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October 28, 1965

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist

newsmagazine

OCTOBER 28, 1965



Education aid—a new approach, page 4

Soon the frost

AS this was written, the afternoon of Oct. 20, our bed of crimson verbenias is still flourishing in our front yard. For weeks now I have been visiting the flowers as frequently as possible to drink in their beauty. I know they will be gone with the first killing frost.

Two weeks ago, as I was standing in front of the flowers, a black-and-orange butterfly appeared and drank thirstily from the sweet nectar of the blossoms. Considering how soon both the butterfly and the flowers must die, I felt that I was looking on Ephemera itself.

There is something sad and mystical about the feeling you have when you know you are looking at that which is soon to die. Sometimes the doomed one is a loved one in a family—one who has a hopeless affliction or a terminal illness. The doctors have said: "Two or three months to live—six months at most." Then the relatives and friends who know about it do much as we do with the flowers about to be killed. We live from day to day, making the most of the minutes and the hours we have with the fatally-stricken loved ones.

But time after time, the one who goes next on the mysterious journey to that land "from whose bourne no one returns" is not the one with the few days or weeks to live, but one who was in good health, or was thought to have been, frequently not the aged and infirm, but the young and the strong. A slippery highway, a dozing driver, or, perhaps, a failure of brakes, and then a thundering crash and a life blown out!

If we could somehow know what would be our last meeting with someone we would be tenderhearted and so thoughtful in everything. But since we cannot know and there is the real possibility that any meeting or any parting may be the last, this should temper our thoughts and our actions. After all, we have much in common with the verbenias and the butterfly. We also await the killing frost.

But through and beyond the frost there is an eternal spring:

"He who from zone to zone
Guides through the sky thy certain flight
In the long way that I must tread alone
Will guide my steps aright."

Erwin L. McDonald

IN THIS ISSUE:

OF utmost importance to all Southern Baptists these days has been the problem of whether or not to accept federal aid for church-supported schools. Two meetings in Little Rock last week on the subject were most fruitful—offering a new approach to aid for Christian education in Arkansas. Read the Editor's report on the editorial pages.

* * *

ARKANSAS Baptists have contributed a total of \$1,450,358.94 to the Cooperative Program from January through September. For a list of donations of the various churches, by associations, see pages 16-19.

* * *

NOVEMBER is Children's Home month in Arkansas, and today we begin a series of informative articles from the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, page 21. There is an editorial on page 3 that concerns this same subject—it's the cover story, too—and deserves your attention.

* * *

SPEAKING of the new approach, (as we did in the first paragraph) we direct your attention to a look at the Sunday School lesson for the week in the parlance of the day. Dr. Ralph Phelps has done an excellent job of translating the story of Samson into a language that will be easily understood by the young folks of your home. The lesson is on pages 22 and 23.

* * *

THE response has been most gratifying—to Harriet Hall and to the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine—to our new feature, "Feminine Philosophy." Today Mrs. Hall has some advice for young folks who wish to marry and their parents, who hope they won't. The column is on page 6.

Arkansas Baptist
newsmagazine

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Abbreviations used in crediting news items: BP Baptist Press; CB Church Bulletin; DP Daily Press; EP Evangelical Press; AB Associational Bulletin

'Our kids are back'

WHAT do you do for hungry boys and girls?

Ask any parents and they will declare emphatically, "We feed them!"

The Cover



What do you do when the clothes and shoes of boys and girls wear out?

Ask any parents and they will tell you, "We get them some new things to wear."

What do you do when the children reach school age?

Ask any parents and they will answer, "Why we send them to school!"

What do you do when children get sick?

Ask any parents and they will inform you, "We take them to the doctor, and if necessary, we put them to bed or send them to the hospital where they can be cared for till they are well."

What do you do about the religious experiences of the children?

The answers here may vary from home to home, but most Christian parents, at a very minimum, would say: "We take them to Sunday School, church, and Training Union."

But, you may be saying, "I have no children!" or "Our children are grown and on their own."

But if you are an Arkansas Baptist, whether husband or wife or bachelor or maiden, you do have children. For the more than 100 children living at Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, Monticello, are your children—yours, and mine, and every other Arkansas Baptist's children. They look to you and me and the rest of us for all the necessities of life. But only 40 percent of the Home's budget is provided through our Cooperative Program giving. The other 60 percent has to be provided through the annual Thanksgiving Day offering for the Home. Our children come to us, through this appeal, once each year.

The month of November has been designated "Children's Home Month." Be sure your church passes out the envelopes to give all its members a chance to help in the special Thanksgiving Offering. For these are our boys and girls. And they are back, looking to us for help!

The sun again!

THE sun of a bright, new hope has suddenly and unexpectedly broken through a very dark cloud which has hung over Arkansas Baptists now for a number of weeks. It appears that the issue of federal aid for Ouachita, which has been pointing to a donnybrook at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention here next month, will not be before the Convention for debate and action. (For a full reporting of the new developments, see the article on page 4.)

There seems to be a general feeling of thanksgiving and relief among Baptists of the state who have had opportunity to react to the new situation. This was reflected in an informal meeting of representative pastors and laymen here on Thursday night of last week, and again the next day at the meeting which had been scheduled at Second Church, Little Rock, for further discussion of the federal-aid issue.

Most of the opinions we have heard have indicated the feeling that the trustees of Ouachita have shown real wisdom in asking that the question of federal aid not be before us this fall.

Perhaps the greatest blessing to be seen in the new approach is not merely that we will not be debating this very divisive issue and running the real risk of a fracture of our fellowship, but that we now have before us a new plan for the undergirding and strengthening of all our Baptist causes, at home and around the world, through a new emphasis being proposed for the Cooperative Program.

As high as our fevers have run on the federal aid issue, some have now suggested that this great surge of interest and concern may turn out to be a real blessing, if we Baptist people and churches of Arkansas can now forget any hard feelings that may have occurred in the recent debate and put our shoulders to the new wheel of progress that has just been revealed.

The real prospect is that, as we continue to pray, we may come to our annual meeting of the Convention at First Church, Little Rock, Nov. 15-17, with a spirit of unity and dedication that will make it possible for God to lead us into great, new undertakings for him.

tithe
THAT ALL MAY KNOW
TWO MILLION BAPTIST TITHERS...
now!

Ouachita withdraws request for vote on federal funds

THE question of whether Ouachita University should accept building funds under the Educational Facilities Act of 1963 will not be an issue to be decided by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in its meeting here next month if a new request from the University trustees is heeded.

In a meeting at the University on Thursday of last week, the trustees passed a resolution asking that the Convention not consider the question of federal funds at this time.

Following the Ouachita action, a plan for the undergirding and strengthening of the Cooperative Program has been announced by Dr. S. A. Whitlow, executive secretary of the Convention, for consideration by the executive Board of the Convention and for possible action by the Convention Nov. 15-17.

The new Cooperative Program plan, worked out by Dr. Whitlow and other Convention leaders, calls for churches of the Convention to increase their gifts to the Cooperative Program in 1966 by 10 per cent over what they are giving this year. The Cooperative Program provides for all phases of the Convention program, plus support to the Southern Baptist mission causes.

In anticipation of the increased gifts, \$67,500 would be added to the proposed 1966 budget, for Christian education, three-fourths of this amount to go to Ouachita and one-fourth to Southern College, Walnut Ridge, an independent Baptist junior college which receives financial support from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

This additional item would raise the proposed budget to be submitted to the Convention to \$2,171,653.79. Half of any gifts above this amount would be divided equally between the State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. The State Conven-

tion's executive board would determine how the state's share would be used.

The question of whether Ouachita would accept federal grants for buildings had been scheduled to be decided by the state Convention Nov. 15-17 at First Church, Little Rock. Dr. Ralph A. Phelps Jr., president of Ouachita, had said in August that if the school was to remain a University of the first magnitude it would have to participate in the Educational Facilities Act of 1963, which provides federal matching grants for college buildings.

After the Ouachita Board adopted its resolution Thursday, 115 Baptist pastors and laymen attended a night meeting at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, and heard Dr. S. A. Whitlow executive secretary of the state Convention, submit a plan that included a call for the churches to increase their gifts. A spokesman said that the pastors and laymen, representing most of the 43 Baptist associations in Arkansas, agreed that the Ouachita Board had made a "wise move" because the federal aid issue had been headed for a bitter battle on the Convention floor and that it appeared that the Convention would have voted down federal aid for Ouachita anyway.

A spokesman said that a member of the Board of Southern Baptist College reported that Southern College had turned down a federal grant because of the sentiment expressed in the state against the acceptance of federal aid for Ouachita. The amount of the grant wasn't mentioned.

The Ouachita Board of Trustees had adopted a resolution August 13, 1964, asking the state Convention to vote on whether it should participate in the Educational Facilities Act "so that pressing educational needs might be partially met." At the time, the trustees said, they didn't see "where other resources were apt

to be available to meet these needs."

Thursday's resolution said that subsequent discussions since 1964 "have revealed that there is far from unanimity of opinion on this question in behalf of either side.

"A great many of the brethren have said that the needs of Ouachita can be met through voluntary giving of Arkansas Baptists so that it will not be necessary to accept building grants in order to maintain an institution of first standing at Ouachita," the resolution continued. It said that "the trustees of Ouachita would prefer that the needs of the school be met in the traditional manner, if this is possible."

So the trustees said "in the interest of harmony and fellowship" it was asking that the Baptist State Convention not vote on the federal aid issue "until other possible sources of support have been thoroughly explored." The resolution added that the Board members "feel deeply their obligation to Arkansas Baptists to do all within their power to maintain an accredited institution and purpose to continue to work to this end."

Proposals go first to executive board

The proposals suggested by Dr. Whitlow would be submitted first to the Executive Board of the state Convention and then to the Convention.

A representative would be named by each association to receive monthly reports from Convention headquarters on the donations and work with the churches in the program calling for them to give 10 per cent more in 1966 to the State Convention.

A "Co-operative Program Week" would be designated next year to give the churches a chance to catch up with a special offering if they happened to be behind on the 10 per cent increase. Also, any churches that hadn't pledged an additional 10 per cent could take a special offering during that week.

The proposals that Dr. Whitlow presented, which were worked out by him and other State Con-

vention leaders, also called on the convention to name a committee of pastors and laymen to make a study of programs of all Arkansas Baptist agencies—including the institutions—and the Convention departments and their programs.

The total budget of \$2,171,653.-79 would include \$1,202,136.89 for the state Convention's total program; \$706,016.90 additional to the Southern Baptist Convention for world-wide Baptist missions; \$67,500 for Ouachita and Southern Baptist college; and \$196,000 for capital needs for the various state Baptist institutions.

As it now stands, Ouachita would get \$323,735.92 plus \$62,720 for capital needs plus its three-fourths share of the \$67,500. And if the 10 per cent increase in the churches' gifts amounts to more than the \$2,171,653.79, Ouachita stands to get a part of that.

'The Restless Ones' is scheduled here

BILLY Graham's new film, "The Restless Ones", will be shown in Little Rock's Robinson Auditorium six times, Nov. 19-21. Tickets are \$1 each and can be secured in Little Rock at Jimmy Karam's Stores, 304 or 305 Main Street, at the Baptist Book Store, 408 Spring Street, or by calling Billy Graham Films, 1000 Bishop, FRanklin 5-0372.

"The Restless Ones" will be shown at 6 and 8:15 p.m., November 19; 6 and 8:15 p.m. Nov. 20; and at 2 and 4 p.m. Nov. 21.

With the accent on youth, this feature-length film deals imaginatively and dramatically with the teen-age crisis. With a background setting provided by the 1963 Billy Graham Los Angeles Crusade, and artfully woven into the story pattern, "The Restless Ones" is a hard-hitting, bold approach to our social problems.

Here is a film which dares to be different, a story which will stir the heart and mind.

As one reviewer said, "Here is a picture that tells the world the truth and comes up with an answer, not an easy answer, but an answer from beyond us." This answer will satisfy, challenge and

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the people SPEAK

THE spelling and sentence structure in this department are those of the writers. The only editing of letters to the editor is the writing of headlines and, occasionally, deletion of parts that are not regarded as essential.

'Unused men'

THERE is a great reservoir of untapped man power in the Evangelistic field. Several weeks out of the year, many full time evangelists are idle, but interested in serving the Lord. The months of June, December and January are the most difficult for the Evangelist.

Recently, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., invited Evangelist Jerry Reimer of Bartlesville, Okla., to spend the month of June as full time church visitor and pastor's assistant. Bro. Reimer was unanimously called by the church and from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., five days a week, visited church prospects. Approximately 60 people were saved and added to the church during this time, as a direct result of his ministry.

The church is giving serious consideration to calling men like this to its staff on a temporary basis to do nothing but visit during their off months, on a love offering basis. Perhaps other churches might give attention to the possibility of using these men as church visitors during their off months.—John R. Bisagno, Pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.

'Soul liberty'

I AM disturbed! There are several "hot" issues under current discussion by Arkansas Baptists (evolution, baptism, the Lord's Supper). The fact that we are discussing them does not dis-

inspire young and old alike and will appeal to churchgoers and non-churchgoers.

The Christian message comes through in the midst of a realistic teen-age situation, cleanly and without cloying.

Screen writer James Collier has skillfully brought into focus the contemporary plight of both teen-agers and parents. A sensitive script, produced by World Wide Pictures under the direction of Dick Ross, has resulted in a "break-through."—Reporter

turb me; the "reasoning" of some of the debaters does. Why must we automatically assume that a new thought contrary to tradition is also contrary to the Bible? I believe the Bible is more modern than a lot of us preachers are willing to admit!

I keep hearing the statement: "... the institutional church as we know it is on its way out". I have defended the church; I believe that the Lord will always have His "witness", that "the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." I hope the same will be true of Southern Baptists and their version of the church! But I ask, "Are we going to become like ostriches, sticking our heads in the sands of tradition, completely ignoring the changing and dying world about us with new ideas, new truth (?), new problems, shifting values, and the need for a "word from God"?"

My recollection is that Baptists have always stood for the validity of "The Word" and truth, the two being synonymous. Yet in these days, the concern seems to be for "interpretations" of the Word handed down rather than for the Word itself. I cannot believe that Baptists are afraid of the truth! But when we come to the place that we cannot change, should the truth dictate such a departure from the traditions, we will have become "institutionalized" and dead, no good to God or man.

It scares me that a zeal for God coupled with a total disdain for learning seems to be deified by some Baptists. I dread the thought that Southern Baptists will be stampeded into an isolationist and untenable position and become worthless as proclaimers of the Word!

I appreciate Mr. Rozzell's christian spirit and forthright answer to Mr. Taylor. I believe Mr. Rozzell said succinctly some things that should be food for thought (if any of us still think!).

Some words of Gamaliel (Acts 5:38-39) might apply to our current theological "heresies": "if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."

I propose that Arkansas Baptists again become champions of Truth, not just defenders of tradition. Let us allow "soul liberty" to every individual and church; and may the Truth of God prevail. Let us each in humility seek the will and way of God for us today! —O. Phillip May, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Pochontas, Ark.

Feminine philosophy

-- or intuition

BY HARRIET HALL

'For a lifetime'

FIRST, a word to those who have helped fill the Mount Sequoyah mail-box lately. It has the mailman a little puzzled.

Thank you for your kind comments. It has been good to get many notes of good wishes—even those who have kidded me a little about becoming an "ecclesiastical Ann Landers." I heard from one woman whom I had not seen in 20 years. She had a problem. Her granddaughter was coming to Fayetteville for the Arkansas-Texas football game and she needed a place to stay.

But another problem, more pertinent to this column, which was called to my attention may be of wider interest:

"I have known Bill for four months, I am 21. He is a year older. He is everything I have ever wanted. He is a good Christian. He is tall, nice-looking, has a good personality and a keen sense of humor. There is only one problem. He is from a broken home. This does not change my opinion of him, but my parents think it is a danger signal. We want to be married soon, but they are opposed. What do you think about it?"

This is a situation which many others have faced, with slightly varying circumstances. One couple came to see my husband and me recently to talk about their problem. They wanted very much to be married, but the girl's parents were in strong opposition. In this particular case the boy was not from a broken home, but the parents' cause for concern was based on the short time the couple had known each other. In virtually every case I would say to those in love, "Give it a little time." Or, as my father used to say to coeds, "Give the boy the once-over and then give him the twice-over."

When a girl speaks so glowingly about her boy-friend, seeing nothing but near-perfection, I am

reminded of what a doctor-friend's wife said recently. She said (in speaking to a group of college students):

"I came home soon after I met Frank and told my mother he was the finest person I'd ever known. I described all the good qualities about him and then waited for her response. I'll never forget what it was. She said, 'But, Betty, does he see all these qualities in you?'"

To Bill's girl-friend I would say age is in your favor, although four months is a rather short time. Remember, you are considering a life time proposition. Secondly, you say that your parents are opposed to Bill because of the broken-home background, or that they think it is a danger-signal. My advice to them (and they did not ask for it) is to be careful how you talk about the young man who in all likelihood will be your future son-in-law. This recent separation is no doubt a real grief to Bill. Why add to his burden at a time when he needs extra love and understanding? If he is all the fine things your daughter says he is—and their love stands the test of a little time—he will probably one day be the father of "the finest grandson who ever lived."

Comments, questions, or suggestions may be addressed to: Mrs. Andrew Hall, Mt. Sequoyah Drive, Fayetteville, Ark.

Baptist Beliefs

Knowing the time

BY HERSCHEL H. HOBBS

Past President, Southern Baptist Convention, First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed" (Rom. 13:11).

PAUL has just finished exhorting the Roman Christians to love one another (vv. 8-10). He drives home his thought by pointing out the urgency of the matter. It is all the more important since they know the "time."

The word "time" appears twice in the English version. The first "time" means the "season" (*kairos*) or the critical, strategic time in which they live. He is not thinking of time (*chronos*) in general. The second "time" is *hora* or "hour." We would say, "the hour has come."

"Salvation" means final salvation or the final, complete deliverance from sin and death as one enters heaven. This experience is nearer than when they first believed in Christ as their Saviour. This is true whether their final deliverance and entrance into heaven be at death or at the second coming of Christ.

Some see Paul's thoughts in the latter sense. And certainly the early Christians, in keeping with Jesus' teachings, lived daily in expectation of the Lord's return. This should be the attitude of every Christian.

But the very urgency of the time in which they lived, plus the expectation of the Lord's return, emphasized the necessity for the Christians to awake from sleep, cast off their evil ways, and to "put on the armour of light" or righteous living (vv. 12-14).

What a blessed thing it would be if every Christian should abide by Paul's exhortation!

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Inspiration

BY J. I. COSSEY

THE basis or starting point for inspiration is in the heart or the inner-life of the human being. We must train our inner-life to look for the things that will inspire us to something worthwhile. We must train our inner seed-bed for big and challenging ideas. Even God will not lead us into the doing of big things unless we have developed an inner source of response. We all have the possibilities of top success but we are not all willing to pay the price for that inner training.

When I was a young preacher and ready to go to a preaching appointment, I went down back of the old field and knelt down on a big flat rock and confessed to God that I had within my heart a desire to preach, but, within myself, I did not have the power to preach. I prayed to him to give me that needed power, and he did.

A pastor with an inner inspiration, plus his best preparation, plus God's help, may shake his community for God. God is the source of this needed heavenly power and it is ours for the asking. So, why should we be powerless in our pulpits?

The Bible is a book of inspiration. The inner inspirational seed-bed of our hearts, plus the reading of the Bible under divine inspiration can certainly change the trend of one's life. We must yield ourselves to what the Bible says and move up to higher tablelands. There is no need for us to grope in the shadows of non-inspired hearts when heaven-sent power is as close as a prayer.

Every community is ready for and needs this dynamic Holy Spirit power which is available and free. The devil is bidding for the life of the sinner and the usefulness of the saved people. The devil is not disturbed if one becomes a Christian if he can make him a "dead-head" Christian. The dear



by Robert J. Hastings

Ripe for trouble

WE frequently use colors to describe our emotions. "He was white with fear. . . green with envy . . . purple with rage. . . yellow with cowardice."

How did green ever come to be associated with envy or jealousy? When we become envious of what someone has, does our skin actually turn green? Hardly. Yet Shakespeare described envy as the "green sickness."

In handling our emotions, it is not the color of our skin—green, yellow, or purple—that counts, but our inner attitudes. An old proverb reads, "When you become green with envy, you become ripe for trouble."

Envy and jealousy do lead to trouble, and sometimes lots of it. How many neighbors have fallen out because one was jealous of what the other had? In how many families has envy caused hard feelings? How many murders, robberies, kidnappings, and even wars have been kindled with the flame of jealousy?

Yes, when we become green with envy, we are ripe for trouble.

Actually, envy is self-love. We think so much of ourselves and are so anxious to satisfy our own personal wants that we grow envious if others get ahead of us. The cure for envy is love. Not self-love, but an outgoing love that is concerned with the feelings, the needs, the sensitivities of others. The Apostle Paul said it in just three words, "Love envieth not."

Lord is bidding for your life and your influence and the Bible says, "Choose you this day whom you will serve." The devil wants you, and God wants you, and only you have the power of decision. What kind of Christian are you, a warm hearted witness for Christ or a dud for the devil? You and you only have the magic power of choice.

The Bookshelf

The Church in the Community, by Arthur E. Graf, Eerdmans, 1965, \$3.95
 Author Graf, professor of practical theology at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill., has designed this book to help "consecrated churchmen who are deeply concerned about the fact that church growth is not keeping pace with population growth." Here is a source book for the development of a better evangelism program in the local congregation. Convinced that it was never God's plan that the clergy alone should evangelize the community, Mr. Graf has filled the book with aids for the pastor who takes seriously the ministry of the laity.

Ten Fingers for God, by Dorothy Clarke Wilson, McGraw-Hill, 1965, \$5.50

This is the true story of a surgeon's quest for an end to the ravages of leprosy.

While medicine has known how to arrest leprosy for years, the loss of fingers and toes, the destruction of faces, has remained. To be a "leper" meant a life of ostracism and starvation until Paul Brand came to Vellore after World War II, bringing his knowledge of restorative surgery, applying what he had learned in London's emergency wards during the Blitz. It is his story that is told here—his and that of his team of doctors, nurses, and laboratory specialists at the Christian Medical College at Vellore, India.

New Testament Times, by Merrill C. Tenney, Eerdmans, 1965, \$5.95

A companion volume for Dr. Tenney's **New Testament Survey**, this book provides a short reconstruction of the cultural milieu in which Christianity arose and developed from the time of the Maccabean Revolt to A.D. 138. It begins with an explanation of the relevance of the historical, political, social, and economic background of the first century to the proper understanding of the New Testament, taking into account all the possible historical sources—canonical and non-canonical, literary and archaeological.

Acquiring and Developing Church Real Estate, by Joseph Stiles, Prentice Hall, 1965, \$3.95

The author, formerly a Little Rockian, is professor of Church Administration and director of field work at Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville. As an ordained minister, he served pastorates for twenty years and as a teacher for six years.

Dr. Stiles has designed this volume to help the local church meet its building expansion needs in an informed, practical and effective way. He focuses the attention on determining actual needs, setting long-range goals, planning for actual building, selecting the architect, setting up committees to handle finance, legal matters, construction details and publicity.

Southern launches expansion program



MR. HINSON



MR. HUFFMAN



DR. WHITLOW



MR. McDONALD



DR. SOUTH

SOUTHERN College, Walnut Ridge, is launching an expansion and endowment program in the areas served by the college in Northeast Arkansas and Southwest Missouri, according to President H. E. Williams.

Dr. Williams said that the college is feeling the pressure of increasing enrollment and that the desire of the college is to refuse no student because of lack of facilities. Enrollment this year is 615, an increase of 59 per cent over last year.

The college was founded in 1941 at Pocahontas. Following a severe fire loss in 1946, it was moved to its present location.

Thomas A. Hinson, pastor, First Church, West Memphis, and president of the Board of Trustees, and Frank J. Huffman, Blythe-

ville business, civic and church leader, will head the campaign as co-chairmen. Dr. S. A. Whitlow, executive secretary of the Arkansas State Convention, Ed F. McDonald Jr., executive secretary of the Arkansas Foundation, and Dr. Rheubin L. South, chairman of the Convention Executive Committee, are honorary co-chairmen.

Pastors to meet

'PROCLAIMING the Word' will be the theme of the Arkansas Pastors' Conference when it convenes in the main auditorium of First Church, Little Rock, at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 15. Mason Craig, pastor, First Church, McGehee is president.

Proclamation in song will be brought by Walter Hill, Heber Springs. K. Alvin Pitts, North Little Rock, will discuss the priority of proclamation. A testimony, the product of proclamation, will be given by Mrs. Henry B. Smith, Little Rock. Tal Bonham, Pine Bluff, will speak on persuasion for proclamation. M. W. Williams, Little Rock, will address the group on "The Person We Proclaim."

Others participating will be Floyd Pannell, Coy, and Herman McManus, El Dorado. T. R. Coulter Jr., Batesville, will preside at the election of officers.

Bishop leaves Carlisle

R. W. BISHOP has resigned the pastorate of First Church, Carlisle, and is now available for a pastorate or supply. He is living at 1217 Look Street, Little Rock.

During his seven years at Carlisle, he has seen 201 new members added, \$199,414 contributed and disbursed and \$54,856 given to mission causes outside the church. The old auditorium was remodeled and air conditioned. Additional floor space was provided above the auditorium for adults and young people.

Convention changes

CHANGES in the program for the Arkansas State Convention, outlined last week in the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, have been announced. The Convention will be held Nov. 15-17 at First Church, Little Rock.

Inadvertently omitted from last week's story was the report on Missions-Evangelism by Dr. C. W. Caldwell and Jesse Reed, which is scheduled for 8:05 p.m. Monday.

Ouachita brass choir, directed by Marion Lawson, will open the final night session.

Changes included:

Report on Arkansas Baptist Hospital by John A. Gilbreath moved from Monday night to 7:15 p.m. Tuesday.

Civic morality speaker to be Carl Bunch Tuesday morning. Special music at that session by Mrs. Ruth Bremer and Mrs. Frances Hunter, Hot Springs duet.

Closing prayer Tuesday night, by Klois Hargis, Hamburg.

Gets national post

CHAPLAIN E. A. Richmond, chaplain at the Arkansas Boys Training School, near Pine Bluff, has become the first Southerner to be elected president of the National Chaplains Association for Youth Rehabilitation.

He was named to that office during the association's convention at Oberlin, Ohio.

Mr. Richmond, former pastor of Hardin Church, has served as chaplain at the training school for more than ten years.

Vining commended

COACH Bill Vining of Ouachita Baptist University has received special commendation from the Amateur Athletic Union and the State Department, according to a letter received by Dr. Ralph A. Phelps Jr., Ouachita president.

Vining's AAU basketball team recently completed an undefeated tour of Central and South America.

Price is speaker

J. M. PRICE Sr., former dean of the Religious Education Department, Southwestern Seminary, will be the principal speaker when the Arkansas Religious Education Association meets at First Church, Little Rock, at 2 p.m. Nov. 15. Presiding will be Earl Bailey, minister of music and education, Central Church, Magnolia, the president.

A feature of the afternoon will be a panel discussion of "What's New in Arkansas" by departmental leaders, Lawson Hatfield, Ralph Davis, Hoyt Mulkey and Nelson Tull.

Others on the program will include Max Alexander, North Little Rock; Dwayne Fischer, Pine Bluff; Andrew Setliffe, Ft. Smith; Jack Jones, Eddy Spann, and J. T. Elliff, all of Little Rock.

Ministers' wives

LADIES attending the Nov. 15 Ministers' Wives Conference at Second Church, Little Rock, are requested to use the Cumberland Street Entrance.

The meeting, originally scheduled for First Church, will be held in the social hall of Second Church's educational building.

Buckner elects

PORTER Black, Mansfield, was elected moderator of Buckner Association at its annual meeting. West Hartford Church will be host to the next annual meeting Oct. 13-14, 1966.

Other new officers include: E. B. Lancaster, Mansfield, vice moderator; Clyde Stevens, Mansfield, clerk; G. W. Henderson, treasurer.

Myers is elected

J. C. MYERS, pastor, First Church, North Little Rock, was elected moderator of North Pulaski Association at the annual session Oct. 11-12 at Forty-Seventh Street Church, North Little Rock. He succeeds R. D. Harrington.

Other officers are: Jack Livingston, Gravel Ridge First, vice moderator; A. W. Upchurch Jr., Marshall Road, clerk; Mrs. T. A. Spencer Jr., North Little Rock, treasurer; W. B. O'Neal, retired, Gravel Ridge, historian.

Arnold Teel, Amboy Church, delivered the annual sermon. Final sermon was by Jeff P. Cheatham Jr., Jacksonville First.

The association adopted a record budget of \$29,000 and voted to continue aid to a mission in the association and a pioneer Michigan mission. Aid to new pioneer mission stations near Grand Island, Nebr., was approved.

Newport First has a birthday

FIRST CHURCH, Newport, observed its 73rd birthday with a special worship service followed by dinner on the grounds, Oct. 17.

In a brief review of the church's history, Pastor Leslie Riherd, in his first year with the church, pointed out that the church had its beginning on Oct. 9, 1892, at which time it began with 10 charter members, and that it was nine years before the church was able to afford a \$1,000 building lot. He showed from church records that the church worked out its own "cooperative program" as early as 1903, long before the

Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program, to put the various mission causes in its budget on percentage bases.

Due to a shortage of space in its educational building, the church has had two Sunday morning preaching services since July, the early service being for juniors, intermediates and young people.

The educational building was recently equipped for central air-conditioning and heating. The church gifts to all causes are presently \$8,000 ahead of last year's total.

Opposes aid

ASHLEY County Association has unanimously passed a resolution opposing federal aid to Baptist schools except for "services rendered."

The resolution, passed at the annual meeting Oct. 11-12 at First Church, Hamburg, read:

"Whereas there is certain control as a result of contributions of the federal government to religious enterprises; and whereas Baptists are historically opposed to any type of federal control or regulation of religious institutions; be it resolved that the Ashley County Baptist Association humbly petitions the Arkansas Baptist Convention not to authorize our institutions to receive federal funds, except in direct payment of services rendered."

Association 124

ROCKY Bayou Association marked its 124th year when it held its annual meeting and re-elected John Miller moderator.

Ash Flat and Melbourne Churches were chosen as sites for the next annual meeting.



PASTOR Leslie Riherd, left, stands with members representing 197 years in Newport's First Church. Left to right: Mrs. Willis McAuley, a member 53 years, and Mrs. Odie Hayden and Mr. and Mrs. O. I. Hubert, 48 years each.

From the churches . . .

Bingen First

A HOMECOMING is planned for Oct. 31. An invitation to all former pastors and members has been extended. The church would like to hear from previous pastors who plan to attend.

Lunsford

JUST completed is one phase of the church building program in which additions included a nursery, a beginners' room, two rest rooms and an assembly room for young people.

Under the leadership of Pastor E. E. Haley the church has added a room to the parsonage and air-conditioned the auditorium of the church building. New tables and chairs have been placed in all classrooms and a \$500 debt on the organ has been paid.

Pine Bluff

Matthews Memorial

IN a recent business meeting the church membership voted to adopt plans submitted by the building committee for the erection of a two-story educational building, which will join the back of the present church auditorium. This new addition to the church will include more than 16,000 square feet of floor space and will provide teaching space

for an additional 350 people.

The first floor of the new building will consist of a large open area for a dining room and recreation which can also be departmentized and sectionized thus providing an additional three departments and 17 class rooms. Also to be included on this floor will be a full commercial kitchen, library and choir room.

The second floor will house ten separate Sunday School departments and 25 class rooms.

The building program includes the erection of a steeple on the existing sanctuary.

Approximate cost of the project will be \$170,000. It is estimated that the construction period will require about ten months.

Vernon R. Dutton is pastor.

Douglasville First

JOE Norton was ordained a deacon by the church Oct. 10. Don Grendell, pastor, served as moderator. Others participating included Ike Gates, Jack Hogue, Charles Trammell and Harry Lingo.

Hot Springs First

L. C. NIX, Larry Davis and Jack Gates were ordained deacons by the church Oct. 17.

Radio teacher

FOR the past 15 years Carl Bell, Vandervoort, has presented a 15-minute study of the Sunday



MR. BELL

School lesson each Sunday morning at 8:30 over Mena Radio Station KENA. Mr. Bell has never received any pay for presenting the program and the radio time has been paid for by business firms and individual friends. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Baker, Hatfield, are sponsoring the program.

Mr. Bell is not a preacher, but is known by many of his friends as the preaching deacon, as he has supplied for several pastors in their absence, filled many speaking engagements and also conducted a number of funerals. He is senior deacon of First Church, Vandervoort, and at one time served 22 years as Sunday School Superintendent.

Harmony Association

MINOR E. Cole, Pine Bluff, is serving as interim pastor of First Church, Monticello.

ED Gray, who has served as pastor of Oakland Church for the second tenure of service during the past 18 months, has resigned because of his health.

FIRST Church, Dumas, has accepted the new Bethel work as a mission of their church, under the leadership of Pastor Mason Bondurant. Rev. Norman Neely, coach and teacher of Dumas High, is serving as pastor.

Bill Cartwright has resigned as pastor of Yorktown Church to accept the pastorate of First Church, Mountain View.

FRANK Taylor, pastor of Rankin Chapel Church, has resigned to accept a church in Central Association while attending Ouachita University.

PAUL Sanders, pastor of Bethany Church, Breckinridge, Tex., has accepted a call as associate pastor of South Side. (AB)



DR. Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, discusses the Board's "New Program of Advance" with state Brotherhood leaders. The Brotherhood men were in Richmond, Va., for the semi-annual meeting of the Foreign Mission Board.

The men are: Standing (left to right)—Edwin Bullock, North Carolina; C. H. Seaton, Arkansas; James Gray, Georgia; William Slagle, Indiana; Nelson Tull, Arkansas; William Crowder, District of Columbia; and Gene Williams, Virginia. Seated (left to right)—George W. Schroeder and George Euting of the Brotherhood Commission; Clyde Davis, North Carolina; Forrest Sawyer, Kentucky; Robert Chapman, Texas; G. A. Ratterree, Florida; and Bill Jackson, North Carolina.

Attendance Report

October 17, 1965

Church	Sunday School	Training Union	Ch. Adms.
Alzheimer First	138	62	
Beirne First	80	33	
Berryville Freeman Heights	156	90	1
Camden			
Cullendale First	471	198	7
First	533	182	
Charleston First	180	67	
Crossett			
First	581	178	
Mt. Olive	270	105	
Dumas First	304	83	
El Dorado			
Caledonia	42	38	
Ebenezer	185	91	1
Felsenthal	43	17	
First	801	580	2
Immanuel	523	190	
Trinity	239	109	
Foreman First	162	46	
Greenwood			
First	266	134	
Jenny Lind	154	111	
Gurdon Beech St.	193	62	1
Harrison Eagle Heights	290	104	5
Hope First	480	127	2
Huntsville Calvary	42	26	
Jacksonville			
First	479	149	
Second	291	91	7
Jasper	67	32	
Jonesboro Central	544	187	
Layaca	270	136	1
Little Rock			
Immanuel	1,204	422	4
Rosedale	281	121	4
Woodlawn	130	48	
McGehee First	418	175	2
Chapel	102	53	
Magnolia Central	700	252	
Marked Tree First	158	49	
Monticello Second	233	130	1
Murfreesboro	162	87	
North Little Rock			
Baring Cross	682	191	3
Southside	43	28	
Calvary	484	124	
Central	277	89	2
Gravel Ridge First	188	102	
Runyan	75	38	
Park Hill	894	257	8
Sixteenth St.	43	27	1
Sylvan Hills First	344	127	
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	275	105	2
Second	221	90	
South Side	769	238	2
Siloam Springs First	376	204	5
Springdale First	461	164	7
Star City First	278	107	
Texarkana Beech St.	528	173	2
Community	51		
Van Buren			
First	491	195	3
Second	73	47	
Vandervoort First	69	34	
Ward Cacklebur	62	45	1
Warren			
First	400	113	2
Southside	100	89	3
Immanuel	273	97	1
Westside	105	47	
West Memphis			
Ingram Blvd.	284	137	5

Mt. Zion Association

PASTORAL changes:

Bethabara Church has called J. M. Wilkinson, Friendly Hope.

Friendly Hope has called J. O. Miles, Black Oak.

Dixie has called Ollie Irwin.

Van Fowler has resigned Providence to accept Second Church, Malden, Mo.

Gerald Jackson, Philadelphia, has accepted First Church, Ozark.

Andrew Jackson, Red, has accepted Pine Tree Church, Tri County Association.

OCTOBER 28, 1965



W. W. DISHONGH has resigned as pastor of Crosby Church, Calvary Association, to accept the call of Trinity Church, Searcy. He is former pastor of First Church, Newport, and Park Place Church, Hot Springs.

Clear Creek elects

GEORGE W. Domerese, pastor, Concord Church, was elected moderator of Clear Creek Association at its 93rd annual session Oct. 12 at Oak Grove Church near Van Buren.

Carroll D. Caldwell, First Church, Clarksville, was elected vice moderator.

Charles D. Graves, pastor, First Church, Van Buren delivered the doctrinal message. The annual sermon was preached by Garland Brackett, pastor, Cedarville Church.

The 1966 session will meet with First Church, Clarksville, Oct. 11. Charles Chesser Jr. is to bring the doctrinal message and Paul E. Wilhelm, missionary, the annual sermon.

Buckner Association

NEW pastors:

Lee Gwin, Booneville, to Long Ridge Church.

Paul Casey, Pleasant Grove No. 2.

Clarence Elmore, Cauthron Church.

Revival news

SOUTH Fulton, Tenn. Church, Aug. 15-22; Billy Walker, evangelist; 30 by profession of faith; 17 by letter; Gerald Stow, pastor.

LUNSFORD Church, Mt. Zion Association; first week of October; Jackie Pollard, First Church, Truman, evangelist; Jackie Ballard, First Church, Truman, song director; 1 for baptism; E. E. Haley, pastor.

SHILOH Church, Delta Association. Sept. 12-19; R. A. Hill, evangelist; Rolla Nixon, pastor, leading congregational singing; 10 professions of faith, candidates for baptism and church membership; 16 other decisions.

TYLER Street, Little Rock, Nov. 26-28, youth-led revival; Bill Derryberry, evangelist; Doyle Combs, song leader; Harold Hightower, pastor.

GRAND Avenue Church, Ft. Smith, Oct. 30-Nov. 7; Fred Cherry, evangelist; Clifford Palmer, pastor. (CB)

FIRST Church, Hardy, Oct. 3-10; Noel Tanner, pastor, evangelist; Donna Porter and Theresa Davidson, music directors; 3 by baptism; 1 rededication.

BLUFFTON Church, Oct. 3-10, Howard Langwell, pastor, evangelist; 12 professions of faith; 4 by letter; 23 rededications.

Join association

TWO new churches were accepted by Washington-Madison Association, meeting Oct. 14-15 at First Church, Prairie Grove. They are Oak Grove Church, near Springdale, and First Church, Kingston.

Messengers were welcomed by the pastor, Peter L. Petty. C. A. Smithson, pastor, Second Church, Fayetteville, was elected moderator, and Kenneth Bradley, member of Winslow Church, vice moderator. Reelected were Jack Taylor, treasurer, and Paul Wheelus, clerk.

J. D. Farrell preached the annual sermon.

To be a better Baptist, read the Arkansas Baptist News magazine. To be a better church place it in the budget for every home.

Executive Board

We ask—You?

THE old saying, "Get their hearts right and they will give their money," apparently means that when people are baptized into a Baptist church their hearts are right with God and they do not need any teaching on the Bible plan of using and giving money.

The writer heard this statement made recently in an associational meeting. If the statement is true, then too many Baptist church members do not have their hearts right because only 13 out of every 100 even claim to give as much as 10 percent of their money through the church. Now it is difficult to believe that 87 out of every 100 Southern Baptists do not have their hearts right with God. We had rather believe that many of them are genuinely "born-again" people who have not had the proper teaching on Bible giving. Many of them never hear anything about money until budget-making time or when the church funds are short. Many others never hear anything about money until revival offering time or church building time. Therefore, many have the feeling that offerings are "gimmicks" to get more money.

Baptists now give about three cents of each dollar earned through their churches and we do not believe that this will improve until we do a better job of teaching God's plan of giving.

The Stewardship Commission offers each church materials which can help the churches teach the need of doing right in the matter of giving.

These materials can be ordered from Stewardship Services, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tennessee 37203.—Ralph Douglas, Associate Executive Secretary

Prime program resources

NEW Brotherhood officers and leaders very quickly realize the necessity of resource materials for programs for Brotherhood meetings; and also the need for suggested activities within the four great areas of Brotherhood work. Such materials and suggestions are available, and in abundance.

The 1965-'66 Church Brotherhood Handbook is a prime resource of suggested program materials, and contains many helpful suggestions for the enhancement of Brotherhood work along all lines. Every Brotherhood should have available at least one copy of the Handbook; and it will be much better to provide each officer and leader with a personal copy. The cost of the handbook is \$1 per copy; or, in lots of five or more, 85c per copy. The handbook may be ordered from the Brotherhood Department, 302 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark., or from the

Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

For associational Brotherhood officers and leaders the Associational Brotherhood Guide is available. Copies of this booklet have been distributed by district representatives at the district workshops. A free copy is available to any associational officer or leader. Write the Brotherhood Department.

The Brotherhood Journal is the quarterly publication of the Brotherhood Commission. It is published for Baptist men, both for general reading and for use as an excellent resource for good Brotherhood programs. Every Brotherhood man should be provided a copy of the Journal. The cost is 30c per copy; or 25c a copy in lots of five or more, and may be ordered from the Brotherhood Commission, or through your Brotherhood Department.

The November issue of the Religious Education News will present for Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador leaders a more detailed list of resource materials.—Nelson Tull



YES!

I am interested in making a Christian Will.

Name -----

Address -----

Telephone -----

Clip and Mail to **ARKANSAS BAPTIST FOUNDATION,**
Ed F. McDonald, Jr., Executive Secretary, 401 West Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, Arkansas.

The concept of Training Union

BY DR. PHILLIP B. HARRIS

(Continued from last week)

THE Training Union has been charged with the following important training areas:



DR. HARRIS

Orientation of new church members. New Christian soldiers must be introduced properly into the Christian army. Effective orientation should be given to each new

convert and to each person who transfers his membership from another church. This is the crucial beginning point in church-member training. The orientation plan serves as the induction center for the church.

Church-member training. After orientation into the Christian army, the church member needs basic training. The plan for church-member training may include various types of materials in order to meet the complex needs of those who participate.

Christ's work in the church and beyond calls for action. All church members need to be skilled and self-disciplined in performing the functions of their church. Church members need to study proper materials and they also need to practice their responsibilities in order to perform them skilfully.

Potential leader training. The Training Union can help train a corps of efficient officers to lead the Christian soldiers. Such a program of training will include a study of leadership principles, observation, and practical laboratory experiences. This can take place in various ways and at various times during the week.

Specialized leader training. The Training Union supports the work of every other organization in the church. It succeeds



We're expectin ya, So we've fixed up

Paron Baptist Camp

Ya'all plan that Fall or Winter retreat soon. There are still some good dates available in December so get your reservation in early. Contact John W. Cutsinger, Baptist Bldg., Little Rock, Ark.

best when all church organizations operate with maximum efficiency. It prospers when the church is strengthened and when individuals are trained to become more responsible church members.

Each organization in the church is responsible for developing its own leaders. The Training Union can assist them by providing opportunities on Sunday evening for them to teach principles and methods. Other responsibilities in the area of specialized training may be given to the Training Union in time so that it may become in reality a church training organization.

Green County Assn.

THOMAS D. Kinder, pastor of New Friendship Church, has accepted the pastorate of Alexander Church.

GEORGE McGhehey resigned as pastor of Vines Chapel, due to failing health.

WILBUR Griggs is serving as half-time pastor of Walls Chapel. (AB)

REV. and Mrs. Frank J. Baker, Southern Baptist missionary associates in Korea, have moved from Seoul to Taejon, Korea, where they will teach the children of missionaries. They may be addressed at Baptist Mission, APO San Francisco, Calif., 96321. He is a native of Clearwater, Fla.; she, the former Margaret Reaves, daughter of a Baptist minister, was born in Honey Grove, Tex., and lived in Texas, Georgia, Arkansas, Alabama, and Florida while growing up. When employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1964 he was associate pastor and director of religious activities at First Church, Pine Bluff.

WANTED!

FOR WHAT: Meet the Author
WHO: Miss Adelle Carlson
WHY: Author of 4 SEASONS PARTY and BANQUET BOOK—with 40 plans for all ages — a Broadman Press Publication
WHERE: Baptist Book Store
408 Spring Street
WHEN: October 29
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Arkansas Baptists,
Have a
HARVEST DAY
for your
Children's Home

Tommy says
"Give us a chance!"

ARKANSAS BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN
Monticello, Arkansas

J. R. Price, Superintendent

Space probe

WHAT is a space probe in a Baptist church? A space probe is a study of the building space in a church to help determine the needs in the sanctuary, the Sunday School, Training Union, music, and other church activities.

The purpose of the space probe is to help a church analyze the space it will need for reaching people for Bible study, church membership training, and worship.

In recognition of this responsibility, a church should

... evaluate its auditorium and educational areas, planning to meet both present and future needs;

... study the educational organization and create a consciousness for reaching people;

... become aware of the need for sufficient property, suitably located;

... secure counsel from the state church building consultant, Lawson Hatfield, and the Church Architecture Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

The church will never grow to need the space it fails to provide.

A space probe will help a church evaluate its auditorium as a place of worship.

Utilize the space probe to help determine the needs in educational and music space.

A space probe will help discover the needs for special activities such as the space required for offices, church library, fellowship and recreational needs.

Write to the Sunday School Department for appropriate literature or request concerning counsel which is free of cost concerning your church building needs.

Utilize the space probe.—Lawson Hatfield, Secretary

Youth Night choir

ARKANSAS Baptist Youth Night is scheduled for the closing session of the State Convention, Nov. 17. We have been asked to provide a youth choir of 1,000 voices for this service.

All the choirs who participated in the youth festivals this past year have received information, but perhaps your church would like to have some of its young people sing also. We would be glad to furnish detailed information and the music to be used if you would just drop us a card.

The rehearsal will begin at 6 p.m., the service at 7 p.m., and

should be concluded by 9:30. Howard Butt, the renowned Texas Christian businessman and popular youth speaker, will bring the message. The BSU choirs from over the state have also been invited to participate in the massed choir.

The Youth Night program will be at Barton Coliseum in Little Rock, and should be a blessing to all the youth who attend. Won't you make provisions for your young people to come, and for your youth choir or your young people who sing to join us at 6 to sing for the service? The music to be used is from the hymnals, so everyone can read it without difficulty. Write us *today* to let us know how many you will bring.
—Hoyt A. Mulkey, Secretary



Patience in the pulpit

FOR the pastor who thinks ideas are slowly accepted and becomes frustrated in his presentations, history has a word of encouragement. Almost everything that is customary and normal in the average Baptist church was an innovation when first presented.

One of the expected procedures among Baptists today is the revival effort. But a little over a century ago this was not true. And in the South, too. Up until about 1836, revival services were held only on Saturdays and Sundays with an occasional night meeting, usually in a private house. Hard was it for the average minister to think beyond a three-day meeting.

But in the late 1930's protracted meetings became popular. (Until a few years ago this was a popular expression especially in rural areas, and is still used.) These were carried on from day to day, stretching out over one or two

weeks. The first held in Kentucky was at Walton's Creek Church, December, 1837. Many openly opposed the meeting. Dire predictions were made as to what this might lead to. Older men shook their heads, doubting.

Alfred Taylor, who had started this type meeting, continued in face of suspicions and opposition. He went from church to church that winter and spring, preaching. In six months time he had baptized an estimated 600 candidates.

These meetings were called "effort meetings." Those conducting such meetings made an effort to bring sinners to salvation. This offended many Baptists, especially the Antimissionaries. At this time it was orthodox not to seek to bring sinners unto salvation. This was the Lord's work, it was thought, and to engage in it was presumptuous. But men were taking a more practical view of biblical teachings and there were stirrings of interest.

God took hold in due time and Baptists experienced a new day and polity. Changes have come and will continue to do so. But leaders need patience and vision and determination. The past was not easy, nor will be the future.

"Baptists Who Know, Care"
Every member in your church will be informed if they receive the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* paid through the church budget.

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

Total Cash Contributions Received in Office of Executive Secretary of
 Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention During the Months of
 January through September

Notify Dr. S. A. Whitlow, 401 West Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas, if any errors are found in this report.

Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated	Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated	Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated	Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated
ARKANSAS VALLEY											
Barton	\$1,442.50	\$210.93	Gravette	1,823.38	327.37	Eagle Heights, Harrison	2,201.00	314.62	Big Fork Mission	38.57	7.00
Brickeys	14.30		Gum Springs	402.57	215.85	Elmwood	67.76		Miscellaneous		500.00
Brinkley 1st	3,424.71	1,440.90	Harvard Avenue, Siloam Springs	2,166.40	558.69	Emmanuel, Harrison			Total	4,577.84	2,451.91
Chatfield	55.00	15.00	Highfill	605.70	609.18				CALVARY		
Clarendon	1,428.19	370.00	Immanuel, Rogers			Everton	51.50	65.42	Antioch	125.00	
Corders Chapel				1,454.69	1,662.70	Gaither	82.24	23.50	Augusta 1st	2,991.69	3,668.67
Elaine	6,521.38	385.33	Lakeview	574.69	287.72	Grubb Springs	45.00		Beebe 1st	1,125.00	580.00
First Friendship	79.93		Lowell	677.15	40.78	Harrison 1st	9,024.51	2,940.36	Bethany, Georgetown		
Friendship	372.65	67.75	Mason Valley	183.18	100.40	Hopewell	120.56	6.00	Central, Bald Knob		
Helena 1st	6,397.20	1,075.18	Monte Ne	553.03		Jasper	830.36	268.56		1,642.37	214.04
Hughes	2,800.00	2,309.38	Pea Ridge 1st	2,528.61	580.85	Lead Hill	103.14	43.31	Cotton Plant 1st		
Jeffersonville			Pleasant Hill	180.00		New Hope	234.00			1,125.00	227.75
Lambrook	179.69	32.32	Rogers 1st	6,629.46	860.92	Northvale	1,187.89	232.49	Crosby	160.00	100.00
Lexa	699.54	443.58	Siloam Springs 1st		2,376.09	Oregon Flat	145.21		El Paso	180.00	44.00
Marianna 1st	4,532.20	1,466.19	Sulphur Springs 1st	153.43	87.25	Parthenon	188.92		Good Hope	64.10	
Marvell	1,715.44	502.78	Sunny Side, Rogers		103.78	Prairie View	59.00		Gregory		
Monroe	250.66	30.00	Trinity, Rogers	192.41		South Side, Lead Hill	70.00		Griffithville	100.00	30.75
Moro	440.29	413.15	Twelve Corners	14.11		Union	74.71		Higginson	121.77	60.16
North Side, Helena	19.00		Park Street Mission	56.80		Valley Springs	9.71	8.00	Hunter	416.20	178.72
Pettys Chapel			Sugar Creek Mission	40.00	45.25	Western Grove	39.36		Judsonia	1,500.00	666.71
Rehobeth	30.00		Total	37,786.57	12,672.20	Woodland Heights, Harrison	450.73	189.38	Kensett	481.91	133.04
Snow Lake			BIG CREEK						Liberty	97.76	
Turner	791.95		County Line			Abbott	101.64		Mc Crory	209.03	593.33
West Helena	8,788.14	1,354.64	Elizabeth	18.00		Bates	44.80		Mc Rae		338.48
West Helena 2nd	410.00	131.89	Enterprise	61.49		Calvary, Mansfield	33.93	26.31	Midway	40.00	
Total	40,387.77	10,249.02	Flora			Cauthon	22.55	45.56	Morrow	81.83	
ASHLEY											
Calvary, Crosssett	20.00		Gum Springs	21.00		Cedar Creek		30.00	Morton	39.52	
Corinth A	478.16	110.29	Hardy	351.76	84.64	Clarks Chapel	45.00		Mt. Hebron	106.77	
Crosssett 1st	16,244.03	2,375.22	Mammoth Spring	329.75	183.00	Dayton	70.75		Pangburn	130.79	17.61
Crosssett 2nd	55.00		Mt. Calm			Denton			Patterson	35.40	
Eden	60.00		Mt. Zion	44.40		Evening Shade	317.35		Pleasant Grove	205.14	29.40
Fellowship	275.90	250.50	Ozark			Fellowship	516.15	247.69	Pleasant Valley	45.00	
Fountain Hill	968.75	1,040.20	Saddle			Hartford 1st	652.18	197.82	Raynor Grove	46.91	
Gardner	929.84	95.27	Salem	299.00	53.84	Haw Creek	275.56		Rocky Point	64.42	
Hamburg 1st	5,377.06	503.81	Spring River	200.00	62.25	Hon	44.65		Rose Bud	90.00	83.62
Jarvis Chapel	175.88		Viola	90.00	388.73	Huntington	356.79	44.25	Royal Hill	7.00	
Magnololia	146.62	158.87	Total	1,415.40		Ione	62.50		Searcy 1st	8,928.05	1,623.70
Martinville	8.00		BLACK RIVER			James Fork	249.92	112.65	Searcy 2nd	270.00	109.42
Meridian	35.31		Alicia	229.84		Long Ridge			Smyrna	22.50	10.00
Mt. Olive	1,834.64	247.87	Amagon	35.95		Mansfield	2,455.62	342.49	Temple, Searcy	598.51	62.01
Mt. Pleasant	40.00	34.67	Banks			Midland	311.14		Trinity, Searcy	483.07	208.13
North Crosssett	797.14	388.17	Black Rock	868.05	211.32	New Home	40.00		Tupelo	160.00	177.80
Sardis	7.94		Campbell Station			Parks	127.84	232.30	Union Valley	92.47	
Shiloh	187.02		Clear Springs			Pilot View			West Point	86.34	
Temple, Crosssett	2,490.21	435.57	College City	829.18	352.13	Pleasant Grove No. 2			White Lake	78.95	
Unity	18.08		Diaz	55.00	16.00	Pleasant Grove No. 3	73.60		Augusta Mission	69.38	
Total	30,149.58	5,640.44	Grubbs	39.50	108.86	Providence			Total	22,063.88	9,152.34
BARTHOLOMEW											
Antioch	37.50		Horseshoe			Rock Creek	65.85		CAREY		
Cominto	20.00		Hoxie	390.00	129.74	Shiloh			Bearden 1st	891.08	309.00
Corinth B	40.00		Imboden	851.15	378.75	Temple, Waldron	163.46	1.26	Bethesda,		22.50
Eagle Lake			Immanuel, Newport	652.31	188.88	Unity	15.00		Calvary, Camden	478.00	260.00
Ebenezer	315.26		Jacksonport	84.25	7.25	Waldron 1st	8,311.05	1,328.34	Dalark	113.73	27.50
Enon	163.07		Murphys Corner	84.70		West Hartford	293.28	336.14	Eagle Mills	14.00	
Flourace	61.17		New Hope No. 1	257.35	25.00	Winfield	97.42		Fordyce 1st	11,060.91	4,550.37
Hermitage	639.44	65.60	New Hope No. 2	97.00	94.21	Miscellaneous		83.08	Hampton	1,372.58	245.35
Immanuel, Warren			Newport 1st	4,844.78	1,643.15	Total	14,750.18	3,027.89	Harmony, Thornton	23.00	11.50
	2,012.78	1,697.34	Old Walnut Ridge	74.13	44.92	BUCKVILLE			Holly Springs		
Ladelle	34.04		Pitts	14.15		Cedar Glades	97.49		Manning	106.05	5.71
Macedonia	90.00		Pleasant Ridge			Concord	41.22		New Hope	245.39	114.58
Marsden			Pleasant Valley		26.00	Mt. Tabor	46.41		Ouachita	89.42	10.90
Monticello 1st	4,224.31	1,270.75	Ravenden			Mountain Valley	102.00		Prosperity	202.45	
Monticello 2nd	704.16	386.04	Sedgwick	108.00		Rock Springs	193.79		Shady Grove	90.00	
North Side, Monticello	405.60	78.76	Smithville	361.98	138.11	Total	480.91		South Side, Fordyce	90.80	96.40
			Spring Lake	20.00		CADDO RIVER			Sparkman	2,400.00	424.34
Old Union			Swifton	196.25	101.49	Amity	41.86	150.90	Thornton	406.03	57.15
Pleasant Grove	15.00		Tuckerman	560.00	211.81	Black Springs	60.00		Tinsman	90.00	
Prairie Grove	45.00		Walnut Ridge 1st		4,496.33	Caddo Gap	55.00		Tulip Memorial	72.28	
Saline	16.53		White Oak		5,190.42	Glenwood	1,596.75	181.98	Willow	27.00	21.50
Selma	103.98		Total	15,153.57		Liberty			Total	17,772.72	6,156.77
Union Hill	75.00		BOONE-NEWTON			Little Hope			CAROLINE		
Warren 1st	10,260.10	1,319.66	Alpena	289.20	117.00	Mt. Gilead	24.00		Austin Station	213.59	251.48
West Side	543.14	19.61	Batavia	321.44	19.50	Mt. Ida	1,617.88	1,053.60	Baugh's Chapel	370.28	
Wilmar	253.19	186.20	Bear Creek Springs	81.59	19.80	Norman	522.30	132.61	Biscoe	65.00	186.96
South Side Mission	389.43	155.00	Bellefonte	80.00	50.00	Oak Grove			Brownsville	140.30	77.10
Total	20,441.70	5,178.96	Boxley	45.00	24.68	Qden	186.50	121.50	Cabot 1st	5,384.36	462.34
BENTON											
Bentonville 1st	6,060.63	2,018.78	Burlington	90.00		Pencil Bluff	225.72	30.20	Camp Ground		
Centerton 1st	340.00	343.75	Cassville	65.58		Pine Ridge	22.00	15.00	Caney Creek	712.05	17.00
Central Avenue, Bentonville			Deer	124.75	71.97	Refuge	56.00		Carlisle	4,074.49	1,541.93
	152.89	136.12	BUCKNER			Sulphur Springs	131.76	259.12	Chambers	18.00	
Decatur	2,614.81	475.61	Abbott	101.64		Total	16,219.02	4,459.84	Cocklebur	88.95	38.48
Garfield	167.96		Bates	44.80		BUCKNER			Coy	965.61	309.72
Gentry	3,917.14	1,647.11	Calvary, Mansfield	33.93	26.31	BUCKVILLE			Des Arc	2,411.96	91.00
BARTHOLOMEW											
						BUCKVILLE			De Valls Bluff		13.36
						BUCKVILLE			England 1st	4,376.88	543.51

Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated	Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated	Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated	Churches	Cooperative Program	Designated
Beirne	445.15	395.63	Lexington	90.89	-----	Vandale	151.62	34.50	Liberty	222.34	59.00
Bethel	99.94	201.50	Marshall	677.43	197.75	West Memphis 1st	16,349.54	1,627.20	Lincoln	1,275.05	303.71
Bethlehem	67.50	-----	Mountain View	906.55	336.10	West Memphis 2nd	305.82	-----	New Hope	45.00	-----
Boughton	228.80	-----	New Hopewell	74.04	-----	Wheatley	335.67	118.35	Oak Grove	49.23	-----
Caddo Valley	40.00	-----	Pee Dee	40.00	-----	Widener	34.71	-----	Ogden	-----	-----
Car Grove	84.63	-----	Plant	5.00	-----	Wynne 1st	6,491.69	1,010.43	Prairie Grove	164.54	59.75
Center Point	43.00	43.50	Pleasant Valley	-----	-----	Total	56,388.80	11,504.45	Providence	436.71	66.05
Curtis	491.60	194.68	Red Hill	-----	-----	TRINITY			Ridgview	591.05	-----
De Gray	268.18	-----	Rupert	185.06	-----	Anderson-Tulley	114.88	-----	Silent Grove	247.26	-----
East Wheelen	24.75	-----	St. Joe	100.26	-----	Bethel, Harrisburg	27.00	-----	Sonora	116.06	-----
Emmett	-----	47.33	Scotland	186.78	7.75	Black Oak	79.13	-----	South Side, Fayetteville	80.00	-----
Fairview	14.00	-----	Shady Grove	64.54	-----	Calvary, Harrisburg	366.00	165.70	Springdale 1st	14,544.49	8,070.68
Harmony Hill	211.64	128.07	Shirley	118.42	28.04	Corners Chapel	112.50	98.55	Spring Valley	277.45	116.95
Hollywood	81.45	70.38	Snowball	23.12	-----	East Side, Trumann	89.48	-----	Sulphur City	209.41	116.48
Lakeview	10.00	-----	Zion	52.73	25.60	Faith	188.65	55.25	University, Fayetteville	2,895.43	429.46
Marlbrook	-----	-----	Morning Star Mission	7.35	-----	Fisher	237.26	182.41	West Fork	146.55	-----
Mt. Bethel	135.00	-----	Sunnyland Chapel	13.90	-----	Freer	132.11	-----	Winslow	678.50	329.30
Mt. Olive	-----	-----	Total	5,452.11	1,233.66	Greenfield	504.16	214.55	Kingston Mission	98.18	-----
Mt. Zion	72.00	18.60	TRI COUNTY			Harrisburg 1st	1,808.35	877.65	Low Gap Mission	66.33	-----
Okolona	-----	-----	Antioch	38.05	-----	Lebanon	215.91	-----	Total	41,856.20	15,403.05
Park Hill	197.30	69.66	Barton Chapel	-----	39.47	Lepanto	2,556.15	1,191.89	WHITE RIVER		
Prescott 1st	1,600.00	817.24	Beekspur	43.08	39.89	Maple Grove	90.00	-----	Antioch	37.56	-----
Richwood	73.31	40.54	Burnt Cane	-----	-----	Marked Tree	4,073.30	343.51	Bruno	102.19	-----
Richwoods	771.91	115.05	Calvary, West Memphis	2,378.32	1,616.62	Mc Cormick	40.00	-----	Cotter 1st	625.63	504.07
Shady Grove	-----	-----	Cherry Valley	649.11	126.30	Neals Chapel	141.37	-----	East Oakland	25.00	-----
Shiloh	112.92	87.36	Colt	236.16	57.94	Neiswander	7.86	20.00	East Side, Mountain Home	783.43	236.43
South Fork	30.00	45.75	Crawfordsville	472.54	229.36	Pleasant Grove	633.75	-----	Flippin	337.89	112.65
Sycamore Grove	57.21	-----	Earle	5,998.66	1,263.30	Pleasant Hill	104.00	-----	Gassville	101.95	98.46
Third Street, Arkadelphia	-----	-----	Ellis Chapel	100.00	-----	Pleasant Valley	147.49	68.62	Hopewell	324.80	31.00
Unity	268.47	73.90	Emmanuel, Forrest City	266.04	150.14	Providence	136.69	-----	Lone Rock	46.11	27.11
Whelen Springs	118.65	-----	Fair Oaks	816.10	5.00	Red Oak	48.19	-----	Midway	93.78	40.57
Miscellaneous	-----	78.44	Fitzgerald Crossing	523.37	80.60	Rivervale	28.47	-----	Mountain Home	2,755.27	1,387.67
Total	21,551.00	17,567.60	Forrest City 1st	14,190.39	3,523.86	Spear Lake	-----	-----	New Hope	77.86	-----
ROCKY BAYOU ASSOCIATION			Forrest City 2nd	135.80	56.00	Trumann 1st	2,735.06	322.25	Norfolk 1st	75.00	-----
Ash Flat 1st	45.13	-----	Fortune	-----	-----	Tyronza 1st	3,365.86	748.69	Oak Grove	-----	-----
Belview	30.00	-----	Gladden	40.00	-----	Valley View	329.44	29.34	Peel	17.50	-----
Boswell	15.00	-----	Goodwin	160.98	17.82	Waldenburg	171.99	42.00	Pilgrims Rest	72.00	-----
Calico Rock	333.88	102.66	Harris Chapel	140.00	34.50	Weiner	270.00	155.36	Pyatt	134.37	-----
Dolph	-----	-----	Hulbert	55.25	91.20	West Ridge	18.06	-----	Summitt	106.43	45.21
Evening Shade	146.96	17.34	Hydrick	18.00	-----	Total	18,773.11	4,515.77	Tomahawk	76.49	19.09
Finley Creek	54.00	-----	Ingram Boulevard, W. Memphis	351.72	234.88	WASHINGTON-MADISON			Whiteville	157.19	32.16
Franklin	69.80	24.60	Jericho	-----	-----	Berry Street	617.71	78.59	Yarkville	853.70	179.19
Guion	76.00	-----	Madison	170.50	12.00	Bethel Heights, Fayetteville	159.80	398.19	Arkana Mission	28.24	-----
Melbourne	675.00	303.72	Marion	1,435.45	375.80	Black Oak	108.00	-----	Big Flat Mission	15.00	-----
Mt. Pleasant	3.70	-----	Mays Chapel	-----	-----	Brush Creek	541.35	138.78	Bull Shoals Mission	28.58	27.99
Myron	12.00	-----	Midway	186.34	12.58	Calvary, Huntsville	-----	-----	Hill Top Mission	59.42	26.80
Oxford	44.41	-----	Mt. Pisgah	72.00	74.00	Caudle Avenue	255.13	19.72	Promise Land Mission	11.00	18.25
Sage	115.97	62.76	Parkin	2,400.00	407.26	Elkins	855.68	118.90	Table Rock Mission	-----	-----
Sidney	129.78	102.36	Pine Tree	24.00	-----	Elmdale	2,972.88	620.12	Total	6,974.49	2,786.65
Wiseman	85.00	-----	Posay Liberty	-----	-----	Farmington	589.38	146.25	CHURCHES NOT BELONGING TO LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS		
Zion Hill	48.00	19.00	Shell Lake	41.50	37.78	Fayetteville 1st	9,032.33	8,121.91	Broadmoor, Little Rock	-----	-----
Miscellaneous	1.10	-----	Tilton	-----	-----	Fayetteville 2nd	401.50	347.25	Total	-----	-----
Total	1,885.73	632.44	Togo	270.73	150.33	Friendship	33.34	-----	Miscellaneous Contributions	1,171.45	13,724.46
STONE-VAN BUREN-SEARCC			Turrell	363.35	-----	Huntsville	516.71	120.19	Total	1,171.45	13,724.46
Alco	16.00	-----	Union Avenue	1,142.31	77.64	Immanuel, Fayetteville	3,071.94	581.02	Grand Total	\$1,450,368.94	\$493,536.05
Botkinburg	29.49	-----	-----	-----	-----	Johnson	466.12	103.35	-----	-----	-----
Clinton	1,854.35	423.20	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Corinth	38.51	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Evening Shade	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Friendship	106.66	23.69	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Halfmoon	5.04	1.50	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Leslie	855.99	190.03	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



The Cooperative Program
does not violate your freedom of choice.
Rather it frees you to choose greater things.

This Halloween business



THIS HALLOWEEN MONTH

BY THELMA C. CARTER

IF you take a moment to look at the October world about you, it may surprise you. Strangely, the natural world has taken on a Halloween appearance. Nature's colors are much like the bright colors of Halloween costumes, masks, and decorations.

The summer grass has become golden-brown. The late autumn flowers are copper colored, lemon-yellow, red, and white. The remaining leaves on maple, poplar, wild sumac, chestnut, and beech trees are gold, bright-red, purple, rose, and brown. Along the countryside, cornstalks, like scarecrows, stand tattered and torn in the fields. Pumpkins cling to dried, withered vines.

The days are shorter. Clouds lie lower in the skies, which are sapphire-blue, as are the lakes and streams.

Wild creatures, such as squirrels, field mice, opossums and ground-hogs, are busily storing their winter food. Toads, frogs, and other tiny creatures are snug in the homes where they will hibernate.

In our part of the world, the North Temperate Zone, there is very little birdsong. Most of the beautiful birds have migrated to warmer winter homes. Only a few remain to face the winter cold.

The hazy, sometimes misty days of the last part of October are known as Indian summer days. The harvest is over, and the world seems to be waiting for the first frost and freezing temperature.

October is the month in which we observe Halloween. In ancient times, Halloween was known as the eve of All Saints' Day. It was a day of feasting after the harvest was ended, a time of merrymaking with magic, black cats, witchcraft, and masks. The custom of celebrating Halloween started in Europe many years ago.

Today we observe Halloween on October 31. We know it as a fun day with make-believe witches, black cats, pumpkins, and jack-o'-lanterns.

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

BY ENOLA CHAMBERLIN

HALLOWEEN or Allhallows Eve—where did it come from? How did we ever get started with ghosts, goblins, skeletons, and witches? The very beginning seems to go back a long, long time. That beginning resembled our Halloween of today less than the first wheeled vehicle resembled a modern motorcar.

The Druids of the British Isles had at about the same time of year a festival which they called Samhain, or summer's end. The Romans honored Pomona, a goddess who was supposed to preside over the harvests. It was believed, especially by the Druids and some northern Europeans, that during these festival times both good and bad spirits were released from wherever they were imprisoned. In the minds of these people, witches actually rode on broomsticks and graves gávé up their dead. This may account for our skeleton costumes of today. The people believed any manner of things might happen.

Just how all of this became our riotous Halloween, no one can tell. It didn't happen all at once. A bit was added here by one person or from the customs of a country.

Gradually into this state of affairs, somebody tossed the idea of allowing the citizens to treat the revelers, thus saving them from tricks which might cost them money as well as inconvenience. Thus, Halloween became a more orderly night. People needed only to hand out candy, nuts, and fruits to the fairies, ghosts, and witches who came to the door.

This has worked out better than could have been expected, considering Halloween's history. A few of the older young people still go around punching doorbells and asking for treats. Most of them feel they are too big for such childishness. So once again Halloween is changing and markedly for the better.

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

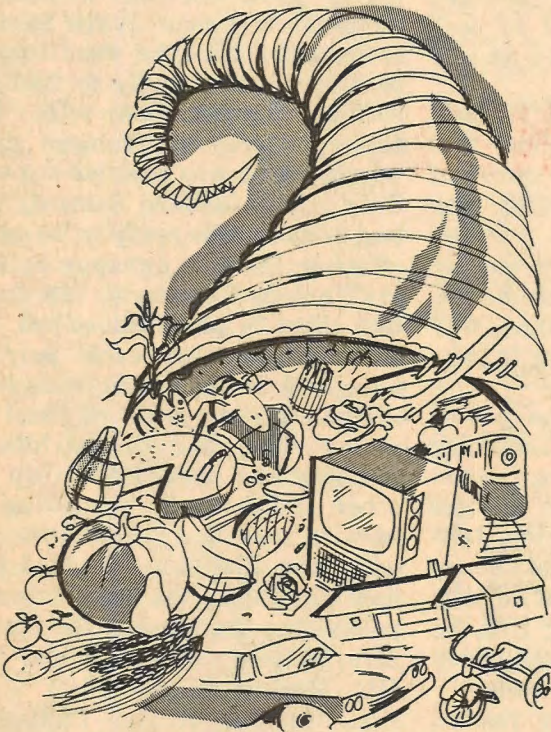
BY action of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in 1929 the month of November was designated as the month to take a special offering for the Children's Home, known then as Bottom's Baptist Orphanage. November was chosen because during November Thanksgiving is celebrated. The convention felt one way to show God how "thankful" Arkansas Baptists were would be to take up a special Thanksgiving Offering to help support the "orphanage." The first year the offering was taken was 1930 and Arkansas Baptists gave a little more than \$8,000. This was the beginning of a great and worthy missionary effort.

The taking of a "Thanksgiving Offering" is traditional today with the churches throughout our state. Most of our churches do remember the needy children during the "harvest" season, but last year more than 200 churches failed to contribute anything at all. We will not become discouraged by this fact, but will continue to pray that these churches, too, will recognize the great opportunity and give, so that children may be given a chance in life.

Various goals have been set through the years, the highest being \$100,000. This goal has never been reached. The present administration of the Home has set a goal of 100 percent participation by our churches. If this goal, where every church contributes, is reached, certainly it will be a great victory for the Lord.

The Thanksgiving Offering represents about 60 percent of the budget needs. Although the Children's Home is in the Cooperative Program, the Home only receives about 40 percent of its needs from this source. And, the Home must operate on the funds it receives. If the funds are inadequate then some phase of service must be discontinued. Certainly, no church, or any Baptist, would want us to turn any child away.

Since November is Children's Home Month, and has been known as such since 1929, won't you promote this mission effort by talking about *November, Children's Home Month*, in your church, and plan to have a victorious "Harvest Day." Jesus said, "Even as ye have done it unto the least of these my children, ye have done it unto me."



ARKANSAS BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN

Monticello, Arkansas

J. R. Price, superintendent

SAMSON

BY DR. RALPH A. PHELPS JR.*

TEXT: JUDGES 13:2-16:31
OCTOBER 24, 1965

SAMSON, who judged Israel for 20 years, is a good example of how fatal it can be to combine a strong back, a weak mind, and a weaker character with a keen taste for ungodly women. His biography, recorded in detail in Judges 13:2-16:31, is a tragic reminder that a man can tumble from national hero to ox-like slave if he puts personal indulgences ahead of divine commitments. While Samson's successes were primarily muscular, the lessons of the story are applicable to every endeavor.



DR. PHELPS

I. Extraordinary beginning

THAT the hand of God was to be upon Samson in an unusual way was evident even before his birth. To the barren wife of Manoah, of the Danite tribe, an angel messenger appeared to say that a son was to be born to her and that the lad should follow the Nazarite vow of not shaving or cutting his hair, not eating unclean foods and not partaking of strong drink.

The godly concern of the father is reflected in his prayer, "O, Lord, . . . teach us what we are to do with the boy that will be born." Furthermore, the angel instructed the mother to follow high standards of abstinence as to what she ate and drank (13:14).

With divine interest taken in his beginning and with parents of character and integrity, Samson had a good start in life.

II. Early trouble

IT is interesting to note that Samson's first recorded troubles involved a girl friend. While down at Timnah he saw one of the

daughters of the Philistines, a pagan people who had dominion over Israel at the time. It must have been love at first sight, for he hurried home and asked papa and mama, "Get her for me!" The old folks weren't buying any of the foreign wife bit, however; and they tried their best to persuade him to find a wife among his own people.

On the way back to Timnah, Samson met a young lion that committed the tactical error of sounding off at the young man with the bulging biceps. Samson returned the greeting by tearing the lion apart with his bare hands. The lion learned the hard way that there are times when it pays to keep your mouth shut!

Some time later as he passed this way on one of his courting calls on the maid at Timnah, Samson found that a swarm of bees had made a hive of the lion leftovers. Scraping out the honey with his hands, he walked on, eating as he went. In doing this, he violated a Nazarite prohibition against touching a dead body.

Time for the wedding festivities having arrived, Samson made a bet with 30 men who were there for the celebration. He bet them each a wardrobe (linen garments plus festal garments) that in seven days they could not come up with an answer to this riddle:

"Out of the eater came something to eat.

Out of the strong came something sweet."

Stumped for three days, they said to Samson's bride, "Entice your husband to tell us what the riddle is, lest we burn you and your father's house." That did it. She immediately turned on the waterfall of tears and cried poutingly, "You only hate me, you do not love me; you have put a riddle

to my countrymen, and you have not told me what it is."

Poor old Samson! He could whip an army barehanded, but when a pretty gal cried and coaxed a little, his will power dissolved like butter in a hot skillet. He told her, she told them, and they told him the answer on the seventh day (14:17, 18). So furious was Samson that he went down to Ashkelon and bumped off 30 Philistines, shucking them of their garments to pay off his wager.

As a crowning blow, the bride's father gave her for a wife to Samson's best man. When Samson cooled off a little, he went back to pick up his bride only to find her cooking for somebody else. Her father offered a younger sister who, he said, was prettier anyway. This only infuriated Samson, who had a short fuse ready to be ignited after the last unhappy episode at Timnah. He caught 300 foxes, tied them in pairs tail-to-tail, put a torch between each pair of tails, and turned the animals loose in the standing grain of the Philistines. They had burned him up one way; he burned them up another. Indirectly he burned up his ex-wife and her father, too, for when the Philistines learned who had engineered the scorched-earth policy they incinerated the former Mrs. Samson and her daddy.

III. Mighty warrior

SO fearful of the Philistines were Samson's own people that they decided to turn him over to the enemy as a goodwill gesture. Understandably, Samson was not wildly enthusiastic about this project; but when they agreed just to tie him up and deliver him alive rather than dead, Samson agreed.

Seeing their old enemy wound up like an Egyptian mummy, the Philistines whooped for joy and ran toward him. Just then the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and the ropes on his arms fell away as if they were burned flax. He grabbed the fresh jawbone of an ass and with this unusual weapon proceeded to stack up dead Philistines like so

much cordwood. Before the slaughter ended, he had permanently cooled 1,000 of the enemy.

In a post-victory celebration, Samson went to Gaza and engaged the services of a harlot. The Gazites surrounded the harlot's house and posted a heavy guard at the city gate, their plan being to capture and kill Samson the next morning. He fooled them, though, by departing at midnight; and he humiliated them by taking the posts and gates of the city with him. This event has been recalled in John Milton's "Samson Agonistes."

IV. Final downfall

SAMSON seems to have learned slowly, for again he got involved with a woman who wheedled a secret from him. This one was Delilah, who lived in the valley of Sorek. The lords of the Philistines must have known his weakness for a pretty face, for they came to Delilah and offered her 1,100 pieces of silver (about \$4,000) to find the secret of his strength. Whatever affection she may have had for Samson went out the window at this prospect of having enough to buy shoes and dresses for a lifetime, and with honeyed words she began to wheedle this bit of intelligence information from him.

Samson played it as if it were a game for a time, giving her three false answers. Each time Delilah did what Samson told her, and each time when she cried, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" he showed that he still had his strength. He also showed that he really learned slowly where Delilah was concerned.

Day after day Delilah "pressed hard" and urged him to tell his secret, pouting that if he really loved her he would reveal the truth. Finally he gave in, told her of his Nazarite vow and his uncut hair, and then yielded to her blandishments. She then collected her money from the Philistines, and as he slept in foolish blissfulness she had a man shave his head. She began to torment him, and his strength left him.

The Philistines gouged out Samson's eyes and brought him down to Gaza, where he was

forced to pull the mill as an ox would while walking in circles. People by the thousands came to see and mock him.

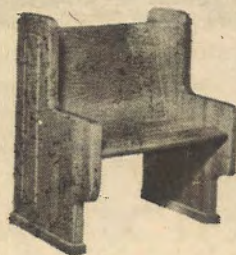
"Eyeless in the mill at Gaza," Samson gradually felt his strength return as his hair grew out. As the people gathered to offer a sacrifice to Dagon, their pagan god, Samson prayed to God to give him strength one more time, then to let him die with the Philistines. Using his phenomenal strength, he pulled the pillars down; and more Philistines died than he had killed in the rest of his life together. With them he died in the rubble heap.

As Samson's kin take his broken body home for burial, the picture is a sad one. What a pity that forgotten vows and illicit loves have destroyed a mighty leader. How is the mighty one fallen!

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A Smile or Two

Discriminating hound

AN usher noticed a commotion halfway down on the center aisle. Investigating, he found a man with a dog sitting in the seat beside him—causing unrest among the playgoers in nearby seats. He was about to eject the pair when he noticed that the dog was following the stage dialogue very closely.

So he stood back and watched until the curtain went down. Then, as man and pooch were leaving, he stopped them and said: "It was really amazing, the way your dog seemed to be enjoying the play."

"Yes, it was," the man admitted. "He didn't like the book at all."

No appetite

"PARDON me, sir," said the waiter, taking up the money, "but this includes nothing for the waiter."

"I didn't eat one, did I?" said the professor, glancing up from his book.

Credit line

"I'VE come to pay that bill I've owed you for so long," said Jones. "That letter you wrote me would get money out of a stone. How did you ever think it up?"

Replied his creditor: "I didn't. I selected the best part from letters my son sends me from college."

Celebrity game

A CELEBRITY is a person who works hard all his life to become well known, then wears dark glasses to avoid being recognized.

Word gets around

"YOU pay a small deposit," said the salesman, "and then make no more payments for six months."

"Who told you about us?" demanded the lady of the house.

Religious News Digest

By Evangelical Press

A SUIT seeking a temporary injunction against application of the "fairness doctrine" by the Federal Communications Commission and asking \$5 million damages from the Democratic National Committee was filed in Federal District Court, Washington, D. C., by a fundamentalist minister who owns a small Pennsylvania radio station.

Involved in the case, brought by the Rev. John M. Norris, a Bible Presbyterian Church pastor at Red Lion, Pa., is a complaint lodged with the FCC by the Democratic committee against the station WGCB, a 1,000-watt outlet in Red Lion.

The committee complained that the station was carrying seven ultra-conservative programs which often were critical of Democratic positions and that the station refused to give free time for rebuttal.

PENNIES, nickels and dimes from thousands of North American boys and girls are helping to pay for a \$25,000 Cessna 180 plane for use by Evangelical Free Church missionaries in the Republic of Congo. The plane will be delivered in October to Gemena, Congo, with the pilot being furnished by Missionary Aviation Fellowship. It is a joint project with the Evangelical Covenant denomination, with whom the EFCA works in the Congo.

The craft will be the first plane in the northwest corner of the Congo and is, in part, slated to serve as an emergency way of evacuation should unrest develop again. The martyred Dr. Paul Carlson served in this area. EFCA missionaries have been evacuated twice, first in 1960 and again in 1964.

Worldwide Bible reading program

MORE than 20 million persons all over the world will participate this year in the Worldwide Bible Reading program of the American Bible Society, Society officials estimate.

Worldwide Bible Reading, now in its 22nd year, is observed annually between Thanksgiving and Christmas as a spiritual bond to unite the peoples of the world. The theme for 1965 is "Faith for a New Age."

Each day, all persons participating read the same verse from the Bible. Selections are printed in advance on bookmarks and distributed by the Society, without charge, to churches, hotels, libraries, stores, banks and to people who request them.

This year, the first selection will be Psalm I, to be read on Thanksgiving, and the last selection, to be read on Christmas, will be Luke 2:1-20. Different selections are listed for each day of the program.

Among the highlights of the observance are Bible Week, Dec. 5 to 12, and the reading of the Christmas Story on Christmas Eve. Special booklets containing the Christmas Story are provided by the Society.

Those participating may use the Bible of their choice, in any translation or version. Because of the growth of the ecumenical movement in recent years, many more persons are expected to participate this year.

The Society, which will observe its 150th anniversary next spring, limits its activities to the translation, publication and distribution of the Bible, without note or comment, and the encouragement of its use.

The program originated in 1943 from a request by a lonely Marine stationed in the South Pacific. He wrote his parents asking them to join him in daily reading of identical verses selected from the Bible. Together they would be able to maintain a true spiritual bond although thousands of miles

apart. His mother, recognizing the tremendous spiritual hunger which must be experienced by many servicemen throughout the world, called the Society's office to share the idea. Thus Worldwide Bible Reading was born.

The Society's officers enlisted the active cooperation of churches across the country to bring this idea to the families in their congregations. In time, shared Bible reading between home and fox-hole grew to worldwide proportions, and in the years following, people in other countries have joined in this Bible reading program between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Bookmarks are available by writing the American Bible Society, 450 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Also a booklet containing the Christmas Story may be obtained without charge from the same source. In quantity, the booklets cost \$3 per hundred.

THE typical clergyman today is "a far more sophisticated counselor" than his counterpart 10 years ago, according to a prominent Baltimore, Md., psychiatrist. Dr. Leo H. Bartemeier, medical director at Seton Psychiatric Institute, Baltimore, said that ministers today are reading more, studying more and turning away from their old resistance to psychiatric methods.

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