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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 48

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JULY 28, 1949

NUMBER 29

THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM 1950

TEN-MILLION DOLLAR GOAL
SBC

FOREIGN MISSION ADVANCE
3½ Million

CAPITAL NEEDS
All S.B.C. Agencies
2½ Million

CURRENT OPERATIONS
All S.B.C. Agencies
4 Million

Twenty-two
STATES
Evangelizing-Teaching-Serving

PROPORTION
Fifty-Fifty by 1950

COOPERATION
Every Baptist at Work Through the Cooperative Program

STEWARDSHIP
Every Baptist a Tither

SPIRITUAL REVIVAL
"Christ is the Answer"

Christian Stewardship Week
Fall of 1949

Supplemental Offering
June of 1950

A PYRAMID OF PROGRESS - A Spearhead for Advance

A Pyramid of Progress - Page 3

A Need for Mission Volunteers - Pages 2, 8, 9

As the Editor Sees It

Mission Volunteers

We publish on page eight the concluding statement of the Foreign Mission Board report to the Southern Baptist Convention in Oklahoma City last May, by Samuel E. Maddox, Secretary of the Department of Mission Personnel of the Foreign Mission Board. The statement by Dr. Maddox is startling and calls to our attention a situation which perhaps none of us realized existed—the small number of volunteers for Foreign Mission service.

We publish on this page, a statement by Dr. M. Ray McKay, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock, and the Arkansas member of the Foreign Mission Board, in which he offers an explanation for this situation. We believe that Dr. McKay has put his finger on a vital reason for the comparatively small number of volunteers for Foreign Mission service at this particular time.

Undoubtedly, the war psychology from 1941 to 1945, so diverted the attention of both adults and young people from our world-wide missionary program that it left a sort of vacuum in this field of our church and denominational consciousness. We were not conscious of this vacuum at the time, and for two reasons: first, we were completely absorbed by the war effort and therefore we did not miss the missionary urge. Second, the mission fields themselves were restricted by the war.

However, since the close of the war, more missionary doors are open than ever before; missionary fields are riper for reaping than ever before; and the missionary spirit has returned to our people with increased urgency, all of which makes us more keenly conscious of that missionary vacuum during the war years, the results of which we are experiencing now, particularly in the lack of missionary volunteers.

However, I believe there is another reason for this lack of missionary volunteers, and that reason lies in the fact that our world mission program does not receive its proportionate share of the total Christian emphasis in our church and denominational program. World-wide missions is perhaps receiving little more than ten per cent of the total emphasis in the local church program.

It would be a splendid experiment for each pastor, in counsel and co-operation with the leaders in his church, to determine just what proportion of the total church program is given to Foreign Mission emphasis. Doubtless, the results of such a survey would be startling and might result in an adjustment so as to provide greater emphasis in the local church on our Foreign Mission program.

It is possible to hold the local church program so close to the eyes of the church membership that it will look bigger than a program of world-wide missions. Whereas, it is impossible to properly appraise the local church program until the pastor and church give that program its proper position in the over-all world mission program.

Our Advance Program

By M. RAY MCKAY

The Southern Baptist Advance Program in its relation to the Foreign Mission enterprise is seriously handicapped by the lack of volunteers. Secretary Maddox reports that less than 150 names of men and women, who will be ready for appointment in 1950-51-52, are on record. Since the Advance plan calls for 1,750 missionaries on the Foreign Mission fields

within the next few years, the number of prospects in sight is far below the needs of the new missionary era into which we are now entering.

Two causes may be suggested. We are now paying a further price in the awful cost of war. Long ago the prophet Joel wrote, "Your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams." This would be the situation, he declared, when the Spirit of the Lord came upon the people. Peter suggested that Pentecost was a fulfillment in reverse. During the war years, old men were not dreaming of world conquest for Christ, and young men, thrust into combat, saw few visions of their place in the Master's plan to invade the world with the gospel of life.

Now it is always evident that young men's visions are influenced and supported by the dreams of their elders. Therefore, the fathers and mothers of young men and women in their middle and late twenties will feel stirrings of conscience concerning their own attitudes during the years when their young people were of high school and early college age, for it is in this age group that we find a great lack of missionary volunteers. There appears to be great numbers of intermediates and high school pupils who have already dedicated themselves to full time service for the Lord, but in the older bracket there is a great shortage. What an awful price the world pays in the loss of idealism, spiritual insight, and Christian motives when it finds itself in war. It may well be that neither blood nor money is the major price but that the great cost lies in the realm of the Spirit.

What can be done immediately? Dr. Maddox suggests that we may lay the situation before consecrated young people, less than thirty-two years old, who are already doing outstanding work at home, laying before them the great missionary opportunity of the present hour. As ministers, we may also seek to lay upon the hearts of our people the responsibility of repentance, prayer, and education as their part in the present emergency.

So far as the younger groups are concerned the records which our Foreign Mission Board possesses cannot be in any wise complete. If pastors will help to maintain and report records of the young people in their churches who feel the Lord's call and who are looking toward further preparation for missionary service, perhaps some regular system of communication between such young people and the Foreign Mission Board may be established. These young people should receive certain literature regularly, possibly the **Little Commission** or some quarterly publication which would be addressed to their own age group and to their own need. At any rate, old men must begin to dream Christ's dreams, if young men are to catch His vision.

Pastor Commended

Pastor T. N. Shaddox, First Church, Dumais, published in his church bulletin July 17, the financial goal of Southern Baptists, the Convention budget fund for 1950.

We believe this would be a very splendid thing for all our pastors to do. We believe that the membership of our churches deserve the right to have this information with the full explanation of the South-wide budget and full information concerning the objectives in this budget.

We commend the example of Pastor Shaddox to all the pastors in the State.

Christ Conquers Sin

A Devotion by the Editor

"It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Man had failed, he had yielded to temptation, he had violated his relationship with God by a deliberate act of disobedience. Sin entered his spiritual being as a poison, contaminating his love, his emotions, and his motives. Sin had left its imprint upon the character of man. God declared that the seed of the serpent should bruise the heel of the posterity of man. This clearly means that the brand of sin is left indelibly upon man, so that wherever he goes and whatever he touches, he leaves the mark of sin.

But in the same breath with which God declared that sin had left its mark upon the race, he also promised that there should be one who would conquer sin, for he promised that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head.

The serpent's head is the seat of the serpent's poison. The fangs of death shall be as it were, extracted. Christ shall not concern Himself with treating the symptoms of sin, he shall attack the very seat of the poison of sin. And by eradicating the poison, He will cure the disease.

Christ conquered sin by two methods: First by His righteous life. He received every poisoned arrow that the author of sin had in his quiver. The Devil assailed Him with every possible temptation. He surrounded him with every form of sin and depravity; but Jesus withstood every effort of Satan to wreck his life, to soil his character, to poison his emotions, to weaken his purpose, or to lower his ideals. He was and is the One and only perfect member of the human race.

Second, He conquered sin also by his atoning death. By his perfect life he turned the edge of every sword that the tempter used; by his atoning death he exhausted the venom of sin. So long as the cartridge is not fired it has the potentiality of death and destruction. If you want to destroy that potentiality, then fire the cartridge and the empty shell lies harmless. In like manner, Jesus allowed sin to exhaust itself upon him so as to be left harmless for a second attack. He received in his person the full force of the power of sin even to the point of death and burial; but death could not keep him nor the grave contain him. The apostle Paul declares his victory over death and the grave in these words: "O death, where is thy sting, O grave where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" Genesis 3:15.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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From The Editor's Desk

A Pyramid of Progress

We hope that all our people will study "A Pyramid of Progress" pictured on our front page this week. We believe this illustration accurately outlines the necessary steps in the progress of a great and far-reaching program of Southern Baptists as they undertake to carry out the commission of Jesus.

Spiritual Awakening

The basis of any Christian program is a spiritual revival in which the people recognize that "Christ is the Answer." We must make our entire program, including the programs of the local church, the association, the state, and the Southern Convention, upon our recognition of Christ as the answer to every need. This recognition will come as a result of a spiritual awakening, by which the spiritual sensibilities of our people are awakened and become responsive to the appeals of Christ.

This is the foundation of all our spiritual enterprise. Upon this foundation can be built Christian stewardship which will stabilize the individual in his commitments to the program of the church and denomination, which will also stabilize the denominational program with all its agencies and institutions. At every point where we lag behind in carrying out the commission of our Lord, a lack of stewardship consciousness and failure of stewardship commitments are responsible. With the foundation of a spiritual revival based upon the absolute surety that Christ is the Answer the stewardship of the believer becomes the method of expressing all the spiritual promptings of the Christ-heart.

Stewardship

Stewardship is the opening of all the pores of the Christian life so that the spiritual impulses may find full and free expression in Christian testimony and service. Christian stewardship, therefore, does not hamper the ritual potentialities of the Christian life, on the contrary, it releases these spiritual potentialities for their full expression. There follow logically and inevitably a voluntary co-operation within the local church and throughout the organizations of the denomination.

This spirit of co-operation has found its noblest expression in what we know as the Cooperative Program. It becomes obvious that as individuals, each going his own way, could make very little progress, but by joining our testimony, our resources, and our efforts, we gain an increment of spiritual power and are able to do a more effective work in promoting the Kingdom of our Lord throughout the world.

Division of Funds

Voluntary co-operation is the key to our progress, the solution of our problems, and

the glory of our autonomy. The proportionate division of our effort is succinctly expressed in the phrase "Fifty-Fifty by 1950." The division of funds which means the division of effort has been disproportionate and still is in most of our churches. If we are building this pyramid on genuine spirituality that recognizes Christ as the answer, and by stewardship with "Every Baptist a Tither," and co-operation through the Cooperative Program, then we must recognize that ten or twenty per cent of the collection plate dollar is by no means a just proportion for the far-reaching denominational program which we are promoting.

Local Church Responsibility

Our churches must not, they dare not, shift the responsibility of a world-wide program to denominational agencies and institutions. The first responsibility rests upon the local church. The local church that does not have a world-wide vision and that does not feel a world-wide responsibility will have but little interest in the over-all denominational program, and will concentrate all its efforts upon itself.

Beyond the local churches are the twenty-two states which are co-operating in the Advance Program of Southern Baptists. The streams of spiritual life originating in the local churches overflow into the States and merge with one another to form a tremendous current of spiritual power. These State currents merge to form the still greater stream which we know as the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention. Within this program there are the great agencies of our Convention, including our seminaries, our Southern Baptist Hospital, our great Boards of Missions, and promotional agencies.

Dollars and Opportunity

For this program a goal of ten million dollars has been set for 1950. But this is not a goal of dollars merely; dollars do not constitute an end in themselves, dollars are only a means to an end. These dollars provide us, in the local churches, the opportunity of extending our witness beyond the range of our voices and our ministries beyond the reach of our hands. Were it not for this provision in the economy of God's grace, we would be limited to the radius of our personal influence and personal ministry; but by means of stewardship, co-operation, and proportionate giving, each one of us can speak far beyond the range of our voice and minister far beyond the reach of our hands. These dollars represent our testimony and our ministry through the great agencies we have established for this purpose of extending our own personal ministry.

We as individuals cannot minister to the sick, but by our contributions we can estab-

God Calls His Ministers

There is great concern on the part of our Foreign Mission Board over the lack of volunteers for Foreign Mission work. This concern is expressed by M. Theron Rankin of the Foreign Mission Board, and Samuel E. Maddox, secretary. Partial explanations of this situation are offered in this issue of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

On the other side of the same question, we publish the story of Eugene Ryan and his decision to enter the ministry, and also a letter from Bill Cook to his parents, announcing his call to foreign mission service.

You will note that in each case, God is unmistakably laying His hand upon these young men. God is calling continuously as He called to Isaiah, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" However, it was not until Isaiah's heart was attuned to the voice of God that he was able to hear. More of our young people will respond to God's call when the influences and teachings in the homes and in the churches prepare them for hearing God's call. Only God can call these young people into his service but by our example, influence, and teachings, we can prepare our young people for hearing God's call and their response to it.

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Is our Christian past only an arid desert, a wasteland of barren sand and thorny cactus, or is that desert dotted with oases of spiritual experience from which flows a constant stream of refreshing memories which revive and stimulate the present into active and vigorous Christian living?

lish hospitals where the sick may be cared for; as individuals we cannot take care of orphan children, but by fulfilling our stewardship obligations we can provide homes for the needy children; individually, we cannot educate our young people and train ministers and missionaries, but in co-operating with one another we can provide the means for establishing schools where they may be trained. Individually, we cannot go into every destitute area and preach the gospel to every creature, but by fulfilling our stewardship obligations, co-operatively and proportionately, we can preach the gospel in all the world.

The Spearhead

As you will note in the drawing on our cover page that our whole denominational program is spearheaded by our Foreign Mission Advance Program, for missions must be the spearhead of our program to carry out the commission of Jesus. For any individual, church, or agency, to curb its offerings for missions or to reduce its foreign missions emphasis to the vanishing point, is to arrest spiritual growth at just that point, and from then on the life of the individual, church, or institution will become stagnant. We have never known an individual Christian church, or denominational institution that majored on foreign missions that did not grow in every phase and area of spiritual life.

Again we urge you to study the drawing on the front page and find your place in this great Advance Program of Southern Baptists.

Kingdom Progress

Immanuel, Little Rock

Has Great Youth Revival

Climaxing his series of messages with an appeal for "Maximum Christian Living" Jackie Robinson, famous Olympic basket ball star from Baylor University, closed the Youth Revival of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, Friday night, July 22. Eighty-seven decisions were made during the revival; twenty-six joined the church by letter; twenty-two came on profession of faith; and there were thirty-nine re-dedications of life, six of these giving their lives to full time Christian service.

Frank Boggs, Southwestern Theological Seminary, directed the music, had charge of the after-service prayer meeting, and led the Juniors in a Booster Band.

One hundred sixty-five young people served on the following Committees: Spiritual Preparation, Ushers, Publicity, Finance, Building and Grounds, Music, Entertainment, Breakfast, Visitation and Evangelism, Seminars, and Follow-Through. Visitation was promoted several weeks prior to the revival meeting. More than 250 young people participated in an all-night prayer service which was held at the church on Saturday night prior to the beginning of the meeting. Each morning at nine o'clock the evangelistic team and all interested young people met at the church for consultation, prayer, and then went out to visit. Bob Eskridge, Yale student, served as chairman for all committees. Pastor W. O. Vaught and Miss Claudia Webb, Young People's worker, assisted in all phases of the revival.

Seminars were held each night at seven o'clock on subjects of interest to young people. These Seminars were led by Paul Fox, pastor of Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff; Dr. M. Ray McKay, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock; Mrs. Leslie Buchanan, and Jackie Robinson.

Several services were conducted during the week at the Arkansas Baptist Hospital by Jackie Robinson and Frank Boggs. On Tuesday morning a Sunrise breakfast was held at Boyle Park and a devotional service brought by the team.

A Follow-Through Committee will make contacts and work to keep the spirit of the revival in the hearts of the young people of the church.

A communication from Pastor E. C. Brown, First Church, Blytheville, announces that Pastor J. H. Melton, 8901 Humble Road, Houston 16, Texas, has resigned the pastorate of the Melrose Church of that city, and will give his full time to evangelistic work.

Pastor Brown quotes from a letter received from Mr. Melton as follows: "For many years, even back to my student days in college and the seminary, I have had an ever deepening conviction that I could make my most meaningful contribution to the kingdom of God in the field of evangelism. Reluctance to be away from my family has kept me in the pastorate, but the feeling has now become so strong that I can no longer question God's calling. Consequently, I am resigning my pastorate effective September 1, 1949, to devote my life to the work of an evangelist."

Mrs. Melton is the former Miss Mary Glenna Rowland of Blytheville, the daughter of Claude Rowland who is a deacon in the First Church, Blytheville.

Honest Sunday at Norphlet

The offering at the First Church, Norphlet, jumped from \$400, which was the average weekly offering, to \$1,006.73 on "Honest Sunday" July 10.

Preparation had been made for this offering, the date set well in advance and the people were invited to bring a tenth of their previous week's earnings for their church contribution on July 10.

Throughout the church building on every door, in every room, there were signs reading: "July 10 is Honest Sunday;" "Remember, Honest Sunday;" "July 10, Honest Sunday is the day we are to be honest with God." All the Sunday School envelopes were stamped, "Honest Sunday." All envelopes for July 3 were stamped, "Remember July 10, Honest Sunday." On Wednesday, July 6, Pastor Glenn E. Crofts sent to every member of the church a reminder of Honest Sunday.

Attendance goals were agreed upon for each class in the Sunday School for that day, and throughout the week previous, the classes were busy in a visitation campaign to reach their goals on Sunday.

Jeanne Whisenhunt, church secretary, writes, "I write this to tell other churches that it worked at Norphlet Church and perhaps you would like to try it in your church. With sincere praying and planning, it will work."

Ottis Denney Resigns

The resignation of Ottis Denney as pioneer missionary in Newton county becomes effective September 1. Missionary Denney has not announced his plans for the future.

He has been an employee of the Executive Board under the direction of the Missions Committee for the past two years. During this time Mr. Denney has been instrumental in organizing three new churches, establishing Sunday School organizations in all the churches in Newton County Association, and five Training Unions, and three Woman's Missionary Societies.

Mr. Denney reports that there are now three pastors in the association with the prospect of others coming soon. He expresses the hope that all churches in the association will have pastors by September 1.

All churches in the association have the *Arkansas Baptist* in their budget; four of these churches have the missions magazines in their budgets; five are giving regularly to the Cooperative Program and to associational missions.

The membership in all the churches of the association has more than doubled during this two-year period. The educational programs promoted in the churches of the association include a school of missions, and four simultaneous revival campaigns.

Memorial Church, Hot Springs, recently ordained five deacons. They were, Everett Smith, E. C. Mann, Paul Bledsoe, Arlis McCormick, and Dennis Nooner. The presbytery was composed of the following: J. C. Melton, gave the examination; Boyd Vauter, offered the ordination prayer; J. D. Bledsoe, delivered the charge; J. C. Melton, the ordination sermon; G. S. Brantly, served as secretary. Others participating were, S. H. Noles, Roy Trawick, and C. N. Pate. J. C. Melton is pastor, and moderator.

Hymn Playing Tournament



Left to right: Kathleen Johnson, First, Fayetteville; Carolyn Kelly, Central Springs; Emile Sonneman, First, Fayetteville; Mary Cox, First, Morrilton. Back row: Wilma Escott, Grand Avenue, Fort Smith; Two contestants not present when the picture was made are, Margie Ann Morgan, Stuttgart; and Margie O'Bryan of Greenlee Memorial, Pine Bluff.

This year's Hymn Playing Tournament held at the Siloam Springs Assembly, was attended by a large audience. There were eight participants in three age-groups, from the following associations: Conway-Perry, Washington-Madison, Central, Concord, Harmon and Centennial.

All who made rating of "A" or "B" are eligible to go to Ridgecrest and to participate in the South-wide Tournament which is to take place during Music Week, August 25-31. Several from Arkansas are making plans to go to Ridgecrest.

First Church, Junction City, observed cornerstone-laying ceremonies, Sunday, July 10, with Pastor Dell Hames of First Church, Augusta, and former pastor of the Junction City Church, as guest preacher for the occasion. The day also marked the closing of the pastorate of C. E. Archer, who is moving to Houston, Texas.

The Junction City church has completed their church building providing an auditorium, and Sunday School facilities to accommodate 300 in Sunday School. The church also has constructed a new pastor's home next door to the church building.

Dr. Selsus E. Tull, Pine Bluff, has just returned from conducting a revival with the North Benson Church near Frankfort, Kentucky. This is a full-time country church which is 141-years-old. Dr. James E. Tull will soon to receive his Ph. D. degree from Columbia University, a nephew of Dr. Tull and a brother of Secretary Nelson Tull, pastor of this church.

The revival was a happy success. Dr. Tull is widely engaged in supply work, and is available for supply and revival work whenever his brethren might need him. Some church or pastor needing a helper this Fall should communicate with Dr. S. E. Tull, Route 7, Box 318, Pine Bluff.

Property has been purchased in downtown Cali, Colombia, on which a building will be erected for the First Baptist Church of Cali.

Message From The President of The Arkansas Baptist Convention

The Arkansas Baptist Foundation And Bottoms Baptist Orphanage

By H. C. SEEFELDT, Superintendent

The 1950 Cooperative Program Budget, as proposed by our Executive Board, and which I have recommended to our Arkansas Baptist State Convention in session in November, is indeed a mighty challenge to all Arkansas Baptists. It seems to me that it could mark the beginning of a new era in financing the work of Arkansas Baptists.

Nearly twenty-five years ago, Southern Baptists launched the Cooperative Program. Prior to that time, the old haphazard method of individual presentation of the aims of the various boards and agencies to the local churches was the financial plan used by Southern Baptists as well as the people in our states. As Lawson Cooke so aptly states in his little tract, "The Romance of the Cooperative Program," there was practically no correlation or co-ordination among the financial programs of our Convention agencies—state or South-wide. Their support depended largely upon the oratorical persuasiveness of those presenting the cause to the churches, plus the emotional content of the cause—even the weather played a considerable part.

During the years in which the Cooperative Program has functioned, our Baptist work has made tremendous progress. It has taken time, thought, prayer, and effort to sell the plan to our Baptist people. No great program advance is ever successfully promoted overnight. It takes time to reach, teach, and enlist the churches and the individual members. Our people have responded in an inspiring fashion to the end that we are receiving more money than ever before in the history of Baptists. Our local churches have caught the spirit of the Cooperative Program and have launched great stewardship programs of their own in which they have secured large numbers of tithers. The local churches have found it wise to budget their own needs as well as that of outside causes and to support their budgets with tithes and offerings. It seems to me that we are now ready in Arkansas to move into this phase of denominational financing. To be sure, the budget is a large one, but we must remember that the resources of Arkansas Baptists are also large. Above all, let us keep in mind that our God is able and willing to match our consecration with His unfailing blessings.

In order for Arkansas Baptists to successfully promote this new financial program, it will be absolutely essential for every Baptist in every church, every pastor, and other church leaders, along with our denomination leaders, to give themselves in loyal support to this program. This means that every Baptist should bring his tithe and his love offering each Lord's Day to his own local church and that the church in turn must see to it that a Christ-honoring percentage of the tithes and offerings of its people will be sent to Dr. Bridges for the state Cooperative Program each month. If this is done, we have no doubt at all but what Arkansas Baptists will raise the 1950 Budget.

Why should Arkansas Baptists launch out into this new plan of denominational financing? First of all, it will unify Arkansas Baptists. It provides a common meeting ground for all the forces of our beloved denomination. Your Cooperative Program dollar, when sent to Little Rock, will support all of the causes dear to your heart and dear to the heart of our Savior. It will enable our institutions, boards, and agencies to do the work which has been committed into their hands.

How fine it will be for us to be able to say in spirit and in truth, "we are laborers together with God."

While every institution and agency will not receive all that they need at the very beginning, this program will grow to such proportions so that in the not-too-far-distant future, if Arkansas Baptists will pray and work together, all of the money necessary for the successful operation and promotion of all of our work will be provided. I am convinced that we must launch, support, and successfully promote this new plan if we are to do the Will of God in Arkansas and out to the ends of the earth. Too long have we depended upon the special campaigns which come as a result of dire emergencies in our institutions and agencies. Why should we, the people of the Lord whom God has so richly blessed materially, allow our institutions and agencies to face embarrassing emergencies? Why shouldn't we accept and follow God's plan as presented in Malachi 3:10? "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." When this is done, there will be "meat in mine house" sufficient to take care of all the work of the Lord on time.

I would challenge my fellow Baptists to pray for and diligently promote this plan so that when we come to the Convention in November, all of our people will understand it and will see it as God's plan for Arkansas Baptists. Let every church plan now to put on the finest and most comprehensive stewardship program in its history so that our people will agree to bring their tithes and offerings to the local church, which in turn can set up a large budget allocation for the Cooperative Program in 1950 that will make possible victory in the raising of our 1950 Budget.

In closing, I should like to pay tribute to Dr. Bridges and the splendid staff of co-workers in Baptist Headquarters, to Dr. Garrott and the other members of the Planning and Steering Commission, and to all the members of the Executive Board for the splendid job which they have done in working out—amid much prayer—the 1950 Cooperative Program Budget.

—E. C. Brown

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Central Church, Hot Springs, reports a successful Bible School with 200 enrolled, average attendance 167; Grade AA, one profession of faith, several re-dedications. A number of Catholic children were regular in attendance to the School; the mission offering of \$52 was sent to Miss Ann Wollerman in Brazil.

Central Church also sponsored a mission Bible School at Central Chapel, where seventy-eight were enrolled with an average attendance of seventy-one. Mission offering was \$11.65. Horace Marks, Mission pastor, served as principal.

Eastview Church, Texarkana, ordained two deacons Sunday afternoon, July 17. They were G. I. Keller and J. S. Baker. Those composing the presbytery were, R. F. Eaton, moderator; H. A. Myrick, secretary; R. E. Parr, asked the questions; C. T. Hinshaw led the ordination prayer; R. T. Strange, pastor of West Texarkana Church, delivered the sermon.

One of the greatest, if not the greatest investments one can make is in the life of a child. Many with good intentions as to what they would like to do, are called into the presence of the Lord before they are able to carry out these good intentions, and find themselves trying to give an account of what they intended to do, rather than what they did.

The Arkansas Baptist Foundation gives an opportunity to plan for eternal investments, by expressing our wills and desires while living, so that should death call us away, we might live on in the lives of others.

The Bottoms Baptist Orphanage is maintained by Arkansas Baptists, and has no income to support it except as provided through the Cooperative Program, which is less than one third of the actual needs, and as provided by Arkansas Baptists and their friends. There are about 100 children cared for in the Home each year, who would otherwise have had no place to go. In most cases, if there had been kin people or someone who could have cared for them they would not be in the Home. They come from broken homes, or where sin or death have left them without anyone to care for them. In most cases it is the last resort.

The call of a helpless child makes its appeal to saint and sinner alike. Jesus multiplied the lad's lunch to feed the multitude with some over, after telling the disciples to "give ye them to eat." He commended the "Good Samaritan" and said "Go and do thou likewise," and not like the Priest and Levite, who looked on and passed by. He gave a picture of the judgment where God shall remind us of things we might have done and did not do, but also the possibility of hearing Him say "Come ye blessed of my Father, because ye have done what ye could, to the giving of a drink of cold water in His name."

Do what you can while living, and then arrange your will so that whether it be little or much, you will leave it to bless the lives of many, and not to be fought over. The Orphan's Home is only one of many to benefit by making your will to the "Foundation." You will leave it all when you pass on—money, lands, Royalties, Bonds, houses, valuables of all kinds. Since you can not take it with you, why not leave it where it will do the most good?

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A Bus Load of Visitors

Baptist Headquarters and the Arkansas Baptist offices were honored by a bus load of visitors the afternoon of July 19, when John F. Burton, R. A. counselor and Orbin Smith, assistant counselor, of First Church, Clinton, brought a bus load of R. A. boys to Baptist Headquarters Building.

Mr. Burton engaged a school bus for the purpose of giving his R. A. boys a one-day tour of Little Rock. Twenty-one of the twenty-four members of his R. A. organization accompanied him on the trip. Each was provided with two dollars for the expenses of the day. Points of interest visited by Mr. Burton and his boys were: Union Station, the State Capitol, where some of the boys got a glimpse of the Governor through the transom, the Airport, Fair Park and the zoo, Baptist Headquarters, and the Baptist Book Store. Mr. Burton also took his boys to the Donaghey building so they might have the experience of riding the elevator. From there, certain novelty shops were visited before the return trip to Clinton.

*** Christian Horizons ***

"There can be no greater service to mankind, and no nobler mission, than devotion to world peace. The course has been charted."

—HARRY S. TRUMAN.

Baptist Groups Claim Tax Exemption: Two Baptist church groups have appeared before Clarence Evans, state finance and taxation commissioner, Nashville, Tennessee, to argue their case for exemption from Tennessee's sales tax.

They were the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The two groups argued that they were exempt from the tax under a 1949 legislative act and maintained that they are church agencies and financed by church funds.

Evans has taken the matter under advisement. No decision has been announced yet.

Foreign Missionaries Trained for Rural Service: Announcement of a new three-weeks' course in rural extension service and rural development for missionaries preparing for overseas service was made by Agricultural Missions, Inc. The course is being given at the University of Arkansas, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture.

Ten missionaries have been enrolled for the first session of the course. They will study rural planning, volunteer leadership training, 4-H Club aims and methods, and other phases of rural life. Among the missionaries are representatives of The Methodist Church, the Disciples of Christ, and the Northern Baptist Convention.

When they have completed the course, the missionaries will be sent to China, Korea, India and Mexico. In this connection, it was pointed out that new rural centers have been opened in India, China, Korea and the Philippines.

The opening of the new centers was viewed by John H. Reisner, executive secretary of Agricultural Missions, as an indication that mission boards are attempting to fulfill a pledge to train 1,000 rural missionaries for foreign duty in the next decade.

He said The Methodist Church planned to open 100 new rural centers in the next four years, and announced that Agricultural Missions had sent three rural specialists to mission fields as observers and consultants during the past year. The group also trained 104 missionaries in six rural training courses in the same period.

Texas Baptists Begin Work on New FM Station: Plans for a new FM radio station were approved by the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas meeting in Dallas, Texas.

The board told the Convention Radio Department to start work on the station after hearing a report from a committee which re-studied plans for the station.

Texas Baptists had long planned the station, which will be the most powerful FM-type in the state, but re-study of the project was undertaken because some Baptists expressed belief that the growth of television might leave the proposed FM station with few listeners.

Churches to Get Anti-Communist Movie: An anti-Communist drama entitled "The Sickle or the Cross" has been produced in

Hollywood by Roland Reed for the Lutheran Laymen's League of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The movie will be released for the use of churches of all denominations and to schools and other organizations as well.

"The Sickle or the Cross" is the story of a Christian missionary homeward bound after twenty years in China, who is intent on exposing the evils of Communism. He is intercepted by the Communists, however, and replaced by a Red who goes to the missionary's hometown in America and lives with a Christian family.

The "missionary" is secretly groomed at local Communist headquarters for a series of radio addresses, but, meanwhile, the impostor's eyes are opened to the meaning and value of religion.

ICRE Issues New Sunday School Statistics: Figures released by the International Council of Religious Education, Chicago, show a gain of 19,060 Sunday schools in this country between 1945 and 1948. During the same period, however, there was a net loss of 21,891 pupils in the Sunday school enrolment of all churches.

Over the same span, the following increases were reported: 623,489 more Sunday school officers and teachers; 23,641 more vacation church schools; and 1,648,713 more vacation school pupils.

The International Council said there are now 232,672 Sunday or Sabbath schools in the United States, as well as 2,406,505 officers and teachers, and 24,588,112 pupils of all faiths.

According to the corrected statistics, The Methodist Church ranks first in the number of church schools and the number of officers and teachers. Also ranking high in these categories were the Southern Baptist Convention, the Disciples of Christ, the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., the Northern Baptist Convention, and the National Baptist Convention.

Warns Christianity Must Meet Communism's Challenge: Warning that our civilization is in danger, Dr. John C. Smith, secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., asserted that the threat of Communism must be met by understanding its appeal to people and seeking to match it.

Dr. Smith spoke at the opening session of the summer leadership training school for lay and professional church workers sponsored by the Presbyterian Church at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania.

According to Dr. Smith, who spent many years in the Far East, Communism will not be met "by raising a holy crusade against it."

"It is a mixture," he said. "It has ideals of justice and equality, but its methods are completely ruthless. We also must be just, but we say 'no' to ruthlessness."

He warned that civilization will be destroyed from within unless there is a return to Christian foundations.

"We are nominally Christians, but in most respects we fail to practice Christianity," he declared. "If the decay continues, we may be certain that it will lead to destruction."

A Smile or Two

A very small man married a widow who was unusually tall and large. A few weeks afterward one of his friends came upon him looking very glum.

"What's the matter?" asked the friend. "Isn't your wife agreeable?"

"She's kindness itself," said the small man sadly.

"Isn't she a good housekeeper—a good cook?"

"None better in the world," said the glum man drooping a little more.

"Then what is the matter?"

"I'd be perfectly happy," blurted the little man, "if people didn't call me 'the widow mite.'"

—Watchman-Examiner

Elmer: "What do you think would go wrong with purple and green golf socks?"

Albert: "Hip boots."

—Exchange

"What a strange looking cow!" exclaimed a young lady from the city. "But why doesn't she have horns?"

"Well, you see," explained the farmer, "some cows are born without horns and never have any, others shed theirs, and some are dehorned, and some breeds aren't supposed to have horns at all. There's a lot of reasons why some cows don't have horns, but the basic reason is—she is not a cow, she's a horse."

—Christian Herald

Young Wife: "Now Bill, I want you to get around to the minister's and arrange to have the baby christened."

Bill: shipyard worker, "You mean to say you are going to let somebody hit that little thing over the head with a bottle?"

—Copied

"Whenever my wife and I quarrel she becomes historical."

"You mean hysterical."

"No, historical. She always digs up my past."

—Selected

Two men were working on the White House lawn, each supplied with a small push cart upon which was a garbage can. They walked about picking up papers with a long spear. One spied a piece of paper and started to spear it, when suddenly a gust of wind came up, and blew the paper into the White House through an open window.

The man became frantic and rushed into the building. He returned shortly after and said: "I was too late. He had already signed it."

—Copied

"Very few women have any knowledge of parliamentary law," said Bill.

Joe: "You don't know my wife. She's been speaker of the house for twenty-five years."

—Right Hand

James Whitcomb Riley was once an itinerant painter of roadside signs, and usually traveled with a patent medicine agent.

Once they came to a smoothfaced rock where an evangelist had painted, "What shall I do to be saved?" Riley crawled up and painted underneath it, "Take Barlowes Stomach Bitters."

Two weeks later the evangelist returned and underneath Riley's line, he added, "And be prepared to meet thy Lord."

—Quote

News of Interest

By Baptist Press

Southern Baptist Nominated Army Chief of Chaplains



Colonel Roy Hartford Parker

Colonel Roy Hartford Parker, Southern Baptist chaplain, has been nominated by President Truman as Army Chief of Chaplains with the rank of major general, according to an official announcement.

Colonel Parker, a native Missourian, is a graduate of William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri. At present, he is supervisory chaplain of the Far East command in Tokyo, working with General Douglas MacArthur. He will succeed Major General Luther D. Miller, who has completed his four year term as Chief of Chaplains.

Colonel Parker first reported for duty as an Army chaplain in 1918. During World War II, he was theater chaplain of the North African theater of operations. He has served as chief of the personnel division of the Chief of Chaplains office in Washington.

Memorial Building Honors Miss Mallory

At the last meeting of the Home Mission Board provision was made for the construction of a memorial Goodwill Center building in Baltimore, Maryland, in honor of Miss Kathleen Mallory. Money for the project was provided in the Annie W. Armstrong Offering. A careful survey was made by L. A. Brown, field worker in the department of direct missions, and it is thought the building will be helpful in the service which Baptists seek to render in Baltimore.

New Field Worker Announced For Home Mission Board

Miss Regina Sliger has become a field worker with the Home Mission Board to take the place left vacant when Miss Nancy Cooper became state secretary of Woman's Missionary Union in Arkansas. Miss Sliger is a graduate of Woman's Missionary Union Training School in Louisville, and has studied in University of Chattanooga, and American University, Washington, D. C. She has served as church secretary, educational director, and evangelistic church worker. During the war she served with the American Red Cross in Japan, China, and the Philippines. Miss Sliger will be a general field worker.

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"If you must whisper in church . . . whisper a prayer."

Seventeen States Show Increased Gifts Through Cooperative Program

Seventeen of the twenty-two states of the Southern Baptist Convention showed a gain in their gifts to world missions through the Cooperative Program during the first six months of this year as compared with the same period last year, according to a survey made by Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary and treasurer of the Executive Committee.

The largest percentage of gain in Cooperative Program gifts for the first six months of the year was recorded by the District of Columbia, where gifts were \$17,107.63 as compared with \$1,370 last year—a gain of 1,248 per cent.

Of the larger states, the greatest gain was marked up by Oklahoma which reported \$142,187.53 for 1949 as compared with \$94,791.77 for 1948—a gain of 50 per cent. Arkansas' gifts increased 48.4 per cent, and Texas recorded a gain of 17.6 per cent. Arizona's gifts gained 46.4 per cent through the Cooperative Program.

Only states to show a decrease in gifts through the Cooperative Program for the first six months of 1949, compared with the first six months of 1948, were: California, 54.5 per cent less; Illinois, 5.1 per cent less; Kentucky, 0.6 per cent less; North Carolina, 1.6 per cent less; and Tennessee, 1.4 per cent less.

In total gifts, including designated and Cooperative Program, Arkansas led the larger states in gains, with an increase of 54.6 per cent. Arizona's total gifts climbed 47.4 per cent, South Carolina's gained 37.7 per cent, and Oklahoma's total gifts increased 26.7 per cent.

California, with a 15 per cent loss, and Tennessee, with a 1.1 per cent loss, were the only states reporting smaller total of gifts through the Executive Committee for missions.

British Baptist Leader Says That Catholic Oppression Is Worse

A British Baptist leader, Dr. M. E. Arbrey, has told the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches that Catholic domination of Protestants in Spanish-speaking countries is worse than Communist oppression of churches in Eastern Europe.

"The sin in Spain and South America is greater than oppression of the state," Dr. Arbrey said, "because the offense is against the greater life."

The Central Committee approved a resolution condemning the domination of minority religions by churchly majorities.

Missionary Honored

Herbert Caudill, superintendent of Cuban missions for the Home Mission Board, has been honored by his alma mater, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia, in that he has been invited to deliver the address for summer commencement, August 21. Upon the occasion of his address, Dr. Caudill will be awarded the honorary degree of doctor of divinity.

For twenty years Dr. Caudill has served as home missionary in Cuba. Recognition of his leadership and service by Mercer University is timely.

Committees Named to Recommend Sites For Two New Seminaries

The Southern Baptist Convention's Committee to Study the Field of Theological Education appointed committees to study possible sites for two new Southern Baptist seminaries and long-range needs of the existing seminaries at a recent meeting held in Nashville.

"It is the hope of the committee to have something definite to present to the Convention in Chicago regarding the establishment of these schools," Dr. J. W. Storer, Oklahoma, chairman of the committee, said following the meeting. "Full consideration was given to the necessity for financing the capital needs and equipment of both existing seminaries and those to be established."

The following committees were named:

Committee to consider possible sites for Western seminary: R. C. Campbell, Arkansas, chairman; H. A. Zimmerman, Oregon; J. V. Rock, Arizona; and Dr. Storer.

Committee to consider possible sites for Eastern seminary: Claude B. Bowen, North Carolina, chairman; Vernon B. Richardson, Maryland; and W. Douglas Hudgins, Mississippi.

Committee to study the need for Bible schools: W. Fred Kendall, Tennessee, chairman; A. Lincoln Smith, District of Columbia; and Lewis A. Myers, New Mexico.

Committees to study the long-range needs of the present seminaries:

Southern Seminary, Louisville—John H. Buchanan, Alabama; Lucius M. Polhill, Kentucky; A. E. Tibbs, South Carolina; and Wade H. Bryant, Virginia.

Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth—Wallace Bassett, Texas; James F. Heaton, Missouri; J. Paul Carleton, Illinois; and Floyd Looney, California.

New Orleans Seminary—Louie D. Newton, Georgia; Thomas Hansen, Florida; W. A. Burkey, Kansas; and Otto Sutton, Louisiana.

A steering committee of seven members was named to work with the smaller committees regarding sites and the setting up of charters and boards of trustees. The members are Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Newton, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Kendall, Editor Looney, Dr. Myers, and Wallace Bassett, Texas. Dr. Storer, president, and Dr. Bowen, secretary of the general committee, are ex-officio members of the steering committee.

Grand Canyon College Will Open September 13

Southern Baptists will have a new four-year liberal arts college when Grand Canyon College, promoted by Arizona Baptists, opens at Prescott, Arizona, September 13, according to Dr. Willis J. Ray, president of the school and executive secretary of the Arizona Baptist Convention.

School officials expect 300 students to matriculate. Grand Canyon College will be the first Southern Baptist college to admit students on a non-segregated basis.

Y. W. A. Girls Give \$1640 For World Relief

A check for \$1640.69 has been sent by Mrs. W. J. Cox, treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Union, to Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary and treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, as the result of offerings made by the young women attending Y. W. A. camp at Ridgecrest.

Protestants Awake!

Note: The following was taken from the church bulletin published by Pastor Lowell F. Sodeman of Clinton, North Carolina, and republished by the Biblical Recorder of North Carolina.

Pastor Lowell F. Sodeman of Clinton added a special page to his local church paper for June 30 for a discussion of the controversy over the Catholic attitude toward federal funds for parochial schools under the subject, "Protestants, Awake!" Mr. Sodeman wrote as follows:

Do you know that the day taxation starts supporting Catholic education may well mark the beginning of the end of our Protestant heritage?

Do you know that freedom of worship and religious liberty are at stake? If the Catholics through their sinister plotting should win the right to the education of their youth in parochial schools from funds provided by our Government, their victory will be the greatest Catholicism has ever won over Protestants in America.

Pope Pius XI said: "It is the duty of the state to help the church maintain its religious schools by and from public funds, and equally the duty of all Catholics, as an act of religion, to demand that the state perform the duty."

We have seen attempts by Catholics to use the public funds for the support of their parochial schools and the employment of Catholic nuns as teachers in tax-supported schools.

Now the issue is before our national congress. Representative Graham Barden of North Carolina is the author of a federal aid to education bill. The bill, H. R. 4643, is devoted to a formula for distribution of some three million dollars in Federal funds for aid to state education.

Francis Cardinal Spellman, high power in the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, denounced Barden as a "Bigot"—a favorite term with Catholic churchmen in attacking anyone who opposes them. Said Cardinal Spellman: "This discrimination is not only unjust to Catholic children, it is a menace to American Democracy itself. For any man to vent his venom upon children is a sin as shocking as it is incomprehensible."

In the first place, Cardinal Spellman's idea of "American Democracy" is that of the church he represents. If Roman Catholicism wins in America there will be no more Democracy!

In the next place, many of us would deny that Representative Barden has vented his "venom" upon children. Rather, the purpose of his bill is precisely the opposite.

Baptist Encampment Cancelled!

A telephone call from Pastor Theo T. James, McGehee, informs the **Arkansas Baptist** that the South East Arkansas Baptist Encampment at Camp Keener, Snyder, Arkansas, scheduled for August 8 to 14, 1949, has been cancelled on account of the polio epidemic. Since there was considerable concern among the people of that section of the State over the polio epidemic, those responsible for promoting the Encampment felt it wise to cancel the Encampment.

For further information write, Theo T. James, First Baptist Church, McGehee, Arkansas.

Lack of Volunteers For Foreign Missions

By SAMUEL E. MADDOX

Note: The following is the concluding item in the report of the Foreign Mission Board to the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Oklahoma City, May 18-22, 1949.

All my life I had heard that numbers of qualified applicants for foreign mission service had to be turned down every year because of lack of funds. When I became secretary of the Department of Missionary Personnel I was astonished to find that during the last three years no qualified applicant had been turned down because of lack of funds; on the contrary, the Board has not found as many candidates as it should appoint. In 1948 there were only seventy-two appointments although we were authorized to commission one hundred missionaries. The Board had authorized the appointment of seventy-five missionaries during 1949. At the end of 1948 our files indicate a possibility of approximately fifty appointments in 1949. However, through appeals at our seminaries and elsewhere, we hope to be able to reach the quota assigned us.

Giving for Foreign Missions

Some months ago I found myself riding by the side of a medical student who was preparing to be a missionary of the Seventh-Day Adventists. He was an intelligent chap and a very interesting conversationalist. I asked him how many missionaries his church supported, and he told me many more than two thousand. I thought the number certainly included many native workers, but he assured me that this figure represented Americans sent abroad.

"What is the membership of your churches?" I asked.

"About 300,000 in the States plus 300,000 abroad, making a world membership totaling 600,000," he replied.

I was even more amazed to find that their board paid its missionaries about the same amount as we pay our missionaries. It was hard to believe; 300,000 Seventh-Day Adventists supporting over 2,000 foreign missionaries, while 6,000,000 Southern Baptists are supporting less than 700 missionaries. Of course, I asked him how they did it. He said that his church teaches tithing and that most of the members gave a tithe. "We give the first tithe for the support of the ministry," he said.

I had never heard the expression, "the first tithe," so I asked him to explain. He said, "Our second tithe goes for the support of our missionary work around the world; then we take up offerings to finance our schools, seminaries, medical schools, and other denominational institutions."

"Please be careful what you say," I said to him, "for I may repeat it many times. Does anyone in your church actually give the first and second tithe, then the offerings above that amount?"

"My father has done so for many years, and he is one of the happiest Christians I know," he replied.

What is a "Call" to Foreign Service?

I am convinced that God is calling to foreign mission service a host of young people who may not have volunteered because of an erroneous conception of what a call to missionary service constitutes. A veteran mis-

sionary told me a few days ago that he believes we should emphasize a commitment instead of a call to missionary service for the latter is understood by many to involve a dramatic experience such as Paul had at Troas. The word "sacrifice" has been used so often that I fear it has lost its meaning. To do the will of God is not a sacrifice; it is the way of life's greatest fulfillment. Our pastors' message must be aflame with the truth that without Christ the world is lost and without hope, as the Bible teaches. In response to such preaching, I am sure that our people will give of their means and of their lives to the accomplishment of the greatest task known to God or man — the winning of a lost world to Christ.

Opportunities on Foreign Fields

From our mission fields we hear the cry for more preachers. Although our work is being hindered for the present in parts of China and Europe, elsewhere the doors are wide open. We are right in the midst of our greatest opportunity in Japan. Dr. Baker James Cauthen has requested that we send one hundred missionaries to Japan as soon as possible, for our opportunity there is right now. Dr. Everett Gill Jr., states that the opportunities in Latin America are unprecedented and that the number of missionaries there should be doubled. We have similar reports from Dr. James W. Sadler on our work in Africa. We cannot send missionaries at present to Hungary and Yugoslavia, but we do have missionaries in Italy, Spain and the Near East. In addition to preachers, we need missionary teachers, doctors, and nurses.

New Day Ahead

A new day is dawning in our missionary enterprise. We feel that Southern Baptists are going to rally to the Advance Program advocated by our executive secretary, Dr. M. Theron Rankin. After an experience in Texas some weeks ago, I felt that the personnel for this Advance Program would not be lacking. I was asked to speak to some 2,000 students at the Texas Baptist Student Union Convention meeting in Waco. I appealed to those who for the first time would dedicate their lives unreservedly to the service of God wherever He should lead. Over 200 hands were raised. I then requested a manifestation of those who would pledge as long as they lived to give at least a tithe of their income for the sake of a lost world in need of a Savior. It seemed to me that every hand was raised. Surely that was a sign of a new day for Southern Baptists.

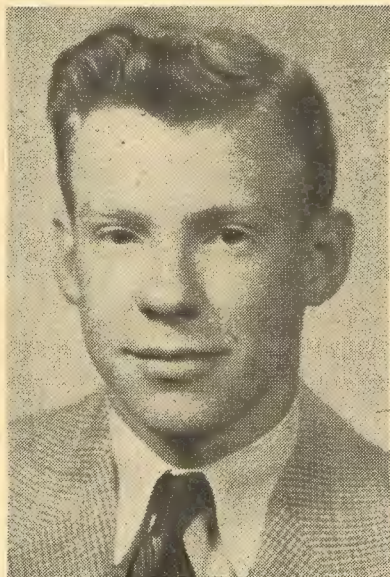
The greatest thing any Christian can do is to follow God's will for his life. We of the Personnel Department of the Foreign Mission Board will seek to give every possible encouragement to those whom God has called to service abroad.

We pray that many of our finest young people will hear the Spirit's call "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" and joyfully answer, "Here I am, send me."

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Total receipts through the Executive Committee for the first six months of 1949 show a gain of 10.3 per cent over the same period in 1948. The total for 1949 is \$5,847,899.81, as compared with \$5,300,090.54 for the same period in 1948.

God Changed Their Plans for the Future



Bill Cook

Bill Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Cook, Immanuel Church, Little Rock, wrote the following letter to his parents several weeks ago after his decision to become a foreign missionary.

Saturday night, July 23, Bill won second place in the South-wide Better Speaker's Contest at Ridgecrest. Eighteen states had representatives in this contest.

Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly

Dear Folks:

I guess it was pretty hard for you to understand why God wanted me to be a foreign missionary. Well, Mom, it was hard for me, too, because all of my dreams were just dumped in the ocean. You've seen me in the pulpit and you know how much I enjoy preaching. For the last two years I've dreamed of the day when I would have a church of my own. Perhaps I will have in the near future but I know now I must give it up as soon as my schooling is finished. I know that God has called me to preach overseas. I cannot question His will. I have been praying about missionary work for about six months. I knew before I came here this summer that God wanted me to be a missionary. I fought a battle. Thank God He won out.

If you only knew all my plans I've had for the future. Even while I was working in Bible School at the first of this week I went in the auditorium and grabbed the pulpit and preached to the empty benches. I was at home. I was happy. My dreams grew. I could see myself becoming the greatest preacher in the world. But the following night God uprooted all my dreams. Now my dreams have changed. I now see myself in the jungles of Africa. It is hard to take, Mom, but if God wants me there I know I'll be happy. I know what it means to lose my life for Christ's sake and the Gospel.

Perhaps you don't think I understand what I am getting into. I could stay in the States and receive my dreams. If I did, I would never again have a peaceful night. God has laid His hands on me to be a foreign missionary and that I must be. So I ask your prayers and I ask you to pray long and hard for the Devil is hitting me harder than ever before.

Do not think that I am not happy in the will of God. I am as happy as I can be, but

It was late summer, 1947. Eugene Ryan had been restless for several days. His father, H. W. Ryan, pastor of Pine Grove Church, Sweet Home, noting Eugene's restlessness and realizing there was something on the young man's mind that was disturbing him, sought to lead him out and discover what the problem was. So the father asked him if he wanted something, to which he replied, "No." The father asked if he wanted the car, he did not; asked if he wanted money, he said "No."

Then the father turned the conversation toward the son's return to the University of Arkansas in the fall. He had completed his freshman year at the University the previous session, but Eugene replied that he was not going back to the University. Mr. Ryan asked him if he had changed his mind about his vocation and the necessary training for it. Eugene replied, "I have not changed it, but God has. He has called me to preach the gospel."

From the age of nine, Eugene had demonstrated a marked genius in the field of electrical engineering. The first indication of the budding genius was the making of a crystal radio set; little attention had been paid to his hobby until one day he invited his father to put on the headset and tune in on the local radio station. Interested in anything mechanical, he was continually tinkering with radios, clocks, watches, or any other mechanical device that came within his reach.

At the age of eleven, Eugene persuaded his father to allow him to convert the garage into a radio shop; he wired and equipped the shop himself and operated it from 1941 to 1944, when the family moved to Jacksonville, and Mr. Ryan became pastor of the Jacksonville Church. Again he established his radio shop, and besides repairing radios for individuals who brought their instruments to him, there was a number of radio firms who kept him quite busy with repair work from their shops.

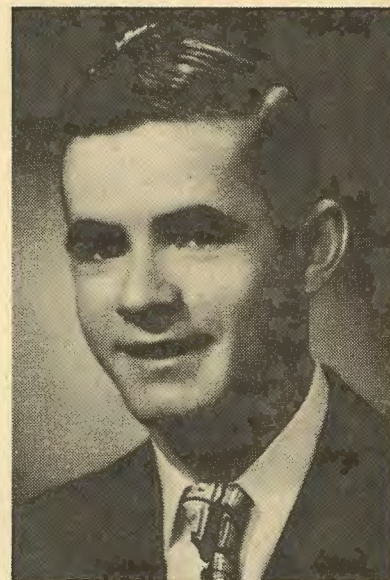
Eugene's career as an electrical engineer had been accepted by the Ryan family and upon graduation from high school he entered the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with the purpose of preparing himself for his chosen vocation. He completed his first year at the University with the grade of A in engineering, and B average in other studies. It looked as if Eugene was well on the way to a great career in the field of electrical engineering. When he announced to his father that his plans had been changed by the Lord, the father sought to discover whether it was a decision based on a passing impulse, or a deep conviction, so he reminded Eugene that in contrast to a future in a remunerative profession, the ministry offered comparatively little in the way of material return for his services; but Eugene had considered all this, had counted the cost, and was willing to follow the leading of the Lord.

He entered Ouachita College in the fall of 1947 as a ministerial student; next September

as for peace there is none in my heart. The battle is hard to fight. Pray that I might not give up. I need your prayers every day if I am to carry on. I know that I will be happy anywhere if I can win souls to Jesus. Please try to understand. Let your prayers reach up to God.

Love,

Bill



Eugene Ryan

he will enter Ouachita as a senior. After finishing at Ouachita, he plans to enter the seminary and complete his theological education.

Eugene's overwhelming love for mechanics has turned now with the same intensity to Bible study and preaching the gospel. His old work table in what was once his radio shop is now converted into a desk where he studies his Bible when home on vacation.

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Dr. C. Oscar Johnson, president of the Baptist World Alliance, announces the theme for the meeting of the Baptist World Congress in Cleveland in 1950: "And the Light Shineth in the Darkness."

Dr. Johnson continues, "Around this theme we are going to group the many areas where darkness has deepened in the last few years, and then hear from representatives from those areas the truthful story of how the light does still shine. In the areas where we are so accustomed to the light, that we are not really conscious of the darkness, we want also to be earnestly praying that those in such areas may not forget their less fortunate brethren."

Word comes from Dr. A. T. Ohrn, General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, who is now in Europe, that Joel Sorenson, the newly elected Youth Secretary of the Alliance will assume his duties on January 1, 1950. During his first year of service Mr. Sorenson will have his headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden.

Need a Singer for a Revival

Ralph Denney, Route 5, Fayetteville, Arkansas, is a student in the Southwestern Seminary. He is an evangelistic singer. If your church needs a singer for a revival you can contact Brother Denney at the above address.

New Editor in Oklahoma

Dr. Jack Gritz, pastor of First Church, Tahlequah, was elected editor of the Baptist Messenger, Monday, July 11, to succeed Albert McClellan, who has been editor since 1945. Dr. Gritz will assume office August 1, when Mr. McClellan goes to Nashville, Tennessee to become editor of the publications of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

Hymn of the Month

SEPTEMBER

Nearer, My God, To Thee

Bethany

SARAH F. ADAMS

LOWELL MASON

*Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me;
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!*

*Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone;
Yet in my dreams I'd be, Nearer, My God to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee!*

*There let the way appear, Steps unto heaven:
All that Thou sendest me, In mercy given:
Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!*

*Then with my waking thoughts Bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I raise;
So by my woes to be Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!*

*Or if on joyful wing, Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!*

September is a fitting time to do honor to the author of this universally beloved hymn, Sarah Flowers Adams, since this year is the Centennial anniversary of her death. The writer aspired to a dramatic career but due to ill health was forced to abandon what seemed to be a promising fulfillment of this ambition. Although she wrote numerous articles and poems, her fame rests upon this one hymn distinctive in every detail. Recounting the experience of all mankind as they go through trials and temptation, she singles out the great vision of Jacob fleeing from the wrath of his brother as the central theme of the poem. Commencing with the "cross that raiseth me" the thought is developed logically as the wanderer goes through the vicissitudes of loneliness and grief coming inevitably each time "nearer to Thee." Not a single stanza can be dispensed with. The last one is particularly exultant.

It is regrettable that too often this great hymn is left for use only at funerals. The tune BETHANY written by the famous American hymnologist Lowell Mason, is largely responsible for the successful adoption of the hymn as a world-wide favorite. Arkansas Baptists will be singing "Nearer, My God to Thee" during September.

—Ruth Nininger.

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MISSIONS

C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent

Superintendent of State Missions Evangelistic Speaker at Raveniden

I had the honor of being the evangelistic speaker for the Raveniden Springs Assembly in northeast Arkansas, July 5-13. W. Harry Hunt, pastor of the First Church, Pocahontas, was the assembly president; J. I. Cossey, business manager; Richard Perkins, student in Southern Baptist College, music director; and Martha Moreland of Tyronza was pianist.

In spite of the polio epidemic, which seems to be concentrated in that section of Arkansas, and much rain the first few days of the assembly, the attendance was good and the spirit excellent. There were 264 registered for the encampment.

I have never associated with a finer group of young people anywhere. The majority of those present re-dedicated their lives to the Lord's work, two surrendered for special religious work and the only two people staying in the camp who were unsaved became Christians.

This is a splendid assembly and doing a great work in northeast Arkansas. There were thirty-four preachers who attended at least part of the services. Every one was singing praises of C. F. Gwin-up, Southern Baptist College, who had charge of the dining hall. Excellent meals were served three times a day. Everyone was wondering how such splendid meals

with fried chicken, blackberry cobbler, and ice cream could be served for only eight dollars per person for the entire time.

Missionary A. L. Leake of Washington-Madison Association was invited by a Landmark Baptist church to conduct a tent revival seven miles west of Fayetteville.

The name of the church is Providence. They had nine members. As a result of a ten day revival, there were fifteen new members added to the church—ten for baptism; so the membership was more than doubled and the Sunday School grew from ten to thirty-six in attendance. The missionary led in ordaining a capable young preacher, Walter Jesser, of John Brown University, who is now full time pastor. The church voted unanimously to petition for membership in Washington-Madison Association and pledged their sympathetic co-operation to our Convention and to use Southern Baptist literature. They have a good church building.

Missionary Leake states that this was the most unusual experience he has had since his revival in Farmington last October, which resulted in over one hundred additions to the church. The Farmington Church is now erecting a beautiful building.

Bethel Church, near Prescott, is making great progress under the leadership of Pastor A. D. Corder. Since last October, nine people have been baptized into the church and eleven additions by letter. The church is operating a bus to furnish transportation to the services.

This church has received help from the mission funds on their building and supplementary aid was given for a number of months on the pastor's salary. Although this church is only about three years old, it is now self-supporting.

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What could we do that would be of more value this summer than see that our own church and those in our association plan and conduct Vacation Bible schools both in the home church and at mission points in the community? The achievements of the past point to the possibilities of the future.

—E. W. Westmoreland
Baptist Bulletin Service

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A Few Vacancies for
Session 1949-1950

Fall Session September 12

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Baptist Building, Little Rock



Keeping The Association Organized For Effective Training Union Work

First, the annual associational Training Union business meeting should be held in connection with the last associational Training Union mass meeting or rally in the associational year.

At least a month before this meeting, the associational director should appoint a nominating committee to select the following associational Training Union officers: Director, Associate Director, Secretary-Treasurer, Pastor-advisor, Adult Leader, Young People's Leader, Intermediate Leader, Junior Leader, Story Hour Leader, and Group Directors. These officers should be contacted to see that they will serve. The nominating committee should bring its report to this last Training Union meeting that is held before the annual meeting of the association. The officers are elected there.

If the associational Training Union does not have rallies or mass meetings, the nominating committee should bring this report direct to the annual meeting of the association. If there is no Training Union organization, the Moderator should appoint a committee far enough in advance of the annual meeting of the association that the committee could bring its nominations to the association.

Second, final action should be taken at the annual meeting of the association at which time the association would likely adopt the report of the associational Training Union. Let it be understood that the associational Training Union is association controlled in the same way that the local Training Union is church controlled.

Other recommendations from the associational Training Union, such as a schedule of meetings and definite activities, could be presented to the association.

Third, the newly elected director should call a meeting of his officers for an executive committee meeting at a very early date and do the following things:

Explain to each officer his duties. An envelope containing suggestions for each officer may be obtained by writing to the State Training Union Director.

Plan the meetings and programs for the following quarter.

Make definite plans to reach

every church which does not have a Training Union.

Make definite plans to lead every church to conduct a Training Union study course during the fall.

Plan other extension work.

Use the Associational Training Union Manual as a guide for the work to be done in the association.

Pulaski County Associational Music Rally

Approximately 500 people attended the Music Rally for Pulaski County Baptist Association on Monday evening, July 18, at the First Church, North Little Rock. The program had been planned by the State Music director, and her two associates, Roland Leath and M. O. Kelley. The program consisted of congregational singing, an opening devotion, and several special selections. The guest director and speaker was C. Lamar Alexander, Music and Educational director of Highland Heights Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. Alexander spoke on "The Power of Music." He also sang a solo entitled, "The Penitent" (Vandewater) and directed some of the congregational singing.

The opening portion of the program was an organ recital given by Glenn Metcalf, head of the Organ Department, Hendrix College, Conway. The Adult Choir of the North Little Rock church, directed by the pastor, sang, "Jesus Priceless Treasure" by Bach, as their special offering, and the massed adult choirs of greater Little Rock participated in the singing of "Open Our Eyes," by McFarlane, directed by Miss Marcella Johnson, head of the Music Department of Central College. The Youth Choir directed by M. O. Kelley sang, "Fairest Lord Jesus."

As a surprise feature, the Girl's Ensemble from Central Baptist Church, Hot Springs, Arkansas, sang two beautiful gospel songs, directed by Thomas Landers Jr.

The opening devotion was conducted by the host pastor, O. W. Moran, and congregational singing was directed by Mrs. B. W. Nininger.

Clear Creek Association Hymn Sing

On Sunday afternoon, July 17, First Church, Clarksville, was host to Clear Creek Association Quarterly Hymn Sing. L. E. Cunningham, pastor of the Alma Baptist Church, who is the Associational Music Director, was in charge of the service and introduced the guest director, Mrs. B. W. Nininger. Eighty-eight people were present from three churches. Special numbers were presented by churches attending. Mrs. Lera Morris, organist, and Rick Jernigan, director of music, First Church, Clarksville, pianist, accompanied the singing.

J. S. Hardin of Clarksville was elected associate director and Mrs. Lera Morris accompanist for the next associational year.

Eastside Church, DeWitt Reports Successful Training Union Study

A successful Training Union Study course was recently held by the Eastside Baptist Church, DeWitt, with a total enrolment of 138 and an average attendance of ninety-nine. Methods books were used throughout the school. A total of ninety awards were earned.

The following composed the faculty: Adults, D. O. Stuckey, Almyra; Young People, Mrs. Arthur Danner, First Church, DeWitt; Intermediates, Mrs. D. O. Stuckey, Almyra; eleven and twelve-year Juniors, Mrs. Don Williams; nine and ten-year Juniors, Mrs. Mae Pearman, First Church, DeWitt.

L. E. Ross is pastor and Chester L. Dilday is Training Union director.

Summer Field Work Rally

Over 300 people attended the first Summer Field Work rally which was held at the First Church, Paragould, Sunday afternoon, June 17. During that week the fourteen teams of workers worked in fourteen churches of Greene County. On Saturday morning the group left for Poca-hontas to work in Current River association. They will complete their work on August 27.

Notice!

Any associational leaders who are interested in having the Summer Field Workers for a week during the summer of 1950 should contact Ralph W. Davis as soon as possible. Address, 212 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

Can We Do Better?

By J. N. BARNETTE

A rural church in Georgia reports an enrolment gain of 143 in three months.

What happened? Not an unusual increase in population, because the number of people living in the community is approximately the same now as it was ten years ago.

What did happen. A group of workers attended a conference and heard that other Sunday Schools were growing. They put the suggestions into action. Now, there is interest, concern, and life, where indifference, complacency, and apathy had existed.

Southern Baptists are out to achieve a 600,000 net Sunday School enrolment gain before the end of this associational year. Only a few months remain: two for some; three for others; while the churches in a few of the associations have four months remaining.

Will we in these remaining months take seriously what Jesus said as recorded in Matthew 28:19-20? Do we need more classes, more workers, more visitation, more Sunday Schools? Do we need to be aroused? God's ringing call should stir our hearts—"Awake, awake, put on your strength, O Zion."

Brother Superintendents, is it true that the growth of the Sunday Schools rests with us? Will we face the achievements of our schools in the light of Matthew 28:19, and Mark 16:15? Will we be honest with ourselves? Can we do better? Will we do better? Let us press the question until the concern in our hearts impels us to renewed activities.

Someone has said, "If a Sunday School is not growing, it may be that the superintendent should change his attitude and program, or position." Think it over, and of course, make a change; a change of attitude, and a change of program. Let the words of Jesus burn in your heart, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations."

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Central Association Music Festival

Between five and six hundred people gathered in Central Church, Hot Springs, Thursday night, July 21, for the regular Quarterly Hymn Sing and Music Festival. Ray McClung, music and educational director at Second Church, Hot Springs, who is the associational music director, was in charge of the program.

The program included four groups of songs for congregational singing and the presentation of special choir selections by seven of the eight churches represented.

Preceding the festival program a Supper Conference was held with pastors, directors, and accompanists.

Mrs. Nininger, the state music director, was a guest and led the congregational singing.

Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Arkansas Baptist State Convention
209 Baptist Building, Little Rock

MRS. F. E. GOODBAR
President

MISS NANCY COOPER
Executive Secretary and Treasurer

MISS DORIS DEVAULT
Young People's Secretary

R. A. Camps to be Combined

Due to the fact that registrations for Junior and Intermediate R. A. Camps scheduled for August 1-6 and August 8-13 do not justify having both camps, the groups will be combined into one camp August 8-13. The place remains, Ferncliff.

Ivyloy Bishop, South-wide Royal Ambassador secretary, will direct the camp and will be assisted by Paul Reagan, summer R. A. field worker. Missionary speakers and teachers will include Lawrence Thibodeau missionary among the French of southern Louisiana; David Yang, Chinese, studying at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; John Shepard born and reared in South America and now appointee to China and student at the Chinese

Language School of Yale University. Many outstanding pastors of the state and other leaders will assist.

Ferncliff is a delightful place for a summer camp and its facilities have been adjudged to be perfectly safe. A full corps of counselors, life-guards, nurses, and others will be on duty at all times. A bus will leave the Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, at two p. m. on the afternoon of the eighth and will bring the group back to that point on the afternoon of the thirteenth. The bus fare each way is thirty-five cents.

Note the change. Tell counselors and boys of it. Then be one to register and attend the Royal Ambassador Camp August 8-13 at Ferncliff.

NOTE CHANGE IN CAMP SCHEDULE

Junior and Intermediate R. A. Camps Combined

Date: August 8-13

Place: Ferncliff

Ivyloy Bishop, Director

Paul Reagan, Assistant Director

Missionaries — Methods — Music — Movies

Swimming — Recreation

Register TODAY by sending one dollar to Miss Nancy Cooper, treasurer, 209 Baptist Building, Little Rock. Balance of \$11.50 is payable upon arrival at Ferncliff. Special bus will leave the Second Baptist Church, Eighth and Scott, Little Rock, 2:00 p. m., August eighth.

Baptist Brotherhood of Arkansas



NELSON F. TULL, State Secretary

219 Baptist Building
Little Rock, Arkansas

A Great Conference

We regard the recent Brotherhood conference at Siloam Springs as an outstanding success. Attendance was gratifying, with an average of eighty-six men each day during the assembly week. The conference leaders were all able men, and every one of them made an excellent presentation of his particular phase of the work under discussion.

This is the third year of the Brotherhood conference at Siloam Springs. Year-before-last the attendance was in the thirties; last year in the fifties, and this year in the eighties! We are grateful to Baptist men and young men for their loyal support of the Brotherhood conference.

Yes, we are planning that next year's Brotherhood conference at Siloam Springs shall be the best yet!

New Speakers at W. M. U. Conference

Women always like to hear new voices along with known favorites, and you will at W. M. U. Conference, Ridgecrest, August 4-10, this very summer. Dr. Clyde Francisco, assistant professor in Old Testament interpretation at Southern Seminary, Louisville, will speak each morning at the Bible hour. The vesper services will be heart-stirring periods of worship down by Lake Dew. Miss Miriam Robinson of the W. M. U. Training School will lead these services. Dr. Duke McCall, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be the Sunday speaker. There will be missionaries and national guests, State and South-wide leaders in our W. M. U. and general denominational life. There will be other women from Maryland to California, from Texas to Virginia, and knowing them will encourage you in your service. There will be conferences to give you the "know-how" in missionary education.

The Brotherhood Handbook

Rapid progress is being made in the preparation of a handbook of Brotherhood organization and methods. The book will be published in the late fall or early winter. The Baptist Brotherhood of the South and the State Brotherhood Secretaries Association are working together at the task.

We know of nothing that the Brotherhood movement needs as much as a good manual, or handbook. Brotherhoods all over the South are looking forward to the help that the handbook will render, both in organization and in building a worth while, continuing activities program.

Needed Supplies Are Available Now

New Brotherhood lapel buttons are available from your State Brotherhood office. The celluloid button, in white and royal blue, is very attractive. It shows the Brotherhood emblem, with the words "A Million Men for Christ." These buttons are five cents each, or fifty cents per dozen, postpaid. Large Brotherhood decals are available at the same price. Silveroid lapel buttons, showing simply the Brotherhood "B," are twenty-five cents each, postpaid.

Brand new "Application for Membership" cards are available at one dollar per 100, postpaid. These cards are four by six inches and are printed on both sides. One side provides space for the name and address and other personal information of the new Brotherhood member; the other side sets forth the whole range of Brotherhood activity, and gives the new member the opportunity to choose the particular type or types of service in which he desires to engage.

Brotherhood tracts of all kinds are free, in any reasonable number.

Send your request for these materials to the Brotherhood Department, 219 Baptist Building, Little Rock.

Three Closing Weeks

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August 18-24 **RIDGECREST BIBLE CONFERENCE**

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August 25-31 *Convention-wide Church Music Conference*

The ministry of your church will be greatly enriched by your attending one or more of these conferences

Forty-third Annual Session . . .

Arkansas Baptist State Assembly

Dr. W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, and inspirational speaker for the forty-third annual session of the Arkansas Baptist State Assembly, closed his series of messages Wednesday night, July 13, with an appeal to all young people to dedicate their lives to Jesus Christ. In an unique way Dr. Criswell presented Christ's call from the standpoint of a "conscript" and a "volunteer."

During the assembly session 791 young people made definite decisions for Christ. There were 609 who signed cards pledging themselves to no drinking, no smoking, no dancing, and no desecration of the Lord's day, following an appeal made by Dr. Criswell on "Worldliness Out." There were 182 who surrendered for definite Christian service, also, there were many conversions.

A special offering of \$1,000 was taken during the encampment to clear up all debts. The Assembly goes into a new year debt free. Many improvements were made during the past year. One of the most outstanding was rebuilding the tabernacle, thus enlarging the seating capacity by several hundred. The Assembly program was directed by Dr. Edgar Williamson, head of the Religious Education Department.

Dr. M. Ray McKay, Second Church, Little Rock, led in the morning devotional hour. The General assembly sessions were devoted to the various phases of

denominational work.

Gale Dunn, Gaston Avenue Church, Dallas, Texas, led the singing for all services and directed the Choir Festival on Sunday afternoon.

Conferences were held for students under the leadership of Miss Estelle Slater, Student Department, Nashville, Tennessee, and A. D. Bates.

The Assembly Board of Control has set July 5-13 as the dates for the 1950 Assembly.

Of great interest among the young people was the Coronation of the King and Queen of the Kingdom of Siloam. Thomas Landers, Central Church, Hot Springs, was crowned King, and Miss Bertha Moseley, First Church, Pine Bluff, was selected as Queen. The Prince and Princess were James Wilson, South Side Church, Pine Bluff, and Miss Gail Orton, Tyler Street Church, Little Rock. Gale Dunn was master of ceremonies and Dr. J. M. Price crowned the King and Queen.

During the Sunday School hour two courses in music were taught by Mrs. B. W. Nininger, State Music director, Little Rock, and Miss Odessa Holt, Mt. Ida. A course in Church Publicity was taught by Mrs. Leslie Buchanan, editorial assistant of Arkansas Baptist. A. D. Bates, student secretary, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, served as dean of the Sunday School work.

(Continued Next Week)



Some of the Field Workers ready to get on the Ouachita bus in which they will travel this summer.

Ralph W. Davis and Miss Irene Jones, First Church, Fort Smith directed the training of the twenty-nine college students who are doing Summer Field work in the Northeastern part of the state.



The coronation ceremony at Siloam.



Queen Moseley looks on as Dr. J. M. Price crowns King Landers.



Crown-bearers in the coronation ceremony, Henry Emmons and Mary Snellings.



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Bible School is Soul Winning Agency

Of the more than 26,000 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention, 15,357 are known to have had a Vacation Bible school in 1948. There were also 1,099 mission, 807 Negro, and 65 miscellaneous schools, making a total of 17,543.

schools made offerings besides those reporting.

Only eight of the 934 district associations in the twenty-one state Southern Baptist Convention territory failed to report one or more schools.

The Vacation Bible school meets a real need. In ten days it provides thirty hours of teaching activities, or about the same number of hours that the Sunday School provides in six months. The needs of the boys and girls are five fold: physical, mental, social, and spiritual. The Vacation Bible school seeks to care for these needs according to the teaching of the New Testament.

—Baptist Bulletin Service

There were 36,502 professions of faith reported by 11,421 schools. There were probably between 45,000 and 50,000 conversions in all the schools.

Mission offerings were reported by 12,159 schools—4,704 schools giving \$58,431 to the Cooperative Program, and 7,455 schools giving \$121,468 to designated objects. The total of all the offerings was \$179,897. No doubt many other

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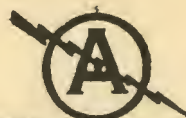
W. C. Villines of near Harrison, uses an electric milking machine to milk his fine herd of Jersey cows. He finds it saves him hours of time and increases production. The cow pictured has an outstanding record, producing 1,700 pounds of milk in 30 days. Mr. Villines' entire herd stands very high in milk production.

What farmer would hire out to milk his neighbors' cows for one cent per cow per day? He'd never get rich that way. Farmers who are using electric milking machines realize they can't even milk their own cows for that and make money. So they turn the job over to their "wired-hand," Reddy Kilowatt, and spend their own valuable labor on more productive jobs.

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Psalms of Trust

By MRS. ROLAND LEATH

This discussion is based on the International Uniform Sunday School Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education and used by permission.

This old world, steeped in sin, haken by fears, saturated through with trouble, and sinking with weakness, needs forgiveness, reassurance, deliverance and strength. What the world needs is Jesus, "a glimpse of Him," is the answer given by the songwriter. Christ is the Answer," is the theme of our Baptist march against the problems and difficulties of today.

The Psalms of Trust we study in this lesson are most timely. We need to trust God. The Old Testament word "trust," is the New Testament word "faith." Jesus said "Have faith in God" Mark 11:22. We need a virile faith in our God in all the circumstances of life. We need to have confidence in God. A little child trusts his parent; because of that trust, he willingly takes his hand, jumps into his father's arms, commits his whole being into his safe keeping. Should we do less in regard to our Lord, who is all wise, all powerful; a rock, a refuge, our ever-present help, friend, and guide?

From the psalmists we should catch a note of encouragement to trust in God. These men knew Him and loved Him; they had put God to the test and He had not failed them. They rejoiced and passed their rich experiences on to us for our help.

The Deliverance of God

David's life had been spared and as a result of that experience he wrote this song, Psalm 34, praising God for deliverance. David knew that what happened to him was a miracle of God. Many times we should magnify the Lord, exalt His name because of deliverance. It may be from death, disaster, disease, or the sin the Evil One puts in our way. God delivers us every day. David rejoiced in God's care and invited men to magnify God's Name before others and to lift that Name for all men to honor and love.

In David's need and danger, he must have prayed. When we love and trust God, and call upon His Name, He delivers. David was beset on every hand by danger and it was natural that he should be afraid. In this verse he says, "I sought Jehovah and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears." David sought God seriously, earnestly, and sincerely. In return he received assurance, physical deliverance, and relief from fear.

Looking toward God, trusting in Him, does something for the believer. Light breaks through the

Sunday School Lesson for July 31, 1949

Psalms 34:3-8; 37:3-6; 46:1-3

darkness of doubt, fear, trouble, and confusion. Faces become radiant when hearts are opened to God. "What we are shows in our faces," is an old adage. The world should be able to tell a Christian by his happy face.

The seventh verse of this psalm is one to be blazed upon the heart and soul of every child of God. "The angel of Jehovah encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them," is a message of power to our hearts. Those who love and trust God are guarded by His angel. What a blessed thought! David calls upon us to "taste and see Jehovah," that is to try Him and see how blessed it is to trust Him; to test Him and prove how dependable is His help and protection.

The Guidance of God

In Psalm 37 we again receive help from the rich and manifold experiences of David. Because of these experiences David was able to meet the problems of life and instruct others in the way of living through all difficulties. We have in this psalm the answer to the problem which was a pressing one in Old Testament days—why should the righteous suffer and the wicked prosper? This psalm has been called "an antidote to murmuring." Surely, Christians who trust an all powerful, never-failing, never-changing God, should realize that the prosperity of the wicked is temporary while the happiness and inheritance of the righteous is eternal. Here David exhorts the godly to "trust in Jehovah," "Delight thyself in Him," "Commit thy way," "trust," "wait." He is a trust-worthy God. Trust Him, serve Him, obey Him, and satisfying, abundant food will be the believer's blessing. Murmuring, fretting, envying, doubting, will be blotted out of the life of a man or woman who learns to trust God.

We learn when we trust God that His will and His way is best for us. "He will give thee the desires of thy heart," sounds as if God will give anything we want, when the sentence is lifted out of its setting, separated from the context. Reading the heart of the psalm, understanding the full meaning, we realize that when we love God, look to Him to guide our lives and commit it all into His keeping, then He gives us those things which are best for us and for His Name's honor and glory. "Commit thy way unto Jehovah; Trust also in Him and He will bring it to pass," ought to bring abiding joy and happiness to every Christian's heart. The

way to live victoriously is to completely trust God to guide our course in life.

The Strength of God

We might not be amiss in calling Psalm 46 the climax of these Psalms of Trust. There is a crescendo of emotions as the psalmist announces the triumphant theme: God is our Refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, swelling then into magnificent praise as he recounts how earth, mountains, and sea can even be removed and yet one who trusts such a God will not fear.

Most commentaries teach that this psalm, and maybe two others were written, praising God for a miraculous delivery, in connection with Sennacherib's attempt to invade Jerusalem; the city was seemingly lost; the mighty invaders camped just outside the city, ready to take possession on the morrow. In the night, God sent a pestilence and slew 85,000 Assyrian soldiers. When morning broke, silence and death were the only inhabitants of that camp. Certainly such a deliverance warrants highest praise. There need be no fear when God cares for

Builders of Faith

What most people need is a positive and challenging appeal to the best that is in them. It takes work, wisdom, and patience to teach, encourage, and enlist weaker Christians until they grow in grace and knowledge "unto the full stature of manhood;" but that is the Lord's way.

The way to make a little fire great is not to ridicule it for being little nor to blow it out, but to give it fuel and fan it gently. The way to teach a child to walk is not to rebuke him for the fact that he is weak and wobbly, but to take him by the hand and lead him gently and firmly until he is able to stand alone.

—Baptist Bulletin Service

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None of us can know what God is getting us ready for.

—George W. Truett

and watches over us. He is ever by our side; He knows our needs; He answers us and is able to do all things for us. God is our strength, our Rock of safety, our ever-present Protector.



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LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

★ Executive Board — STATE CONVENTION ★

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

Ouachita Million Dollar Campaign

We sidetracked the Ouachita Million Dollar Campaign for the month of June to give an opportunity to the churches to express their sympathy in dollars and cents for the loss of the main building by fire. For the month of June we laid on the shelf the main Million Dollar Campaign, and many of the churches have made a special offering for the replacement of "Old Main." This was done by action of the Board of Trustees on May 27 as follows: "A Motion . . . that a separate 'Old Main' Campaign be conducted and completed during the month of June, if possible, to raise money to replace the main building."

The month of June is over. We are back on the main line with the Million Dollar Campaign. All Associational Committees will resume their active efforts to lead each church to the goal which Dr. Whittington and his staff requested early in the Campaign.

Brethren, let us repeat that it is not a "hat collection" proposition. We did not start out just to raise a little money for Ouachita. We set out with some definite objectives. We knew what we were reaching for. The plans were well outlined. It would take a certain amount of money. This amount of money was covered in certain requests that were made to the churches. We earnestly hope and pray that each church will reach its goal. A mere "hat collection" will neither finance this building program nor save the face of a church. Churches can give the amount that Dr. Whittington and his staff requested if the leaders of the churches will heroically and prayerfully push the matter in the churches for the next six months.

Leaders, your senior institution is leaning heavily upon you, and depending on you to help in this crisis. Let us keep the Campaign thoroughly alive during these summer months.

We have received many church bulletins that are emphasizing the Ouachita Million Dollar Campaign. Read what Shaddox in Harmony Association says: "I am disturbed! I am praying that some of you may become troubled also, about how puny Baptists in Harmony Association have been in supporting the Ouachita College Campaign. Eleven of our thirty-two churches have made some effort; twenty-one have done nothing! Now a new need has arisen. With the burning of 'Old Main,' an even greater responsibility is ours. I doubt if there is a person in our Association who would not help a neighbor if his house should burn. What about Ouachita? Let's get right brethren, and go to work. Personally, I do not want anyone saying, 'Harmony Association was one of the few in the state which didn't come through.'"

Pastor Rel Gray is on the job. He says, "Due to the fact that Ouachita College is located in Southwest Arkansas, many Baptists are not familiar with the institution. Ouachita is a senior college belonging to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, of which

we are a part. This school was founded and is supported by the Baptist people.

On the morning of May 24, following the sixty-third commencement, the Administration Building was struck by lightning and was destroyed by fire. An effort is being made to raise funds to rebuild the Administration Building before school begins this fall. Certainly our church will incorporate this worthy cause in its prayers and as soon as possible will make a worthy offering."

W. R. Vestal reminds us: "Better than half century past, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was a small, yet growing denomination, shaking off the shackles of a great and devastating war. Churches were small and widely separated and the need for coordination and education was tremendous. Especially was there need for a better trained ministry. For this purpose plans were laid and for sixty years those plans have been carried out.

The unfolding years have spread before us the wide demand for higher education, under Christian surroundings, for Baptist young people. Our Convention came to realize that this was a field so large that it would command the energy of the Baptist people of Arkansas, and Ouachita, as its senior educational institution, came into its place. Through the years, Ouachita has given training that has served the denomination in a most wonderful way. Preachers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, and business men are now occupying places of responsibility, as leaders in their respective fields of labor, they look to this institution as the place where they received inspiration to serve in a Christian way. They have carried over into every day living, the Christian principles they learned at Ouachita. Especially is this true of the Baptist ministry. Today, Ouachita's trained ministers serve around the globe.

The task, however, is not finished. Ouachita finds itself today at the crossroads of the future. If she goes on serving, she must give a wider training and give it to more men and women. Therefore, she calls again to the missionary spirit of our denomination to rise and meet the needs of our day as did Conger, Atkinson, Bowers, and others in their day."

B. C. Huddleston of Searcy says, "Ouachita is the senior college of the Baptist denomination of Arkansas. This school needs the loyal support of all Baptists in Arkansas. Dr. A. B. Bonds, State Department of Education, told the Board that Ouachita College is needed now more than ever, as the state schools are putting out technicians and this Government cannot stand on educated technicians alone, for we need religion with education, and for that reason he is sympathetic with the ideals of Ouachita.

As is the case in every college, financial support is necessary. We Baptists support our state schools through taxation; but in the case of Ouachita we are asked to give volun-

Pre-Pastoral Testing of Ministers

This is NOT a broadside against preachers. Being one of them, we have a special affection for them. Most ministers as we have known them are worthy of confidence, but a few are not. Therefore, it is suggested that unless a preacher is well approved otherwise a pulpit committee should not recommend nor should a Baptist church call a man as pastor until he is tested concerning his Baptist beliefs and practice. This can be done quietly and tactfully.

When such a course is suggested some Baptists say: "Why, isn't he a Baptist preacher?" And their tone implies: "Of course, he's bound to be all right." But the name "Baptist" may be worn without real Baptist beliefs and practice to justify it.

Sometimes there is a preacher who habitually disturbs and divides churches wherever he goes. Baptists could save themselves a lot of trouble and heartaches if by investigation they kept such a man from becoming their pastor.

A deacon in a prominent church in another state sorrowfully expressed the wish that his brilliant and engaging pastor "would preach the old gospel." By this was meant the gospel of grace revealed in the Scriptures. Examinations before hand would keep a sound Baptist church from calling a man like this as pastor.

A nationally and internationally famous man who wears the Baptist name said: "Of course, I do not believe in the Virgin Birth, or in that old fashioned substitutionary doctrine of the atonement . . ." Unless it is known that a man accepts without question the doctrines of the Virgin Birth, Substitutionary Atonement, Bodily Resurrection, Salvation by Grace, Supernatural Regeneration, the Second Coming of Christ and so on, then question him on these things. It would be well also to test him on the church and the ordinances. If he cannot meet the test, do not call him.

A modernistic "Baptist" preacher heaped scorn on the Biblical story of Jonah and the Biblical account of creation and mostly spent his pulpit time in telling what he did not believe. A visitor in this man's home saw the children of the latter on the floor playing with a deck of gambler's cards.

Unless a man is well-authenticated otherwise, test him and see where he stands. If he is really sound in faith, he will not resent it. If he does resent it, do not call him.

—Baptist and Reflector

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The Baptist Hospital has converted the chapel into an isolation ward for polio cases providing at present eighteen additional beds. There were thirty-eight cases in the hospital on Monday, July 25. Total number of cases received by the hospital during the current polio epidemic is sixty-one.

Our church has been giving to the needs of Ouachita through the budget for the Million Dollar Campaign. But now we are asked to give to the emergency campaign, to help replace 'Old Main' Administration Building . . ."