not be the only one held by the church during the year. In fact, it may be an extra meeting with the church having another at their regular time.

If any pastor would like to have an outline of the plan of procedure, we will be glad to mail it to him on request. The book, "Southern Baptists' Program of Evangelism" should be off the press within a few weeks. Every pastor should secure one and read it thoroughly. If there is anything the Department of Missions can do to help in promoting the Associational Simultaneous Campaign, it is ready to do its best in every way.

What has been the reaction to the objective "One Baptism For Twelve Members?" Is there anything wrong in working and praying to reach that many souls for Christ? Last year we averaged only one baptism for every 15 members. With many of the associations

Alma Mater Honors Lewis W. Martin



Lewis W. Martin

Lewis W. Martin, secretary, Schools of Missions, Home Mission Board, was recently honored by his alma mater, Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, with the degree of doctor of divinity. The degree was conferred January 28 in connection with ceremonies celebrating the dedication of the John L. Hill Chapel recently erected on the campus.

Dr. Martin, who received his A.B. from Georgetown College and his Th.M. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, has been employed by the Home Mission Board since 1934. For nine years he served as missionary-evangelist in the Kentucky mountains. Since 1943 he has been in charge of promoting Schools of Missions for the Board.

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Wanted: Seven-Day Christians

A theology professor has warned that the conduct of Christians in Sunday church services and their conduct in business and social events of the week are too often quiet different. He urged a re-emphasis on the meaning of the conversion experience for everyday living.

"Baptists reject the liberal theological view which holds that there is no need for a conversion experience," said the professor, Dr. Finley B. Edge. "But at the same time we fail to emphasize that the development of Christian personality and character should follow that conversion experience. True evangelism includes both the initial experience with Christ and the development of Christian character.

"A drunkard who is won by the church will readily understand that he must give up drink," Dr. Edge continued. "Men and women must also be led to see that the embracing of Christian faith also means the giving up of shady business deals, the paying of starvation wages, and everything else not in harmony with the teachings of Christ."

—Baptist Bulletin Service.

promoting Simultaneous Revivals and with many churches having at least two revivals during the year, we should considerably increase the number of baptisms.

R. O. Ekruat of Strong, Arkansas has written that his church has voted to try to reach even more than the suggested number. It will be interesting in the annual meeting of the associations to show the ratio of baptisms for every church. Let's get busy now in this matter of soul winning.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Outstanding Speaker for G. A. Conference

Will your G. A. be represented at Arkansas' twenty-fifth Conference for Intermediate G. A.s? On March 4-6 two hundred girls and counselors will gather at Central College for this all important meeting.

Among the outstanding speakers will be Miss Wilma Weeks of Kansas City who has served several terms as a missionary in China. Because of war conditions in that country she will not be returning there soon, but will go to join Southern Baptist mission work in Hawaii at a very early date. She is one whom every conferee will long remember.

Our Home Mission work will be represented by Miss Irene Chambers, field representative of the Board. Many of our own state leaders will participate. The program promises to be one of the best!

Conference will open with a banquet on Friday evening, March 4, and will close the following Sunday noon, after dinner. Each Intermediate Girls Auxiliary is entitled to send four girls and a counselor, or chaperon. Attendance is limited to two from any one organization when no counselor comes.

The total cost of the Conference is \$6.50 per person. Registration fee of \$1.00 per person should be mailed immediately to Miss Nancy Cooper, 209 Baptist Building. This will apply against the total cost, and the balance is payable upon arrival.

Detailed instructions for each conferee and directions for reaching Central College were mailed to counselors of Intermediate G. A.s. If you have not received yours, notify the W. M. U. office immediately.

Our Annual Meeting

March 29-31 are the dates for the Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union of Arkansas to be held at Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock. An unusually fine roster of speakers representing the world-wide mission program of Southern Baptists has been secured. Miss Blanche White, the distinguished Executive Secretary of W. M. U. of Virginia, will represent Southern Woman's Missionary Union. Dr. M. T. Rankin, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, will be with us on Wednesday evening, March 30. Other missionaries who will speak will include Miss Josephine Scaggs, from Nigeria; John Abernathy from China; Brother and Mrs. P. D. Sullivan from South America; Dr. Alfred Carpenter, Secretary of the Chaplains Commission of the Home Mission Board; Mrs. George Wilson, missionary to many tribes of Indians in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Many of our own



Miss Wilma Weeks

state leaders will also participate.

Tuesday evening a pageant entitled "Hitherto—Henceforth" and written by Mrs. Ralph Douglass, Helena, will be presented at the First Church. The annual banquet for Young Women's auxiliary will also be held at the First Church on Tuesday evening.

Plan now to attend this sixtieth annual meeting of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Union of Arkansas.

Coronation at Immanuel, Pine Bluff

At Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff, where Paul Fox is pastor, the evening hour of worship on February 13 was devoted to a Coronation Service for Girls Auxiliary. The Star Ideals of the organization were magnified in lovely decorations, and thirty-one young people participated in the service. Mrs. Sam Davis, Young People's director of the Woman's Missionary Society, presided and Miss Nancy Cooper, executive secretary of Arkansas W. M. U., made the awards.

The following were recognized:

Maidens: Marilyn Scallion, Peggy Campbell, Jeanette Mayfield, Elsie Palmer, Frankie Atchley, Frances Harper, Martha Ann Mayfield, Margie Petty, Ila Fay Campbell, and Sandra Curlin.

Lady-in-Waiting: Patricia Burns, Reba Mize, and Wanda Burns.

Princess: Isla Jean George, Maxine Varnell, Mary Murrow, Ann Freeman, Peggy Riley, Marion Mize, and Frances Gray.

Queens: Shirley Bea Massingale, Barthena Carter, and Dorothy Nell Gray.

Flower Girls (from the Sunbeam Band): Judy Church, Janet Freeman, Janet Moran, Rosemary West, Gwendolyn Pearson, Shirley Ann Smith, and Jennie Marie Vincill.

The Finance Committee Suggested Activities

"Thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:18a).

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Malachai 3:10).

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him" (I Corinthians 16:2).

The general purposes of the Finance Committee are: (1) To lead men into regular, habitual, scriptural giving; (2) to lead men to bring their tithes and offerings into God's house for God's use; and (3) to lead men to support with their means the whole program of their church and denomination.

1. Work continually at the task of getting every man in the Brotherhood on the dotted line of the church's financial program.

2. Lead men to tithe. Only tithers can lead others to tithe!

3. Lead the Brotherhood to study the church budget. Help each man to know the exact distribution the church makes of the money it receives.

4. Assist the pastor and church finance committee in the preparations for the annual Every Member Canvass. Provide speakers for Sunday School classes and departments, and for Training Union assemblies. Provide speakers to present the church's budget at several congregational services.

5. Assist in making the Every Member Canvass.

6. Work to get the pastor's salary up to a level where he will not have to worry about making a living. Work to see that all church employees are adequately paid for their services.

7. Help the church to raise its financial sights, and to give an increasingly larger percentage of its income through the Co-operative Program.


8. See that the church puts the pastor in the Retirement Plan of the Relief and Annuity Board.

Heralds (from the R. A.): Robert Owen and Billy Joe Short.

It is a joy to see the missionary education of our young people magnified in such an admirable way. Immanuel is to be congratulated on not only the presentation, but the enthusiastic acceptance of the program. Demonstrations were presented by each group depicting the study and activities they were engaged in to attain their rating.

Mrs. N. V. Massengale is president of the W. M. U. of that church.

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209 Baptist Bldg.
Little Rock
NELSON F. TULL
Secretary

9. Demonstrate to the Brotherhood the mechanics of the Co-operative Program, both of the State and the Southland. Sell the men on the concept that by giving through the Co-operative Program they can have a part in everything that Baptists are doing everywhere.

10. Distribute to and through the Brotherhood tracts on stewardship, tithing, the Co-operative Program, in co-operation with the Education Committee.

11. Prepare graphs and posters concerning church finances: "The Church Dollar"; the number of tithers; and similar ones. Use these in the Brotherhood meeting and elsewhere throughout the church.

12. Work to get every year a larger number of tithers than the year before.

13. Work to inculcate in every man ideals of Christian Stewardship. Stewardship of time, talents, money, and abilities.

14. Work with the Program Vice President to see that Stewardship programs are presented several times each year to the Brotherhood.

15. Visit each new church member to inform him concerning the church budget, and enlist him in the support of the church's financial program.

16. Encourage the church to provide needed space and adequate facilities, and to make everything about the church plant safe, useful, and attractive, that the church may grow increasingly and unceasingly.

17. If it has not already been done, initiate a movement to provide the pastor and his family a comfortable and attractive place to live.

18. Encourage the church to send the pastor to the State Convention and to the Southern Baptist Convention. The church will profit by doing so.

19. Make the Finance Committee a group of excellent examples of faithful stewards.

20. Promote stewardship study courses within the Brotherhood and throughout the entire church.

"Lead a man to be a faithful steward and his family will follow."

Religious Education

EDGAR WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR

EDGAR WILLIAMSON
 Sunday School Superintendent
 RALPH W. DAVIS
 Training Union Director
 Baptist Building, Little Rock

T. D. McCULLOCH
 Student Union Secretary
 MRS. B. W. NININGER
 Church Music Director



Introducing New South-wide Beginner Superintendent

On January 1, Miss Helen Young took up her duties with the Sunday School Board as South-wide Beginner Superintendent.

Miss Young is a graduate of Hannibal LaGrange in Missouri. She spent one summer at the University of California, and another summer at University of Missouri. She also completed a course in education at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She taught school four years; served as superintendent of Training at the Lamar Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, and has been with G. S. Hopkins in the Texas state office the past two and one-half years. In both training and experience Miss Young is eminently qualified for this important field of service.



Miss Helen Young

Summer Music Schools

Dates are now being scheduled for Summer Music Schools.

Write early so that your church will not be disappointed.

What?

Two weeks of Church Music Emphasis for all the people.

Daily morning classes for Primaries, Juniors, and Intermediates.

Daily evening classes for Young People and Adults.

Who?

Ten part time associate music workers from our colleges, seminaries, and music studios carry on this work under the supervision of the state music director.

How?

Choose a time when music can have the right-of-way in all departments. Write Mrs. B. W. Nininger, 212 Baptist Building, and ask for a worker.

Cost?

Since these associate workers receive no salary from this department, the church served is expected to pay their traveling expenses, furnish entertainment during the school, and give a minimum honorarium of \$35 a week for this work.

Dr. Robert G. Lee often described Jesus' way of life by saying that he taught us to live by dying, to get rich by becoming poor, to win by losing, to get up by getting down.

Pulaski County Association to Use More Students In Summer Service

Churches of Pulaski County association have been using college students for some time in summer service. A number of these students have been used most successfully in Vacation Bible School work, and those that it has been my pleasure to work with have been so pleasing to the churches that they have always been invited back, and the children were never ready for the school to close. I sincerely urge the use of college students for Vacation Bible School work. If you need summer workers write T. D. McCulloch, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

MRS. GEORGE CORNELL
 Pulaski County Asso. V. B. S. Director.

There is only one kind of genuine revival, and that is an awakening which comes to the ears of the people by and through the direct work of the Holy Spirit. He was right who said that revivals are never worked up but always brought down.

—Ellis Fuller.

This is a sad day for intellectual cowards or spiritual morons, but it is a glad day, indeed a thrilling day, for the true disciples of Christ. For when we embrace the universe as Christocentric, it becomes for us a harmonious whole.

—Harold W. Tribble.

Soul Winning a Major Task of Baptist Student Union

By T. D. McCULLOCH
 State Student Secretary

It was Student Evangelistic Week on the campus. Noon day devotions, the prayer mates theme, Sunday School, and Training Union department exercises, were all given over to Student Evangelistic Emphasis. A book on soul winning was taught, a list of the wayward and unsaved students on the campus was carefully prepared, and made available. Prayer and testimony was a part of the program. Within their hearts had been kindled a desire to see the lost saved.

All Baptist Student Union activities took on a new atmosphere. Christ was given a more central place. Without publicity, a few gathered to pray while a fellow-student went to talk with a lost friend. Joyful testimonies were given occasionally at the B. S. U. meetings.

God showered His blessings—as He always does, when we seek to do His will sacrificially. Many lives were dedicated during the week of study and preparation. The first individual was led to Christ the following week, another two weeks later, three the sixth week, one the seventh week, and so on throughout the college year. One by one, they made a profession of faith publicly, and gave testimony of personal work done by students in prayer meetings,

dormitory rooms, on the campus, at socials, and on the playgrounds.

Joe, a veteran and a church member, attended a B. S. U. Fellowship Hour. Throughout the evening students laughed and played together. The hour was concluded with a brief and challenging Hymn-sing and devotion. As Joe left, he was heard to say, "This is the first social that I ever attended at which everything was on a high level from beginning to end—I had never heard a devotion at the close of a party." It was easy for a fellow student to talk with him, and to lead him to a re-dedication of life.

One young lady won her first soul to Christ. It was her first attempt at talking with anyone about their soul, and she was afraid. After making the appointment with her lost friend, she lost courage and tried to get the B. S. U. president to go in her place. With a promise of prayer from a group of girls, and the B. S. U. president, she met with her friend in the prayer room of the Student Center. When they came out, arm in arm, tear-laden eyes and bright smiles gave evidence that all was well.

After talking with him several times, Bill brought his friend to the pastor—there he soon found Christ.

To be sure, every person should be busy at the job of personal soul winning during the entire year, but most of us know that it is a matter about which we talk much and do little. If Christ taught any one thing, it was that his followers were to share the good news of salvation. Soul winning is a task for the community and the campus.

Student Evangelistic Week, an annual emphasis on the Baptist Student Union Calendar of Events is a week of planned study and soul winning endeavor for college students. Pray for them, and guide them in their efforts.

Assembly Reservations Are Now Being Accepted

1. Arkansas Baptist Assembly Reservations should be made now. Reservations will be accepted only for those who send in name or names, with a \$2.00 reservation fee for each individual. If accepted (receipt issued), no reservation fee will be returned.
2. Reservation fees will be credited to the account of those for whom reservation is made.
3. All reservations will be accepted on a "first come, first served" basis, and will be held only until 9:00 p. m., Tuesday, July 5, unless otherwise arranged. All reservations unclaimed at this time will be reassigned.
4. Requests for reservations, accompanied by reservation fees should be sent to Dr. Edgar Williamson, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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Hymn of the Month

MARCH

"Fling out the Banner"

WALTHAM

CALKIN

DOANE

*Fling out the banner! let it float
Sky-ward and sea-ward, high and wide;
The sun that lights its shining folds,
The cross on which the Saviour died.*

*Fling out the banner! angels bend
In anxious silence o'er the sign,
And vainly seek to comprehend
The wonder of the love divine.*

*Fling out the banner! heathen lands
Shall see from far the glorious sight,
And nations crowding to be born,
Baptize their spirits in its light.*

*Fling out the banner! sin-sick souls,
That sink and perish in the strife,
Shall touch in faith its radiant hem,
And spring immortal into life.*

*Fling out the banner! wide and high,
Seaward and skyward, let it shine:
Nor skill, nor might, nor merit ours;
We conquer only in that sign.*

Although written by Bishop George Washington Doane long before such a symbol was adopted, this hymn has long since been known as the "hymn of the Christian flag." At every service where people stand reverently before it and repeat the words: "I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands, one brotherhood uniting all mankind in service and love," this rousing hymn is recalled and often sung with deep feeling. Written expressly for a flag raising ceremony at St. Mary's School in Burlington, New Jersey, in the year 1848, the song soon was claimed by Christians of all faiths. Such universality is easily understood by those aware that the two motivating objectives of Dr. Doane's life were the promotion of Christian education and the propagation of the Gospel around the world.

"Fling Out the Banner," the product of such world-embracing dedication could never be confined in its scope. It will always belong to people wherever the torch of education and evangelism is carried. Couched in vivid, picturesque language, its poetry reveals some of the epochs and teachings in the earthly ministry of our Lord. A celebrated historian has said of this hymn: "What can be more stirring, more ringing, than these triumphant notes? How original and how striking is the reference in the fourth stanza to the hem of the Savior's garment? What a fine use is made of the scriptural truth of the angels' interest in the work of redemption. How unusual the conception of the spiritual birth of nations voiced in the phrase "crowding to be born." (The History and Use of Hymns and Hymn-tunes, by David R. Breed, copyrighted by Fleming Revell Co.)

Americans are very proud of a native son, George Washington Doane, who was born in Trenton, New Jersey, in 1799, the year in which the great "father of his country" died. Educated for the ministry and fully dedicated in life and talent, he served some of the larger city churches, including Trinity of New York and Trinity of Boston. Throughout his useful life he was spoken of as the "missionary Bishop."

The Hymn Tune

Waltham, the majestic hymn-tune is ideally suited to the text. Both possess a stately sweep of rhythm and each compliments the other. This characteristic is one of the identifications of a great hymn. John Baptiste Calkin, the composer, was one of the world's renowned church musicians. English-born, his education thorough in all branches of literary and music training, he served for many years in important places of leadership—as organist, choirmaster, teacher, and composer at St. Columbia's College, Ireland, Guildhall School of Music, Croydon Conservatory, and several large churches in London.

It is suggested to play the tune in the Key of F rather than as it is written, in order to give it force and brightness. Sustaining the last word of each stanza also lends emphasis to the song.

—Ruth Nintger.

Personal Adventures With Jesus

B. H. Duncan,

\$1.50

It is a distinct pleasure to announce the publication of *Personal Adventures With Jesus* by B. H. Duncan, editor of *The Arkansas Baptist*. The author is a native of Kentucky and a graduate of Bethel College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the author of another Broadman "Book of Merit," *From Bondage to Freedom*, which was published in 1947.

In this book of fifteen brief messages the author gives intimate glimpses of the influence and ministry of Jesus as recorded in the New Testament. Dr. Duncan's command of ideas and his warm and friendly way of expressing them makes the reader instantly aware that the book is the fruit of mature reflection and Christian living.

Chapter titles are:

- Spiritual Awareness
- Keeping Rendezvous With One's Soul
- Portraying Christ
- "Come, See a Man"
- A Sensation In Church
- A Tax Collector Resigns
- The Touch of Jesus
- The Chronic Sinner
- Remote Control
- The Moment of Suspense
- Christian Experience Defined
- The Embarrassed Disciples
- The Best Dish
- The Damascus Road
- A Vision of Eternity

Since each of the chapters is brief, the book lends itself admirably to program and devotional use. The many choice illustrative stories make it extremely helpful for those seeking material for use in talks in the Sunday School, prayer meeting, or in young people's groups.

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Monticello, Second	97	106 2
Douglasville, First	84	55 2
N. Little Rock, Grace	84	38 6
Sweet Home, Pine Grove	75	43 1
Bradley	71	1
Mena, Dallas Avenue	68	29
Grannis	66	61
Little Rock, Graves		
Memorial	66	60 2
Monte Ne	66	55
Monticello, Northside	63	
Little Rock, Plainview	62	53
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The Standard of the Kingdom

By MRS. ROLAND LEATH

Our lesson this week is taken from "The Sermon on the Mount"; Matthew records the entire sermon in his Gospel, chapters five through seven. This is the only fully recorded sermon of our Lord. Luke gives portions of it in Luke 6:20-49. A few thoughts about this sermon are worth our consideration before we enter into the interpretation of it.

This sermon was preached by the greatest preacher who ever expounded the truth of God, the eternal Son of God Himself; it was delivered by the highest authority, by far exceeding that of the scribes and Pharisees. This sermon did not reveal the way of life for sinful men, but the way of living for those who were followers of Christ already. The central theme of the sermon is "true righteousness." The scribes and Pharisees had an outward, artificial righteousness, a matter of profession and not practice. This righteousness of which Jesus spoke, purity within, is sure to produce the right conduct, influence, and work without.

The Character of Kingdom Citizens

Jesus taught His disciples exacting lessons; they were often puzzled about the nature of His Kingdom and wondered if He would lead them to triumph over Rome and avenge the burdens of the Jewish people. He taught them the great spiritual truths of the Kingdom and the spirit of the citizens. In this matchless Sermon on the Mount he showed them the Kingdom citizen as a person whose transformed life causes him to be different and to act differently.

The outstanding characteristic of the citizen of this Kingdom is happiness; for in the beatitudes which Jesus used to describe these citizens, He said "blessed" or happy shall be the man who meets the tests of Christian citizenship.

In the first place, the Kingdom citizen will possess the right relationship between himself and God. He will recognize his own unworthiness and his inability to possess the character of a Kingdom citizen within his own power. He needs the grace of God, for man alone is in dire spiritual poverty. "Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Goodspeed says "Blessed or happy are those who feel their spiritual need."

The character of this citizen, Jesus further reveals, is one who "mourns." That does not mean the spiritual person is unhappy, mournful as one who complains and goes about with a long face, but one who, realizing his spiritual need, will not be satisfied until he has made peace with his God. He is sorry for his sins, burdened because of them, and be-

Sunday School Lesson for

February 27, 1949

Matthew 5:1-12; 7:24-27

cause of the sins of others. This man shall be comforted.

This Kingdom citizen is "meek" in that the way of his Lord is acknowledged as best, and he is ever subject unto Him. He is a man whose character is molded by an increasing "hunger and thirst after righteousness." We see this as a desire for spiritual food and knowledge. The man spoken of here is not satisfied with sinful, useless living, but wants to dwell upon spiritual planes. He enjoys his church in my day and yours, wants to participate, wants others to come, wants the will of God done. We believe a characteristic of the Christian today is a desire to know the Word of God and an increasing effort to study it.

The Kingdom citizen is merciful; he does not live smugly to himself, but is serving and loving his fellow man. But, as he pities the sinful and seeks to show him the way, this citizen remains "pure in heart." He is as the white flower which grows midst the flying coal-dust in the side of the mine. Not a particle of the black dust adheres to the plant for it is protected by a wonderful substance to which no speck can cling. Living there, day after day, nothing can stain its snowy whiteness.

Happy is the man who makes peace among his fellow men and who faces persecution for the Lord's sake.

The Conduct of Kingdom Citizens

"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad" when persecuted is the standard of conduct which Jesus outlined. Do men know that you are a child of God by the way you live? It is easy to hurl back slanderous words and to argue with others, but it takes real manhood to rejoice and be Christ-like when others mistreat you. Jesus said you are in good company, for so were the prophets persecuted before you. Such conduct brings the reward of heaven.

The Kingdom citizen will act as salt to prevent sin and as light to lead men upward toward the Light of the World. His righteousness will exceed false profession and he will seek to live a life of peace, purity, truthfulness, and love. He is to be "perfect," that is, sincere and filled with love for God and man.

The conduct of the Kingdom citizen will be such as to teach the world that he trusts in God who cares for the birds of the air and the lilies of the field. He will "seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness."

Consequences of Obeying Jesus

In Matthew 7 we find many warnings as to the dangers which so easily beset the one who tries to live in the way of true righteousness. We must not sit in judgment of others or walk each day without praying to our God. We are to bring forth good fruit and beware of false teachers.

Those who obey all the words of Jesus in this marvelous sermon are classed as wise men. The consequence of obedience is that, regardless of what comes, the one who follows the Lord will stand victorious. Jesus used a familiar illustration to show that he who builds character on the truth of the words which He had spoken builds that which endures. He is likened to a wise man who built his house on a rock, the solid foundation. The rain, floods, and wind could not destroy it. But, those who do not that which Jesus taught are as the man who built his house upon the sand, a false foundation. The rain, floods, and wind beat upon such a house and it fell!

The world cannot apply the Sermon on the Mount; it is for Kingdom citizens. We become these citizens by faith in our Redeemer and He alone can make men and women become the characters portrayed in this majestic message of Jesus on the mountain.

FAILURE TO SUCCEED

By CHARLES CHAPMAN

A world-renowned composer and pianist was giving a concert. The audience crowded the hall to capacity, listened breathlessly as exquisitely beautiful and difficult passages sloped from his marvelously trained fingers. One brilliant passage ended in a run from one end of the keyboard to the other. Faultlessly, flawlessly flew his hands over the keys until they came to the last note—and then—he struck the wrong key.

A gasp from the audience! Could it be possible that this great master, the idol of the music-loving public, could make a mistake?

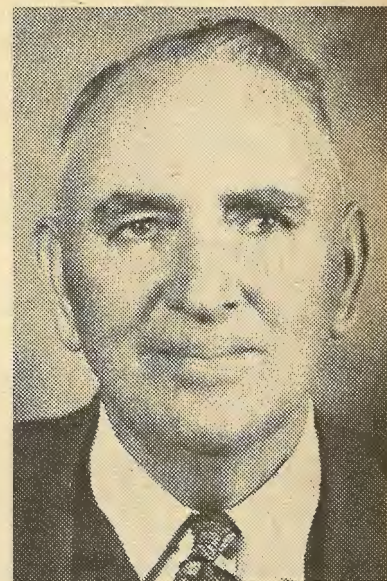
But the artist—what of him? An instant's pause, then a sweeping run down the keyboard in the key that he had struck, a masterly way of improving his way back from that key to the first one; and then a repetition of the first run, ending on the perfect note, and a finish so marvelous that it brought the whole audience to its feet in a storm of applause.

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Herman A. Johnson Claimed By Death



Herman A. Johnson of Rawls, Arkansas, passed away February 3, having spent 35 years in the gospel ministry. At the time of his death he was pastor of Corinth A Church of Rawls.

During his long ministry he held pastorates in Ashley, Bradley, Craighead, Desha, Drew, Mississippi, and Poinsett Counties. He was active in organizing new churches and Sunday Schools and preaching at mission points. He was a successful soul winner and stood fearlessly against sin and wickedness.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (II Timothy 4:7).

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Our Greatest Year

1948 proved to be by far the greatest year that the Arkansas Baptist State Convention has ever had. We mention a few items that reflect this fact. We raised more than \$136,000 for the Ouachita College Campaign. Central College was reopened in a new location with a large piece of property coming its way. There were more souls won and baptized than had ever occurred in one year among us. We developed and reconditioned a great office building in Little Rock. We celebrated our hundredth anniversary in such a fashion as to accelerate all our work. We raised more money by far than ever before in one year.

The total cash receipts for the calendar year amounted to \$82,1784.14. The total receipts and the balance which we had on hand at the beginning of the year made us accountable for \$1,002,763.71.

Reeves and El Dorado, First—and a Christian Principle

Many of our leaders are facing building programs. Some of these programs are large in their demands upon the finances of a church. In many cases the building program has been neglected or postponed. Until now it has become a necessity. The pastor and the church are often in a dilemma. "Shall we hold down our gifts for denominational causes and rush a large building program through, or shall we recognize that missions have a claim upon Baptist money, and that we at least must carry the mission program and the building program along together, and see to it that we do not rob missions, even for one year, in order to build."

Dr. George W. Truett used to say, "We can do both better than we can do just one." It seems to us also that no church can justify its actions if it takes a cool attitude toward the support of missions and a warm attitude toward its building program at home, or vice versa. Pastor Reeves and the First Church, El Dorado, have found a happy medium. The fact is, they are showing preference to Christ's great world mission program. They must build, but they are building a unit at a time in order to respond to the denominational calls. Read these noble paragraphs by Dr. Reeves:

Dear Brother Bridges:

At long last we have voted to start actual construction on our proposed quarter of a million expansion program, and I am proud of the policy agreed on. We are going to pay cash as we build so as not to hurt our mission gifts. That has been true from the beginning. While raising the first \$120,000 on our building fund we have given more than half of all money collected to missions—1948 saw 55 per cent to missions. This year's budget is a little more for missions than local causes, with a 20 per cent increase for the Co-operative Program. And too,

we have given around \$40,000 to Ouachita College and will pay the balance.

To keep it this way we are building one wing at a time. The other two wings to our educational plant will come as we get the money. It strikes me that our churches should go slow in the matter of creating large, burdensome building debts during this period of inflation, for we will surely have to pay it off in hard-to-get-money. I don't mean to say that no church should make a building debt, but I do mean that no church should endanger the world mission program by putting itself in first.

Naturally, I would like to see all three of our educational wings going up at once, but we will get them in time.

With Christian good wishes, I am
Cordially and fraternally yours,
Sam C. Reeves.

Ray Branscum and South Highland

Ray Branscum has been pastor of South Highland Church, Little Rock, four and one-half years. During this time there have been 654 additions, 225 of them by baptism. They have erected one building, bought a chapel and rebuilt it, and have built a dwelling house. Much money has been raised, and they only owe \$2,000 now. Their budget this year is \$18,000. They are having an average attendance of 300. Brother Branscum is one of our strongest preachers, and he is thoroughly a Baptist.

Hatfield and DeQueen

The First Church, DeQueen, has called Lawson Hatfield from Ashdown. Brother Hatfield is on the job at DeQueen, and is wonderfully leading the people. They are building their new church house. Hatfield is one of our strongest and best young preachers.

Russell Armer and Horatio

Horatio is still going strong under the leadership of Pastor Russell Armer. February 6 the church celebrated the pastor's third anniversary. During these three years there have been 32 by baptism. There have been 20 marriages, and 17 funerals. They have given for the Co-operative Program \$584, for Associational Missions \$300, for Christian Education \$950, etc. They have given \$11,407 for local work, and \$2,492 for outside causes. Remember that Horatio was the first church in Arkansas to pay its full quota on the Ouachita College Campaign. Armer is proving to be a wise leader and a mighty preacher. Deacon Hendrix of the Horatio church is Speaker of the House of Representatives in the State Legislature.

Tribute to the New Assistant Executive Secretary

Dr. B. L. Bridges:

"Doctor Bridges, I congratulate you at once upon your having selected Lucien E. Coleman as your assistant. I commend the Executive Committee and the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist Convention upon their electing him as assistant to you. It was my privilege to invite Brother Coleman to be my associate in the First Church, Springdale, soon after he dedicated his life to full time religious work. He is a big man, wise, with strong shoulders, and sound judgment, who will greatly reinforce you. His experience during twenty years as a successful attorney, and his services in the House of Representatives and in the State Senate gave him an understanding of human nature and a development in platform ability and statesmanship, which stand him well both as a preacher and an executive. During all these years he was studying his Bible, teaching, serving in almost every capacity in churches, and giving more time gratis to associational and denominational affairs than some thought he could afford. Now we can see that through all these devious paths God was developing a man greatly to be loved and trusted, as he would dedicate all his ability to religious statesmanship.

His keen intellect and his hot-hearted fervor will make him a power in every phase of denominational life in the state. I do not know all the Godly men in Arkansas well, but I think I know that God has led you and the Executive Board to the man in the State who is best qualified for the stupendous task which will be his. At once all the churches in Washington-Madison Association came to love him, respect him, and send him more calls for service than he could possibly fill while in Springdale. Their highest confidence was evident in their electing him as associational moderator before he had been among them a year. I greatly rejoice in the prospects of your burdens being lightened, and of his efficiency being felt throughout the state. I congratulate all of you and feel a tinge of home-sickness for the fellowship which I enjoyed while among you. May God's blessings be upon you for the completion of the Ouachita Endowment Campaign, for your success in promoting your largest denominational budget in history, and with the over-all challenge and blessings of winning more people to Christ this year than in any year of Arkansas Baptist history. From where the Mississippi flows along the border of Arkansas to the frozen sands of the Pacific in California, may we get ready in 1949 for our simultaneous revivals in our Crusade for Christ west of the Mississippi River, April 9-23, 1950.

Your friend and brother,

C. E. Wilbanks,

Superintendent of Evangelism,
California.