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### June 28, 1956

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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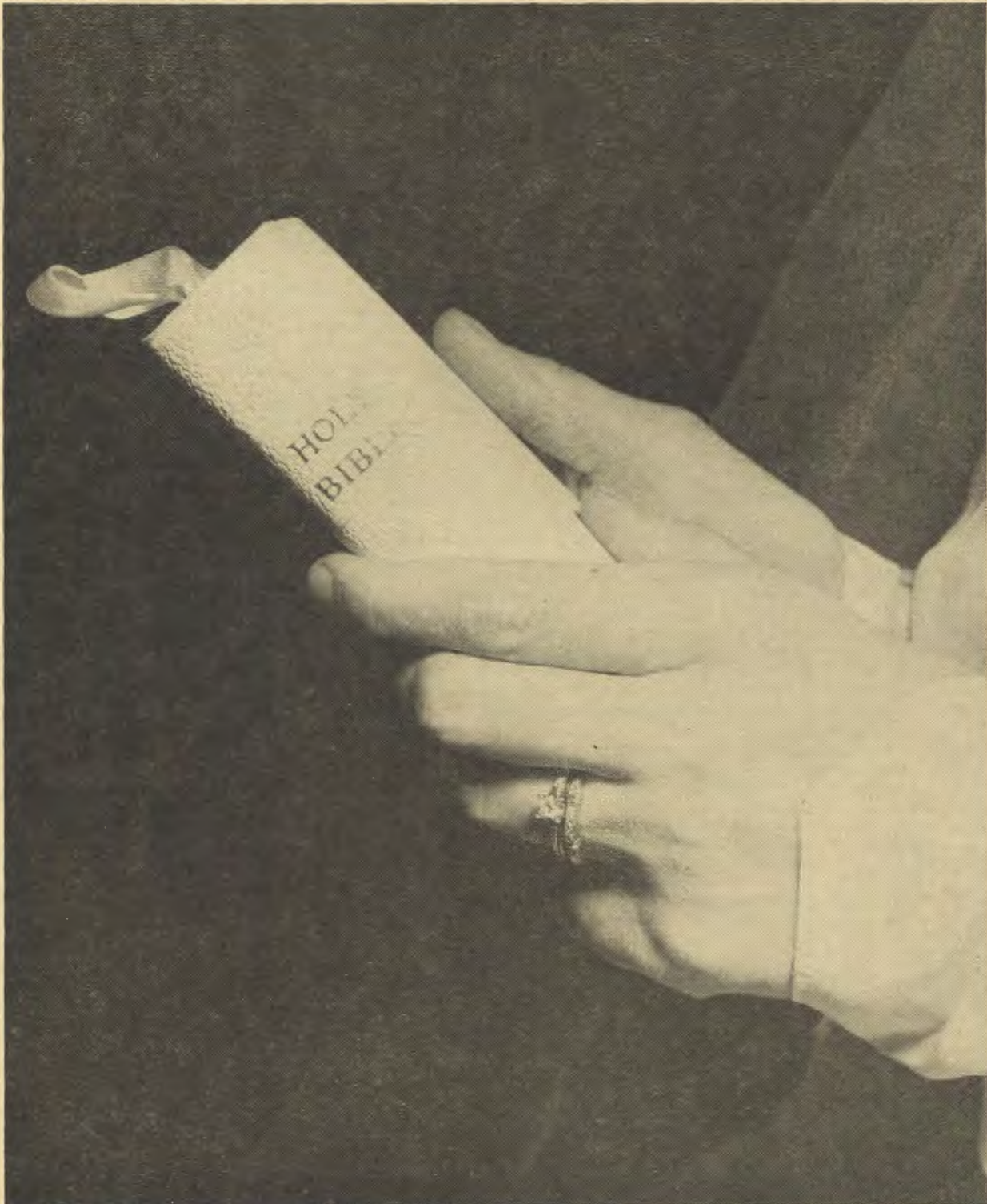
# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 55

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JUNE 28, 1956

NUMBER 26



Walter Hering Photo

## **The Tradition of the June Bride**

*The Bible — The Basis for a Successful Marriage  
and a Happy Family Life.*

# Should S. B. C. Sponsor State Hospitals?

By LOUIE D. NEWTON

While the action of the recent Convention in Kansas City, agreeing, in its first vote, to sponsor a hospital at Miami, is fresh in memory, I raise the question: Should the Southern Baptist Convention undertake to build and operate hospitals on state levels?

The Convention answered this question in 1949, adopting the recommendation of a committee appointed in 1948 to study the whole question of hospital policy, as follows:

"That as a policy, Southern Baptists should not acquire additional hospitals in the immediate future; and, as a general policy, hospitals should be owned and operated by State Conventions and local Associations, rather than acquiring additional hospitals to be operated by the Southern Baptist Convention."

The Convention was already committed to operate a hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, when this study was made and this policy was adopted. But in the face of this adopted policy, the Convention in Miami, in 1955, voted to establish and operate a hospital in California; and at Kansas City, in 1956, the Convention again voted to establish and operate a hospital in Miami, Florida. Indeed, the action at Kansas City may have committed the Convention to establish and operate two hospitals in Miami, one in the city and one some miles from the city. Of course, the Convention must vote affirmatively again next year before it is finally bound on this matter, thanks to the Business and Financial Plan.

## Why Did the Convention Say "No" in 1949?

It is always a healthy exercise for Baptists to read the minutes of the previous meeting. If you will examine the record of the Convention and its Executive Committee, during the 40's, you will discover that there was a trend toward expansion of the Southern Baptist Hospital into the states. I will not ask for space to recite the record, but it is available for any who want it. This trend led the Convention to appoint a committee to make a study of the whole matter. The committee was composed of Perry Crouch, chairman, A. D. Foreman, Sr., Dick H. Hall, R. Kelly White, Frank Samford, Wallace R. Rogers and J. D. Grey. I have above cited the gist of their report, which was adopted.

The committee pointed out the fact that practically every state had its own hospital program, with the further obvious and unanswerable argument that management of hospitals is, necessarily, an intricate and constant responsibility, requiring local and personal attention. Those of us who have had extended experience in the operation of hospitals fully appreciate this vital point.

Again, the Convention had had a taste of this business of expanding the Hospital at New Orleans into the states in the San Antonio venture, and that was another reason why it adopted the policy of 1949. The Convention's Hospital Board finally agreed to pay Texas Baptists \$200,000 to take over the San Antonio venture. The Hospital Board still owes Texas Baptists \$40,000.

## The Jacksonville Hospital

Already committed to operate a hospital in Jacksonville, provided the local community would raise the money for the buildings, the Convention found itself against the wall in 1952, in Miami, when the Hospital Board reported that it would have to have \$750,000 to finish the building. This loan was assumed by the Convention, though the Hospital Board had stated in writing that the Convention would never be called on for capital funds. A few months later the Hospital Board went to the Executive Committee and asked for another \$750,000 to complete the building, and at Kansas City, the Hospital Board reported a building debt at Jacksonville of \$1,500,000 and an operating deficit of 60-odd thousand dollars. The hospital was opened in September, 1955. That story, added to the San Antonio story, should be sufficient reason for Southern Baptists to stay out of the business of building and operating hospitals on state levels.

Even so, the Convention voted in 1955 to sponsor a hospital in California, and at Kansas City, with all these facts before us, the Convention again voted to sponsor another hospital in Florida. The California commitment is automatically released by the inability of the brethren there to raise the funds they had promised.

We all believe in a hospital ministry as an essential expression of Christ's command, "Heal the sick;" but wouldn't it be well if the Convention observed its action of 1949, leaving to the states their responsibility in this matter?

## "Our God Is Able"

By JIM HEFLEY

What a whopper! To even suggest that three Hebrews escaped from a fiery furnace without being scarred sounds incredible. But God's Word says in Daniel 3:26: "Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, came forth of the midst of the fire." Unbelievable you say. Hear the testimony of the archaeologist.

Dr. Harry Rimmer tells of the discovery of a firing kiln shaped like an ancient beehive. The inscription on the kiln read thus: "This is the place of burning where men who blaspheme the gods of Chaldea died by fire."

If we modern Christians had more of the faith of the three Hebrew captives who said: "Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace," then we would trust God more in the trials of life.

Now again the excavator speaks. In Babylon another furnace pit was found along with declarations from the rulers telling of

a custom to burn their enemies in a fiery furnace. Excavator George Rawlinson tells of an inscription that speaks of men who did not burn in the fire with their Lord.

The Apostle Peter gives us, for our encouragement, these words: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." (I Peter 4:12, 13).

## No Paper, July 4

According to a long standing custom, there will be no Arkansas Baptist published the week of July 4.

## Man's Approach To God

A Devotion By The Editor

"Come boldly unto the throne of grace."

Surely we must be amazed when we seriously consider the forces of moral persuasion which God has employed to induce human beings to approach Him with glad and confident faith and expectation. It is no less astounding to take account of the rich and ample provision He has made for all those who respond to His appeals.

Germany, by diplomatic pressure and military force, compelled the countries of Europe to bow in submission to her will. Japan subdued the smaller countries near her and undertook to conquer China. The Soviet Union has imposed a humiliating treaty upon the nations of Eastern Europe. Germany, Japan, and Russia have used force of the most cruel kind and brought devastation, hunger, suffering, and death to the peoples whom they subdued.

God is trying to bring the whole world to bow before His majesty and take the vow of allegiance to Him. But instead of diplomacy He offers forgiveness; instead of force He offers love; instead of bondage He offers freedom; instead of hunger He offers plenty; instead of death He offers life.

And God has put within the heart of man a spark of immortality, the stamp of His own personality and nature. This image of the divine gives to man a natural impulse, an inner prompting, a longing within his heart to seek God. And when the heart of man comes to know God in intimate relationship there is a sense of peace, congeniality, and kinship which makes one feel at home with God.

God has surrounded man with a natural environment which is powerful in its appeal, daily repeating God's invitation to come to Him for life's satisfactions.

There is a whole world of spiritual realities and forces which are even more powerful in their appeal to man to seek the companionship of God and find in and through Him an outlet for the full powers of life.

The invitation has gone out, "come boldly unto the throne of grace." It is being relayed by every Christian voice and echoed from every Christian heart. Those who hear the call and whose hearts answer, "I will," are joining the ranks and marching to that throne of grace. Those who refuse to listen must turn a deaf ear to their own hearts, to the voice of nature, and to the call of untold spiritual forces about them.

"Let us come boldly to the throne of grace: that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in every time of need" (Hebrew 4:16).

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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## From The Editor's Desk

# A Danger Signal Ahead

We publish on page two an article by Dr. Louie D. Newton, and on page nine another by Dr. Forrest C. Feezor, Executive Secretary of the Baptist Convention of Texas, who deal with the matter of these gift hospitals to the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Newton cites some facts which should give pause to the Southern Baptist Convention in considering the taking over of any other hospitals within the Southern Baptist Convention territory. We suggest that our readers turn to Dr. Newton's article and read it very carefully and consider seriously the facts there presented.

### California

Last year when the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Miami voted favorably on taking over a hospital in California, I wrote an editorial opposing the Southern Baptist Convention acquiring more hospitals and suggested that hospitals should be operated by the state's instead of the Southern Baptist Convention. The California proposition did not materialize because the California constituency were not able to live up to their bargain. The Southern Baptist Convention already has sponsored the hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, which has an indebtedness of more than one and one-half million dollars. The new proposals would establish and operate two hospitals in Miami, Florida. The vote at Kansas City was favorable but fortunately there is a second vote to be taken on this proposition at the next Convention. It is hoped that during the year between the meetings of the Conventions, there will be time for serious thought and a wise decision. Again we reiterate our contention that hospitals should be owned and operated by states, and that the Southern Baptist Convention should not undertake to establish hospitals in the states of the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. A start unfortunately, we feel, has been

made. Unless the movement is stopped there is no end in sight.



### Mortgage On Income of Churches

Let us look a little deeper into the problems involved when an institution of the Convention, whether it be a hospital or other institution or agency, becomes involved with indebtedness. When any institution of the Convention, whether it be hospital, mission board, or seminary, borrows money, it at once becomes an indebtedness of the Southern Baptist Convention. Southern Baptists have a record for paying their debts. That is why it is so easy for Southern Baptist institutions and agencies to borrow money. The lending agencies know that the Southern Baptist Convention is behind its institutions and will stand good for every dollar of the indebtedness.

But we may ask, where does the Convention get its money, not only for operating expenses and capital needs, but to pay debts on its institutions. The only source of reve-

nue for the Southern Baptist Convention's operating budget, capital needs, and debts, is the income of the local churches that cooperate with the Convention. Therefore, every dollar of indebtedness on an agency or institution of the Southern Baptist Convention constitutes a mortgage on the income of the local Baptist churches throughout the Convention.

### Red Light Ahead

Now for a glance at the income of the local Baptist churches which co-operate with the Southern Baptist Convention. Most of these churches are already mortgaged to the hilt for buildings to meet the local challenge of the church and to expand the local church's program. The church property is mortgaged in order to secure funds to erect new buildings to meet the needs of an expanding program. But that isn't all. The money lenders from whom the local churches secure the funds to erect new buildings do not want the church property. They want the income of the church week by week. In fact, the bonding companies that have worked with the churches in securing funds for building new and larger churches have it stipulated in the contract that so much of the weekly income of the church is to be set aside for payment of principle and interest on the money borrowed. This money that is to be set aside out of the income of the church week by week is to be taken out first before any bills are paid. This money must be set aside before the pastor is paid, before the janitor is paid, before the light bill is paid, and significantly enough before the allocation in the church budget to the denominational program is met.

This is not a criticism of our churches in expanding their program and expanding their building facilities in order to meet the needs of their expanded program, but it seems to me that this very fact is the flash of a red light in the face of the Southern Baptist Convention and its agencies and institutions warning the Convention and its institutions against any other mortgage on the income of the local church.

We had better heed the danger signal while we can. There is extreme danger in running a red light.

## The Autonomy of Other Baptist Bodies

*(This is the third in a series of studies of Baptist church polity.)*

We have already spoken of the autonomy of the local Baptist church. We have stated that this principle of autonomy obtains in all Baptist bodies. It should be stated and clearly understood, however, that autonomy does not mean infallibility. While Baptist bodies are autonomous and not subject to control by any outside force, this does not mean that Baptist churches and other Baptist bodies cannot make mistakes. In fact, there are too many mistakes made by Baptist churches and other Baptist organizations to claim infallibility. The mistakes and errors we make are the price of our democracy.

Just as the local church is autonomous and not subject to control by any other body, so are associations, state conventions, and the Southern Baptist Convention. These bod-

ies are made up not of churches but of messengers from churches. These messengers have no authority to control their churches through convention or associational action, nor do the churches have any authority over associations or conventions; nor does one association have authority over another association or over a convention; nor does one convention have authority over associations or over another convention. Each association and convention is an autonomous body, taking orders from no one.

A case in point where a state attempted to dictate to an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention was the case of Kansas which protested the invitation extended to the mayor of Kansas City to deliver the welcome

address at the recent session of the Convention in that city. The program committee was acting within its rights when it refused or ignored the Kansas protest and the Convention was acting within its rights when it approved the program submitted by the program committee, which program included an address by the mayor of Kansas City.

It is not often that one of our Baptist bodies seeks to control or issue orders to another Baptist body, but the few times that the brethren in one Baptist body have so forgotten that principle of autonomy as to seek to influence or control some other Baptist body should serve to keep us forever alert to this danger that we may hold inviolate the autonomy of our Baptist organizations from the local church to the associations, state conventions, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

# Kingdom Progress

## Harrison, First, Builds Mission



Groundbreaking ceremonies were held at the close of the morning worship service of First Church, Harrison, May 27 for the mission sponsored by the First Church. Construction has already begun to provide for 225 in Sunday school and worship services.

In the picture are, left to right: Ben H. Beene, chairman of the board of deacons; Merle Milligan, chairman of the Missions Committee; Lehman F. Webb, pastor; Roland Lundquist, first Sunday school superintendent at the mission; and T. C. Heuer, the present superintendent.

The ceremonies were held on the third

anniversary of the groundbreaking for the new building at First Church. Pastor Webb states: "Our church will ever be indebted to Dr. L. B. Golden and the State Missions Department for the fine work Dr. Golden did in making a survey of mission territory and the weeks of leadership he gave our church and mission."

Pat Murray, son of Judge and Mrs. Woody Murray of Harrison, is serving as pastor of the mission during the summer months. He will return to Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, in September to resume studies. He is a second year student.

## Minister Ordained

Delaplaine Church, Greene County Association, ordained their pastor, Owen Ring, to the full gospel ministry, Sunday, May 13.

The ordaining council was composed of J. W. Richardson, who served as clerk; Amos Greer, associational missionary, who served as moderator and conducted the examination; Charles Abanathy, who offered the prayer; O. C. Wright, who presented the Bible; and A. C. Rudloff, who delivered the charge to the church and candidate. Others on the council were Emmett Pipkins and James Compton.

## B.S.U. Director Serves On Medical School Campus

Dr. Tom J. Logue, Arkansas B. S. U. Director, recently served as one of the principal speakers at the religious Emphasis Week at the University of Tennessee Medical School. This spring Dr. Logue spoke on similar programs at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, University of Arkansas, Arkansas Baptist Hospital, and Ouachita Baptist College.

## John Post Goes to Hot Springs

Park Place Church, Hot Springs, recently called John Post, minister of music and education of First Church, Mena, to become assistant pastor. Mr. Post will assume his duties on the new field July 1.

The Park Place Church will entertain Central Association in their new auditorium, October 18, for the annual associational meeting. The pastor, James H. Fitzgerald, has been elected moderator of the association to fill out the unexpired term of Dillard Miller, who recently resigned the pastorate of First Church, Bauxite, to accept First Church, Mena.

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## Preacher Available

Riley Munday, former B.S.U. Secretary for Arkansas, is available for supply work. Can go anywhere in the State. Pho. MOhawk 3-3331; write 2515 Durwood Road, Little Rock.

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"Faith must be a venture in divine and human relationships; it must be something that we will dare to step forth on."

—H. Guy Moore

## Minister Ordained



ALEX HAMIL

Alex Hamil, son of Mrs. Ruby Hawkins, of Fort Smith, was ordained by the Temple Baptist Church in Fort Smith on June 24. Mr. Hamil is a student at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, and the pastor of the Gilead Baptist Church, Tobinsport, Indiana. He expects to receive the Bachelor of Divinity degree from the Seminary next January.

E. R. Adams, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church, was in charge of the ordination service.

## Have You Returned Anti-Gambling Petitions?

"Baptist pastors hold an important key in assuring that the Anti-Racing Council's proposed amendment to outlaw racing is on the November ballot."

These words came from Paul Meers, Director of the council, as he urged pastors of Baptist churches over the state to return petitions sent to their churches at once.

Mr. Meers said that over 28,000 signatures have been received in the state office. This is just 5,000 shy of the number needed to place the amendment on the ballot, but officials of the council are hoping to have about 50,000 signatures prior to the deadline for filing. Such a number would make an attack on the validity of the petitions practically useless.

Tom Digby, North Little Rock attorney serving as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Anti-Racing Council, said: "We are most appreciative of the support given this movement by the Baptists. Their support is invaluable. We feel, however, that many of the petitions that have been signed are still in the churches. Please send them in today."

Pastors were urged by both Mr. Meers and Mr. Digby to check on the petitions being filled out correctly and completely. Many of those being sent in have contained errors that necessitated their being returned to the circulators.

The more common errors include failure to fill in the voting precinct blank, the circulator's signing on the wrong blank, failure to have the petition notarized.

"This movement is one designed to make Arkansas a better place to live," Mr. Meers reminded. "And Baptists in our state have always backed such movements wholeheartedly. We don't think they'll let us down this time!"

**Leslie Pastor****DON JONES**

Don Jones, who has been serving the Holland Church, Faulkner Association, for the past year has resigned to accept the pastorate of First Church, Leslie. He is a graduate of the Crossett high school, and was ordained to the ministry by First Church, Arkadelphia, while a student in Ouachita College twelve years ago.

Mr. Jones closed a five year pastorate of the Holland church in 1948 when he became the pastor of the Pleasant Grove Church near Conway, where he served for three years. He resigned this pastorate to return to Holland.

Mr. Jones succeeds Dale Barnett at Leslie who resigned last April to accept the pastorate of First Church, Hoxie. Jones will begin his work in Leslie the first Sunday in July.

**Teacher Training Approval Gained For Ouachita**

Ouachita College has been accepted for teacher training in vocational home economics, according to word received by President Ralph Phelps from Mr. Arch Ford, commissioner of education.

The approval was granted by the State Board of Education meeting on June 14.

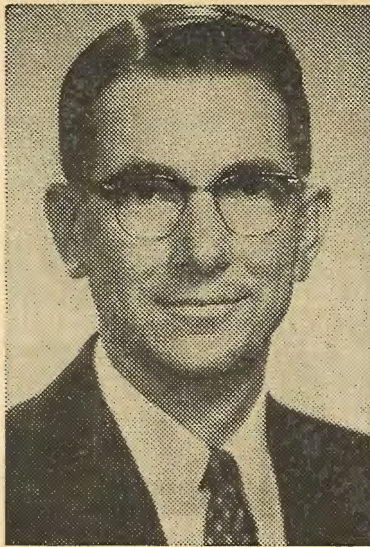
Action which recognizes Ouachita's Department of Home Economics for vocational training was recommended by Miss Ata Lee of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, and Miss Alma Kees, supervisor of home economics, State Department of Education, Little Rock.

Mrs. A. H. Thomas, chairman of Ouachita's department, led in the expansion of the department to the point that this recognition could be given, Dr. Phelps, stated.

A grant of \$7,800 has been made to Ouachita College by the Fund for the Advancement of Education in order to facilitate a self-study of educational gains made under the Arkansas Experiment in Teacher Education, according to word received by Dr. Ralph Phelps.

Particular attention will be given to an evaluation of the college's general education program, to an enumeration of gains made under the Arkansas Experiment in Teacher Education, and to a projected plan for preserving and enlarging these gains.

Dr. Phelps indicated that Ouachita is especially pleased to receive the grant since it will make possible a much more thorough study than would otherwise have been possible.

**New Orleans Professor****DR. R. E. GLAZE, JR.**

Dr. R. E. Glaze, Jr., for the last three years teacher of Bible at Louisiana College, began work at New Orleans Seminary on June 5, 1956.

He is an additional teacher for the new School of Christian Training. Dr. Glaze will teach in the field of New Testament, in which he majored when he took his Th.D. degree from New Orleans Seminary in 1952. He is one of four teachers already assigned to this new and growing part of the seminary, which has been designed especially to serve students who are not college graduates. There were a couple of hundred enrolled in the session just completed, and an increasing enrolment is expected in the future. A new class room building, to help make possible class work entirely separate from that of the other students with Greek, Hebrew, baccalaureate degrees, etc., is being projected.

—Robert C. Buckner  
Public Relations

**Church Public Relations Workshop Conferences****A New Approach**

At Glorieta, July 12-18, and at Ridgecrest, August 23-29, the Sunday School Board announces in connection with Bible Conference Week a series of special Church Public Relations Workshop Conferences.

The particular appeal for attendance is to pastors, educational directors, state and Convention-wide denominational workers of all types, church secretaries, church clerks, church publicity committee chairmen, chairmen of deacons, etc.

Public relations is a comparatively new profession, as such. It is making great strides and commanding much attention. Human relations is nothing new. "Do right and tell the people" is not a new idea or new slogan. However, with all of the changing and developing means of communication, and with new ideas about finding out what our various publics think of us so that we can improve our "foot" and then "set it forward," there are vital matters in this field which are worthy of the careful study and attention of our leaders.

These workshop conferences at Glorieta and Ridgecrest will be under the direction of H. E. Ingraham, director of the Service Division of the Sunday School Board. Program personalities will include Leonard Holloway, public relations director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas; Art Dav-

**Minister Ordained****MARVIN BOSWELL**

Marvin Boswell was ordained to the gospel ministry by First Church, Leslie, Sunday, April 15.

L. C. Tilley, pastor of Lexington and St. Joe Churches, served as moderator of the ordaining council; F. Guy Mabrey served as clerk. J. A. Hogan, pastor of First Church, Marshall, conducted the examination. Dale Barnett, pastor of First Church, Leslie, delivered the sermon. Barton Massey presented the Bible. Thomas Simmons, pastor of Plant Church offered the ordination prayer.

Mr. Boswell is serving at present as pastor of the Alco Mission, Alco, which is sponsored by the Leslie church.

**Missionaries Honored**

Central Church, Hot Springs, honored Don and Vi Orr with a Silver Tea, Sunday afternoon, June 24. The Orrs are music and education missionaries on furlough from Cali, Colombia. They will return to the mission field this summer.

Mr. Orr is the son of the late Roy Orr and Lola Orr. He is a graduate of Ouachita College, Arkadelphia, and Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Mrs. Orr is the daughter of a Baptist preacher in Texas. They have two sons. They have been busy filling engagements in the churches and on denominational programs while on furlough.

enport, public relations director for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma; Ben C. Fisher, public relations faculty member of the Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina; and other specialists with large experience in this new approach. A number of Sunday School Board staff members functioning in this field will also participate. These will include J. P. Edmunds, Herman Burns, H. E. Ingraham, Agnes Ford, W. D. Kendall, and others.

Albert McClellan, publicity director for the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, will bring several messages and Studies. Special speakers will include W. A. Criswell, James L. Sullivan, and others.

A main feature of the program at both assemblies will be a Church Public Relations Experience study conducted by Leonard Holloway and based on his experience with the First Baptist Church, of Greenville, Texas, which is now in progress. This will be an actual experience study of all angles and approaches which are being helpfully used in his work with that church.

# ★ ★ ★ Christian Horizons ★ ★ ★

By Religious News Service

## Says California Has Most Un-Churched People

There are "more unchurched people in California than anywhere in America," Methodist Bishop Donald H. Tippett of San Francisco said.

The Methodist Church in California thus faces its "greatest evangelist opportunity in history," he told the denomination's California-Nevada Conference at its annual meeting.

This opportunity, the bishop added, is all the greater because of the rapid increase in California's population.

He noted that the population had grown 23 per cent in the past five years but pointed out that membership in The Methodist Church during this period increased only 8.3 per cent.

Last year the Church gained 14,025 new members but lost 8,791. The new total is 105,786.

Bishop Gerald Kennedy of Los Angeles told the delegates that the Church "owes a great deal to doubt and skepticism."

Not only science, but religious faiths have grown, he said, because "we have taken nothing for granted but have given them the rigorous examination of reason."

## Predicts Graham Crusade Will Win New Yorkers For Churches

Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, minister of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, said that Billy Graham's forthcoming crusade in New York City would inspire and reactivate "thousands of church members" and win people "who never darken the doors of churches."

Mr. Graham is scheduled to start an eight-week mission in May, 1957, at the invitation of the Protestant Council of the City of New York. Dr. Bonnell is a member of the council's executive committee.

Citing the "need for a new evangelical passion in our midst," Dr. Bonnell described Mr. Graham as a "man raised up and equipped of God to bring the Gospel of Christ to this bewildered, frustrated and lost generation."

"Nowhere is Mr. Graham's message more sorely needed than in New York City," he said.

## Presbyterians Ask Conference With Hierarchy of Colombian 'Persecution'

A resolution urging the Canadian Council of Churches "to confer with the Roman Catholic hierarchy in this country" over alleged "continuous persecution" of Protestants in Colombia was unanimously adopted by the 82nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Assembly recommended that such a conference should "examine or discover the facts in the allegations, attempt a joint interpretation of the findings and, if necessary, take such steps as an on-the-spot investigation."

It further proposed that the council and the Canadian bishops "suggest to national governments or ecclesiastical leaders a plan to bring to a desirable end all persecutions directed against religious minorities or majorities."

The resolution was presented by Dr. John McNab, editor of the Presbyterian Record, official organ of the Church.

## Ohio Survey Shows Need For Better Church Broadcasts

The Ohio Council of Churches said a state-wide survey showed there is a need for a more adequate presentation of religion on radio and television.

Too many religious programs of inferior quality are being broadcast, the council said. And too many programs are aired on Sundays and not enough during the week, it said.

## Graham Russian Crusade Unlikely

Obstacles to a Russian visit by evangelist Billy Graham are almost insurmountable, the leader of a visiting delegation of Soviet Baptists said in San Francisco.

Dr. Jakov Zhidkov said he met Mr. Graham in London last year and discussed the matter of his touring Russia, but no decision was made.

When pressed by reporters he explained that there are no suitable auditoriums in Russia for such a religious crusade.

"The athletic fields," Dr. Zhidkov said in answer to another query, "are in the hands of labor unions."

"It would take years to get arrangements for the fields," he added.

Dr. Zhidkov is president of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians (Baptists).

## Senate Approves 'Pray For Peace' Postmark

The Senate unanimously approved and sent to the President for signature a bill authorizing a "Pray for Peace" postmark on all mail in first and second class post offices.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Louis C. Rabaut (D.-Mich.), had previously passed the House.

Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D.-Ore.) presented a statement from the Senate Post Office Committee saying "It was felt that the use of cancellation stamps bearing the words 'Pray for Peace' would encourage the great body of our people to do so and to work actively toward its accomplishment."

The committee said it "considered that the thing of most importance in the unsettled world of today is peace, and that any action we take toward achieving it is worthwhile."

## May Church Construction Ahead of April

Church construction totalled \$56,000,000 in May, an increase of \$3,000,000 over April, the Departments of Commerce and Labor reported. However, the figure was \$2,000,000 less than May of last year.

Building by non-public schools and colleges reached \$42,000,000, a gain of \$2,000,000 over April and of \$5,000,000 over May, 1955.

On the other hand, construction by private hospitals and institutions, most of which are church-related, continued to lag behind the 1955 mark. The May total was \$24,000,000, the same as in April but \$6,000,000 less than a year ago.

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## SABBATH OBSERVANCE

Believe it or not my memory goes all the way back to the time when the day of rest was Sunday rather than Monday.

—Uncle Levi Zink, Farm Journal

# A Smile or Two

A couple of secretaries were comparing notes on their respective bosses. "Well," commented one, "my boss' dictation isn't too bad—but you have to take a lot for granted."

Overheard: Lady buying fishing license, answering routine questions as to height, weight, color of eyes — color of hair? asked the clerk. (Head wrapped neatly in a silk scarf). Said the lady, "It's brown this week."

## Observation of 4-year-old

Returning home from a ten day vacation with grand parents, climbed into chair and addressed its mother: "Granddaddy said you all were trying to make a nice girl out of me" . . . (chuckle, chuckle) . . . "but I'm not letting you, am I?"

Two farmers were riding down the road. Side by side they sat, both looking worried, and both remaining silent. Finally, one gave a deep sigh.

The other studied him for a moment, and said, "You're telling me!"

—Quote

The modern young man doesn't leave footprints on the sands of time. Just tire tracks.

—Indianapolis Times

A real test of maturity is the ability to remain equally unruffled when the elevator boy calls you "Pop" and the Senior Partner calls you "Sonny."

—Ivern Boyett

While conducting services in a strange church, a Sunday School leader asked me to present an object lesson to the boys and girls. Using the familiar lesson of the peanut, I sought to illustrate the importance and power of faith. When I had finished speaking, the leader arose to conclude the meeting. I was a little startled to hear him say, "We are thankful for the lesson from this nut."

—Harold C. Howard

Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, Army Chief of Staff, said he first became interested in soldiering as a boy in Missouri, by talking to his grandfather (a Confederate) about the Civil War. "I remember asking him," Taylor related, "what branch of the service he was in. 'Oh,' he said, 'I was in the cavalry until my horse died. After that, I was in the infantry.'"

—Quote, Washington Bureau

Comment on current styles overheard in an elevator: First girl: "In that big hat she bought she looks exactly like a mushroom." Second girl: "I know. The poisonous kind."

—Montrealer

Walking thru a hotel lobby the other day, we found ourself trailing a couple of ladies who were conversing in broad Southern accents. "I just telephoned Alice," one of them was saying, "and she's dreadfully disturbed. She and Bill so wanted some good water on their place, and now they've struck some more oil. They'll wind up living in a hotel in Houston."

—New Yorker

## GARDENING

Roses are red —violets blue — but the ones we planted —never grew!

—Quote

## News From Baptist Press

### First Lady of the Woman's Missionary Union

By JACK HARWELL

Meet the new president of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention — Mrs. R. L. Mathis, of Waco.

Born Marie Wiley at Bellevue, Tex., she is one of two daughters of T. D. and Callie S. Wiley. She received her elementary and secondary school education in Wichita Falls, Tex.

At Southern Methodist University, Dallas, where she went to college, Mrs. Mathis majored in personnel management. She has since received an honorary doctor of laws degree, on the occasion of her addressing the graduating class of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Tex., in August, 1955.

She set two "firsts" in her appearance at Hardin-Simmons: It was the first time the college had given an honorary degree to a woman and it was the first time a woman had served as commencement speaker.

She married Robert Lee Mathis, now dead, and they have a daughter, Mrs. Jane Coffey. Mrs. Mathis speaks with pride of her grandson, Danny.

It was at Henderson, Tex., where Mr. Mathis was in the oil business, that Mrs. Mathis accepted a place of service in her church as young people's leader and chairman of benevolence for the state Woman's Missionary Union. This was the start of her long record of devoted service to God and her denomination.

In 1938, she was elected young people's secretary of the Texas WMU and in 1945 became state executive secretary-treasurer. In 1947, Mrs. Mathis resigned to go to First Baptist Church, Dallas.

She was elected president of the Texas WMU in 1949 and served in that office until last year. She is now director of Baylor University's student union building.

Because she was state president, Mrs. Mathis also held one of the several vice-presidencies of the WMU of the Southern Baptist Convention. The women attending the 1956 WMU session at Kansas City, Mo., elected her president to succeed Mrs. George R. Martin, of Norfolk, Va., who retired from the office.

The list of committees and boards which she has been a member of in Southern Baptist life is long — member of the Foreign Mission Board, chairman of Southwestern Baptist Seminary advisory board, member of the executive board of Baptist General Convention of Texas, treasurer of North American Baptist Women's Union, member of Southern Baptist Executive Committee; and member of SBC committee on theological education.

Mrs. Mathis received another honor when she retired as young people's secretary in Texas. Baptist women in Texas designated a portion of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds for foreign missions to build the Marie Mathis Chapel on the campus of the Baptist orphans' home in Rome, Italy.

She has contributed articles to many Southern Baptist periodicals. She has toured various Convention missionary fields, bringing back with her inspiration and information to share with many Woman's Missionary societies.

The same Mrs. Mathis that can grace any position with dignity and preside with charm and poise, can also rough it at a Young Woman's Auxiliary camp. She is known, too, for her quick sense of humor and sympathetic heart.

### Counseling Conference Program Is Arranged

Aaron L. Rutledge, leader of counseling service and counseling training program, Merrill-Palmer School, Detroit, will be guest speaker for a Southern Baptist Conference on Counseling in Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 1-2.

Rutledge is a Southern Baptist himself and a graduate of Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville. He is among 17 persons who have parts on the conference program.

A. C. Miller, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, Nashville, said the conference will help meet a growing need in the denomination for a highly-specialized counseling ministry.

The Christian Life Commission is one of several sponsoring agencies. About 60 to 75 denominational leaders are expected to be present.

### Convention Assets At Record \$131 Million

Assets of Southern Baptist Convention agencies increased more than \$20 million during the past year to a record total of \$131,241,242, according to Treasurer Porter Routh.

During the same 12-month period, ending Dec. 31, 1955, liabilities increased only a little over \$3 million to \$7,417,644.

This financial statement, based on the annual audits of each of the more than 20 agencies, reflects the "good condition" of the Convention, Routh declared.

"Even with \$131 million in assets," Routh added, "the strength of the Southern Baptist Convention does not lie in the accumulation of property and reserve. Rather the strength of the Convention lies in the concern of Southern Baptists to find direction and power from the Holy Spirit, and to find motivation in world mission needs."

The only institution of the Convention showing an operating deficit for 1955 was the new Baptist Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla., Routh said. The hospital opened during the summer of 1955 and the deficit was attributed to its opening and the fact that it was in operation only four months before the audit was taken.

New Orleans Baptist Seminary, New Orleans, La., was the only institution which showed a decrease in assets. This, according to Routh, was due to the seminary's selling of its old campus property. The old campus was listed on seminary accounts at more value than the actual sale price.

The major factors which brought about the net increase of \$17 million in assets were listed by Routh as: (1) building up reserves by the Relief and Annuity Board; (2) assets of the Jacksonville Hospital (\$5 million) being turned over to the Convention by a local committee; (3) increased business of the Baptist Sunday School Board; (4) capital additions to the five Convention seminaries through the Cooperative Program.

The increase in liabilities occurred because the Home Mission Board borrowed \$1½ million which in turn it is loaning for church expansion in new areas, and because the hospital at Jacksonville has a \$1½ million self-liquidating loan.

Assets of the Convention's agencies have steadily risen in the last 25 years while liabilities have more or less remained constant. The first complete listing of assets and liabilities of all agencies was in the 1931 Convention annual — \$24,791,000 in assets and \$5,972,000 in liabilities.

## Counselor's Corner

By DR. R. LOFTON HUDSON

### Song Title Sermons

**Question:** What do you think of the practice of using popular song titles as the title of sermons? Our pastor often does this and it seems to me to cheapen his preaching.

**Answer:** It seems to me that the real question is which song titles he used and what he made out of them.

Preaching is serious business but it does not need to be somber or sad.

After all, the title of a sermon need not tell you all that the sermon is about. It is rather an attention-getter, and should point in the direction of the theme.

Two of the best church members I have, came to my church for the first time when they read in the newspaper that I was preaching on "Cross Over the Bridge." It was a sermon on the importance of decision. They were both deeply convicted and were later saved.

There is so much drabness and mediocrity in religion, for heaven's sake, don't discourage preachers who use attractive sermon titles. The average publisher would not think of using a manuscript which has as little imagination in its title as the average sermon title has.

There is such a thing as being interesting without being cheap.

(Address questions to Dr. Hudson, Wornall Road Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri.)



The Arkansas Baptist is the best enrollment agent I know anything about.

### New Budgets

Kibler Church, Alma; Clear Creek Asso.; Carl P. Nelson, pastor.

Ozone Church, Clear Creek Asso., Kenneth Brown, pastor; J. J. Anderson, Treas.

### New Clubs

First Church, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; Hubert G. Keefer, pastor.

Ebenezer Church, El Dorado; Liberty Asso., Jesse Kidd, pastor; Mrs. J. C. Parks, Treas.

### Subscription Analysis

Mt. Zion Asso., has 9 budgets; 11 clubs; 9 churches with neither

Newton County has 1 budget; 1 club; 3 with neither

Ouachita Asso., has 13 budgets; 7 clubs; 25 churches with neither.

Watch for the analysis of the churches of your association in future issues of the Arkansas Baptist. We are publishing the analysis with the hope that it may stimulate other churches to adopt the budget plan of subscriptions to the Arkansas Baptist.



## Minister of Music



CLARENCE S. WHITE

Mr. Clarence S. White assumed his duties as Minister of Music and Mrs. White as Church Organist at Beech Street Church, Texarkana, on June 1. They came to Beech Street from First Baptist Church, Duncan, Oklahoma.

Mr. White holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from Ouachita College, Arkadelphia, and Bachelor of Sacred Music and Master of Religious Education degrees from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Mrs. White holds the Bachelor of Music degree from Ouachita College. Prior to their ministry in Duncan, Oklahoma, they served four and one-half years at the Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Oklahoma City.

### Pastor Honored

Pastor R. E. Fowler and his family were honored recently by the Pleasant Valley Church in Little Red River Association on the occasion of his first anniversary as pastor. Missionary H. M. Duggar was the guest speaker for the occasion.

During the year of Pastor Fowler's ministry, there have been 20 additions to the church on profession of faith and baptism, 1 by letter, and 1 surrendered to missions. The Sunday school attendance has grown from 20 to 43. Eight per cent of the budget receipts is allocated to the Cooperative Program and three per cent to associational missions.

Certain improvements have been made to the building and plans are in the making for the erection of six new class rooms.

### Mission Pastor

First Church, Manila, has extended a call to Bob Woodiel as associate to Pastor Richard Vestal. He will serve the Beachamp Corner Mission. He goes to the Manila church from Rosa Church.

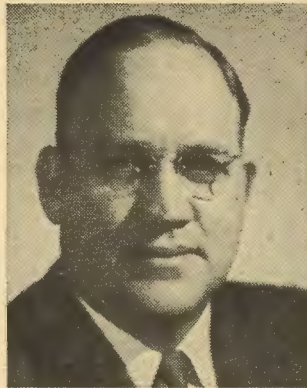
Mr. Woodiel is a graduate of Mississippi College, and has been in the active pastorate for eight years.

### Music Conference

The 16th annual Southern Baptist Music Leadership Conference, directed by W. Hines Sims and associates in the department of Church Music, began June 14 and closed June 20, at Ridgecrest.

Dr. W. Hines Simes, the director of the conference, is secretary of the department of church music of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Loren R. Williams, Clifford A. Holcomb, and William J. Reynolds assisted Dr. Sims in directing the conference.

## Contributing Author



DR. NOLAN B. HOWINGTON

Dr. Nolan B. Howington, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Little Rock, is one of the authors contributing to a book of fourteen sermons on current moral issues, *Christian Faith in Action*.

Compiled by Dr. Foy Valentine, executive secretary, Christian Life Commission of Texas Baptists, Dallas, the book was released by Broadman Press, Nashville, in time for sale at the Southern Baptist Convention book store in Kansas City May 30-June 2.

Planned to bolster the 1956 "Crusade for Christian Morality," some of the current moral issues discussed in the sermons are honesty, marriage, race prejudice, segregation, sex, divorce, citizenship responsibility, alcoholic beverage, juvenile delinquency, and separation of church and state.

## Seminary Professor



DR. WM. S. GARMON

Dr. Roland Q. Leavell, President of the New Orleans Seminary, has announced the appointment of Dr. William S. Garmon to the faculty of the new School of Christian Training. This is the wing of the seminary that has been called into being to train Christian workers who are non-college graduates.

Dr. Garmon will teach in the fields of social ethics and rural church work.

## Arkansans Graduate, New Orleans Seminary, May 11



WAYNE V. REID  
B.D. Degree  
Russellville



NANCY M. REID  
BRE Degree  
El Dorado



E. H. ELMORE  
B.D. Degree  
Portland

## Tennessee Executive Secretary Resigns

Dr. Charles W. Pope, Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention resigned at the Executive Board meeting on June 12 to retire.

Under Dr. Pope's leadership Tennessee Baptists have shown a marked growth in the 14 years he has served as executive secretary. The church membership has increased from 427,323 to 687,393. Cooperative Program receipts have shown an even more remarkable growth, \$381,393 to \$2,425,479 in 1955. Total contributions from \$681,666 to \$3,608,050.

The Executive Board voted to accept "with reluctance and regret and deep appreciation" Dr. Pope's resignation effective October 31, approved \$15,000 to buy him a home as a retirement gift and to retained him as consultant until January 1, 1957.

Dr. Pope is a native of Tallapoosa, Georgia. He attended elementary school in Steadman and graduated from Lanier High School in Macon. He has degrees from Mercer University in Macon, Mercer Seminary and the

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

In 1931 Carson-Newman College honored him with a Doctor of Divinity Degree, and in 1950 Cumberland University presented an LLD Degree.

Dr. Pope was instructor in missions, evangelism and Greek at Mercer in 1924-25. The following year he became pastor of Concord Baptist Church in Chattanooga. After a year there he moved to the pastorate of First Baptist Church in Jefferson City, remaining there 16 years until he became Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Secretary.

Dr. and Mrs. Pope, the former Mattie Mae Willoughby, also of Georgia, have 4 children: Hughlan W. Pope, Stanley H. Pope, Virginia Pope Jean, and Mary Elizabeth Pope Sanders.

The Board appointed a committee to recommend a new Executive Secretary.

—Tenn. Baptist Convention

# A Hospital Blunder

By FORREST C. FEEZOR, Executive Secretary  
Baptist General Convention of Texas

At the recent Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Roy Angel presented a request that the convention give approval to erect a hospital in Miami, Florida. He indicated that a donor was giving the land for the location. A local campaign would secure the remaining funds for the hospital. It would be presented to the convention for its operation. It was represented that the hospital would not cost the convention one dime. This I believe fairly states the proposition. And the proposition was given the first of a two years' approval required.

It needs to be observed that the Southern Baptist Convention already has one hospital located in Jacksonville, Florida. This I believe should have contented or satisfied the Florida brethren and the Southern Baptist Convention Hospital Commission.

It needs to be observed further that this Jacksonville hospital is reported in the convention **Book of Reports** as having an operating deficit of \$63,638.97 for 1955. To many of us who have to do with hospitals this deficit is no surprise. Who will make up this deficit? It can be hoped the Baptists of Jacksonville will do it and not call upon the convention to do it.

It needs further to be observed that the Southern Baptist Convention Hospital Commission undertook the operation of a hospital in San Antonio in 1951. The affairs of the hospital became so involved that to save the good name of Baptists, the Baptist General Convention of Texas took over the hospital. The Southern Baptist Convention Hospital Commission is still paying on this hospital deal. Moreover, Texas Baptists are contributing \$100,000 per year for its operation. So when it is revealed that the Jacksonville

hospital has a \$65,000 deficit, it comes as no surprise.

The Miami Convention may be sincere in saying it will cost Southern Baptists nothing to own and operate a second hospital in Florida, but this, I believe — they are grossly misguided. If it involves no cost and is only a matter of operation then why do the Miami brethren not offer it to the Florida Baptist Convention? That would be vastly more simple in operation. Hospital directors need frequent meetings. Obvious is the impracticability of a group of men from our vast convention territory trying to operate a chain of hospitals. The San Antonio hospital is proof enough.

This further, two Southern Baptist Convention hospitals in any state weakens the presentation of the Cooperative Program. The action of the convention in establishing a second hospital in Florida can cost the South-wide Cooperative Program \$50,000. Increased money for Southern Baptist Convention hospitals will be costly to home and foreign missions. It means a reduction from the allocation to missions for the hospital in a state which at most will serve a small area. This I believe is an unwise diversion of mission funds.

It is regretted that this matter was not given proper hearing. It could turn out to be a mistake most costly. I hope the Florida brethren will see the matter with all its implications.

Now let me give you an orchid from the garden of God's Word: "Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves" (Phil. 2:3).

—Baptist Standard

## New Hope Church

By V. C. WRIGHT

(A paper read at the dedication of the new church, May 20, 1956)

In 1846 when the number of settlers in what is now Clay County did not exceed 200, Peter Nichols, Watson Forrest, Bill Pollard, and a small group of others whose names time has erased, met in the log cabin home of one of the brethren and organized New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, and called Peter Nichols of Old Reyno their first pastor.

Immediately after the organization, these early Christians began to cut trees from the unbroken forest with which they erected the first house of worship for the New Hope Church, the second Baptist church and the second church of any kind built in Clay County. The first church was Salem, also a missionary Baptist church, near Boydsville. This log house with stick and clay chimney and open fireplace was erected about 100 feet southwest of the old frame building just removed. It was used until the early 1870's when the members, using a whipsaw, cut lumber and erected a building at the extreme northeast corner of the cemetery on the south side of the road.

In 1859 E. L. McElroy gave ten acres of land on which this church was located. Mr. McElroy died one year later. About 1906 the late Jack Pollard and Henry Holcomb, old time associates of Mr. McElroy, raised funds and erected a small monument to his grave. His brother, an ex-Confederate soldier who had lost one arm in the war and who was a Baptist preacher, came from his home in

Texas and preached the dedicatory sermon at the unweaving of his brother's gravestone.

When New Hope Church was organized, there were no roads, no bridges, no farms, and no schools in the county. Arkansas itself was only ten years old, and Clay County was not organized until more than a quarter of a century later. The county seat of this wilderness was at old Paris, some thirty miles farther down the ridge. Arkansas' first railroad had not been surveyed. Such were the conditions at the time of the organization of the New Hope Church.

In 1854 the messengers to the association were H. T. Allen, J. Nichols, and Henry Holcomb. The report of the financial committee shows collections for the year to be \$9.65. The association met with New Hope Church in 1854 and has met with the church several times since. In 1856 the membership of the church stood at 63.

Peter Nichols served the church as pastor for several years. He was also moderator of the association several different times. The association was known at that time as the Bethlehem United Baptist Association, now the Gainesville Association. Later Pete Nichols moved to Texas but returned to New Hope in his 99th year and being too feeble to stand, sat in a chair in the pulpit and delivered his sermon.

New Hope has always been strong in the Baptist faith and strict in her discipline. In the early days the records show that at

## Japanese Baptist Assembly Expects 13,000 Registrants

Japanese Baptists are getting ready for a record summer at their Amagi Baptist Assembly near Mount Fuji. Officials estimate registrations will exceed 13,000 this year. Registrations reached 9,000 in 1955.

Soon to be finished is the third major building on the assembly site located at the foot of the picturesque Amagi mountains. The \$25,000, two-story building provides additional dormitory facilities and two assembly rooms. A recreational area is also under construction. A master plan for the Amagi assembly development calls for a central cafeteria, chapel, outdoor amphitheater, and more dormitories.

Major meetings at Amagi this summer include the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting, the convention annual sessions, Training Union conference, kindergarten principal's conference, annual meeting of the Japan Baptist missionaries, youth retreat, and Royal Ambassador and Girl's Auxiliary conferences.

one time the church excluded more than half her membership for heresy. At numerous times other members were excluded from the fellowship of the church on various charges, such as adultery, lying, drinking, attending dances, and unbecoming conduct. However, it is noted that the majority of these excluded members came back to the church repenting and were restored to full fellowship. Holding membership in New Hope Church meant something in those days, it was a badge of real Christianity and moral character.

New Hope Church has always been missionary. This is evidenced by the many churches in this part of the county that owe their existence to the missionary effort of this mother church.

New Hope Church has been a quarter-time church for most of her life, the meeting days being the third Sunday and the Saturday before in each month. But now New Hope Church is a full-time church carrying a full program.

The history of the church would be incomplete without the mention of the late Henry Holcomb, who served as deacon and church clerk most of his life. He also served as clerk of Gainesville Association for almost forty years.

The first Sunday School organized in the New Hope Church was in the year 1885. For many years only a summer Sunday school was maintained owing to bad roads and sparse population.

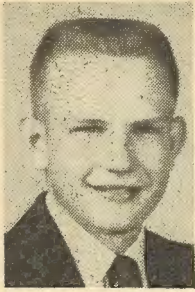
This beautiful \$25,000 building that we dedicate today, completely modern in every way, is indicative of the beautiful co-operation of the membership in all things spiritual.

New Hope Church is now a hundred and ten years old, the oldest church in the Gainesville Association. Her history and traditions are precious to her many members today and will continue to inspire those that are to follow. To those God-fearing trailblazers of the long ago, we owe a debt of gratitude for the everliving influence of their honorable Christian lives. Long since have they passed to the great beyond, but the fruits of their labors are with us today.

—000—  
"Faith is no longer simply a choice; faith is a necessity for daily living."

—H. Guy Moore

## Arkansas Training Union Award Winners



TOMMY SMITH

Tommy Smith of Little Rock, member of Immanuel Church, won first place in the Speakers' Tournament at Glorieta during second Training Union Week. Doty Murphy of El Dorado won second place in the Southern Baptist Sword Drill at Glorieta. Thus Arkansas had two winners at Glorieta.

Miss Priscilla Fondren of Forest City and Miss Carolyn Marsh of Norphlet will represent Arkansas at Ridgecrest during the second Training Union Week, July 19-25. Priscilla will be in the Southern Baptist Sword Drill and will compete against Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Missouri. Carolyn will be in the Speakers' Tournament and will compete against



DOTY MURPHY

Georgia, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, and South Carolina. These two young people won at the State Training Union Convention and are being sent to Ridgecrest.

The Training Union Department pays their \$2.50 registration and insurance fees, their expenses while at Ridgecrest (room and meals), and \$10 on the transportation for each one.

The Arkansas Training Union Department is far more generous than most of the other states. In nearly every state, the local church or the association (or both) help the young people care for the additional expenses. The Arkansas Training Union Department this summer will pay ap-



PRISCILLE FONDREN

proximately \$140 to help these young people go to Ridgecrest and Glorieta.

### SUMMER FIELD WORK

The following college students have been selected as Summer Field Workers and are being trained at Baptist Building during the last three days of June: Hazel Clements, Conway, Arkansas State Teachers College; Regina Fine, West Fork, University of Arkansas; Beth Haley, Little Rock, Ouachita College; Janie Marie Harper, Pine Bluff, Ouachita College; Joyce Hopper, Sparkman, Ouachita College; Mary Nelle Horne, Magnolia, Southern State College; Raymell Pound,



CAROLYN MARSH

Little Rock, Ouachita College; John Purtle, Springdale, University of Arkansas; Virginia Rankin, Little Rock, Arkansas Tech. These Summer Field Workers will be formed into teams and for seven weeks they will work in the following associations: Caroline, Arkansas Valley, White County, Woodruff, and White River.

Their work will be to strengthen the Training Union organization in every church. They will teach, visit, do personal work, enlist leaders, organize, enlist Bible readers, and in every way possible strengthen the churches where they will work. Pray for them.

*Training Union Dept.,  
Ralph W. Davis, Secretary  
Robert A. Dowdy, Associate*

## Pastors Appreciate Rural Church Conference

The seventh annual state wide Rural Church Conference was held at Ozark Boys Camp, Mt. Ida, June 4-7. It was the largest attendance in recent years. Mt. Zion led all associations with 12 pastors present. The interest and enthusiasm of those present was revealed in a unanimous motion carried, asking the Department of Missions and the Executive Board to continue the conference year after year.

Arkansas was the first state to hold a conference for rural pastors. Now, many other states are following a similar program. Dr. Harley Fite, president of Carson-Newman College, has asked your Superintendent of State Missions to speak at Ridgecrest on just the type of conference we are promoting in Arkansas.

Below are a few testimonies from some of the men who attended the conference this year.

"The men of our state need a refuge and rest for the body, soul and mind, and this is the place to get all three filled." — Bill Standiford.

"The Rural Church Conference has been a great blessing and inspiration to my life." — H. M. Howard.

"It comforts a preacher and strengthens his zeal to whet swords with other laborers together with God." — Roy C. Maddux.

"This is one of the high peaks of each year to me." — John W. Johnston.

"I feel that perhaps this conference is the greatest public

event of the year to the rural pastors." — Hollace H. Combs.

"It is one of the best meetings and does me more good than any other that I have ever attended." — Noble Wiles.

"I don't think I have missed a Rural Church Conference since we have been having them in Arkansas. I think it does more for our rural pastors than any other state meeting." — H. M. Dugger.

"My heart has been filled at this conference. I feel that I will be a better Christian, pastor and soul winner." — Doayne A. Johnson.

"I feel that it was really a great meeting that will have results in the state of Arkansas. I recommend it for all rural pastors." — William Piercy.

"I certainly enjoyed the Rural Church Conference. It plays a very important part in my ministry." — Howard Williams.

"I am going back to my church filled with a greater desire to serve my Lord. I have not missed a session because it has been too rich to miss." — R. R. Shreve, Jr.

"I surely have enjoyed every minute of the Rural Church Conference. Let's continue to meet each year." — J. D. Seymour.

"The Rural Church Conference has been good, filled with inspiration and information." — Carl Bunch.

"I am anxious to do a better job and I feel that this conference will help me in my work as associational missionary." — Thurlo Lee.

"There is no other period of

the same length that means as much to the country preacher." — J. S. Compere.

"I am hoping that we have many more meetings of this type, and am planning to come every year." — Ralph M. Cadwell.

"Certainly no preacher can attend such a meeting without going back to his church with a greater enthusiasm, more zeal, and in every respect a better servant of the Lord." — J. C. Smit.

"To me it is the most inspiring conference of any state meeting. The meat that a minister receives is of greatest spiritual value to the rural church of any conference I know." — R. E. Fowler.

"These three days are like a Seminary course to me, and a good vacation." — J. O. Miles.

"I have never enjoyed better fellowship. Personally, I am grateful to Almighty God for such a meeting." — C. J. Vaughan.

"The nature of the program has been such that any preacher could obtain valuable help for his ministry. Personally, it has been a great blessing to my ministry. I think it should be continued." — S. A. Wiles.

"I say, it's one of the best programs of the year." — Gus Prince.

"This is the third year for me at the Rural Church Conference. Surely this kind of meeting is to my soul what a gas station is to an empty automobile tank." — W. F. Pannell.

"We the undersigned occupants of Cabin 9, during the Rural Church Conference, do, by this

letter of appreciation, want to convey to you the great inspiration and the useful information that we received during this year's program. We believe this annual conference is the life blood of our rural pastors. No meeting in our state is so designed or so benefiting for the rural work. Every rural pastor owes much of his success to the Rural Church Conference at Mt. Ida, Arkansas." — James H. Sanders, Emmitt, Pipkins, Jimmy Whitlock, Jack Mick, Ben Rowell, Owen Ring, William T. Taylor.

"I am profoundly grateful for the work you are doing for all groups over the state and especially for our rural pastors." — Nolan Howington.

"It gives me some things that cannot be had from any other source. I hope we can keep it going." — A. D. Kent.

*Department of Missions,  
C. W. Caldwell, Supt.*

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### Temptation is an:

- invitation to a backward step.
- inciting of momentary pleasures at the expense of permanent values.
- inducement to be less than the best.

—Austin Ingram

—000—

Do you remember how small grains of sand are? Yet if enough are placed in a ship, they sink it.

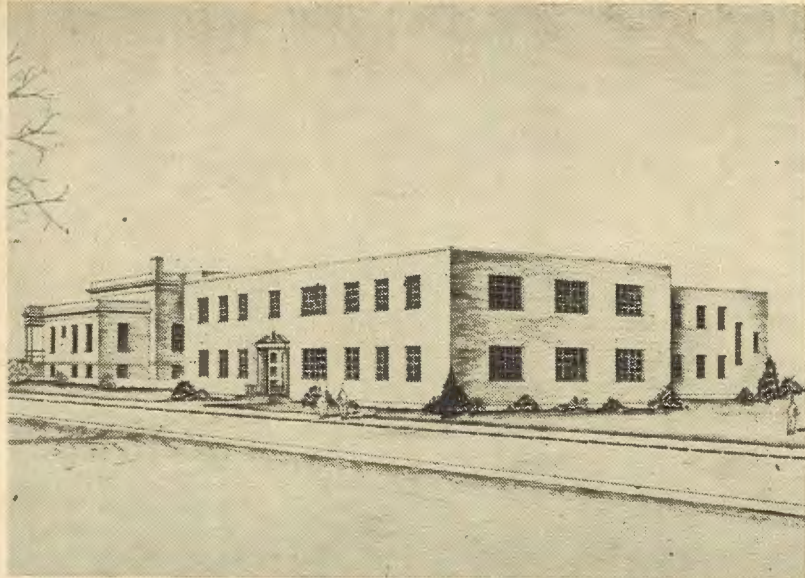
—St. Augustine

—000—

Make two grins grow where there was only a frown before.

—Hubbard

### Gurdon Church Plans Building



The new educational building of Beech Street Church, Gurdon, will have approximately 13 thousand square feet and will accommodate 500 from the adults to the nursery.

Those who participated in the groundbreaking ceremonies April 29 are: C. A. Horne, church treasurer; Henry Wood, chairman of the board of trustees; J. I. Ingram, chairman of finance committee; L. L. Presson, chairman of board of deacons; M. C. Koen,

chairman of building committee; Mrs. John Milburn, president of the WMU; Mrs. Ross Thomas, church financial secretary; Charles Conner, associational missionary in Red River Association; Clifton Morris, Brotherhood president; S. C. Byrd, Training Union director; George Peeples, church clerk; and D. W. Baldridge, Sunday school superintendent.

Harold Hightower is pastor.

#### DR. CARVER'S MEMOIRS

The unfinished memoirs of Dr. William Owen Carver have been brought out in book form, under the title, *Out of His Treasure*, by Broadman Press, Nashville.

For several years before his death May 24, 1954, Dr. Carver was working on two major projects: resource materials for a projected history of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and his own memoirs. He was unable to complete his memoirs, but did submit five chapters to Broadman Press on his background,

education, preaching ministry, "heresies and controversies," and writings.

To his own nearly 50,000 words have been added an evaluation by Dr. J. B. Weatherspoon of Dr. Carver's work at the Seminary, his last chapel talk there, and some of the tributes paid him at his funeral.

Pictures in the book, which is available at all book stores help to complete the portrayal of the mission-minded man.

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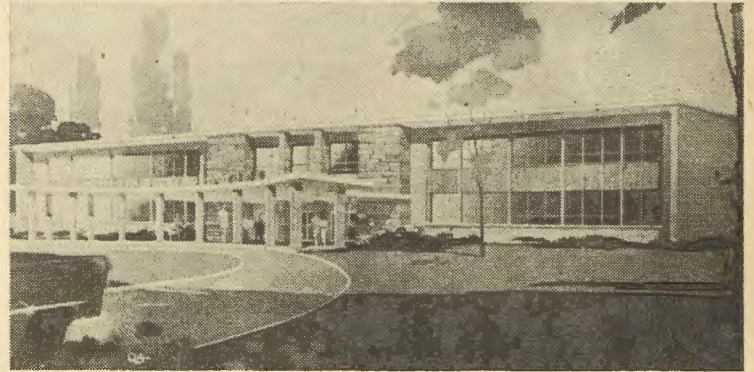
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### Concerning Your Retirement

Some have asked what becomes of the money which is paid in to the retirement plans of the Relief and Annuity Board by the churches and state conventions; why it is necessary for them to share with the pastor in the Relief and Annuity Board plan of protection; and especially why the majority of these churches participate and go right on paying even when they do not have a pastor. To answer this question we are taking from our files the actual case history of a man whose name we will not use for obvious reasons.

Mr. R. from Texas entered the Ministers Retirement Plan January 1, 1939, and retired on May 1, 1948 on an annuity of \$360.12 per year, or \$30.01 per month. He then became a pastor again October 1, 1948, and retired from this service on September 1, 1952. During this time there were some unpaid dues which would have pushed his annuity up to \$39.06 per month had he paid them.

The total amount of money he paid in, plus interest at 3 per cent, equals \$158.98. This amount

of money would actually have purchased \$1.01 per month for him. Thus, the church and convention pooled fund bears the other \$29.00 per month to make up his annuity of \$30.1. Further in Mr. R's case, the total amount he paid in, plus the total amount paid in by his churches and his state convention for him, would purchase only \$3.03 per month. The rest of his income must come from the general church and convention pool. The reason he thus draws such a large portion of his annuity from this pool is because he had many years of service to the churches and denomination before the plan was begun.

Going further with Mr. R, at this writing he has already drawn to date a total of \$1,470.49, and he will continue to receive a monthly check of \$30.01 per month for the rest of his life.

Thus, we can see how important the contributions of the churches and state conventions are for the protection of our preachers and their families. It is only through the pooled payments that such men are cared for. And he is only one among

many who are thus reaping the benefits provided through the Relief and Annuity Board program.

Another question is being asked: Why can a man not draw his retirement check and still serve as a pastor?

1—The certificate says a man may retire at 65 years of age. But in no case is he forced to retire. He can serve as long as a church desires his services and he is physically able.

2—The terms of the retirement plan state clearly that annuity payments are to be made only to those who have entered upon retirement status, and thus ceased full-time service as pastor or denominational servant.

3—For one to receive a monthly and regular check from his denomination for retirement while serving a church as a regular pastor may mean one of his fellow preachers who is not eligible for the retirement check is being denied an opportunity of service.

4—It is felt that liberal concessions have been made by the Relief and Annuity Board for the

retired brother. He may serve the same church as much as three months in any given year as a supply or interim pastor. He may supply the pulpits for his preacher brethren at will. He may conduct as many revivals, weddings, etc., as he chooses. All this he can do without in any way affecting his annuity status.

—Floyd B. Chaffin

—000—

#### MONEY TO BURN

It costs \$5,000 just to lift a loaded B 47 bomber off the ground. The take-off mechanisms are discarded in flight and cost over \$160 each. The Air Force has not disclosed the cost heisting the giant B 52, but we have heard that it costs at least \$10,000 to fly a B 52 the first hour.

—000—

#### POLITICS

Don't blame nature for all of the hot air this summer. There'll be a lot of campaign speeches.

—Indianapolis Times

—000—

Nothing can be so deceptive as statistics, except figures.

—Banking

# Children's Page



One day soon, watch your dog! When he wants to lie down, he'll most likely turn around once, twice, or three times before

doing so. It's a habit with dogs. You can't break them of it, because it's their nature to do so.

Animal habits are strange. There's always a reason for habits. For instance, the habit of turning around before lying down, was acquired before dogs were domesticated by men. As creatures of the wild, they formed the habit of turning around in order to mat down the stiff grass for a bed whenever they wanted to rest or sleep.

Dogs have always rested and slept with the wind blowing di-

rectly at their noses. This way, their highly developed sense of smell tells them if an enemy is approaching.

Dogs acquired their habits from their ancestors. In a like manner, human beings acquire habits from other people. But, unlike animals, we have the intelligence to choose our habits. Our Bible tells us of many desirable habits to be acquired such as honesty, humbleness, and a forgiving spirit. It also tells us of Daniel and his holy habits of worship and prayer and how God protected him in the lion's den. "Now when Daniel knew—he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." Daniel 6:10.

Note: If you have a question about God's wonderful world, why don't you send it to God's Wonderful World, c/o Baptist Press, 127 9th Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn.

## Twenty Cents

By FRANK HALBECK

Grandmother liked boys, at least that is what Ralph thought, for he loved to visit with her.

For a whole week he helped Grandmother with all of her work. He helped her churn the butter, he burned the trash, he carried in water from the pump, and he just helped in every way that he could.

Then along came Saturday. Surely, he thought, Grandmother will not forget that it is Saturday. And she didn't, for when the noon hour came Grandmother said, "Ralph, how would you like to go downtown this afternoon?"

"I would love to," said Ralph. "But, Grandmother, I don't have any money to spend."

There was a twinkle in Grandmother's understanding blue eyes. She opened her purse and handed Ralph a big coin.

"Grandmother," said Ralph, "this is a lot of money. It is a fifty-cent piece. May I buy a chocolate soda with part of this money, Grandmother?"

"Yes, you may, Ralph," said Grandmother.

Grandmother lived only a few blocks from town and the two of them immediately went to the drug store at the north side of

the square. Ralph had a chocolate soda and Grandmother sat with him while he drank it. When he finished he paid the storekeeper and the man gave him back some change. When the two of them got outside the store Grandmother asked, "Ralph did you count your change? You must always do that after you buy something."

Ralph began to count the money which he still held clutched tightly in his hand. There was a quarter, two dimes, and a nickel.

"Why, Grandmother, I still have fifty cents," said Ralph.

"The man made a mistake, so we must take back twenty cents to pay for the soda."

"It's not our fault that he made a mistake, Grandmother. Can't we keep the whole fifty cents?"

Then Grandmother asked Ralph a question, "Do you think that Jesus would want you to keep something that didn't belong to you?"

Ralph thought for a moment and then he went back into the store to give the man twenty cents.

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## Foreign Mission Board Reports to the People

### PERCENTAGES OF OPERATING COSTS

For Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1955

	Amount	Percentage Of Total Operating Costs
<b>1. Administrative Expenses:</b>		
Expenses of home office in Richmond, including all salaries, traveling expenses, stationery, postage, insurance, office equipment, and miscellaneous expenses	\$ 316,215.64	2.95
<b>2. Promotion Expenses (Home Cultivation):</b>		
Publicity through denominational papers, audio-visual education, literature, convention and conference expenses, deputation work of missionaries on furlough, missionary recruitment material, etc.; also, the amount recalled by Woman's Missionary Union, S.B.C. (\$60,000), from its contribution to the Foreign Mission Board through the Cooperative Program	339,747.59	3.16
<b>3. General Expenses:</b>		
Cost of Board meetings, annual audit, agent's fee for handling investments, legal expenses, and miscellaneous expenses	62,925.18	.59
<b>4. Foreign Fields:</b>		
Salaries and expenses of missionaries, furlough travel, missionary pension plan, special allowances to emeritus missionaries, advanced training of selected Baptist leaders from abroad in U.S.A., direct evangelism, maintenance of schools and hospitals, operation of publishing houses, purchase of property abroad, and miscellaneous expenses	10,017,383.24	93.30
<b>Total Operating Costs</b>	<b>\$10,736,271.65</b>	<b>100.00</b>

### RECORD GROUP OF STUDENT SUMMER MISSIONARIES ANNOUNCED

A total of 106 student missionaries will serve this summer on mission fields, which is the largest group ever sent our, according to Dr. William Hall Preston, associate secretary, Student Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

### SOUTHWIDE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLINICS PLANNED

A series of one-week regional Sunday School clinics for 1957 have been planned by the Baptist state Sunday school secretaries and the Sunday School Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Arkansas week, March 25-29 in Little Rock.

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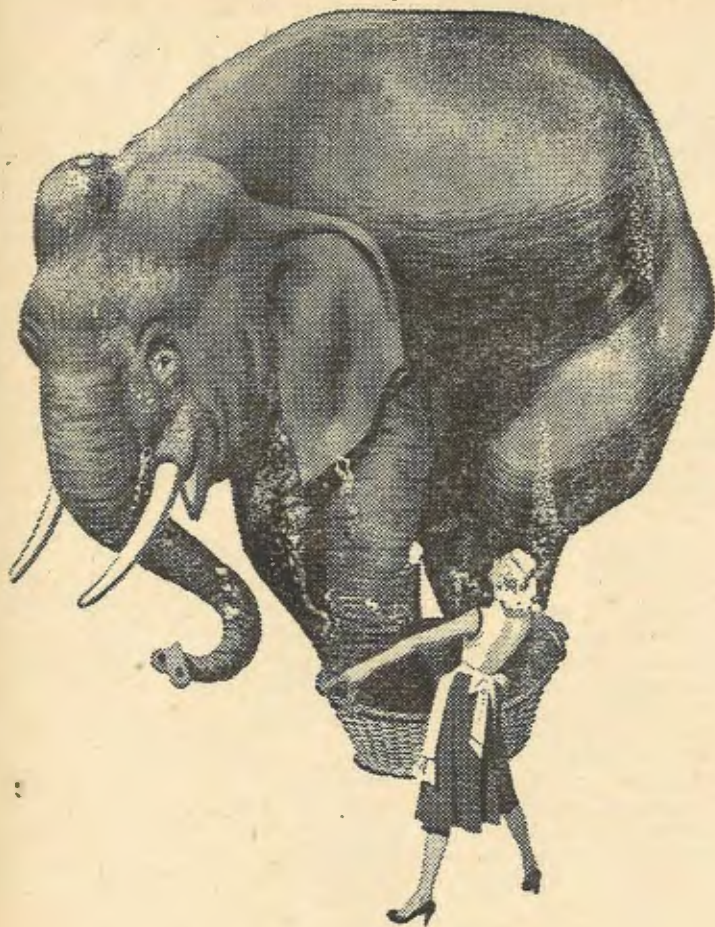
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### Camps In Full Swing

As this is written, the Intermediate Royal Ambassador Camp is under way, and is going strong! There are about 80 boys enrolled at the Camp, and some 14 adults to lead them through the various camp activities. So this year's camp has enrolled about 26 more boys than last year's. Our camp program is growing by leaps and bounds.

The Junior Royal Ambassador Camps will be held in July: The First Camp, July 9-16; The Second Camp, July 18-20.

Registrations for the Junior Camps are already under way.

Pastors and Counselors have Registration Sheets. The deadline for registration for the First Junior Camp is Saturday, July 7; for the Second Camp, Saturday July 14. However, boys who have not been registered will be received up to the capacity of the Camp.

Every boy who attends a Royal Ambassador Camp is presented with opportunities that can scarcely be found elsewhere. We urge you to see that the Junior boys of your church are given the opportunity to attend one of the two Junior Camps.

And pray for your Youth Camp Program in Arkansas.

**BROTHERHOOD DEPARTMENT**  
Nelson Tull, Secretary  
C. H. Seaton, Associate

### Figures to Inspire

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

\* Indicates Missions Included

	S. S.	T. U.	Adn.
Alma, First	197	78	
Benton, First	*657	*140	4
Cabot, First	*346	172	2
Camden, First	*641	*176	1
El Dorado, First	*1093	*295	2
El Dorado, Immanuel	689	269	4
El Dorado, Second	425	213	
Fayetteville, First	*591	*149	7
Fayetteville, University	204	80	
Fordyce, First	458	114	3
Fort Smith, First	*1542	*571	14
Fort Smith, Grand Ave.	*691	*251	11
Fort Smith, Immanuel	365	104	
Fort Smith, South Side	328	83	
Fort Smith, Spradling Ave.	242	90	2
Fort Smith, Temple	261	103	2
Fort Smith, Trinity	276	109	3
Hot Springs, Park Place	379	113	
Jacksonville, First	562	203	
Jonesboro, Central	352	185	
Little Rock, First	*947	*364	*7
Little Rock, Immanuel	*1361	*509	*6
Little Rock, Second	*920	*396	9
Little Rock, South Highland	480	189	2
Little Rock, Tabernacle	575	162	5
McGehee, First	547	192	1
Magnolia, Central	*639	*222	3
Malvern, First	455	97	
Marianna, First	318	112	
Mena, First	*338	*157	3
Monticello, First	379	176	
Nashville, First	279	116	
North Little Rock, First	304	95	3
North Little Rock, Park Hill	455	125	2
North Little Rock, Baring Cross	*935	*356	13
Paragould, First	*611	*279	
Pine Bluff, South Side	561	202	12
Rogers, First	346	139	
Smackover, First	331	164	
Springdale, Caudle Ave.	179	84	
Springdale, First	453	171	
Star City, First	*300	*300	3

### No Negro Encampment

A number of churches of our Convention have written to me asking about the date, cost, etc., of the Negro Youth Camp for this summer. I am very sorry to say that there will be no encampment program for the Negro boys and girls this year. These encampments for several years now have been under the supervision of Gwendoline Luster, and have been partly financed by our State Missions Department and our State WMU.

Several months ago, Gwendoline came to me with the report that she could not secure a reservation at Aldersgate Camp Ground (this is a Methodist owned camp) for her program this summer. Upon receiving this information, I went to work immediately trying to make arrangements for the encampment at some other camp site. I contacted the management of every camp ground that I had any information about, without success. We have exhausted every possible means of securing satisfactory camp grounds for this purpose this year. We do hope and pray that enough of our people will be willing to make a contribution to make it possible for us to establish a permanent camp ground for the Negro Baptist young people of the state of Arkansas. We may have some definite announcement about that at a later date. But as far as

1956 is concerned, there will be no encampment. We make this public announcement because a number of our white Baptist churches had planned to either send, or finance the going of a Negro boy or girl to the encampment.

We are so grateful for your interest in this regard, and hope that by another year, we will have some permanent arrangement worked out.

Clyde Hart,  
Director of Negro Work

—000—  
**HUDSON BOOK**  
RATES NEW EDITION

Broadman Press, Nashville, has announced that the book, **Growing a Christian Personality**, by Lofton Hudson, has proved so popular that a trade edition has been published. It was on sale for the first time at the Convention Book Store in Kansas City, Mo.

The book, which is by the pastor of Wornall Road Baptist Church, Kansas City, was first published in March, 1955, as a Training Union study course for young people.

—000—  
A college president once told a graduating class, "The mark of an educated man is to see something in a mud puddle besides mud."

—Good Business—  
—000—  
It's getting so a frontiersman is a fellow who lives out beyond the most remote subdivision.

—Quote

# Letters of Faith and Encouragement

By BURTON A. MILEY

Faith must be perpetually promoted. Encouragement is needed in every age by all Christians. Sources of discouragement are many. Routine is one. The prodigal son longed to leave home because of tiredness of routine as much as anything else. Few are conditioned to stand the same-day in and day out. Hardships take courage away. Enemies working within or without are constant threats to courage. New Testament Christians were encouraged and had their faith boosted by letters written by the apostles and leaders.

The quarter's lessons begun today are divided into three units. Lessons one through four have to do with faith on firm foundations. Lessons five through eleven exhort faith to be lived. Lessons twelve and thirteen teach the reward of faith. The printed lesson for today is from 1 Peter and Jude. 1 Peter deals with the forces operating outside to cause hardships and suffering. Jude deals with teachers of falsehood who subtly place their seeds of corruption from within the camp.

### PETER'S LIFE

Peter was peculiarly qualified to give encouragement to those who were threatened to falter. Peter had faltered. He had experienced special prayers by Christ and had risen above some very low valleys. He knew what it was to have persecution for he had experienced it both from the church and state (Acts 4 and 12). His background was such that he could encourage those who were suffering under Nero's heavy hand. There is an old adage that those who had been through the grind can help those that are in the grind. Peter qualified. The Lord used the pen of the man whose mouth had uttered curses and denial.

### PETER FACES HARDSHIP AND SUFFERING

Without a doubt many to whom Peter wrote his first epistle were asking the question "Why did this happen to us?" Peter faced the question of suffering from hardship by saying that some of it was justified. If a man suffers from any fault, he should so suffer. Suffering is not a blessing in and of itself, but if one's duty to God is involved then one can meet it with gladness of heart. If one does well and suffers for it, one's suffering is acceptable to God. No Christian should find consolation in suffering that he rightfully deserves.

The suffering of Christ is an example to every believer. His suffering was unjust and undeserved but it did not warp His attitude or make Him revengeful. His sufferings were more intense than any of His followers. These sufferings led Him to the

## Sunday School Lesson

July 1, 1956

1 Peter 2:19-25;

Jude 3, 17-25

position of Shepherd and Bishop of souls saved from straying.

Persecuted Christians needed a message of this sort to lift their eyes from their difficulties to God. Many times one might assume martyr spirit because he looks at his sufferings without looking at God. Christ measured all of His sufferings in the light of ministry for others. He became dead to sin but alive to righteousness. Hardships face every one who lives the Christian life. These hardships must be met and conquered. One who is conquered by hardships becomes impotent to God's service. The triumphant one becomes more powerful in God's service and useful in Kingdom extension. Peter encouraged people to rise above the immediate hardships around them.

Today persecution does not always take the form of bodily hurt or of loss of citizenship privileges. Persecution takes the form of ridicule or contempt expressed by the inner circle of one's friends or the larger circle of society in general. It is not easy under these conditions to remain faithful and hold up courage in the Lord.

### PERILOUS TIMES FACED BY JUDE

Jude faced a different set of circumstances from Peter. Jude faced the insidious, false teacher who was in the midst, planting seeds of corruption in the Christian community. He wrote to encourage diligence to the faith which had once been delivered unto the saints. The faith is interpreted as that experience with God which gives one personal relationship to Him. It is the only faith that is powerful in and beneficial to spiritual life. One should not be contentious but should stand up and be counted for the faith. Perilous times always have the presence of evil and false teachers. Every age is a perilous age. The actual workings of evil are revealed under different headings, but there isn't such a thing as a day without peril. Jude called to remembrance that there would be mockers and those that walked in their selfish desires in sensual manifestations. However, these were not to be examples for the Christians, but rather warnings. The Christians were to build up themselves in the holy faith through the exercise of prayer and love. Christ was to be the center and goal of the activity of the Christian and nothing else could be satisfactory. The only

hope man has for perilous times is Victorious Jesus. Perilous times cannot be overcome by man's strength or strategy. God is in full knowledge of perilous moments. He knew when the Devil lifted hand against Him and became the slanderer, the adversary of God. He was able to meet that situation with victory. He knows when man lifts puny finger against the Almighty and combines his strength with that of other fellow creatures to oust God. Therefore, no victory can be experienced other than that which comes through Christ. Any religious manifestation made upon the part of believers should be made both in the spirit and for the purpose of magnifying Christ. Indeed He is the answer to perilous times, to discouraged hearts and wavering faith.

### PRACTICAL LESSONS

The faithful need encouragement. Encouragement is one of the daily needs in every life. One can do much to encourage himself through the act of daily dedication and communion with God. The public worship service should be an encouragement to every Christian. The Christian who does not attend worship service loses the encouragement which comes when the sons of God appear before His face.

The goal of every life should be Christ. A popular book entitled, "In His Steps" is based upon the premise of what Christ would do under the circumstance in

which the individual finds himself. This is a good approach to make to life, to any problem connected with it, or any hardship or enemy faced. What would Christ do? The right answer to the question would solve many problems for the goal of every life should be Christ.

Evil is a mighty force to be reckoned with. How can a Christian stand against aggressive evil. It does not hold back any punches and it has no rules by which it operates. Many Christians would like to know what can be done in the face of evil. One thing is to be encouraged and remain firm and loyal to Christ. Another is to extend what help he can to those who might be weaker. "If eating meat offends my brother, I shall eat no meat," was Paul's conclusion about the doubtful act. Are Christians today that conscientious about the Lord's Day?

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 Willard K. Weeks, Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, N. C.



*B. L. Bridges, General Secretary; Ralph Douglas, Associate; 100 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.*

## Weighing the Cost

As a minister of the Gospel and a Christian worker, the preacher wants and needs some financial assistance in old age. These, like everyone else, grow old and must pass the mantle on to someone else. Because the preacher has peculiar financial circumstances, he must have a plan through which security can be bought on small monthly payments. That plan must not be so complicated that the preacher needs a paid consultant to give him advice and supervision. Too, the preacher wants, and deserves, a plan that will pay substantial returns on the investment.

Southern Baptists, after all these years, have such a plan. The Protection Plan gives the preacher an income when he retires because of age or disability. It also gives the family an income if the preacher dies in active service or after retirement.

Here it is in a nut-shell:

### 1. Retirement Annuity.

- (1) No ceiling on annuity.
- (2) Widow protected after preacher retires.
- (3) Receive a credit of 1½% of all salaries on which you pay dues.
- (4) Longer participation means larger annuity.

### 2. Widow's Annuity.

- (1) After retirement the widow may draw from 20% to 40% of husband's annuity.
- (2) Before retirement — If the husband dies in active service, the widow would receive the same percentage of the husband's potential annuity.
  - a. To figure the potential annuity, take the salary you are now drawing as a basis, average it over the years you have participated in the Plan, and multiply the number of years, until you are 65, by 1½%. (If you are now drawing \$3,000.00 per year, and you are 23 years old, it would be 42 years until your 65th birthday.  $42 \times 1\frac{1}{2} = 63\%$  of \$3,000.00).
  - b. This, especially, helps the younger preachers.

### 3. Disability Annuity.

- (1) If you join the Plan before you are 30 and have been a member for one year, you are eligible for a disability annuity.
- (2) If you join after age 30, you must be in the Plan one year and have 5 years service in the Southern Baptist Convention.
- (3) Your disability will be 30% of the average salary at the date of disability, but not more than \$900.00 per year, or 90% of your potential annuity.

### 4. Early Retirement.

- (1) You may retire anytime after age 60 on a commuted annuity. This annuity is reduced 0.6% for each month of retirement prior to age 65.
- (2) Protection for the widow continues during disability.

### 5. Lump Sum Death Benefit.

- (1) If the preacher is not survived by a wife, a lump sum benefit will be paid the estate or beneficiary named. The amount of this benefit, if death is before retirement, will be twice the potential annual age annuity.
- (2) If the potential age annuity is \$2,400 at retirement, the lump sum benefit would be \$4,800.

### 6. How Financed.

- (1) The church pays 5% of the pastor's salary, with a maximum salary of \$4,000 per year.
- (2) The pastor pays 5% of his salary (maximum \$4,000). This increases ½% at age 60, and another ½% at age 70.

This plan is sound and has been established on an actuarial basis. Trained men are employed to advise and help maintain a sound system. It will put some preachers and their families into a financial strain to make the monthly payments. Therefore, some have not been willing to join the plan. But, the long look, will reveal true wisdom on the part of those who are willing to make the necessary adjustments and sacrifices now, in order to meet the needs of tomorrow.

Every pastor and every church should prayerfully consider the plan for future financial assistance.

Never, until we became a denominational worker, did we see the far reaching effects of our retirement plan. It is a God given plan and it ought to be used. R.D.

## Amazed and Heartbroken Over Some Preachers

Brother preacher, would you let us say a very plain word right out of a disappointed heart? We have reference to so many of our preachers who are not enlisted in a Baptist retirement plan. We cannot understand why preachers can preach on preparedness and yet refuse to make a reasonable preparation against old age inactivity.

1—Be assured, Brother preachers, that the law of averages will bring you to an age bracket where you will earn practically nothing in the ministry. What will you do for an income in that period of your life if you do not have a pension?

2—An increasing number of our preachers are falling out of service with some form of disability. If disability overtakes you, what will you do if you have no pension?

3—It is already true, even in our day, that other members of a man's family are not forward to assume the responsibility of taking care of a disabled or retired preacher-relative.

4—An old minister or a disabled minister hesitates to ask a child or some other relative to take care of him when he is unable to earn a livelihood.

5—Do you realize that one of these conditions will overtake you one day?

6—Do you remember reading in the Bible that "he that produceth not for his own, and especially those of his own household has denied the Father and is worse than an infidel."

7—The present Baptist Protection Plan also provides protection for the widow of your own household.

8—If you refuse to participate in the Baptist Retirement Plan, the Relief and Annuity Board cannot give you a relief stipend in your day of need.

9—Only last month one of our preachers, who otherwise had had a good record, made application for a relief stipend from the Relief and Annuity Board, but his name has not been placed on the list because he had the opportunity of building a pretty fair annuity through the Baptist Retirement Plan, but did not do so. He even started out in it and then cancelled out and got a refund. He is now in dire need and does not have any income to speak of. Will this condition prevail in your case?

10—If you do not join the Retirement Plan, you embarrass your church. Recently a pastor died who was not an active member of a Retirement Plan. His church had to pay \$1,200 to help his family out of a tight squeeze. The church felt that it had to do it or lose the respect of the people. The pastor could have spared that church that embarrassment and expense.

11—By refusing to be a participant in the Southern Baptist Retirement Plan you make it difficult for a denominational worker to recommend you to new fields of labor. The Retirement Plan is a joint Plan. The church and the denomination help the preacher create and pay for his pension. Please join now.

Brother Ralph Douglas is making an earnest appeal this month for unenlisted preachers to join the Baptist Protection Plan. We are backing up his appeal, and we urge you to procure a blank and make application at once. Surely, surely, brethren, you realize the far reaching danger if you fail to enlist in the retirement plan. Then it isn't fair to your Baptist brotherhood, because all over the south we have joined in together to make this benefit possible, and you are asked to pay only one-third of the cost thereof, while the church and the denomination pay two-thirds of the cost.

You say you are not able to do so? Well, if you are not able to spend a few dollars now, what on earth will you do when you have no income.

"If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" BLB

## Memorial Church Has Good Revival

Memorial Church, Hot Springs, has just experienced a splendid revival. State Missionary Jesse Reed conducted the meeting. There were 9 additions, 6 for baptism. Memorial is a rural church and Pastor J. C. Melton keeps his field worked up and keeps his church going on a good program. Pastor Melton has been one of our very faithful pastors and has done a good work everywhere he has been. B.L.B.