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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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1-1-1959

### January 1, 1959

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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**ARKANSAS**  
*Baptist*

*In This Issue*

**1959 Soul Winning Crusade**

**Evangelistic Conference Page 7**



**JANUARY 1, 1959**

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**ARKANSAS BAPTIST**  
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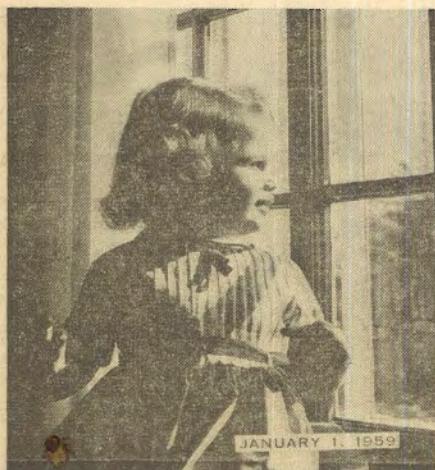
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January 1, 1959 Volume 58, No. 1



## Baptists Look to '59 with Confidence

**W**E STAND upon the threshold of a new year. We know not what this new year holds for us. That is not the really important thing. If we know Him who holds the new year then we can enter with confidence and courage.



DR. WHITLOW

It was just one year ago that we assumed the responsibilities as Executive Secretary for Arkansas Baptists. This has been a wonderful year in our life. This has been true for a number of reasons. The presence of our God has been real. His leadership has been evident. The spirit of our Baptist people has been of the finest sort. Our people have given many expressions of their prayerful concern for the cause of Christ as it is represented by Arkansas Baptists. The spirit of our people is our greatest asset. If we move forward with faith and confidence in one another there is no limit to what God can do through us. I want to pledge myself anew to God and to our people in the year that is before us. We urgently invite your continued prayers for all of us in the Baptist Building.

If we are to stay together, we need not only to pray together but to work together at the things for which God in Christ has saved us. Our prime mission and concern is evangelism — soul-winning. The emphasis for 1959 in our Jubilee Advance is evangelism. The progress of all kingdom work is dependent upon regenerated hearts.

We would like to urge all of our pastors and churches to make complete and thorough their plans for the Simultaneous Crusade in March. Sunday, Jan. 4, has been designated as commitment day. A higher call could not be sounded than that of calling our people to a commitment of themselves to God on this day for the greatest of all undertakings — that of winning men to Christ. Our pastors will want to avail themselves of this opportunity to cooperate with others in making 1959 a banner year for Christ.

This one last plea for making 1958 a climactic year for missions through the Cooperative Program. All contributions reaching our office post marked not later than Jan. 5 will be recorded as December contributions. To go over the top in reaching our 1958 budget for our Master in world missions through the Cooperative Program will require sacrificial giving. It would mean that our December contributions

would need to exceed \$167,000. This likewise would mean a new high in giving for a single month in the history of our Convention. This can be achieved if our churches will give sacrificially, and then be certain to have their offerings in our office by Jan. 5. We are praying this may be done. — S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary. ■

### Churches Giving More or Less?

**M**ANY CHURCHES think that they are giving substantially more through the Cooperative Program in 1958 than they did during the year of 1948, when in reality they are giving less, percent-



DR. DOUGLAS

agewise, than they gave ten years ago. The dollar giving has increased but the percentage has gone down.

Many churches will do well to go back and re-evaluate the gifts and see if they have contributed to the overall decline in giving through the Cooperative Program.

In 1948 our churches gave 19.7 percent to world missions through the Cooperative Program and in 1958, they gave 17.5 percent.

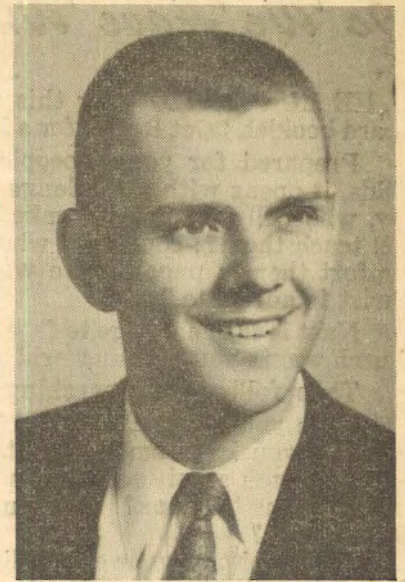
During this same period the giving of the church members has increased 155 percent while the gifts through the Cooperative Program declined 2.2 percent.

We do not know all of the reasons for such a picture, but one of them stems from the fact that too many of our churches are still giving on a "flat sum basis" instead of a percentage basis. If our churches had been on a percentage basis they would have kept pace with the giving of the membership and their world mission gifts would have increased in proportion.

Brethren, let us urge you with all zeal, enthusiasm, and humility of our souls to somehow help the church where you have your membership to give as it has been prospered. After all that is what giving on a percentage basis means.

Don't forget! Share your church budget surplus through the Cooperative Program. If you will do that and send the check, on, or before January 5, 1959, you will help all our Southern Baptist causes.

We must rededicate ourselves to do a better job of teaching missions to our men, women, our young people,



MELVIN C. THRASH

### Baptist Business Manager in New Post

MELVIN C. THRASH, who is graduating from the University of Arkansas with a master's degree in business administration this month, will assume his duties as business manager for the Executive Board of the Baptist State Convention Feb. 1.

Mr. Thrash will be in charge of the accounting department and central work room, will act as purchasing agent and will supervise the camp and assembly facilities.

The business manager's post was created at the recent meeting of the Executive Board.

While at Ouachita, Mr. Thrash served as student body president and president of the junior class. He was Ouachita's man of the year in 1954, the year he received his BA degree in business administration. He served in the Army from 1954 to 1957 as a 1st lieutenant.

His wife is the former Rose Mary Holt of North Little Rock. The couple has a year-old daughter, Pamela Rose. ■

and our children. We can pray more earnestly for a missionary conviction about our responsibility as leaders. We can also give correct information about how the Cooperative Program money is collected, safeguarded, distributed, and spent. We can keep before our people the exact percentage of their income that is going into mission work. We can give 2 Plus to world missions when the next budget is made up and keep on increasing that percentage as we prosper. —Ralph Douglas, Associate Secretary. ■

## Do We Have What It Takes for '59?

THE INSPIRATION for this editorial comes from a Foreign Mission Board booklet, "Get Ready for a Real Job—Do You Have What It Takes?"

Prepared for young people who are considering calls to mission fields, it opens with a challenge to face the world: "Its people are hungry, who will feed them?; naked, who will clothe them?; illiterate, who will teach them?; confused, who will guide them?; sorrowful, who will comfort them?; pagan, who will redeem them? Only the Gospel of Christ is adequate."

Next is the challenge to face one's self: "Your God wants you. Your church wants you. Your world needs you."

Then follow soul-searching questions:

"Are you physically sound?"

"Do you have emotional stability?"

"Are you sensitive to the social tensions, racial, economic, political and religious tensions? Are you a part of the answer and not a part of the problem?"

"Do you know your own religion—its Book, its history, its Founder? Do you have the spirit of the New Testament?"

Finally, are you spiritually compelled? "Your reasons must be unselfish, based upon your love of God and the desire to serve your neighbors. Unless you now express this love and engage in this service for those across the street, you should not plan to undertake it for those across the world.

"Have I talked to others about being Christians? . . . Do I believe that mankind can be truly redeemed only through Christ?"

The year 1959 finds Baptists of six major bodies in the United States and Canada uniting for the greatest soul-winning crusade the world has ever seen. Approximately 19,000,000 Baptists are members of the cooperating conventions. Will we have what it takes to measure up to the challenge? The real test will be the measure of our personal dedication to Christ and his church. For it is only through Christ and walking with his people that we can have the compassion for the lost that will compel us to go and will qualify us to be used as his evangelists and his ministers of mercy and healing. Through him we can do all things. Without him we can do nothing.—ELM

## Brooks Hays' Four-Point Program

NOTES OF prudence, mercy and justice were sounded by Brooks Hays, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and congressman for the past 16 years from Arkansas' 5th Congressional district, in an unprecedented dinner in his honor at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.

Among the many national figures to pay tribute to the Arkansan was Evangelist Billy Graham, who predicted Hays' defeat would give him greater opportunity to serve the nation and greater influence.

Perhaps the most significant thing to come from the occasion were a set of four rules proposed by Mr. Hays "the just and prudent should observe in advancing their cause":

1. "An appreciation of what the rule of law means in sustaining our liberties and our property . . . The times do call for reminders that the constitution provides a method for change and that until changed, unpopular as well as popular laws must be respected.

2. "We must have a firm commitment to the democratic tradition as expressed in our procedures and institutions. Our public school system must be preserved. Without it, the freedom that flowers from an educated citizenry would perish.

3. "The third imperative is disciplined freedom. The principle grants to both the proponents and opponents of proposed changes the right to organize, and their rights are not forfeited by methods and manners that are not admirable so long as they are not illegal.

4. "There must be due concern for the preservation of our common faith, the faith which sustains our position of world leadership . . . The door religion alone can open leads to a sure passageway of peace and justice."

## Personally Speaking . . .

### Watering the Horse

SOMEBODY GAVE us a new slant on an old saying, the other day. It has often been said: "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink."



DR. McDONALD

This is not true, we are told. It just depends on how you go about it. If you want to make the equine partake of the H-2-O, don't ram his nose into the water by force. Instead, Give him some salt with his

oats. Yep, salt him and he'll soon be leading you to the watering place!

As we begin a new year, we pass this on to benign husbands of stubborn wives, and vice versa; to parents and teenagers who may have difficulty understanding and being understood; to pastors who have deacons sometimes slow to see the light, or deacons who have pastors, etc., etc.

Decide what you want the other fellow to do and then all you have to do is to figure out what you can do to make him glad to do what you want done. Simple, eh? Of course, the manipulation motive might enter into the situation also.

The Scriptures throw light on the "salting" process. (Quotations will be from Phillips' translation of the New Testament.)

"Don't criticize people, and you will not be criticized. For you will be judged by the way you criticize others, and the measure you give will be the measure you receive."

Why is it so thrilling to straighten somebody else out and so painful to be straightened out yourself?

". . . The one who asks will always receive; the one who is searching will always find, and the door is opened to the man who knocks."

"Don't resist the man who wants to harm you . . . If anybody forces you to go a mile with him, do more — go two miles with him . . ."

If you are asked or required to wash the dishes, make the beds also.

If your wife sends you on a shopping spree, be willing to take the things back and swap them, after she has seen the sizes are wrong and the colors clash.

If the husband pecks you on the left cheek as he is leaving for the office, turn the right cheek also.

"Treat other people exactly as you would like to be treated by them — this is the essence of all true religion."

Let's get the horse watered!—ELM

**"Death of Innocents"**

SINCE the publishing of our editorial, "Death of the Innocents" (Dec. 11), we have been supplied with additional information as to how the tragic accident happened, to which we alluded.

Writes W. C. Whitfield of Fayetteville, a member of Fayetteville's 1st Baptist Church and a stockholder in the motor freight line whose trailer and driver were involved:

"Evidence has proved . . . that mechanical failure caused the accident, rather than our driver being a road-hog. The king-pen on the trailer broke, allowing the trailer to drop on the rear tires of the tractor. When the loaded trailer dropped on the tires, the resultant drag caused the trailer to veer left . . .

"I agree that the family killed were innocents. Had they been three seconds ahead, or behind, they would not have died . . . I have never known a man to feel as badly as our driver. He has a wonderful safety record . . .

"I think that truck drivers, as a whole, are most considerate on the road. Our drivers are not permitted to drive more than eight hours. They must have eight hours' rest before re-entering a cab.

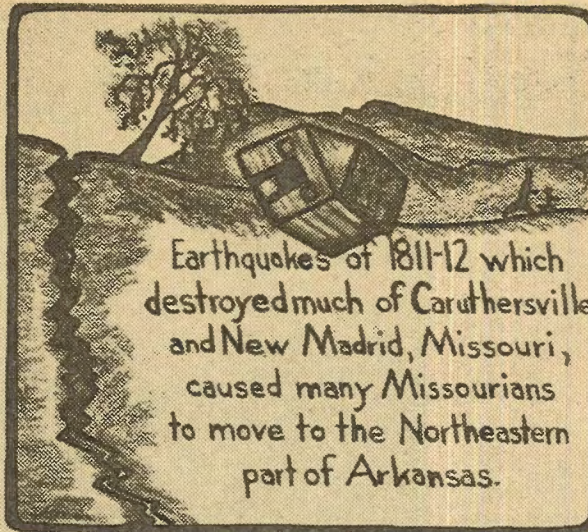
"My remarks are in the kindest spirit, and with absolutely no hard feelings . . ."

Mr. Whitfield, the truck driver, and the friends and relatives of the family of five who died in this tragedy have our sincere Christian sympathy. —ELM

\* \* \*

"It appears that the driver was in no way at fault, and had been driving for seven years with a perfect driving record. This tragedy, in which the driver had no blame, comes under the heading mentioned by the Savior in Luke 13:4, 5, 'Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and killed them, think ye that they were offenders above all the men that dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.' In this passage the Savior is saying that everyone must repent or perish, must be prepared to meet God at any time, for no one knows how suddenly death may come. Of course, we know that there is salvation for those only who repent toward God and have personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21).

"It appears that the trucking company owning the truck has a safety man who patrols the highways at all times. The insurance company that insures them likewise has a man devoting his full time to the same task. Besides, these cooperate with the police in their surveillance of the drivers. It looks as



Earthquakes of 1811-12 which destroyed much of Caruthersville and New Madrid, Missouri, caused many Missourians to move to the Northeastern part of Arkansas.



A blazing comet about the same time helped to add meaning to a text on which preachers often spoke: "For the great day of his wrath is come, and who shall be able to stand?"



These disturbances were not without their religious message for years, resulting in widespread religious awakenings.

though the company is doing all it can to prevent accidents.

"There are many tragedies caused by drink and the other killers which you mentioned, but this was not one of them, unforeseen and terrible tragedy that it was. Knowing you and having confidence in you, I realized that you would like to have the facts in the case, and possibly pass them on to the readers, with an emphasis on the message that all men must always be ready, without a moment's notice, to meet God, knowing Christ as Savior."—Walter L. Johnson, pastor, University Church, Fayetteville.

**Pastor Available**

A COMMITTEE from our faculty is taking the initiative in seeking to assist some of our students find work when they graduate. We have observed that many students here need full-time work upon graduation, and many churches are seeking good leadership.

We would like to tell you about one of our men who will graduate in January.

Maurice B. Hargis, 1912 Spurgeon, Fort Worth 15, Texas, telephone WA-1-1027. He is 42 years of age, married with four children. He has the A.B. degree from Ouachita and will receive the B.D. here January 16. He pastored Fairview Church, Delight, the Eagle Lake Cross Roads Church, at Vick, and the 1st Church, Fountain Hill, all in Arkansas. This totals four years' pastoral experience.

I have been personally acquainted with Brother Hargis since he has been enrolled in several of my rural church courses. He will make a fine stable leader for a good church.

He would be available to move on the field about the middle of January. If you find some church interested, they might contact him at the above address.—Carl A. Clark, chairman, Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

# Arkansas All Over

## Note to Pastors

FROM TIME to time we have had pastors over the state to ask us about the possibility of resuming the publication of attendance records in each issue. We are ready to begin using these as they are submitted. We would suggest that the attendance should cover both the Sunday School and Training Union reports and additions. The report should be mailed directly to the editor of the *Arkansas Baptist* at 401 West Capitol, Little Rock, on Monday following the day for which the reports are made.—Editor

## Dawson King Begins Retirement Career

WITH THE official retirement of W. Dawson King from his post as superintendent, for the state of Arkansas, of the ministers' retirement plan of the Relief and Annuity Board, a beloved and familiar face will be missing from the Baptist Building staff.

Mr. King, a former missionary to China, where he and Mrs. King, the former Miss Ruth Esther Pye, served for 18 years, has been an employee of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention for the past 14 years.

In addition to his work with the retirement plan, he has served as assistant bookkeeper in the executive department of the state convention and as recording secretary for the convention and Pulaski Association treasurer.

Nobody would judge by looking at him that he had reached retirement age, and those who know him best know that while he is officially retired, he is not quitting. He and Mrs. King will continue to reside at 2324 Arch, Little Rock, telephone, FRanklin 2-5895, and he will be available for supply preaching and serving as interim pastor.—ELM.



CRUSADE PLANS of Southern Baptists are discussed by Billy Graham, right, and Dr. C. W. Caldwell, Arkansas' secretary of missions and evangelism.

## Pastoral Changes

RESIGNATION OF Bill G. Hickem, for three and a half years pastor of the 1st Church, Bentonville, was announced Dec. 10.



MR. HICKEM

Mr. Hickem has accepted the pastorate of the 1st Church, Crossett and will assume his duties Jan. 4. Mrs. Hickem is the former Miss Billie Jean Mosley, Little Rock. The Hickems have four children: Christy, 5 years, Neil, 3 years, and twin daughters,

5 months.

During the Bentonville pastorate, the mission program has been expanded in the increase of mission giving and the establishing of a local mission, Park Street Baptist Chapel. There have been 271 additions to the church in his three and half years and an implementation of the Forward Program of Church Finance for two consecutive years. ■

TOMMIE FARRAR, pastor of 1st Church McCrory, for the last four years, has been called by Markham St., Little Rock. (CB)

FIRST CHURCH, Huntsville, has called Carl P. Nelson, Oklahoma City, as pastor. He began his new work in December. Previously he had served as pastor at Gentry. (CB)

PASTORAL CHANGES in the Boone and Newton Associations include: Edward Powers to Bellefonte Church; John Carter, Union Church; James McBee, 1st Church, Jasper. (CB)

## Billy Graham Aids Crusades

FIVE MESSAGES by Billy Graham in the interest of the Simultaneous Crusades will be made available on tape recordings for radio broadcast. Dr. C. W. Caldwell, who is promoting the Arkansas Crusades, listed the subjects of Graham's messages: "The Importance of Revivals," "The Importance of the Church," "The Importance of Prayer," "The Importance of Belonging," and "New Life for You."

The recordings have been made for 15-minute broadcasts and are to be run as a series Monday through Friday the week previous to the Crusade date. The five tapes may be secured through Dr. Caldwell, 203 Baptist Building, Little Rock. The requests should be made before Jan. 20.

It has been pointed out that many stations give free time for daily devotionals and that arrangements could probably be made to use Billy Graham's messages. There will be sufficient time for announcements about local revivals before introducing Dr. Graham's message.

The associational chairman on radio and T.V. should work with pastors and radio stations scheduling the recordings for broadcast the week previous to the revivals. ■

## Special Missionaries' Luncheon Scheduled

A SPECIAL luncheon will be held for all associational missionaries and associational chairmen of evangelism, at Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, 12 noon, Monday, Jan. 26. All will be guests of the Department of Evangelism. ■

# STATEWIDE EVANGELISTIC CONFERENCE

Program

IMMANUEL CHURCH, LITTLE ROCK

Jan. 26-28

## MONDAY EVENING

January 26

### "The Essentials of the Message"

7:00	Song and Praise	LeRoy McClard
7:15	Welcome	W. O. Vaught
7:20	The Sovereignty of God	C. Z. Holland
7:55	Song	
8:00	The Sin of Man	C. Y. Dossey
8:35	Special Music	
8:45	The Salvation in Christ	Earl Guinn
9:40	Adjourn	

## TUESDAY MORNING

Jan. 27

### "The Urgency of the Message"

9:00	Song and Praise	Frank Adams
9:15	The Commission of Christ Makes It Urgent	Harold C. Bennett
9:50	Song	
9:55	The Message Merits Our Best	Wm. Walter Warmath
10:30	Prayer and the Message	Earl Guinn
11:05	Special Music	
11:15	The Magnitude of the Crusade Makes It Urgent	Howard Butt
12:00	Adjourn for lunch	

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Jan. 27

### "The Instruments of the Message"

1:45	Song and Praise	Herbert Johnson
2:00	The Church—Christ's Chosen Instrument	Burton Miley
2:30	The Church Council in Evangelism	C. Y. Dossey
3:00	Recognition of Associations with 100% Steering Com-	

mitteemen present.

Recognition of Associations with largest number present.

3:10	Let Us Do It Right This Time	C. W. Caldwell
3:30	Conferences:	
	Chairmen, Enlistment Chr.	Robert Smith
	Publicity, Finance, Radio & TV	Hugh Cantrell
	Special Rally, Fellowship Meetings	David Garland
	Prayer	H. G. Jacobs
	Census, Extension	Lawson Hatfield
	Music	LeRoy McClard
	Attendance, Visitation	J. D. Tollison
	Pastors and Others	C. W. Caldwell

## TUESDAY EVENING

Jan. 27

### "Power and the Message"

7:00	Song and Praise	Richard Essman
7:15	The Need for Power	Charles Wellborn
7:50	Song	
7:55	Locating and Visiting Every Lost Soul	Jesse Reed
8:30	Special Music	Mel Mintz
8:35	The Holy Spirit Conviets	Earl Guinn

## WEDNESDAY MORNING

Jan. 28

### "Rewards for Delivering the Message"

9:00	Song and Praise	James E. Taylor
9:20	Saving a Soul from Death	Charles Wellborn
10:00	A Full Grown Christian	Lloyd Hunnicutt
10:35	Song	
10:40	Testimonies: Our prayers and hopes for 1959	
11:00	When Harvest Days Are Over	Earl Guinn
11:40	Prayer Period	
12:00	Adjourn	



FIRST CHURCH, Blytheville, held coronation services for junior and intermediate GA's recently with Patricia Ann Widner being crowned queen. Other awards included: maidens, Alayne Frazier, Carrol Trent; ladies-in-waiting, Merri Lee Dodson, Charlotte Tolley, Beth Edmonson, Patsy Yo-

cum, Judy Rushing, Joyce Crawford, Eugenia Oenning, Patsy Montgomery, Manerva Jo Bogun; princesses, Kay Fisher, Sally Brown, Diane Hall. Awards were presented by WMU president Mrs. J. T. Westbrook and Mrs. J. W. Crawford.



## A New Year's Resolution

I will—

like Paul—forget those things which are behind, and press forward;  
like David—lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help;  
like Abraham—trust implicitly in my God;  
like Enoch—walk in daily fellowship with my Heavenly Father;  
like Jehosaphat—prepare my heart to seek God;  
like Moses—choose rather to suffer than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;  
like Daniel—commune with God at all times;  
like Job—be patient under all circumstances;  
like Caleb and Joshua—refuse to be discouraged because of superior numbers;  
like Joseph—turn my back to all seductive advances;  
like Gideon—advance even though my friends be few;  
like Aaron and Hur—uphold the hands of my pastor and the leaders of my church with my prayer and support;  
like Andrew—strive to lead my brother to Christ;  
like Stephen—manifest a forgiving spirit toward all who seek my hurt;  
Realizing that I cannot hope to achieve these objectives by my own strength, I will rely upon Christ for "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me." ■

## Detroit Baptist Church Fast-Growing

EBERT BAPTIST Church, Detroit, was featured in the Nov. 29 Detroit Times on the occasion of the Southern Baptist congregation's beginning a new building which they expect to outgrow in two years.

Arkansan Bill Lewis is pastor of the fast-growing church, which has been affiliated with the Convention for seven years. Membership totaled 45 at that time.

Overflow attendance at the Sunday School and worship service have forced two regular services every Sunday morning.

In addition, numerous members have left to worship in the six missions founded by Eber Church. In one case, 50 were lettered out to one mission.

During last year, 140 new members joined the Eber congregation.

The new building, expected to be ready by midsummer, will seat 700. ■

A Four Year Baptist High School

### BAPTIST INSTITUTE OF THE OZARKS

Rev. North E. West, Superintendent  
Bentonville, Arkansas

BOARDING STUDENTS ONLY

# Baptist Crosscurrents

## 1958. Year of Rude Awakening

THE YEAR just ending may go down in the history of American religious life as the year of the rude awakening. Somewhere along the way in 1958 the people of America came to the surprising and shocking realization that they were living in the post post-war era to which they had looked forward so eagerly and confidently for more than a decade and that it was something less than the gadget-filled paradise they had expected.

Americans were more grimly conscious than ever that you can have shiny new cars, tall modernistic buildings, well filled deep freezes—and still not have peace of soul.

Without was the constant, ceaseless, never ending threat of communist domination. Foreign policy moved from one uneasy crisis to the next. The Communists were stopped—but for how long and how surely? Each new report of a new Soviet satellite or missile or bomb brought new uneasiness. It was a new experience and the adjustment was not easily made.

Within the facts were almost equally disturbing. The crime wave continued to roll up new and frightening statistics. The most disturbing truth was that more than half the major crimes were being committed by youngsters. Calloused youths shot down their parents or murdered their playmates. The increase in major crimes by those under 18 was almost 50 per cent for a single year.

The religious boom had about played out. The churches were actually falling behind the population increase in enlistment of new members. And church leaders in all denominations were awakening to the sudden realization that many of those joining their churches in recent years had done so without any deep spiritual commitment.

The nation was shocked at the bombings of churches, synagogues and schools. The inevitable consequence of open defiance of law and order was certain to be violence. And the end was not yet.

Americans were guzzling more liquor than ever before in their history. Drunkenness had become the number one enemy of the American way of life on the 25th anniversary of the repeal of national prohibition. No statesman had arisen with a suggestion for the solution.

The popularity of some of America's false prophets faded. Norman Vincent Peale's books dropped from the best seller lists. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen disappeared from television screens. Reinhold Niebuhr's voice was drowned out by the more strident voices of lesser men in the theological realm.

Desecration of Sunday continued apace. Supermarkets did not even wait until Sunday noon but were open for business as usual at 9 a. m. Societies and associations set their meetings and conventions for the Lord's Day. More churches gave up the effort to have Sunday evening services.

One of the strangest developments was a nostalgia for the 1920s. It was as though the nation were looking back on a happier adolescence.

But it was obvious to all that America had reached maturity. As much as the nation might enjoy recalling her youth with fondness, there were hard realities to be faced and hard decisions to be made. America's strength of character was due for testing as never before.

What 1959 would bring no one could guess. Only that there would be challenge and opportunity for the sincere follower of Christ. —*The Baptist Messenger*.

# Cauthen Says 1958 Best Year

DR. BAKER J. Cauthen, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, told the Board in its last meeting of the year that 1958 has been the best year in the history of Southern Baptist foreign mission work.

He said it has been the best year from the standpoint of missionary appointments. The 24 missionaries appointed at the December meeting brought the total for the year to a new annual high of 137 — seven above the goal.

Dr. Cauthen said 1958 has also been the best year from the standpoint of financial support of foreign missions. A comparison of cash income for January through November, 1958, with the same period in 1957 reveals a 13.02 per cent increase.

Dr. Cauthen said all early reports from the 1958 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering indicate that it will go beyond the 1957 total of \$6,121,585.14.

"This has also been the best year from the standpoint of mission work in the overseas fields," Dr. Cauthen continued. "Missionaries from every area of the world report progress in their work.

"In the appointment of new missionaries we are reminded of the very great value of the foreign mission programs at meetings of the Southern Baptist convention. A number of the 24 missionaries appointed at the December meeting of the Board testified that their decisions were made in the high hours of foreign mission presentations at the Southern Baptist Convention meetings. This happens repeatedly."

Dr. Cauthen said the new headquarters building will be dedicated at the semiannual meeting of the full board, April 7-8. The new address is: 3806 Monument Avenue, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond 30, Va.

## Liaison With Baptists Of Portugal

The Foreign Mission Board asked Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Crabtree, veteran missionaries under appointment to Brazil, to be its fraternal representatives to the Baptists of Portugal. In this capacity they will serve as liaison persons between the Foreign Mission Board and the Portuguese Baptist Convention.

(Baptist work in Portugal is the product of the foreign mission work of Brazilian Baptists.)

Dr. Cornell Goerner, secretary for Africa, Europe, and the Near East, said, "They will make a full investigation of the situation among the Baptists of Portugal; and, on the basis of their reports, the Board will be in a position to decide concerning the desirability of expanding its aid to Portuguese Baptists."

Dr. and Mrs. Crabtree have had 37 years' experience as Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil.

## Religious Liberty Victory

In his report to the Board Dr. Goer-

ner said a recent ruling of the Constitutional High Court of Italy is hailed as a significant victory for religious liberty in that country. The Court is a 15-man tribunal modeled after the Supreme Court of the United States.

Dr. Goerner said: "On Nov. 24, the Court passed down a historic decision when — ruling upon the case of an elder of the Pentecostal Assemblies of God who had been charged with acting as a minister and operating a church without a proper permit — it upheld the right of all religious communities to open and operate houses of worship without police authorization.

"There is a certain appropriateness in the fact that at the first meeting of the Foreign Mission Board following this momentous victory for religious liberty in Italy two new couples are being appointed for that country. These are the first new appointees for Italy since 1952.

"Also they are the first missionaries appointed for Italy specifically for evangelism in new areas rather than for theological education or publication work. The Italian Baptist Union appealed two years ago to the Foreign Mission Board to send additional missionaries for the purpose of establishing Baptist work in untouched areas. Attention was called to the fact that there is no Baptist witness in 63 of the 92 provinces of Italy. It is hoped that other evangelical workers may soon join these new appointees in Italy."

(The two couples appointed for missionary service in Italy at the December meeting of the Board are Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Crabb, Jr., and Rev. and Mrs. Virgil H. Moorefield, Jr.)

## New Seminaries Planned

The Foreign Mission Board has appropriated money for the purchase of land in the vicinity of Beirut, Lebanon, for the establishment of a theological seminary to serve the Arabic-speaking world. It is hoped that the seminary may be opened in temporary quarters in Beirut late in 1959 and that it may move to the new location in 1960.

Plans are also under way for the development of a small seminary for the East Africa Mission. It will be so situated that it can serve Uganda, as well as Kenya and Tanganyika, when work is developed in that country. ■

## ● FRANCES HATFIELD, daughter of



MISS HATFIELD

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hatfield. Stamps, has been chosen "Student of the Year" by the student body of Arkansas Baptist Hospital School of Nursing. Frances is the Baptist Student Union president at the hospital.

# Arkansas Participating In Televangelism

THE RADIO and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention is going all out to assist the Simultaneous Crusades through what they choose to call Televangelism. It is the combination of two factors — television and evangelism.

The Commission has prepared 13 half-hour television dramas, dealing with 13 problems in today's social order, for "This Is the Answer" series. The series begins Sunday, Jan. 4.

**TELEVANGELISM SERIES Schedule, Sunday: Fort Smith, WNAC-TV, 1 p. m.; Little Rock, KATV-TV, 2 p. m.; Texarkana, Texas, KCMC-TV, time not listed; Shreveport, La., KSLA-TV, 1:15 p. m.; Tulsa, Okla., KVOO-TV, 12:30 p. m.; Joplin, Mo., KODE-TV, 3:30 p. m.**

The purpose of the telecasts is to provide a positive, unified plan of action for the local churches to add to and supplement the preparation for the Simultaneous Revivals. The associational chairman of radio and television will receive ample material to pass on to the churches.

Every pastor is urged to discover ways to take advantage of Televangelism in winning the lost and strengthening Christians. Set up some plan to get people to see the telecast — through Sunday School classes, Brotherhood, WMU, Training Union, deacons, neighborhood viewing groups, etc. Select homes for special showing. Get the people present who have problems which the telecast presents. ■

## Van Buren Mission Organized as Church

ARKANSAS STREET Church, Van Buren, was organized Nov. 23. The congregation was begun as a mission by 1st Church, Van Buren, with George Lousbury as mission pastor.

Mr. Lousbury was elected pastor by the new church, which has a Sunday School enrollment of 85.

Participating in the organizational meeting were: T. H. Jordan, 1st Church pastor, who gave a history of the mission; A. T. Suskey, who discussed the nature of a New Testament church; S. A. Haley, articles of faith; Missionary S. A. Wiles, charter and covenant (which was adopted by 39 members); and R. K. Grant, charge to the new church. ■

J. W. BUCKNER, Temple Church, Crossett, recently led in a stewardship revival in Tennessee Church, Texarkana. He did the preaching in a meeting with 1st Church, Weiner, with several additions and a number of rededications.

# Love in Interpersonal Relations

By Henlee H. Barnette  
(Professor of Christian Ethics,  
Southern Seminary)

**L**IFE MAY be lived at several levels. At the biological level, conduct is guided by instinct and physical desire. Custom determines behavior on the social plane. Reason is the criterion for conduct at the rational level. Life at the Christian level is distinctive because it is motivated by the love of Christ and sustained by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## I. The Character of Love

Jesus gave no rules of conduct; He was not a new giver of laws for life. Rather, He laid down the great principle of love upon which all behavior is grounded. This controlling ethical principle is expressed most clearly in Christ's new commandment: "This new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). Note that this commandment is radical and distinctive in that it demands that we love others not as we love ourselves, but as Christ loves us. Christ's love for us is sacrificial and unqualified. This is the love we are to live by.

It is unfortunate that the term "love" has so many meanings in our contemporary culture. *Agape-love*, the love demanded of Christians, is absolutely distinctive from any kind of love in our vocabulary. *Agape* is not a mere feeling of emotion. It is spontaneous good will toward and care for all persons, including enemies. *Agape* is not merely liking a person, but having a concern for him as Christ cares for His own.

*Agape* is transcendent as God is transcendent. Every individual and institution stands under the criticism of this kind of love.

Paul, the Apostle, describes the nature of *agape* in I Corinthians 12:31-13:1-13. Here he makes love central for the Christian life, calling it the highest way of all. He declares that love is patient, constructive, unpossessive, cherishes no inflated ideas of its own importance, has good manners, does not pursue selfish advantages, is not touchy, does not rejoice when others go wrong, but is glad when truth prevails. Love knows no limit to its endurance, trust, hope, and outlasts everything.

Thus, *agape* is quite different from the popular view of love current among us. It is deeper, more demanding, and imperative for all Christians. Eloquence, prophecy, and good works are nothing unless prompted by *agape*. Thus, our goodness is of little consequence unless grounded in love.

Paul and other writers of the New Testament were confronted with the

problem of relating this transcendental, perfectionistic, ethic of love to concrete issues in the early church. In so doing they reveal a realism in their view of man and his interpersonal relations. It was necessary for the interpreters of Jesus to spell out the content of love for the morally immature. They, therefore, present a pedestrian ethic for "babes in Christ" who cannot take the strong meat of the Christian ethic of love. Augustine said: "Love and do as you please." This is true provided one knows what love is and how it expresses itself in human relations. New Testament writers discovered that Christians needed more specific moral instructions in harmony with the demand of love. Hence, they meet this need by giving more concrete demands or "do-this-es" of the Christian ethic.

## II. The Content of Love

In making specific applications of love to interpersonal relations, Paul does not become legalistic. Even here he is articulating principles and not rules of conduct. The following is a decalogue of "do-this-es" or principles which give content to love.

1. Have a sane estimate of yourself. "Don't cherish exaggerated ideas of yourself or your importance, but try to have a sane estimate of your capabilities by the light of faith that God has given to you all" (Romans 12:3, Phillips).

2. Be lenient in your judgment of others and severe in your judgment of yourself. "It is to God alone that we have to answer for our actions. Let us therefore stop turning critical eyes on one another. If we must be critical, let us be critical of our own conduct and see that we do nothing to make a brother stumble or fall" (Romans 14:13, Phillips).

3. Edify one another. "So let us concentrate on the things which will make for harmony, and on the growth of one another's character" (Romans 14:19, Phillips).

4. Serve one another. "It is to freedom that you have been called, my brothers. Only be careful that your freedom does not become mere opportunity for your lower nature. You should be free to serve each other in love" (Galatians 5:13, Phillips).

5. Bear one another's burden. "Carry each other's burdens and so live out the law of Christ. If any man thinks he is 'somebody,' he is deceiving himself, for that very thought proves that he is nobody. Let every man learn to assess properly the value of his own works and he can then be glad when he has done something worth doing without depending on the approval of others. For every man must shoulder his own pack" (Galatians 6:2, Phillips).

6. Forgive one another. "Be kind to

## Baptists First to Get Loan from Hill Burton

OKLAHOMA CITY —(BP)— Baptist Memorial Hospital of Oklahoma City is the first hospital in the nation to receive a government loan under new provisions of the Hill-Burton Act, Baptist leaders here reported.

The hospital, expected to open early in 1959, will receive a 40-year, \$500,000 loan from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, an agency of the federal government.

The loan carries a 3¾ per cent interest rate. The interest rate includes the cost of servicing the loan so that the denomination will not receive any money in the form of a gift, Baptist leaders declared.

The hospital had contracted earlier for \$2,200,000, 20-year loan at 5½ per cent interest from an insurance company. ■

● SIXTEEN DEGREE weather and four inches of snow and ice failed to mar attendance at Freeman Heights, Berryville, on Dec. 14. The three-month-old church, which has 72 members, had 105 in Sunday School and 72 in Training Union. E. A. "Happy" Ingram is serving as interim pastor.

● GOALS FOR 1959 as set by Mt. Zion Association include: 1,000 baptisms; membership of 11,000; Sunday School enrollment of 10,350; Training Union Enrollment, 5,175; VBS enrollment, 3,300; WMU, 1,500; Brotherhood, 1,000; Total gifts, \$500,000; 3,000 training awards and all associational departments standard. (CB)

each other, be understanding. Be as ready to forgive others as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32, Phillips).

7. Exhort one another. "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today'; that none of you be hardened by sin" (Hebrews 3:13, SRV).

8. Confess your faults to one another and pray for one another. "You should get into the habit of admitting your sins to each other, and praying for each other" (James 5:16, Phillips).

9. Be hospitable to one another. "Be hospitable to each other without secretly wishing you hadn't got to be" (I Peter 4:9).

10. Show deference to one another. "Indeed all of you defer to one another and wear the 'over all' of humility in serving each other" (I Peter 5:5).

These are only a few moral exhortations which give content to Christian love. Love always demands more, never less than these moral injunctions. The preacher, the professor, and the layman must take seriously these implications of love in personal and social relations. Else love becomes a mere abstraction with no relevance for life. ■

## 'One for One' Campaign

(Continued from the December 11 issue of *The Arkansas Baptist*.)

### ASSIGNMENT OF PROSPECTS

ON EACH of the first four Sundays of the campaign, beginning February 15, distribute one-fourth of the Prospect Visitation Assignment and Report Form 120, (and copy No. 4) to the department superintendents for assignment to teachers and pupils in the classes. All visits are primarily for the purpose of enrolling the prospects in Sunday School. At the end of the fourth Sunday, with all of the prospects having been assigned, follow-up assignments should be given for the remaining Sundays of the campaign with continued emphasis on visitation throughout the revival crusade. Copy No. 1 of each prospect slip should be kept by the pastor as a permanent prospect list; copy No. 2 kept by the general superintendent for the same purpose; and copy No. 3 for each of the department superintendents for the same purpose.

Pastors may desire to build their preaching program around a compassionate concern for people during the days of the enrollment campaign. Some suggested subjects are: "The Pull of the People," "God's Command to Grow," "God's Marching Orders," "People Are Precious," and "Moved With Compassion." Surely a wholehearted participation in a Sunday school enrollment campaign preceding the revival crusade will mean new life for multitudes of unsaved people.

### A PRACTICAL GOAL

How many new people do you think you should enroll in Sunday school in such an all-out effort? It seems that in the minimum period of six weeks, any officer or teacher would be able to enroll one new person in Sunday School. This is a personal responsibility. It is a democratic assignment. No one escapes responsibility. Following a complete religious census on February 1, 1959, (unless a thorough census was taken last September) an adequate number of prospects certainly will be revealed to make the goal of "One for One" realistic. Each Sunday school should adopt the slogan "One for One." It is practical. It is challenging. It has appeal. Get it before the workers in your Sunday school.

### SOUTHWIDE REGIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLINIC

Ft. Smith, Feb. 23-27.

Anyone who is interested in making a reservation as a clinician for the Ft. Smith Clinic should write for an application blank to the Sunday School Department, 314 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark. ■

● TWENTY-SIX Churches in Mt. Zion Association will participate in a simultaneous survey Feb. 20-27. Billy Hargroves, Atlanta, Ga., will direct the surveys. (CB)

## Revival Reports

**SECOND CHURCH, Conway:** stewardship revival with Jesse Reed doing the preaching; new attendance records in Training Union and Sunday School. The church exceeded its budget in November by 1,000 and 179 persons pledged to tithe.

**DANIEL CHAPEL, near Dumas:** Jesse S. Reed, evangelist; Toney Adams, Dumas, singer; nine by baptism, seven by letter; one surrender for special service and seven rededications.

**IMMANUEL, MAGNOLIA:** R. J. Simpson, Oaklawn, Texarkana, evangelist; Hershel Williams, pastor; 44 by baptism, three by letter. (CB)

### Brotherhood

## Start New Year Right

THE REGIONAL Brotherhood Conventions in January and February, to be followed by the State Brotherhood Convention in early March, should help to point Arkansas Baptist men to the Simultaneous Crusades in March and April. What our churches accomplish during the Crusades will determine largely the level and the effectiveness of all our work for all of the year.

Following the Crusades is the State Royal Ambassador Congress in May; then the summer camping program of the Brotherhood Department, including the State Brotherhood Encampment. After these events we shall all face the fall and selection of new Brotherhood officers for another associational year. Layman's Day will be observed on the second Sunday of October; and this will be followed by the annual series of regional and associational Brotherhood clinics, and the annual Royal Ambassador Fellowship Supper, and Brotherhood Night.

And all through the year the flaming torch of evangelism must be held high by every one of us, wherever we are, whatever else we may be doing.

May God grant you your best, your most effective, and your happiest year in His service. Help God to make it so, because of your personal willingness to start the New Year right!—Nelson Tull, Brotherhood Secretary.

## Advance Subscriptions To RA Leader Received

**MEMPHIS —(BP)—** Advance subscriptions to Ambassador Leader, newest publication of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, reached 1,138 on Dec. 1, 60 days prior to publication of the first issue.

A quarterly periodical designed for Royal Ambassador leaders, the magazine was created in response to popular demand by men who lead this boys' organization sponsored by Brotherhoods. ■

## WMU Begins New Plan For Remitting Offerings

BEGINNING JANUARY 1 book-keeping for Woman's Missionary Union of Arkansas will be consolidated with that of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. There are many reasons for this — efficiency, goodwill and economy. In this way all offerings from a church will be reflected in the financial reports published each quarter in the *Arkansas Baptist*.



MISS COOPER

In cooperation with this plan the following funds formerly sent to the State WMU Treasurer, whether remitted by the local WMU treasurer or by the church treasurer, should be sent to Dr. S. A. Whitlow, 401 W. Capitol, Little Rock, with definite designations.

... Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions

... Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions

... Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions

... District Budget

... Orphan's Home Helper Fund

Directions will be given for remitting camp registration, banquet and conference fees when the activities are publicized.

### REPORT NOW

Reports covering work done during the first quarter of 1958-59 (ending December 31) should be sent immediately to the associational president. Every WMU organization should report separately through the local recording secretary of the WMU. Report books have been mailed to every organization whose leaders have been reported to the State WMU Office. Please see that your report is accurate and mailed promptly.

### WMS FOCUS WEEK

January 11-16

See Royal Service for plans.

—Nancy Cooper, State WMU Secretary.

## CHURCH PEWS



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# 1959 Music Calendar

## (FIRST QUARTER)

Theme for the Year: "Forward Through Cooperative Witness."

Theme for 1st Quarter: The Ministry of Music in Cooperative Witness.

### January

Theme: "Songs of Faith."

Hymn of the Month: "My Faith Looks up to Thee."

Objective: To emphasize the close relationship of the Bible and the hymnal in bringing Christians to a stronger faith in Christ.

Important Events: Seminary Music Workshops, Jan. 26-30, Southwestern Seminary Workshop.

### February

Theme: "Songs of the Redeemed."

Hymn of the Month: "How Sweet the Name of Jesus."

Objective: To help Christians witness, through music, to the saving power of Jesus.

Important Events: (1) Church Music Festivals: Feb. 6 — State Adult Music Festival, Pulaski Heights, LR; Feb. 7 — State Youth Music Festival, Immanuel, LR; Feb. 28 — State Junior Choir Festival, Gaines St., LR.

### March

Theme: "Songs of Service."

Hymn of the Month: "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken."

Objective: To lead church musicians to use their talents in evangelistic service.

Important Events: (1) Simultaneous Crusades; (2) Church Music Festival;

tival; (3) Graded Choir Workshops. March 7 — State Primary Choir Festival; March 4 — Graded Choir Workshop, Grande Avenue, Ft. Smith; March 5 — Graded Choir Workshop, 1st Baptist, El Dorado; March 6 — Graded Choir Workshop, 1st Baptist, West Memphis. ■



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## Forces Marshaled For 1960 Emphasis

NASHVILLE, Tenn. —(BSSB)—"Total Southern Baptist denominational forces will be marshaled for the first time for a Convention-wide stress on teaching and training in 1960," according to Dr. W. L. Howse, Education Division director for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Dr. Howse is chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention's committee on the Baptist Jubilee Advance 1960 emphasis on teaching and training.

The purpose of the emphasis, Dr. Howse said, is "to advance perennial evangelism, guide the total development of church members, and strengthen the churches in their work." ■

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# ARKANSAS HONOR CHURCH PROGRAM

## Promoted by the Training Union Department



Davis

RALPH W. DAVIS, *Secretary*

R. V. HAYGOOD, *Associate*



Haygood

## WHAT IT IS

It is a plan of promoting five important phases of Training Union work. A beautiful Honor Church Program diploma, 8½x11 in size, with space for five seals will be awarded and mailed to each church or mission which mails to the Training Union Department a completed quarterly report form for any of the quarters, October-December, 1958; January-March, 1959; April-June, 1959; July-September, 1959.

### SEALS

Seals will be awarded at any time during the year when the requirements for that seal have been met.

#### **Seal I—Youth Week**

The church must observe Youth Week during the period October 1, 1958, to September 30, 1959. Upon receipt of the Youth Week report a seal will be awarded.

#### **Seal II—Standard Unit**

The Church must report at least one standard union or department for at least one of the following quarters: October-December, 1958; January-March, 1959; April-June, 1959; July-September, 1959.

#### **Seal III—Drills and Tournaments**

The church must be represented in the 1959 associational eliminations of at least one of the drills or tournaments: Junior Memory-Sword Drill, Intermediate Sword Drill, or Young People's Speakers' Tournament. Associational Directors are urged to plan their elimination meetings during March just prior to the district conventions. The Associational Training Union Director should mail a list of churches participating in the associational eliminations to the Training Union Department.

#### **Seal IV—Enrolment**

The church must report a Net increase of 10% in its Training Union enrolment over the enrolment reported on October 1, 1958. Upon receipt of the figures giving the October 1, 1958, enrolment and the present enrolment showing a NET increase of 10%, the award will be made.

#### **Seal V—Study Course Awards**

The church must request during the period October 1, 1958, to September 30, 1959, Training Union study course awards equal in number to 75% of the number of people enrolled in Training Union on October 1, 1958, who are nine years of age and older. To determine these figures, list the number enrolled in all unions and departments, Junior through Adult. Add to these your general officers and adult workers in Nursery, Beginner and Primary departments. Now, 75% of this total becomes your minimum goal for Training Union study course awards for the year. Upon receipt of figures verifying the fact that the above goal has been attained, Seal V will be awarded. The number of study course awards recorded on the records of the Training Union Department will be the number used.

**A QUARTERLY REPORT FORM WILL BE SENT TO EACH TRAINING UNION DIRECTOR NEAR THE CLOSE OF EACH QUARTER**

# The Snow Party

By GRAYCE KROGH BOLLER

JERRY LOOKED out at the snow. Tears filled his eyes, almost spilling over. All that snow on his birthday, and he couldn't go out to play in it! "Some birthday!" Jerry looked sadly at his sprained ankle, propped up on the couch.

Mother was busy in the kitchen. Jerry was all alone. He wished some of his playmates would come to play. But he knew they would all be out on the hill having fun in the snow.

Jerry heard the front door open and after a while close again. Surely Daddy was not home from work so early. A giggle and a whisper floated into the room, and Jerry looked toward the door to see who was coming.

"Hi, Jerry! Happy birthday!" There were Steve, Joe, Alice, and Margie, all his playmates. Each one had a gift for Jerry.

"But I thought you would be out on the hill having fun in the snow!" Jerry cried happily.

"We came to visit you," Steve grinned.

"Because it is your birthday," Joe laughed.

"Because you can't walk for a few days," Alice nodded.

"Because you are our playmate," Margie added.

Jerry sat on the couch and beamed at all his friends. Then he opened his presents. There were an interesting book from Steve and hard candies from Joe. There were a game from Alice and a puzzle from Margie. And there was a sled from Mother and Daddy!

When Mother brought in the sled, Jerry could have cried — for joy and for sadness. Joy, because he had been wanting a sled ever so long. Sadness, because now he could not go out and play with it.

But before Jerry could think much about that, Mother started a guessing game. Soon they were all laughing and having so much fun that Jerry forgot he could not go out to play in the snow. There were plenty of quiet games to play and plenty of fun as the little group played them.

In a little while, all the boys and girls except Jerry got up and put on their caps and jackets. What kind of party was this? Everyone seemed to be going home, and there hadn't been any refreshments. Just then Mother came in with Jerry's jacket and cap. Then Daddy came in! Jerry was glad to see him home so early, but he still felt quite puzzled.

## My Resolution

By MARGARETTA HARMON  
A resolution I will make,  
One that I'll try hard not to break:  
Some words for Jesus I will say  
To some one person every day.

And if this promise I can keep,  
Just think what harvest I may reap:  
Three hundred sixty-five will hear  
Of him from me in this new year!

Mother took the bright, shiny new sled out to the pavement. Daddy picked up Jerry, wrapped a blanket around him, and carried him outside where he settled the boy on the new sled. Steve picked up the rope tied to the steering gear and began to pull Jerry. Joe pushed his sled. Margie pulled Alice on hers.

"It's a parade, a snow parade!" Jerry laughed as Daddy ran alongside. Daddy barked, pretending to be a puppy, and they all laughed.

"Now it's my turn to pull!" Joe cried. He pulled Jerry while Steve pulled Joe's sled.

Each one took a turn at pulling Jerry. It was fun! The air was crisp and cold. The snow was white and crunchy. Jerry took up a handful. It felt cold and good in his hand.

When everyone had had a turn pulling Jerry around the block, it was time to go inside again. How nice and warm it felt there!

"Hmm, I smell cocoa!" Jerry sniffed. He saw that the table was set for refreshments. Mother had been busy. There was a cake with white icing like

## A Smile or Two

A DEAN of women at a large co-educational college began an important announcement to the student body as follows: "The president of the college and I have decided to stop necking on the campus."

Met by a gale of laughter, the good woman continued, somewhat flustered: "Further, all the kissing that has been going on under my nose must be stopped."

WOMAN ENGAGING a new maid: "Jennie, we have breakfast promptly at 8."

NEW MAID — "All right, ma'am. If I ain't down, don't wait for me."

MOTHER: "When that naughty boy threw stones at you, why didn't you come and tell me instead of throwing stones back at him?"

PRACTICAL KID: "What good would that do? You couldn't hit the side of a barn."

snow. It was shaped like a hill with a tiny sled going down the slope. There were small sleds filled with candies for favors. There were snowball cookies, round ones iced in white. There were marshmallow snow men at each place. There were balls of vanilla ice cream, which looked just like snowballs. There were steaming cups of cocoa with marshmallow snowballs floating in them.

"This is a wonderful birthday party!" Jerry cried happily. "A wonderful snow party!" ■

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

## New Year's Greeting From Baptist World Alliance

To Our Baptist World Fellowship:

Greetings and best wishes for the New Year in the name of our living and loving Lord. May the grace, mercy and peace of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and sustain us all every day of the coming year.

In many lands 1959 will be a year of special evangelistic endeavor. Members of our churches in North America will gather on New Year's Eve for special services of prayer and dedication to inaugurate the Baptist Jubilee Advance—a five-year program of evangelism and missions. Similar movements in other lands promise an outstanding year of witness and soul-winning. Let us hope and pray that as a result of our efforts and by the power of the Holy Spirit we may report at the next World Congress in Rio de Janeiro in 1960 an inspiring increase in our world fellowship.

To some the New Year will bring new hours of tension and testing, to others challenging new opportunities for sacrifice and service. May the year be for us all a time of faithful witness for Christ our Lord.

In his name we greet you as we serve together by his power and for his glory.

Cordially yours,  
Theodore F. Adams, President  
Arnold T. Ohrn, General Secretary  
Robert S. Denny, Associate Secretary  
Henry Cook, Acting Associate Secretary

# Jesus Calls Forth Faith

By J. Harold Smith

Pastor, 1st Church, Ft. Smith

Mark 9:14-29

January 4

AT THE foot of Mt. Hermon, in the region of Caesarea Philippi, north of the lake of Galilee, we behold one of



MR. SMITH

the greatest miracles Jesus performed while He was on this earth. It was the healing of the epileptic boy. A few hours before this great miracle was accomplished, three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John, had beheld His glory on the Mount of Transfiguration.

While these three were beholding this glory on the mountain, nine of His disciples were standing helpless and ashamed before a demanding father and a diseased son.

### The Failure of the Disciples.

Coming down from the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus came upon a scene of confusion. There were nine of His disciples surrounded by "a great multitude." This multitude was led by a group of scribes who were ridiculing the disciples because they were not able to heal the diseased boy. The disciples were embarrassed by their failure.

Unafraid and without embarrassment, Jesus demanded of the scribes, "What question ye with them?" This question was bathed in sarcasm. He knew that the father had come looking for Him, and failing to find the Lord had requested the disciples to heal his boy. Jesus foreknew all the failure of His disciples and it angered Him to hear the ridicule and heckling pouring from the godless mouths of the scribes. Jesus called them a "faithless generation." This was a rebuke the "faithless disciples" never forgot.

### The Father of the Diseased.

Upon the arrival of Jesus the Scriptures indicate that the father walked forward by himself, leaving in the hands of the helpless disciple his diseased son, crying as he came, "Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; and wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not."

Jesus calls for the lad to be brought into his presence. While the crowd was bringing him, he had an epileptic seizure. The father states that from child-

hood these seizures have laid hold on his son, causing him at times to fall into the fire and other times into the water, seeking to destroy him. Certainly these years of the lad's life had been anxious and wasteful ones. The family had never dared let the boy out of their sight.

In our imagination, we can see the distress written in every wrinkle of the father's face. Fear and anxiety creep through every fiber of his trembling body and then bursting from his quivering lips he says, "If thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us." The disciples had tried to help but had utterly failed. Now in desperation the father was appealing to the Saviour.

### The Fear of the Dumb Spirit.

The father acknowledged that his son had a "dumb spirit." This "dumb spirit" was stronger than the nine disciples, the multitude, the scribes, the father of the victim, and the victim himself, casting the lad into "fits" wherever and whenever he desired. When he faced Jesus, fear took possession of the "dumb spirit." Jesus asked the father, "How long is it ago since this came unto him?" Not that He did not know, but He desired to impress on the disciples and the multitude the reality and seriousness of this "demon possession."

If Christ was able to read the faith of the father, He was also able to detect the fear of the dumb spirit. Had the father exercised no faith in Jesus, he would never have come to Jesus with his son. He believed that Jesus could and would heal his afflicted son of the dumb spirit.

Jesus spoke directly to the dumb spirit in the healing of this lad, commanding that it come out of him. The suggestion that the boy had a "deaf and dumb spirit" would indicate he could neither hear nor speak as well as being an epileptic. Jesus commanded the evil spirit "to enter no more into him." The healing was immediate and complete. The evil spirit cast the boy into a series of convulsions and left him lying on the ground. The crowd thought he was dead. Even the disciples thought they had seen the Lord Himself fail, but faith never fails!

### The Faithfulness of the Deliverer.

With all the crowd screaming the lad is dead, the disciples doubly embarrassed by their own utter failure, and now the apparent failure of their Master, the scribes heckling not only the disciples, but also laughing in the face of the distressed father, Jesus took the lad by the hand and lifted him up. The Word declares, "And he arose."

What a demonstration of how Jesus always honors faith even amidst a "faithless generation."

What a demonstration of the power possessed by the Son of God. Luke 9:43, "And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God." Think of the rejoicing of the father as he headed toward his home with his well son, the embarrassment of the faithless disciples, the shame of the scoffing scribes, and the amazement and wonder of the multitudes.

Jesus and His disciples withdrew to the place where they were abiding and the disciples inquired, "Why could not we cast him out?" Their failure stood out in bold letters in the light of the success of Christ. The revilings of the multitude, the resentment of the father, and the rebuke of the Saviour made their failure sting all the more.

Had they lost their power over demons by some secret sin, or had Jesus misrepresented the truth to them when He sent them forth to preach and heal? Luke 9:1.

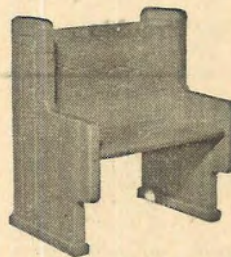
So, in the privacy of their own house, they asked the Master why they had failed. The secret of their failure was a lack of prayer and fasting. They had failed to pray. They had been concerned about "feeding the flock" and not the soul. To have the faith which pleases God, a man must pray and fast.

### The Faith in Our Day.

In our atomic age, it is possible to have faith in God which will move mountains, over come obstacles and give to saints victory. You may expect that spiritual experience which lifted you into the sky, to be followed by a time of temptation, testing and trial in the valley of common human experience.

These disciples had left all, their homes, their businesses, their loved ones to follow Jesus. And yet, we behold their miserable and shameful failure. It is true, I may fail, but the joy is to know that Jesus has never failed. He succeeds where the disciples fail. Have faith in God! ■

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BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS



## Billy Graham to Come to Little Rock

Dr. Billy Graham has accepted a week-end speaking engagement for Little Rock Sept. 12-13, 1959, Dr. W. O. Vaught, Jr., pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, and chairman of the Little Rock Billy Graham committee, has announced.

Definite plans for the appearance here were worked out recently by Dr. Vaught in conference with Graham in Washington, D. C.

Prolonged engagements of Graham in Australia and the Orient, including short meetings in Athens and West Berlin, made it impossible for the evangelist to accept a longer engagement in Little Rock in 1959, Dr. Vaught said.

Dr. Graham and his party will speak to religious leaders at noon on September 12 and Graham will appear in two major meetings in War Memorial Stadium on the night of the same day and Sunday afternoon, Sept. 13.

Local committees are being named to be in charge of all arrangements.

### CORRECTION

In the Dec. 4 issue, a picture of YWA of 1st Church, Newport, errone-

## 'More Than Ever Before' Suggested Goal of 1959

"MORE THAN Ever Before" is the goal we suggest for soul winning in 1959. The record year in baptisms for Arkansas was 1950 when 16,367 were baptized. Thus the goal, "More Than Ever Before," means that we should endeavor to go beyond the number in '59. The number baptized in '58 was 13,071.

If all associations were to exceed their record year in baptisms the 1959 number would go beyond 20,000. But if each church excelled its record year, the total number would soar still higher.

How can it be done?

Plan to reach more. Use the church council in planning a program of evangelism for the entire year.

Promote your plans. Good plans and splendid ideas often fail for lack of earnest promotion.

Pray about it. Pray without ceasing, but arrange for "special" prayer services. Your associational Prayer Chairman may help you.

Preach to win them. Compassion should be evident in every message. Don't wait for people to come to the church house, go where they are and preach. — C. W. Caldwell, Superintendent of Missions and Evangelism. ■

ously carried the tag line of 1st Church, McGehee.

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

By DR. R. LOFTON HUDSON  
(Author of For Our Age of Anxiety,  
at your Baptist Book Store.)

### Criticism of Preacher

**QUESTION:** The church of which I am a member is very indifferent to spiritual matters. The Pastor's sermons are mainly those of "Love." In these days of apostasy, what is the responsibility of the pastor to the church?



DR. HUDSON

Does 2 Cor. 6: 14-18 apply to Christians in the churches whose pastors do not preach the fundamental truths of the Bible?

**ANSWER:** There are some important issues in your letter.

First, what is more fundamental in the Christian religion than love? This is the main theme of the New Testament. It is the fulfilling of the law, the very essence of God, and greater than hope and faith.

Second, the passage in 2 Corinthians about not being "unequally yoked together with unbelievers" has been used to prove many different things. By it some say that Christians should not marry non-Christians. Others say that believers should not be business partners with unbelievers. They seem to have overlooked the word "unequally."

Third, you are right about apostasy today. Many churches are focused on condemning folk customs, and arguing about the wording of doctrines, instead of "judgment, mercy, and faith" (Matt. 23:23).

The pastor is responsible to God, or he is a mere reflection of public opinion. Stand by him as God's man, love him as God's undershepherd, and set a good example of spiritual living. ■

(Address questions to Dr. Hudson, 116 W. 47th Street, Kansas City 12, Mo.)

# Season's Greetings

from your

## Student Department

Mrs. Joe Simmons

Neil Jackson

Carol Burns

Jim Boyd

Juanita Straubie

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Mrs. Paul Lewis

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