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April 22, 1965

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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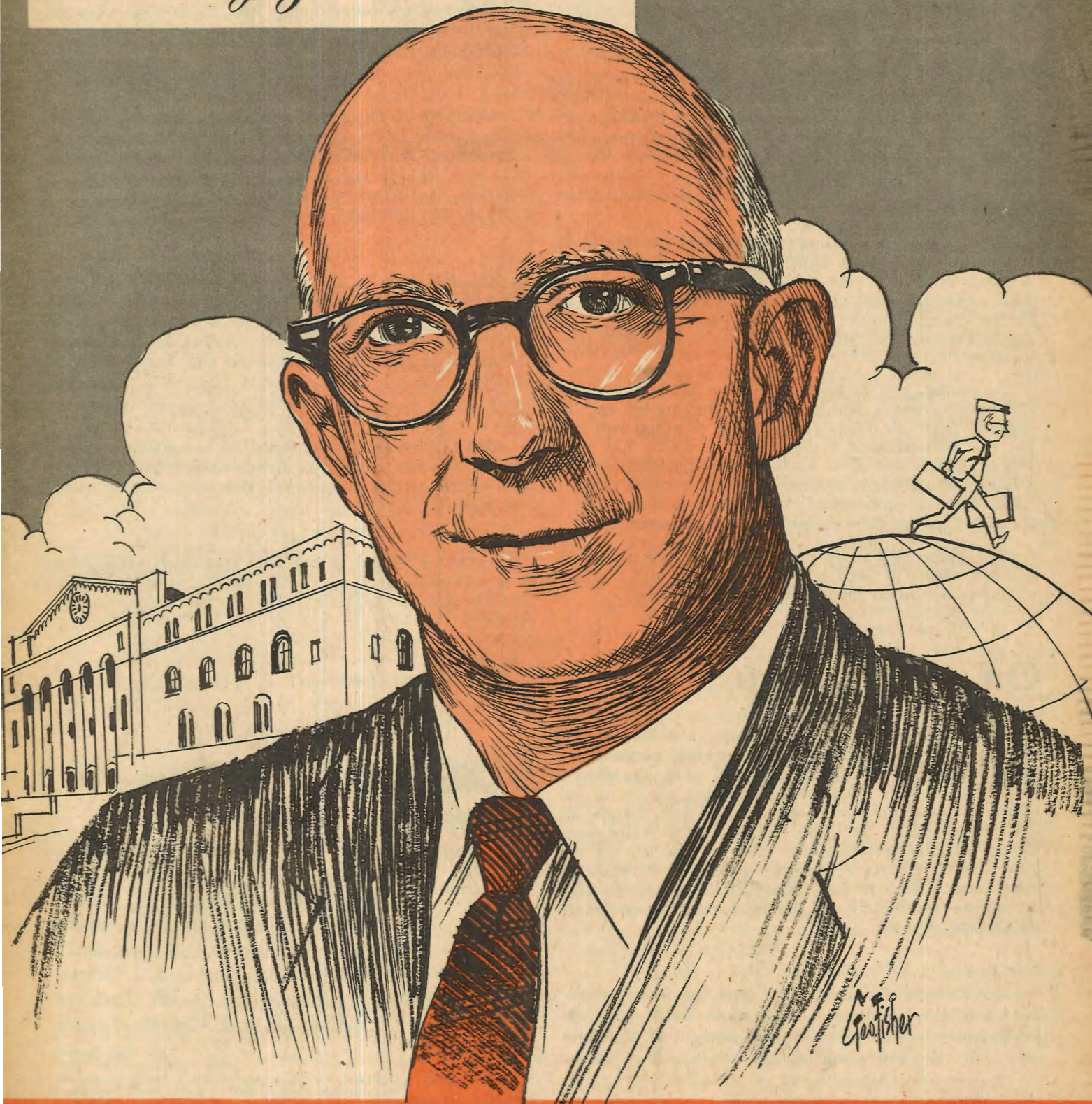
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Arkansas Baptist

newsmagazine

APRIL 22, 1965



A call to prayer, page 5

Alzheimer visit

ON two recent Sundays I was the supply pastor for First Church, Alzheimer. My friend Phil May, one of our outstanding young ministers, a graduate of New Orleans Seminary, has just left Alzheimer, after a fruitful three-year pastorate, to become pastor of Pocahontas First Church. Retired minister Minor Cole, who now lives in Pine Bluff and keeps busy serving as interim pastor, has been called by the Alzheimer church to serve until a pastor can be called.

This is an outstanding church, with a fine spirit among its membership. During my Sundays there, I was a guest in two of the homes—that of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Overton and of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Stone. If all of the church families treat their pastor the way these families treated me, Alzheimer must be a wonderful place to serve!

Alzheimer, just 16 miles from Pine Bluff, is a bigger community than I had supposed. The marker on the highway indicates it has a population of more than 900, but the 1965 estimate, I understand, is 1,400. The town was named for one of its early settlers who still has some relatives living there, but none by the name Alzheimer. (The name is pronounced "All-timer." At least, that is the way I pronounced it, and nobody corrected me.)

Best wishes to Phil and his family on their new field, and best wishes to our friends at Alzheimer and a prayer that they may soon find another good shepherd.

On putting work off

AFTER two or three generations on this inhabited planet, I thought I had learned about every excuse there is for putting off till spring the yard work you should do in the fall. But I have discovered that my friend Dr. Ralph Douglas knows more in a minute than I know all day, on how to be both lazy and respectful. Ralph kept telling his Blanche all winter that he was leaving the leaves on their yard to keep the ground from washing! Why didn't I think of that! That sounds a lot better than my excuse—waiting till all the leaves were down before raking any of them.

This is changing the subject a little, but I can remember when wives just took it for granted that it was their job to clean the fish their husbands brought in. Now, not only will they not stoop to such unlady-like chores—they'll even fuss if the husband gets blood on the kitchen curtains while he's cleaning his catch.

Erwin L. McDonald

IN THIS ISSUE:

FROM SBC President Wayne Dehoney comes an urgent and poignant call to prayer for the Southern Baptist missionaries, pastors and laymen in Cuban prisons. Dr. Dehoney sets aside Sunday, Apr. 25, as a day of prayer for these persecuted Christians. On page 5, we are reprinting his telegram in full.

* * *

ARKANSAS Baptists will long remember Dr. B. L. Bridges, who for 26 years stood at the helm of the State Convention. His dedication and accomplishments were described by his successor, Executive Secretary S. A. Whitlow, at the funeral services for Dr. Bridges, Apr. 10. Parts of the statement appear on page 8.

* * *

THREE days in April were busy ones for members of the state Woman's Missionary Union. They held their annual meeting at Texarkana Beech Street Church to hear a full roster of missionaries and other speakers of interest. The report, and picture of the new officers, is on page 10.

* * *

LONELY? One of Mrs. Rosalind Street's correspondents is. She has asked Mrs. Street to put her in touch with others of similar interests. You may wish to write. See page 6.

* * *

A MAN of action? Is that what your church is seeking as it calls a pastor? J. I. Cossey, page 7, outlines a minister's duties and suggests he may be seeking a "church of action."

* * *

COVER story, page 11.

Arkansas Baptist
newsmagazine

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Associated Church Press
Evangelical Press Ass'n

April 22, 1965

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

Governor and gamblers

GOVERNOR Faubus' impression that Churches United Against Gambling no longer has much influence in Arkansas is based, he says, on the fact that only a few letters have come to him as the result of CUAG's appeal to the people to pressure him (to do what he is sworn and pledged to do, enforce the anti-gambling laws in Garland County).

It could be that the people of Arkansas feel it will take more than letters to break whatever working relationship exists between the Governor and the gamblers.

Missionary journeymen

SEVERAL dozens of single college graduates under the age of 27 will be going out from our homeland soon under appointment of the Foreign Mission Board as missionary journeymen, constituting a sort of a spiritual Peace Corps, to serve in 24 different nations. Invitations have gone out to 49 young people from 18 states and they will be assigned to ten categories of work, including teaching, youth direction, nursing, and good will center and office work. The largest number will teach.

The journeymen will have ten weeks of intensive training, in Richmond, beginning in June, to prepare them for their assignments.

Somehow we are going to have to expand our missions forces if we are to keep up with the needs of a world that is contracting, geographically, but exploding in population. The Missionary Journeyman Program, directed by Rev. Louis R. Cobbs, may well be a part of the answer.

Tax exemption

TAX exemption on church or synagogue residential property is limited to one residence per church or synagogue, under a Tennessee state law passed recently by the Tennessee legislature. The law, according to one of its sponsors, was the outgrowth of a legal opinion in Nashville that parsonages were taxable because they were not used for church purposes. This opinion, given by the attorney for Nashville Metropolitan government, had affected only property in the Nashville-Davidson County area, where parsonages had been put on the tax rolls after the opinion.

While no other counties in Tennessee had been taxing church-owned parsonages, the new law will be effective statewide.

Under the new law, churches owning more than one parsonage may claim exemption on but one—the one "used as the individual or family residence of its principal minister, priest or rabbi." And the parsonage "must

be situated on a lot containing not more than three acres."

This state law, we presume, will have no bearing on Federal income tax laws that allow ordained ministers of churches or denominations to deduct house allowances for amounts equivalent to the actual cost of housing.

Guest editorial

Strange church policy

MY ears perked up. I could hardly believe what I was hearing. One lady was saying to another during the dinner-on-the-grounds at the association, "At our church we take up payment from each member before we order the literature for them. If they don't pay, we don't order it."

I had never heard of such a thing and immediately I had visions of Sunday School pupils without lesson quarterlies because they had forgotten to pay or hadn't been there the day the matter was mentioned, of Training Union members who were without material for preparation of assigned parts for the same reason, and of choir members who were handicapped without a piece of music because they were not at rehearsal the night the order was sent in.

As the conversation between these ladies continued, it later developed that the "literature" the first one had been talking about was the Baptist state paper and other magazines. There was only momentary relief from this discovery, however, because the realization swept in that it is just as short-sighted for a church to require individual payment for subscriptions to the Baptist state paper before ordering them as it would be to try to collect individually for Sunday School or Training Union literature before ordering it.

Just as the study of the pupils and the teaching of the teachers would be handicapped and limited without literature in the hands of many of the pupils, so the interest in so many church and denominational projects is severely limited in the church which requires individual orders for the Baptist state paper before subscribing to it for the members.

The wisest and the easiest and the most economical way for a church to provide the Baptist state paper is the very same way it provides its other literature—through the church budget—and for every family in the membership in which even one person will use it.

And the church doesn't even have to open the bundle and distribute the papers at the church; we mail the papers direct to the homes just as if they were individual subscriptions.—Editor W. G. Stracener in *Florida Baptist Witness*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the people SPEAK

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

A call to action

IT is not often that a religious body finds itself at a crucial moment when its actions can literally alter the course of history. Southern Baptists stand today at just such a moment.

There is only one overriding religious movement sweeping throughout our land today. By whatever name it is designated, it is the movement towards the securing of equality in all areas of human rights for the negro population of our land. This movement has sociological, economic, and political dimensions, but it is above everything else a supremely religious phenomenon. And it is precisely for that reason that Southern Baptists find themselves at the most significant moment of their history. The problem involved in the civil rights movement is not a negro problem, it is a white problem.

It needs to be pointed out that Southern Baptists are not the key to the success of the civil rights movement. That movement will succeed even if it has to roll over us like a steam-roller. It will succeed because it is morally and religiously right. It will succeed because it is the most concrete manifestation of the will of God to be seen anywhere in the world today. But Southern Baptists are the key to the problem involved in the success of the civil rights movement. . . .

For altogether too long now we have been aiding the cause of injustice, bigotry, and prejudice by our silence and hesitancy. While other major denominations and the federal government have come out openly and strongly for the cause of right in this issue, we have remained largely silent. In fact, while a world wide tidal wave of sentiment and conviction has arisen for the cause of justice, we have been the leading "silent partner" in the camp of the enemy. The word "silent" is not without significance. The greatest tool in the hands of the forces of evil in this issue is our silence and inactivity. By remaining silent and inactive we have lent tacit approval to every act of violence and hatred that has occurred in the very geographic area of our greatest influence. The time has come for action.

To speak out is important but unless our speaking is accompanied by action our speech will be of little value. The world has little reason to put much faith in our mere words regarding the civil rights issue. We must not only

speak, but also act. And the speaking and acting must come at the denominational level. Contrary to the recommendation adopted at the Convention in Atlantic City in 1964 the solution of this problem does not lie at the level of the local church. To be sure it must be implemented at the local level, but if it is ever to be effective it must originate at the denominational level and have the full force of the denomination behind it. It must be a full-fledged denominational program. The denomination has the machinery, the talent, the leadership, and above all—it surely is evident by now—the divine imperative to do so. Such a program should include at least the following goals:

1. The reception into the membership of our churches of any and all negro Christians who wish to join.
2. The active participation of the membership of our churches in the effort to secure equal rights and opportunities for the negro population in the areas of voting, education, housing, employment, public accommodations, and all other areas of human relationships.

These goals would necessitate a massive program of education utilizing our whole denominational structure. There is no doubt room for discussion as to the manner of implementing such a program but surely no one can seriously question the Christian morality of such a program or its imperative need. If our churches are in any sense true New Testament churches and if we are part of the Body of Christ, how can we deliberately exclude from membership in our churches anyone who has confessed Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and wishes to join? The second goal is so self-evidently right as to need no further comment. Such a program could be implemented through the literature of the Training Union, Sunday School, Brotherhood, WMU, and other organizations. We do this for other programs, such as missions, church finance, the Christian home, separation of church and state, etc., and we can do it for this type of program if we are committed enough to our Lord to do so. . . .

No denomination can pass through a crucial moment and remain unchanged. Historians will look back at Southern Baptists and record this day as "their finest hour," or as the day when they met their Kadesh-Barnea and broke faith with their Lord. The choice is ours. The time is now.—Vernon R. Mallow, Woodfield Baptist Church, Rt. 2, Morganfield, Ky.

Texas homecoming

THE First Baptist Church of Richardson, Texas will celebrate its Centennial this year. The first event in the Centennial celebration will be Homecoming on Sunday, April 25th. Since many of our former members may now reside in your state, would you be so kind as to publish a notice of this event and invite all former members to be our guests at Homecoming?—W. Lloyd Cloud, pastor

Deity of Jesus

WE appreciated Dr. Hobbs article "Did Jesus Claim Deity" in the April 8 issue of the Arkansas Baptist. Such evidences as this are so often neglected.

Not long ago the pastor of a church in Virginia called our attention to another evidence of the Deity of Jesus. It seems the pre-3rd century church fathers such as Tertullian, Irenaeus, Martyr, etc., rendered John 1:13 as follows: "Who was born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God".

The antecedent of "who" being "He" in verse 11. And all verses 2-14 refer back to the "Word" in verse 1.

This rendering certainly does make verses 2-14 a united whole testimony to the "Word of God" who was in the beginning.

We understand that the old Syriac MSS also rendered verse 13 as given above.

And this rendering surely does rule out any human plan, or effort, in His birth. Truly He is THE SON OF GOD.

— F. V. Holman, Ft. Smith

The preacher poet

Fear and faith

FEAR and faith both are impelling,

Fixing hearts in captured thought;

One would stop a plan's excelling,
One would spur to act well wrought.

Fear and faith ne'er fight each other,

Each simply presses for attention;
One cries "Wolf!, wolf!, wolf! my brother!"

The other calls, "Here is a pension!"

Fear leaves behind but dusty tracks,

Her flight is back and fast away.
Faith climbs the hill and nothing lacks

To charm her form another day.
—W. B. O'Neal

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SF-1201 (4-60)

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A CALL TO PRAYER

WE CALL SOUTHERN BAPTISTS ON SUNDAY, APRIL 25, TO A DAY OF PRAYER FOR OUR MISSIONARIES, PASTORS AND LAYMEN IN PRISON IN CUBA AND FOR THEIR LOVED ONES IN THESE DAYS OF ANXIETY.

ON APRIL 8 CUBAN AUTHORITIES ARRESTED 53 BAPTISTS, INCLUDING MISSIONARIES HERBERT CAUDILL AND DAVID FITE AND 40 PASTORS OF BAPTIST CHURCHES. THEY WERE IMPRISONED AND CHARGED WITH SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY. SEVEN OTHER PASTORS HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN THE WEEKS PREVIOUS TO APRIL 8,

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS HAVE COMPLETE TRUST IN THE INTEGRITY AND COMMITMENT OF THEIR MISSIONARIES, WHO HAVE FAITHFULLY MINISTERED TO THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS AND WELFARE OF CUBAN BAPTISTS OVER MANY YEARS.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF CHRISTIANITY, WHEN THE CHURCH AT JERUSALEM PRAYED FOR AN IMPRISONED PETER, CHRISTIANS HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR CONFIDENCE IN THE POWER OF PRAYER. THEREFORE, WE ASK SOUTHERN BAPTISTS AND OTHER CHRISTIANS IN THEIR CHURCHES ON SUNDAY, APRIL 25, TO PRAY FOR THE RELEASE OF OUR BAPTIST BRETHREN IN PRISON, FOR COMFORT TO MRS. CAUDILL, MRS. FITE AND OTHER RELATIVES OF THE PRISONERS, FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF OUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS THROUGHOUT CUBE IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS, AND FOR THE SOFTENING OF THE HEARTS OF THOSE IN POWER IN CUBA

WAYNE DEHONEY, PRESIDENT SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION ARTHUR B RUTLEDGE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC

25 8 53 40 8 25.



Wanted: Someone to write me

"MY mother was the youngest of eight children. She lived in a small community and by the time she grew to young womanhood, all the eligible young men had been 'taken.' This gave real concern to the young woman who later became my mother, for she didn't propose to be deprived of a husband and a home just because of a community situation.

"With a resourcefulness that continues to be one of her personality traits, she decided to join a pen-pal club. This she did and soon she had a rather large circle of correspondents.

"One young man's letters had special appeal for her. The two exchanged photographs and before long he was making plans to come from his home in another state to visit her. That plan, however, was interrupted by the outbreak of war. The young man had to go into service and was sent overseas right away. The correspondence continued through the war experience and as soon as the young soldier returned home, plans were made again for him to visit the young woman he had come to know quite well but had never seen.

"The young woman had such positive intuition and assurance that this was the right man for her that, without saying anything to anyone, she prepared her trousseau and packed her trunk.

"Evidently each one was pleased with the other, for within three days after he arrived they were engaged and in ten days' time they were married—despite protests from both families and a few violent predictions, "It won't work."

"Tonight, I, a daughter of that union, can testify that a good mar-

riage and a happy home grew from that pen-pal romance.

"When my father died, at sixty-five, one of my mother's brothers, recalling the circumstances of the marriage, was heard to remark, "Well, I'll have to say it *did* work!"

This fragmentary bit of romance came out at a party in the counselor's home following a YWA White Bible Service for two of our Carey Hall residents, each a candidate for a master's degree at this commencement and both to be married right away after their graduation.

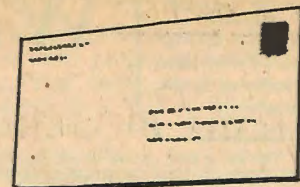
It all started when the hostess, Mrs. Lilian Leavell, suggested that each bride-to-be tell us how she met her fiance. Then the game branched out to the relating of stories about how other couples had met.

The one you have just read was shared by one of our Carey Hall residents who is a furloughing missionary.

While no extra-sensory-perceptionist quality is involved here, throughout the story I kept feeling it was singular that on this very day I had received a letter, passed on to me by our Editor, from a middle-aged woman who is lonely and would cherish an opportunity to form "pen-pal" friendships.

There was a day when such panaceas for loneliness and agencies for matchmaking flourished. Then, accelerated travel, almost-universal availability of transportation means, our mobile population, and occasional un-ethical practices caused a decline in patronage of such organizations.

Today's frank, honest, and uninhibited attitudes concerning the universal desire for suitable mates are bringing lonely-hearts agen-



cies back into acceptance. Cultured and well-balanced persons, finding themselves in situations that severely limit opportunities for meeting "eligibles" of the opposite sex, unashamedly and in good faith, use every legitimate means to make contact with groups where opportunities to meet prospective companions may be present.

It is not within the purpose of this column to serve as a matrimonial agency: but wherever there are women or men of Christian integrity interested in registering here their desire for contact with other Christian persons, responsive to these needs for friendship and companionship, it will be counted a privilege to serve for this column to function as an exchange.

Here is a thumbnail sketch from the one referred to above, who is actively interested in forming congenial friendships:

"I am a Christian lady; have belonged to the First Baptist Church here in my home town for over twenty-five years.

"I would love to hear from other people who are lonely.

"I lost my husband a year ago. I own my home and have an income to take care of myself. I have no children. . . .

"My age is fifty-six, and I should love to have a Christian companion. . . .

"To anyone interested enough to desire a reference concerning my character, personality, and background, I shall be glad to furnish the name and address of my pastor.

"I will receive any communication addressed to: R. M., P. O. Box 652, Brinkley, Arkansas."

Rosalind Street

Mrs. J. H. Street
P. O. Box 853
New Orleans Baptist Seminary
3939 Gentilly Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana

A man of action

By J. I. COSSEY

WHEN a church is without a pastor the pulpit committee is charged with the responsibility of getting the right man before the church. The church has a perfect right to tell the pulpit committee just what sort of man it wants for a pastor.

A church may say to the committee, "We want a man of action." In this case, what does the church want the pastor to do? Does the church want a good pulpit man, one who is a good director of visitation, church administrator, or a combination of all these? Can a church find a man who is an outstanding leader in all the fields of church activity?

If an outstanding pulpit preacher is desired, is the church financially able to employ a director of visitation and promotion? Does

the church want the pastor to direct personally every department of the church life?

Do you want your pastor to preach well-prepared sermons every time he gets up in the pulpit? It takes a lot of hard study, not just one week, but day after day in every week to be prepared for preaching two sermons each Sunday. It is a fact that the pastor who fails to study any week will be forced to go before his people on Sunday unprepared to preach.

But the pastor who majors in preaching must preach funerals, visit the sick and elderly people in the membership, too. He must do some leadership work in all the departments of his church. He may major in preaching, but he must minor in all the fields of endeavor in his church. The preacher must know and the church must know that preaching of the gospel is the main business of both.

If your pastor is director of promotion, visitation, looking after the sick and funerals and church finances, he will likely be

a weakling as a preacher. In our opinion, the pastor must be primarily a preacher of the Word and yet not leave the other things undone.

Yes, your church wants a man of action for a pastor, but at the same time, your pastor wants a church of action. We certainly agree that activity on all fronts is very much needed, which is not found in many churches. What good is there in an inactive church membership?

I have not in all my life known of even one church with a completely active membership. Why are you not active in your church? Be too big to blame some one else for your inactivity. Does the church, in you, have a live member or a dead one?

All the departments in your church need workers and boosters. Every church is in desperate need of active members, but no church has any need of idle members. You are not to be a drone in your church, but be an active, working member. Remember, if you want a pastor of action, you should be a church member of action.

Beacon Lights of Baptist History

By BERNES K. SELPH, Th.D.
Pastor, 1st Baptist Church, Benton

Cycles of religious interest

IT is not the lot of Christians to live on mountain top experiences all the time. Success in their efforts often runs at a low ebb. Many think this to be the present situation. Speakers, reports, and periodicals evidence the fact of spiritual drought. This, sometimes, leads to chiding, frustration, and discouragement.

Both the Bible and history remind us of such days, could we but learn from them. As an illustration of such conditions look at Kentucky in the winter of 1783-4.

Nature itself brought hardship. The weather was bitterly cold. Snow stayed on the ground for weeks. Suffering was intense. Settlers shivered in their rude cabins

which hardly protected them against piercing winds and driving cold. Food was scarce, often consisting of bread and meat killed in the forest.

But religious conditions fared even worse. There were eight small churches, and not one house of worship. There were ministers enough to meet the needs of the people but they had to support their families. This left little time for study and ministry of the word.

John Taylor, pioneer preacher of that period, said there were a number of Baptists around him but they seemed cold as death. Everyone was so busy that religion was little discussed, even on Sunday.

There were many Baptists and Presbyterians among the people, but few had gathered into churches. Those who joined were immigrants from churches back east. No revivals had been conducted. No baptisms had been reported. Old church members had be-

come dull and listless; young members had become reckless. Ministers developed a gloomy, despondent attitude.

One Presbyterian minister, finding a quarreling, grumbling, fighting, profane congregation on his hands, cried out, "Where am I? What situation am I in?"

This state of affairs did not rise from want of able ministers. The names of some of Kentucky's ablest preachers date back to this period. They had been eminently successful in Virginia, but there was no response in their efforts in their new field. What was wrong? Only God has the answer.

Suffice to say, though their messages fell on deaf ears and strong hearts, they continued witnessing. They sowed gospel seed. They watered such seed with faithful living. In time God gave the increase.

In the light of history perhaps there is reason to believe the present spiritual drought will break. There will be mountain top experiences again.



Our debt to Dr. Bridges



(From a statement by Dr. S. A. Whitlow, Executive Secretary of Arkansas State Convention, given at funeral services for Dr. B. L. Bridges in Little Rock, Apr. 10, 1965)

ARKANSAS Baptists will ever be indebted to Dr. B. L. Bridges. For more than 26 years he was at the helm of leadership in Baptist circles. More important than his duration of service was the quality of his leadership. Great were his accomplishments under the severest circumstances.

It was in late January, 1931, that members of the Convention's executive board were called into emergency session. Catastrophe had overtaken them, the Secretary announced. It would be impossible to meet the Feb. 1 interest payment on the debt. The \$54,000 saved for that purpose through consolidation of denominational offices, other economies, and special offerings were lost in one of the 90 bank failures of the past month.

The Secretary called the situation hopeless and submitted his resignation. A board member moved that the Convention should be dissolved and the creditors allowed to claim the property.

This was something of the picture when Dr. Bridges was prevailed upon to assume the office of General Secretary of the Convention. In that far-off day the Convention could offer him nothing but "blood, and tears, and toil, and sweat." A man of lesser magnitude would have given up, but not Dr. Bridges!

When the motion to dissolve the convention was made, Dr. Bridges arose and spoke with such passion and eloquence that the motion never did come to a vote. He was immediately elected as General Secretary. The annual salary was to be \$4,800, but circumstances forced two salary reductions during the first year in office. He furthermore took \$25 per month out of his own salary to pay some of the creditors who were in dire need.

While it was June 1, 1931, before Dr. Bridges finally relinquished the pastorate of First Church, Little Rock, and took over the full responsibility as General Secretary of the Convention, the picture continued to grow darker. The sources of revenue of the Convention were rapidly drying up. The proposed budget of the Convention for 1931 had been set at more than \$150,000, most of which was to be devoted to indebtedness. However, only a little more than \$32,000 undesignated contributions came to the office of the General Secretary. Personnel was cut to a bare minimum. Dr. Bridges and Miss DeWoody carried the full administrative responsibility. Dr. Bridges said of Miss DeWoody that she was doing the work of two people, that of bookkeeper and office secretary. He stated that a woman of her talents and ability would ordinarily draw a salary of at least \$200 per month but that we were paying her little more than half that amount. Her salary was further

reduced a short time later.

The work of the Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. was being carried on under the leadership of J. P. Edmonds. The Sunday School Board was paying most of the expense of this department.

Missions in Arkansas had just about come to a stop as far as the Convention was concerned. The Executive Board reported to the annual meeting in the fall of 1931, "Because of an anticipated default in the payments on our funded debt, and because such a default might provoke legal action resulting in our being unable to remit funds to Southwide causes, your Board, as per your instruction, did not undertake to function for denominational interests outside of Arkansas. Therefore, we had to do with no missions except State Missions, and only such phases of State Missions, as might be termed promotion work." As a result Dr. Bridges reported to the same annual meeting, "Consequently, our people were greatly discouraged and broken in morale because of the danger of losing all our institutions and properties."

Dr. Bridges worked untiringly in the face of thickening clouds. The Board reported that "our General Secretary, during September and October, addressed 41 associational meetings and established an unusual contact and relationship between the associations and the work of the convention in general."

In 1937, in the face of the likelihood of an avalanche of law suits, Dr. Bridges was able to work out an agreement with a committee representing the creditors, and, with the approval of a Federal Court, whereby the indebtedness of the Convention was settled for 35 cents on the dollar. The defaulted sum of the debt was about two-thirds of a million dollars. This settlement was very bitter to Dr. Bridges. He expressed it thus, "Nothing is so impossible as the compromise of a religious issue. Christians must be honest."

"Christians must be honest," was Dr. Bridges theme song for the next few years as he spoke before various churches and Baptist groups.

At the annual meeting of the Convention in 1943 Dr. Bridges said, "We must pay the moral obligation that no earthly court can set aside." He proposed the payment of the 65 percent of the defaulted debt of 1937. Immediately this met with strong opposition. Dr. Bridges' resolution was so strong that immediately many were won to his view and in 1952 the final payment on the defaulted debt was made. This crowning act of Dr. Bridges' leadership received wide acclaim and Baptist stock reached a new high.

(Continued on page 12)

The Bookshelf Baptist beliefs

The Mask of Merlin, a critical biography of David Lloyd George, Holt, Rinehart, Winston, by Donald McCormick, 1964, \$6

As indicated by his title, this is a critical study of David Lloyd George. The author chronicles Mr. George's ascent to power, his role as a Welsh Nationalist, as the powerful Chancellor of the Exchequer, as Prime Minister who led Britain to victory in World War I and the man he was during charges of corruption in the 1920's and his waning years.

The True and Living God, by Trevor Huddleston, Doubleday, 1965, \$2.95

Eight lectures to undergraduates which formed the basis of a mission by the Bishop of Masasi to Oxford University in 1963 make up this volume. The themes are: The World, What is Man?; Things; Evil; Sin and Forgiveness; Jesus Christ; The Church; and The Hard Core.

Religion Can Conquer Communism, by O. K. and M. Moore Armstrong, Thomas Nelson and Sons, 1964, \$4.95

Not only can religion conquer communism, but communism can not conquer religion, declare these two well known Baptist writers in the preface to their book. Since religion calls for man's highest loyalty to his Creator, Godless communism can not achieve its goal of conquering the world unless it first can wipe out religion from the hearts and lives of the people; they declare.

Despite the fact that communist regimes have closed churches and turned their buildings into museums and dance halls; have arrested, tortured, exiled, and executed ministers, priests, rabbis, and lay leaders; have outlawed all the sacred ordinances of religious worship; and have forced children and young people to learn the dogmas of atheism, Christians still flourish in all the vast Marxist empire of the Soviet Union and its associates.

The Armstrongs reveal here three "insoluble problems" of Communists in their campaign to rid themselves of religion: The rising demands by the people for freedoms enjoyed in non-communist lands; an actual spirit of religious revival among all faiths; and a revolt against denial of religious liberty on the part of young people.

Understanding and Helping the Narcotic Addict, by Tommie L. Dunean, Prentice-Hall, 1965, \$2.95

This book is described as "The first and only book for ministers on the pastoral care of narcotic addicts." Drugs are listed, their addictive properties and emotional and physical effects given. Ways of drug procurement, resale and methods of use are also described. An especially helpful section is devoted to popular misconceptions about drug addiction.

A PREACHER'S MEMORIAL

BY HERSCHEL H. HOBBS

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

"AND many resorted unto him, and said, John did no miracle: but all things that John spoke of this man were true" (John 10:41).

JESUS was in Perea in the area where John the Baptist had conducted his ministry as the forerunner of Christ. The Baptist was dead, but the fruits of his ministry continued. For the people now flocked to hear Jesus, "and many believed on him there" (v. 42). The Galilean people had largely forsaken Jesus (John 6:66). But the Pereaans now follow Him. And it was in a measure due to the faithful witness to Him which had been borne by the Baptist. For they recognized Jesus as fulfilling his preaching concerning the Christ.

"John did no miracle" or "sign" by which to authenticate his mission. He faithfully proclaimed the truth which God had revealed to him. Jesus Himself was John's "sign" that his message was true. Because the people now saw Him as the One so clearly described by the Baptist.

Later certain Greeks will come to Jerusalem saying, "Sir, we

would see Jesus" (John 12:21). The Pereaans had already seen Him through John's preaching. And while the Baptist had decreased to the point of dying, Jesus will go on increasing through the ages. This will ever be a memorial to the faithful preaching of the Forerunner, who first declared Him to be the Lamb of God taking away the sin of the world.

John 10:41-42 should be the fitting and desired epitaph of every faithful preacher or teacher of the Gospel of Christ. For there can be no greater memorial to either than that in one's message others will recognize and be brought to believe in Jesus.

Correction

In a recent *Baptist Belief* item entitled "The Son of Man Coming" I made the statement that some interpreted Jesus' remarks in Matthew 16, "There be some standing here, which shall not taste death, till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom," as meaning the transfiguration, Jesus' resurrection, Pentecost, or the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. I stated that "all of the twelve lived to see the first three." This should have read that all except Judas lived to see the resurrection and Pentecost. Of course, only three disciples, namely, Peter, James, and John actually saw the transfiguration. The thought which was intended is that all twelve of the disciples lived until after that event.

One reader wrote in and called my attention to this, and I offer it to you as a corrected statement.

Nightfall

THE sky was blue, then suddenly gray.

Sunbeams and shadows skittered away.

The sun made patterns of gold and red

On the ceiling of velvet overhead.

A cascade of stars fell into place, And the moon burst forth to show its face.

A blanket of silence covered us all. One of God's miracles. . .Nightfall.

—Connye Barker

'Worship' theme of WMU meeting

TEXARKANA was the site for the fourth time of the annual meeting of the state Woman's Missionary Union, held this year at Beech Street Church, Apr. 5-7. Theme was "O Worship the King."

Mrs. J. H. Brandt, Carlise, narrated the worship sessions, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. David M. Tate, vocalists, and Mrs. William J. Perkinson, organist. Modes of misdirected worship in their countries were outlined by Ming Lok Lam, Hong Kong; Mrs. W. Alvin Hatton, Brazil; Miss Stella Gaverluk, Canada; and Mrs. Heyward Adams, Nigeria.

Six missionaries, Arkansas by birth or adoption with a total of 81 years service, addressed the convention: Mrs. Albert I. Bagby, Mr. and Mrs. Hatton and Glendon Grober, all of Brazil; Miss Nan Owens and Mrs. Heyward Adams, Nigeria.

At Tuesday's afternoon session, Mrs. Findley Chu, wife of Ouachita University professor, related her escape from Communist forces when they moved into her Chinese home community.

Mike M. Makoshola, OBU student from Rhodesia, told of his

visit home paid for by Arkansans with trading stamps. Mrs. Robert Buice, Little Rock, moderated a panel on home life on the mission field.

Miss Hazel Borland, Pine Bluff, presented the Missionary Journeyman Program. She will leave in August for Hong Kong to teach. Missionary opportunities were discussed by Milton DuPriest, host pastor, who served for five years in Tokyo.

Home Mission Board work was outlined by Tommy Martin, OBU student who has served in the West, and Miss Bernice Elliott, who jointly serves WMU and the Board.

Opportunities at Southern Baptist assemblies and conferences were listed by Linda Bumpus, Glorieta staff member in 1964. Kathy Knight, Queen Regent of the host church, told of the foundation for service received through organizational activities.

Mrs. J. N. Shoptaw, president of Beech Street WMU, was chairman of arrangements.

(For new leaders of WMU, see page 16.)



LEROY ROGERS

Serves new church

LEROY Rogers has resigned as pastor of Beech Branch Church, to accept the pastorate of Friendship Church, Clinton, organized Apr. 4 by a group of 38 Southern Baptist Church members.

At the organizational meeting, Mr. Rogers served as moderator and Homer Alred as secretary. Composing the executive advisory council were Mr. Rogers, Roy Mabrey, J. D. Seymour, Ben Wofferd, Otis Allen, Ernie Bagley and Mr. Alred.

The new church is affiliated with Stone, Searcy-Van Buren County Association.

Pioneer leader dies

MRS. EVERETT RAWLINGS, pioneer denominational leader, died Apr. 6, at her home in Hollydale, Calif. She was a life-member of the Arkansas WMU executive board, and for many years was an approved state Sunday School worker.

Survivors include her husband, who retired in 1949 after having served as state missionary and as pastor of First Church, Walnut Ridge; Southside Church, Pine Bluff; First Church, Van Buren; Immanuel Church Ft. Smith; First Church, Forrest City. At the time of retirement he was pastor of Caney Creek Church in Caroline Association. It was then that the Rawlings moved to California.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Rawlings is survived by three granddaughters and one sister, all of California.



1965-66 ARKANSAS WMU OFFICERS—From left to right, Miss Nancy Cooper, Little Rock, treasurer; Mrs. Roy E. Snider, Camden, president; Mrs. Floyd Chronister, Little Rock, vice president; Mrs. Jack Royce, Little Rock, recording secretary.

SUNDAY marked the 20th anniversary of Dr. W. O. Vaught, Jr., and Immanuel Church, Little Rock, as pastor and people.

Those who know this great church and its gifted preacher know that the two have grown, together, during these two tremendous decades.

Some things can be measured by statistics, but the things that count most in the kingdom of God cannot thus be measured. Immanuel Church has long been known as a great mission church. During the past 20 years more than a thousand members were lettered out from the church to form nine missions which are now full-fledged churches: Alexander, Arch View, Bethany, Capitol Hill, Davis Chapel, Garden Homes, Highway, Remount, and Riverside.

Through liberal giving to missions and through the denominational leadership of Dr. Vaught, who has served on various Southern Baptist Convention committees and boards, including the Foreign Mission Board, the church has made a great impact for Christ in many lands. Incidentally, Dr. Vaught was chairman of the Building Committee of the Foreign Mission Board at the time the new headquarters building of the Board was erected, in Richmond, Va.

Across the two decades, nearly 5,000 of the church's members were lettered out to join other churches or were lost by death. During this time, 2,918 were received into the church on baptism and 5,699 by letter.

Membership now 3,855

In 1959 the church revised its rolls, dropping several hundred names of persons who could not be located. The membership, as of Oct. 1, 1964, the end of the last associational year, stood at 3,855.

For the past five years, the church has given more than three times as much, for all causes, as the \$101,771 total for the year 1945. The giving for 1964, totaling

\$352,986.50, set an all-time record.

In special mission offerings this year, the church reached its goal of \$21,000 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions; raised \$2,244 to exceed its goal of \$2,000 for the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions; and, at the time this was written, was within sight of a \$6,500 goal for the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

Pastor Vaught was born in Versailles, Ky., on Jan. 16, 1911 and moved, as a boy, with his family to Mississippi. He grew up near Brooksville. He earned the B.A. degree from Mississippi (Baptist) College and the Th.M. degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

For five years, beginning in May, 1935, he served as Baptist student secretary for the state of Missouri. His pastorates include Bethany Church, Kansas City, Mo., and University Church, Abilene, Tex. He has been with Immanuel Church since April, 1945.

Mrs. Vaught is the former Miss Mary Frances Bostick, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Bostick, Louisville, Ky. The Vaughts have a son, Carl Gray, who is to receive his Ph.D. degree this spring from Yale University and has accepted a position as assistant professor of philosophy at Kansas State University.

Denominational leader

Pastor Vaught's places as a denominational leader have included: six years on the Annuity Board of SBC; eight years on the Foreign Mission Board. He has served on the Ouachita College (now University) Board and is presently a member of the Board of the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children. For two years, 1954, 1955, he served as president of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. He has served successively as secretary-treasurer, vice president and president of the Pastors' Conference of SBC and as first vice president of SBC.



—Portrait by George Fisher

Dr. and Mrs. Vaught have traveled widely. He has attended the last several meetings of the Baptist World Alliance, and has conducted world tours.

In 1955 he received the honorary D.D. degree from Ouachita.

At a reception honoring Dr. and Mrs. Vaught Sunday night, Immanuel Church presented them a color television set.—Elm

Dr. William I. Porter

DR. WILLIAM I. Porter, 46, chief of surgery at Arkansas Baptist Hospital died Apr. 12.

Dr. Porter was graduated from the University of Arkansas Medical School and had lived at Little Rock since his graduation. He interned at Baptist Memorial Hospital at Memphis. Dr. Porter was assistant resident in neurological surgery in the neurological institute of Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center at New York for two years, and studied neurology further at Queens Square Hospital, London.

He was a member of Second Presbyterian Church.

Smith to Dell

J. C. SMITH has resigned as pastor of Imboden Church to accept a call from First Church, Dell.

Rev. J. I. Cossey has been named interim pastor.

1200 attend state youth convention

TWELVE hundred youth from all sections of Arkansas attended the State Training Union Youth Convention at First Church, Little Rock, Apr. 16. Dr. C. A. Roberts "rang the bell" with three messages. Convention theme was "His Way My Way." Dr. Roberts is pastor of First Church, Tallahassee, Fla.

One of the highlights of the convention was the State Sword Drill and State Speakers Tournaments. First and second place Sword Drill winners were Louise Jackson, Second Church, West Helena, and Pat Price, Immanuel Church, Rogers. Louise will represent Arkansas at Glorieta June 24-30 and Pat will represent Arkansas at Ridgecrest, July 15-21. Third place winner in the sword drill, who will be an alternate, was Sherry Arnold, Shiloh Church, Red River Association.

Ann Croxton of First Church, Cotter, was first place winner in the 17-18 year speakers' tournament and will speak at Glorieta during the assembly in June. Roger Harrod of Second Church, Arkadelphia, whose home address is Dumas, won in the 19-24 plus college students tournament, and will represent Arkansas at Ridgecrest in July.

Another outstanding feature of the convention was the afternoon conferences conducted largely by Intermediates and young people. An alternate conference on vocational guidance proved to be very popular. There were four separate conferences for those who had planned to enter the ministry, do mission work, enter the field of religious education, or who were interested in other vocations such as law, medicine or teaching.

The top five!

5 IN an analysis and evalu- 5
5 ation of Baptist papers made 5
5 recently by students of Dr. 5
5 Gaines S. Dobbins, of Golden 5
5 Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, 5
5 Calif., the *Arkansas Baptist* 5
5 *Newsmagazine* "rated among 5
5 the top five of those ana- 5
5 lyzed," Dr. Dobbins reports. 5
5555555555555555555555555555

These conferences were led by Dr. Reuben South, Mrs. Glendon Grober, Bob McKee, and Horace Hubbard. The entire conference was under the direction of J. T. Elliff. Throughout the convention there was a minimum of adult action. The young people themselves had almost complete control of every phase of the program. This is perhaps the secret to the success of the youth convention year after year.

Jon Stubblefield, U. of A., served as Convention president. Ken Martin of Ouachita University was song leader. Angela Jones of L.R.U. served as pianist and Gayle Barnett of Ft. Smith as organist. Special music was provided by the youth choir of First Church, DeQueen, and the Trebleaires of Siloam Springs.—Reporter

May to Pocahontas

O. PHILLIP May, Altheimer pastor for three years, is the new pastor of First Church, Pocahontas.

In October, Mr. May participated in the Alaskan evangelistic crusade. He was religious speaker at Southern College in 1964.

Mr. and Mrs. May have two daughters, 3 and 5. He is a graduate of Ouachita College and New Orleans Seminary.

Baseball schedule

THE Southern College Eagles will resume intercollegiate baseball this spring with a 15-game schedule.

Coaches Jake Shambarger and Frank Shell are enthusiastic about the Eagles' chances as they fight the weather in preparation for their games.

Pitchers include: Mike Justus, Walnut Ridge; Mike Cole, Lepanto; Terry Benson, Senath, Mo.; Larry Beckham, Campbell, Mo.; and Gary Golden, McCroy.

Games will be played with: Little Rock University, Memphis State University, Arkansas State Junior Varsity, Ft. Smith Junior College, John Brown University, and Harding College.

Briefs

JAMIE J. Bachus, 60, North Little Rock, father of Rev. Gordon S. Bachus, pastor of Earle Church, died April 15 in Houston, Tex. He was a retired round house foreman for the Rock Island Lines and a member of Gardner Memorial Methodist Church, North Little Rock, where funeral services were held April 16.

DR. Glen Haddock, head of the Mathematics Department at Arkansas College and a member of First Church, Batesville, has been elected vice chairman of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the Mathematics Association of America. The annual meeting was held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

HAROLD Vernon has accepted a call as minister of education and youth at Beech Street Church, Texarkana. He has been serving First Church, Oklahoma City.

Dr. Bridges



(Continued from page 8)

The General Secretary had hoped the slate might be wiped clean in 1948—the centennial of Arkansas Baptists, but it could not be. Early in 1952 he had expressed a strong desire that the indebtedness be cleared that year, but upon further check he estimated that they would lack about \$10,000 having

sufficient funds for this purpose. This desire was expressed in the presence of Miss Nancy Cooper, executive secretary of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union. She took up the matter of their raising the last \$10,000 with the women of the state. Their usual fine response and deep commitment made it possible to erase the debt in 1952. Dr. Bridges immediately called a prayer meeting to praise God for what He had been able to do through Arkansas Baptists.

McLarry takes church

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Newman R. McLarry, former associate director of the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board division of evangelism, Dallas, has accepted a call as pastor of Northwest Baptist Church here, effective Easter Sunday. A native of Sulphur Springs, Tex., McLarry has served with the evangelism division since 1962. He previously served three years as pastor of First Church, Ft. Smith, Ark.

Otto at retreat

AMONG fifteen Oklahoma Baptist University students who attended the International Retreat at Camp Canyon, near Hinton, recently, was Eddie Otto, OBU sophomore class president, graduate of Central High School, Little Rock. Otto, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Otto, 3108 S. Tyler, Little Rock, is majoring in voice and piano at OBU. He is a member of the Bison Chorale, Shawlee Choral Society, was music chairman for Christian Emphasis week, soloed for College Preview day, and sang in the OBU music festival Bach presentation "St. Matthew's Passion."

Cowling featured

DR. Dale Cowling, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock, is scheduled to be the evening inspirational speaker at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Assembly June 24-30.



DR. COWLING

Training Union leadership and youth conferences are scheduled at this time. There will be separate programs and different daily schedules for the leadership and youth conferences with the two groups meeting together once daily for the evening inspirational meeting. The youth conferences are designed for those 13-24 years of age. The leadership conferences are planned for all other age groups.

Arkansans graduate from Midwestern



EARL RAY DUNCAN



CHARLES DEVARD BETTS

TWO Arkansans — Charles Devard Betts and Earl Ray Duncan — are candidates for graduation from Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, this spring. Each is to receive the B. D. Degree. Both men will be available for pastoral calls.

Mr. Betts, 31, received the B.A. Degree from the University of Missouri. He is currently serving as pastor of Grain Valley Church, Grain Valley, Mo. He is married to the former Shirley Joyce Shrum. They have two children: Donnie Mark, 10, and Terry Joe, 1.

Mr. Duncan, a native of Batesville, is 30. He is married to the former Miss Bonnie W. Wink of Batesville. They have three children: David, 8; Pamela, 5; Owen,

2.

Mr. Duncan received the B.A. Degree from Arkansas College, Batesville. He is currently serving as pastor of Little Platte Church, Edgerton, Mo.

Music winners

PULASKI County Association held its first hymn playing and song leading tournament Apr. 1 at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, conducted by John M. Farris, with Mrs. Donald Warmack, LRU faculty member, and Mrs. Euel Forrest, Little Rock, piano and organ judges, and Charles Mayor, First Church, Benton, and Charles Huges, First Church, Searcy, song leader judges.

Ten participated from five churches. Winners will represent the association at the state tournament at OBU in June.

They are: Sue Ella Beard, Second Church, Little Rock; Jerry Hatfield and John Smith, Immanuel Church, Little Rock; Jo Linder and Tommy Vise, Pulaski Heights Church.

Seek nominations

THE Southern Baptist Conference of Ministers' Wives plans to make an award this year to a minister's wife who "has made a distinct contribution to the life of the denomination and the Christian community."

The award is called the "Dawson Award," in memory of Mrs. J. M. Dawson of Waco, Tex.

The conference has made similar awards in several past years, though no award was made in 1961, 1962 or 1964. Previously they went to Mrs. Jllin J. Owens, Greenville, S. C.; Mrs. M. Jackson White, Arlington, Va.; Mrs. R. G. Lee, Memphis, and Mrs. Dawson (this last one after her death).

Mrs. Henry A. Parker, Orlando, Fla., is general chairman of the selection committee. State chairmen who will receive nominations of women in their states for the honor include: Mrs. W. O. Vaught, Little Rock.

To receive honorary degrees



WALTER YELDELL

THE Ouachita University board voted to confer honorary doctorates at the May 30 commencement on the Rev. Walter Yeldell, pastor of the Second Church, Hot Springs, and currently president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; and John Gilbreath, administrator of Arkansas Baptist Hospital in Little Rock.

Dr. Henry C. Lindsey, dean of faculty, presented an encouraging report about the new degree program in nursing which will start June 1 and said pre-enrollment in the program is "most gratifying."

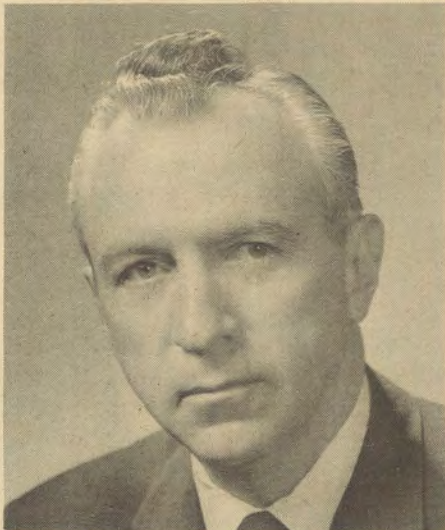
A record budget of \$1,764,305.68 was adopted.

A strongly worded resolution of approval and appreciation for Dr. Ralph Phelps' work as president of Churches United Against Gambling was adopted by the board at its regular quarterly meeting April 8.

Dr. Phelps led the successful fight against proposed Amendment 55 last fall and continued to serve as head of the church group until he resigned March 30 because of the heavy load of work at Ouachita.

The Board elected Dr. Phelps to a 13th term as president and re-elected all other administrative personnel.

The faculty for 1965-66 was elected. Among new teachers was Lamar Watkins, who will serve as associate professor of physical



JOHN GILBREATH

education. Watkins served as head football and track coach, 1958-60, and has been teaching physical education at Mobile (Baptist) College in Alabama. He has his B.A. from Ouachita and his M. Ed. from Peabody.



FOR LOTTIE MOON—The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rannebarger, Mt. Home, each received a \$10 gift from their grandmother in Decatur, Ill., as a cash Christmas present, and turned the money over to the Lottie Moon offering of their church, East Side. Left to right, the children are shown with their pastor, O. I. Ford: Karen Ann, Kimmie Sue and Tommy Joe.

African responds

PASTOR Earl C. Edwards of Calvary Church, Harrisburg, reports that a young Negro from Freetown, Africa, was one of three who surrendered to preach in a recent revival at Shiprock, N.M.

The young man was brought to the United States by a doctor for his education. He completed high school this year and will spend next year in Indianapolis, Ind. After completing his seminary work, he plans to return to Africa to preach to his own people.

During the revival there were 51 professions of faith and 26 rededications.

Jim Tomblin was song director. Mr. Edwards was evangelist. Charles M. Case is pastor of First Church, Shiprock, and director of the Indian mission work in that area for the Home Mission Board.

Bihl to John Brown

DR. Carl J. (Kelly) Bihl has resigned his position as president of Youth For Christ International and is now affiliated with John Brown University, Siloam Springs, as assistant to the president.

Dr. Bihl is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, and received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from John Brown University in 1960.

Wins N. O. scholarship

WANDA Jean Jennings, Little Rock, has been awarded a Women's Academic Achievement Scholarship for study at New Orleans Seminary, beginning next September.

The scholarship is one of several recently established by the Seminary to be given annually to students who have achieved academic and social excellence during their college careers and are entering various areas of church-related service.

A senior at Henderson State Teachers College Arkadelphia, Miss Jennings is majoring in music and plans to study toward the master of religious education degree at the seminary.

Sunday School Board program

NASHVILLE — Messengers to the 1965 Southern Baptist Convention at Dallas will be presented with the longest program statement they have yet been asked to approve for one of the convention's agencies.

The document, which may be 15,000 words long, describes the 25 programs assigned to the SBC's largest agency, the Sunday School Board, with headquarters in Nashville and book stores and other operations from coast to coast.

Copies of the document have been circulated to about 800 SBC leaders. The recommendations will appear in the Book of Reports, available as messengers register.

The statement has received tentative approval of the SBC Executive Committee and is scheduled to have that committee's final approval in a meeting at Dallas immediately before the convention opens. To be authorized for publication in the SBC Organization Manual, however, it must have the approval of the messengers.

The organization manual will contain the programs and other descriptive material on the work of every SBC agency.

Two program statements are being presented at Dallas, the Sunday School Board's and the Brotherhood Commission's. Others have preceded these over a four-year period. Remaining to be adopted are two other agencies' statements—the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board—perhaps in 1966.

The 25 programs proposed for the Sunday School Board reflect the work the agency is already doing. The number of programs here is about twice those assigned to any other SBC agency.

The 25 programs are (1) church literature publishing, (2) Broadman Book publishing, (3) Broadman Film production, (4) church music publishing, (5) Broadman supplies production;

(6) Convention Press Publishing, (7) Baptist book store operation, (8) assembly operation, (9) Sunday School promotion, (10) Vacation Bible School promotion;

(11) weekday Bible study promotion, (12) Training Union promotion, (13) church music promotion, (14) church administration, (15) audio-visual education service;

(16) work with college students, (17) family ministry, (18) vocational guidance, (19) Bible and general tract distribution, (20) church architecture consultation;

(21) church library service, (22) church recreation service, (23) research and statistical analysis, (24) cooperative education and promotion work with state Baptist conventions, (25) Southern Baptist Convention support.

The proposed program statement says "the Sunday School Board's objective is to support the Southern Baptist Convention in its task of bringing men to God through Jesus Christ by making available Bibles, lesson courses and materials, books, films and filmstrips, music and recordings, and church supplies and by fostering education and service programs which will help the churches to establish, conduct, enlarge and improve their ministries of Bible teaching and Christian training.

"The net earnings from the six programs of publishing and the program of Baptist book store operation, over and above the cost of operation, are available for the 17 education and service programs, capital reserves, capital improvements and working capital. The board strives to break even on its program of assembly operation," the statement adds.

The Sunday School Board is the only SBC agency not to receive financial support through the convention's unified budget, the Cooperative Program.

Through its programs of Southern Baptist Convention support

McClard book

A COLLECTON of easy music for volunteer choirs has been compiled by LeRoy McClard in *The Evangelistic Choir*, which will be available May 15 in Baptist book stores. This Broadman Press music publication contains many of the old "choir specials" which are not included in *Baptist Hymnal* and *Christian Praise*.

and cooperative education and promotion with state Baptist conventions, the Sunday School Board provides funds from its income to help other denominational activities.

Areas in which it already cooperates with states and provides financial assistance, and which would continue under the program outline, are in Sunday School, Training Union, student, church music and church architecture work.

However, the board "does not participate in the selection or supervision of the workers" by the state conventions. It mails checks each month to state Baptist boards.

In Southern Baptist Convention support, the board is to forward "an amount equal to one-third of the board's contribution to cooperative education and promotion work with state conventions." This is sent monthly to the SBC Executive Committee.

The Sunday School Board also is to "provide auditorium, conference rooms, and exhibit space" at its assemblies in Glorieta, N.M., and Ridgecrest, N.C., for summer conferences staged by other SBC agencies.

Funds sent to the Executive Committee are placed in the convention's operating account.

"The Sunday School Board conceives its function and its mission in terms of service—first, to the churches; next, to the convention," the statement continues. "In serving the churches, the board's first responsibility is that of a publishing ministry. . . (and) its second responsibility is that of developing an educational program for use by churches of varying types and sizes."

Departments

Woman's Missionary Union

New WMU leaders

DURING the closing session of the annual meeting of Arkansas WMU Apr. 5-7 at Beech Street Church, Texarkana, the following were chosen to serve during 1965-66:

President, Mrs. R. E. Snider, Camden; vice-president, Mrs. Floyd Chronister, Little Rock; recording secretary, Mrs. Jack F. Royce, Little Rock; treasurer, Nancy Cooper, Little Rock.

Mission study director: Mrs. Carl Kluck, Arkadelphia; prayer director, Mrs. Paul Hogue, Ben-

ton; community missions director, Mrs. J. A. Hogan, Sweet Home; stewardship director, Mrs. Elizabeth Moore, Hughes; enlistment director, Mrs. Phillip May, Smackover.

District representatives: Central, Mrs. Buford Bracy and Mrs. Leslie Wilfong, Little Rock; East Central, Mrs. Walter Priddy, Forrest City, and Mrs. F. S. Dozier, Marianna; West Central, Mrs. R. E. Snow, Ft. Smith, and Mrs. W. H. Cole, Alma; North Central, Mrs. O. I. Ford and Mrs. Harold Elmore, Mountain Home; Southeast, Mrs. W. E. Summers, Fordyce, and Mrs. Delbert McAtee, Smackover; Southwest, Mrs. Jewel Shoptaw, Texarkana, and Mrs.

R. A. Coppenger, Arkadelphia; Northeast, Mrs. Wayne Friday, Blytheville, and Mrs. J. E. Stogsdill, Jonesboro; Northwest, Mrs. John D. Blythe, Harrison, and Mrs. Andrew Hall, Fayetteville.

Local members: Mrs. S. A. Whitlow, Mrs. Robt. H. Gladden, Mrs. Jack B. Jones, Mrs. Paul Brown, Mrs. Robert Buice, Mrs. Dan A. Pierce, Mrs. George Polos, Mrs. Wm. B. Davey.

Life member: Mrs. H. M. Keck, Ft. Smith. (Others previously chosen as life members include Mrs. F. E. Goodbar, Mrs. C. R. Pugh, Mrs. W. D. Pye, Mrs. J. L. Fiske, Mrs. L. M. Sipes, Mrs. J. R. Grant and Elma Cobb.)

The 1966 annual meeting will be held at First Church, Pine Bluff, Mar. 28-30.—Nancy Cooper, Executive Secretary and Treasurer.

*+ *+*

Church Music

Former Arkansan

IT gives me a lot of pleasure to announce that Donnie J. Adams, formerly of Waldron, will be the director of our State Adult Choir Festivals this year. Mr. Adams, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Adams, still live in Waldron, has had a wide variety of training and experience since leaving Arkansas.

He has a B.M. degree from Oklahoma Baptist University, M.M. degree from Northwestern Univer-

sity, and recently earned his doctorate from Peabody College in Nashville. He also served as acting chairman of the Department of Music, Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex.

This is the first year we will have divided our adult festival. Through the years, our festivals have grown in interest and participation to the extent that we have felt a need to divide them to accommodate the growth. Also, by reaching out into the different sections of the state, we make it easier for more churches to participate, which perhaps could not attend one central festival in Little Rock.

+ *

Brotherhood

Another great Crusade

THE MACEDONIAN Call has come again to Arkansas brethren for help in another evangelistic crusade in Western Nebraska and Eastern Colorado. What is needed is a sufficient number of preachers and laymen to hold revivals in as many churches as possible during the period of July 11-18, 1965. Men who can not get away until

after Sunday, July 11, can serve during the period of July 13-18.

The ideal is a preacher and two laymen for each church; and it is preferred that all three shall come from the same Arkansas church, if possible. Such a fellowship in service can carry through in the work in their own church after the men get back home.

Some men have already enrolled for the Crusade. Others are making inquiry and expressing interest in participating in the Crusade. Every man will be responsible for his own travel expense to and

The schedule this year calls for three adult festivals: Apr. 29 at First Church, Ft. Smith; Apr. 30 at First Church, El Dorado; and May 1 at First Church, Little Rock. Mr. Adams will direct each of these festivals, and Norman Webb, organist at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, will be the accompanist for all three festivals.

We would urge choir directors to register their choirs immediately for these festivals, by sending \$2 registration fee and the required information to the Church Music Department, 401 W. Capitol Ave., Little Rock.—Hoyt A. Mulkey, Secretary.

*+ *

from the church to which he is assigned (or his own church, or individuals, will help in this matter). If you are interested for yourself or for others in your church, write the Brotherhood Department, 302 Baptist Building, Little Rock, for details.

Harold Anderson, layman of Heber Springs and former State Brotherhood president, will serve as general chairman of the Crusade. Harold has done an outstanding job as a Crusade leader, and is calling for the greatest Crusade ever, for this summer. Pray about

your own personal participation!

Remember the State Royal Ambassador Congress, scheduled for May 7 and 8, at Second Church, Little Rock. See that your church is well represented at the Congress!—Nelson Tull

Camps and Assemblies

Adult retreat

"WHO ever heard of adults going on an overnight retreat?" This was the sentiment of the adult choir members of one of our local churches in this area. But some 40 strong packed their bags, gritted their teeth and headed for the wild and wooly out-of-doors for an overnight retreat at our new camp at Paron.

It was worth the trip to behold their amazement when it was discovered that we not only had electricity and running water, but even indoor facilities! "Imagine this, all the comforts of home!" Well, needless to say, this group had a most enjoyable time and was able to accomplish their task of rehearsing an Easter cantata.

There are a few good dates remaining for churches wanting to schedule retreats before our state camping season begins. We feel that we have the most modern facility in the state and with your support can utilize it to the fullest extent.—John W. Cutsinger, Business Manager.

Camps and Assemblies

Abernathy tour

RECENTLY, the associate in the Sunday School Department conducted a revival meeting in Anaco, Venezuela. A Baptist church there, made up of Americans who work in the oil industry invited him to conduct the meeting, paying his travel and entertainment.

While on the trip, Mr. Abernathy visited Baptist mission work, made interesting color pictures and held conferences with our missionaries in the area.

You may want to contact Mr. Abernathy to share his mission visit and pictures with your group.—Lawson Hatfield, State Sunday School Secretary

IT'S HERE

BUY ELECTRIC APPLIANCES ON AP & L'S NEW



Available to any residential customer of AP&L, Reddy Plan is the new easy way to buy any of the electric appliances listed below and pay for them in easy monthly payments on your electric bill! It features a low interest rate, low-down payment and financing for purchases from \$50.00 to \$2,000.00, with up to five years to pay.

You can buy a Range, Dryer, Water Heater, Dishwasher, Refrigerator, Clothes Washer—and most other major electric appliances—and include the actual plumbing and wiring installation costs on the Reddy Plan.

See your Reddy Plan dealer NOW—fill out the simple credit application and sales agreement, pay the down payment, and the balance will be billed to you monthly on your electric bill. It's the easy way to pay for the electric appliance you've been wanting to own.

ARKANSAS / POWER & LIGHT
HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS **COMPANY**

Buckner Association

JAKE Cardwell and Beal Thomas were ordained deacons by Clark's Chapel Church Apr. 4. Taking part in the service were Pastor Lawrence Woodward, Ford F. Gauntt, Ray Dickson, Ernest Baker, L. L. Gilliam, and Paul McClung delivered the sermon.

NEW Providence Church ordained Glen Wagner to the ministry Apr. 11. Participants were Ford F. Gauntt, Curtis Smithson, Earl Cantrell, Porter Black, Vernie Heydenreich, Dwain Derrick and Ernest Hogan.

NEW pastors are D. D. Preston, Denton; Ernest Hogan, Mansfield, Bobbye Joe Martin, Fellowship.—Reporter

White River Assn.

PEEL Church has called Paul Lewis as pastor.

James E. Taylor has resigned his position with First Church, Mountain Home, to become music and education director of First Church, Tahlequah, Okla.

E. A. Croxton has resigned First Church, Cotter, to accept the pastorate of First Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., one of 200 that the Home Mission Board is subsidizing.

Mississippi County Assn.

L. N. HINCH, pastor, Brown's Chapel Church, has returned to his home after a long confinement in the hospital with a heart attack. His address is Route 2, Manila.

Well's Chapel has called Ottis Mackey as pastor after the resignation of J. B. Deaton.

New Liberty's new pastor is Ray Tweed, New Providence.

Ridgecrest has called Glin Johnson, who assumed his new pastorate Apr. 18 and will be moving to Blytheville in June.

Liberty Association

EAST Main Church has launched a \$153,000 bond drive.

George Fletcher has accepted the call of Three Creeks Church.

Greene Co. Assn.

B. C. DeSPAIN is the new music director of East Side Church. His father at one time was pastor of Third Avenue Church.

Virgil Robinson was ordained into the deaconship of Stonewall Church Mar. 28. Participating in the services were Orval Coln, pastor, John Gilmore, Jim Winfrey, Charles Abanathy and Theo T. James, missionary.

Darrell Stone is the new pastor of Brighton. Frank Bobbett has been called by Delaplaine.

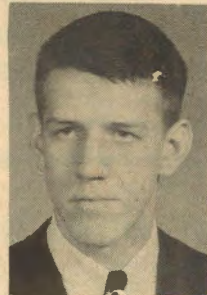
Trinity Association

FISHER Church has called Shelby Bittle as pastor. He has been associational missionary of Rocky Bayou Association.

Freer Church has built new Sunday School rooms. Neiswander is putting in new floors and pews. Lepanto Church is constructing new front steps. Pleasant Valley has refinished the interior.

Wins scholarship

KERSH E. Hall, co-editor of the Dumas High School yearbook for the past two years, has been awarded the Keith Tudor journalism scholarship to Ouachita University.



KERSH HALL

While attending Dumas High, Hall was also a reporter for the Student Council and Speech Club, a first lieutenant in the band, and a member of the National Honor Society.

Revivals

FIRST Church, Cabot, May 2; Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, evangelist; Jim Ponder, Dallas, music director; Harold O'Bryan, pastor. (CB)

TRINITY Church, Little Rock, May 2-9; Rev. Jesse Reed, evangelist; youth revival June 6-9; Rev. Tom Elliff, evangelist; Jim Elliff, song director; Randolph M. Smith, pastor.

FOREST Highlands Church, Little Rock, May 9-17; Dr. Hugh Bumpas, evangelist; Jim E. Tillman, pastor.

FIRST Church, Cotton Plant, Mar. 28 - Apr. 4; Jesse Reed, evangelist; Mark Short Sr., song director; 30 additions for baptism; 3 other professions of faith; 5 by letter; 2 surrendered for special service; 42 rededications; I. M. Prince, pastor.

FIRST Church, Pine Bluff May 24-30; Angel Martinez, evangelist; Robert L. Smith, pastor.

FIRST Church, Douglasville, Little Rock, Apr. 4-11; Ed Walker, evangelist; Cliff Brown, music director; 3 by profession of faith; 2 for baptism; 3 by letter; 32 rededications; Don Grendell, pastor.

FIRST Church, Geyer Springs, Little Rock, Apr. 4-11; Rev. Jesse Reed, evangelist; Norman Goad, song leader; 37 additions; 26 by baptism; 11 by letter; 3 other professions; W. E. Perry, pastor.

STANFILL Church, Jacksonville, 2 miles north of Olmstead on Fortson Road, Apr. 25-May 2; Ed Walker, Levy, evangelist; Glen Smith, pastor, song director.

From the churches . . .

First Church, Rogers

ON display in the auditorium Apr. 11 was the architects' drawing of the new church building and grounds. The sketch shows the permanent auditorium and parking area.

Arkansas City

MR. and Mrs. D. A. Youree have officially presented to the church a new Hammond organ.

Arkadelphia First

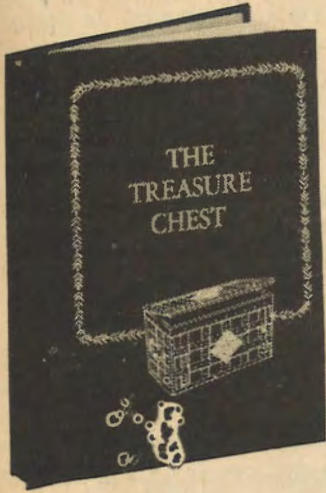
CLEARFORK has been chosen as the site for the annual youth retreat Apr. 30-May 2.

El Dorado Trinity

POINTING up the spring revival, now underway, the church issued an 11-page edition of its newsletter, "The Lamp-lighter." Napp Granade, pastor, Wesley Heights Church, Columbus, Ga., is preaching. The services end Sunday.

APRIL SHOWERS BRING . . . SPRINGTIME GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS!

Get these books from your BAPTIST BOOK STORE



THE TREASURE CHEST compiled by Charles L. Wallis

More than 1,000 sparkling selections from great writings of the ages. The book features clear, easy-to-read type, beautiful full-page photographs, heavy antiqued paper, album-binding in deep shade of maroon, gold cord tie, gift box. Size, 11x8 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches. (9h) \$4.95

DECISION AT DAWN The Underground Christian Witness in Korea by Chulho Awe

This is an account of incredible Christian witness among a fear-driven people, bravely brought to decision for Christ. Illustrated with on-the-spot photographs. (9h) \$3.95

HIS GOOD AND PERFECT WILL by Newman R. McLary

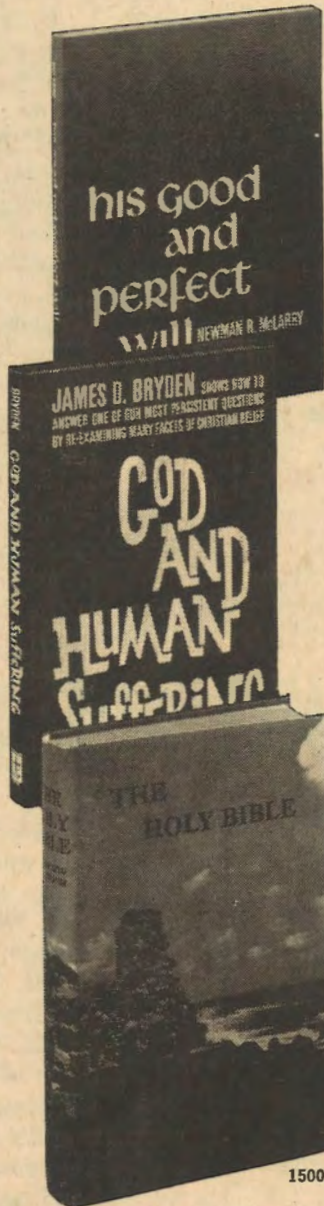
An interpretation of the will of God in relation to evil and suffering. Of special interest to people who either doubt God's providential care, or insist that all events represent God's specific intention for individuals. (26b) \$1.25

GOD AND HUMAN SUFFERING by James D. Bryden

A pastor's letters to an imaginary friend who is trying to understand God's will in human suffering. Helpful reading on the nature of the Bible, the meaning of life, the loving care of God, and the meaning of prayer. (26b) \$1.95

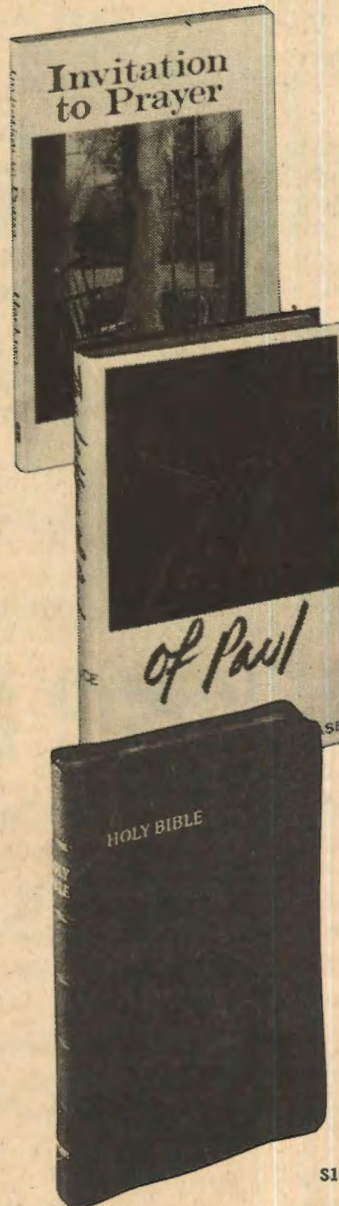
INVITATION TO PRAYER by Vivian Hackney

How do you pray? What preparation do you make? What do you pray for? Why do you pray? What happens when you pray? Thoughtful questions and answers on the place of prayer in the Christian's life. (26b) \$1.25



14 ¶ And as Moses lifted up th
pent in the wilderness, even so
the Son of man be lifted up:

Type sample 1500V



17 For God sent not his Son int
world to condemn the world; but
the world through him migh

Type sample S100



DEAREST DEBBIE by Dale Evans Rogers

This book was written after a tragic bus accident on August 17, 1964, which claimed the life of Deborah Lee Rogers, adopted Korean daughter of Roy and Dale Evans Rogers. Written in the form of a letter from Mrs. Rogers to her "angel-child," it is a book you will want to read and pass along to others. (6r) \$1.95

YOU CAN'T LOSE FOR WINNING by Jess C. Moody

A book for pastors and ministerial students. With fluid, lucid style the author tackles with no holds barred the current problems of the preacher and his people. (1z) \$2.95

PREACHING TO BE UNDERSTOOD The Warrack Lectures on Preaching, Church of Scotland by James T. Cleland

Here is a simple and straightforward discussion of some of the most complex problems facing today's preachers. An enthusiastic reviewer exclaims, "Preachers, read this book!" (1a) \$2.75

THE LETTERS OF PAUL, An Expanded Paraphrase by F. F. Bruce

An excellent commentary with full text of the American Standard Version Bible, footnotes, references, and continuous narrative on Paul's life. (1e) \$4.95

Bible 1500V—Sturdy cloth-board binding, square corners, blue edges, full-color jacket. Illustrations, maps, helps. Size, 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ x7 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches; 1-inch thick. (19c) \$2.75

S100—French morocco leather, semi-overlapping covers, red-under-gold edges. Illustrations, maps, 32 pages of helps, photographs of the Holy Land. Size, 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ x7 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches; 1-inch thick. (19c) \$6.00

S100RL—Same as S100, with words of Christ in red. (19c) \$6.25



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408 Spring Street
Little Rock, Arkansas

"SH," Billy warned his new friend as he carefully walked to a cage behind the garage. "See, Tommy, isn't he a pretty ring-necked dove? Ringy was almost the tamest pet on the farm. He wasn't so well right after we moved, but he seems all right now."

Tommy laughed softly. Imagine a dove bending his head for a boy to scratch and pet it, as Billy was doing.

"Here, let me do that," whispered Tommy.

"Well, maybe," said Billy.

As soon as Tommy touched Ringy's head, the dove spread his wings and fluttered to the back of the cage.

"He just doesn't know you, Tommy," said Billy, "but he makes friends easily."

At first softly, then louder and louder, Ringy began to coo. The

boys were surprised when they heard an answering coo from a nearby tree.

Ringy, cooing softly, came to the front of the cage. His shining feathers rippled as he turned his head from side to side. Slowly he spread his wings. Rising on his toes and puffing out his breast, the bird held his head proudly.

The boys put their hands over their mouths to keep from laughing out loud.

Tucking his wings back into place, Ringy started walking back and forth. He kept making soft cooing noises.

"It looks as though he's trying to make friends with that other dove," Tommy suggested.

That gave Billy an idea. The two boys worked the rest of the day trying to catch the wild dove to put with Ringy in his cage. All efforts failed. In the evening Ringy huddled in a dark corner and wouldn't eat when Billy held corn for him in his hand.

As Billy ate supper, he was quiet. He was thinking of Ringy. Bringing his pet to town had been his idea. Daddy had said he might bring the bird when he saw how sad Billy was to leave all the other animals and pets behind on the farm.

"Is Ringy lonesome for friends?" Billy wondered. "Is that why he is so droopy? Maybe he'll be better in the morning," Billy tried to comfort himself.

Billy was a long time going to sleep. He kept thinking about Ringy and trying to decide what to do. When morning came, the dove was sitting far back in the corner of the cage. He was an unhappy-looking bird. His head was tucked under his wing and his wing and his feathers were ruffled.

Deep down in his heart Billy knew how he could help Ringy. He sat down and watched the bird for a long time. He knew he should open the cage door and let Ringy find his friends.

At last he was ready to tell his mother, "I'm going to turn Ringy loose."

Billy's mother smiled. "I'm glad you have decided to do that, Son. I know how much you will miss Ringy. Your decision wasn't an easy one to make. I think you made the right one."

"I'll miss him," Billy agreed soberly, "but I have one friend here and soon I'll have many more. Ringy has no friends at all. When I let him loose, he can find dove friends. Then he will be happy."

"Hi, Billy," came a voice from the front walk.

"Hi, Tommy," Billy answered. "You're just in time. I'm going to let Ringy out to find his friends."

Quickly Tommy and Billy ran to the cage and opened the door.

"Ringy," called Billy.

When the dove didn't move, Billy picked him up. He lifted the bird from the cage and held him aloft. The two boys watched as Ringy circled above the cherry tree and out of sight.

(Sunday School Board Syndicate, all rights reserved)

RINGY'S FRIEND

BY GLADYS R. BURKETT





WIN A NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

HOSPITALS TO AWARD SIX TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS

Young ladies interested in nursing careers may win one of six tuition scholarships to be awarded by two Baptist Hospitals in the Mid-South as prizes in their 1965 Nursing Scholarship Contest.

Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, and Arkansas Baptist Hospital, Little Rock, Arkansas, will each award three tuition scholarships to their schools of nursing beginning with the 1965 fall term.

You may enter the scholarship competition by writing an essay of not more than 500 words on "WHY I WANT TO BE A

NURSE." Contestants must meet the admission requirements of the school to which they submit essays.

First place awards by each school will be full tuition scholarships. Second place winners will receive two thirds of their tuition, and third place winners will receive one third of their tuition.

Entries must be submitted BEFORE JULY 1, 1965, to the NURSING SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST at the School of Nursing of either of the two participating hospitals:

BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
MEMPHIS, TENN.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST HOSPITAL
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

God's purpose through his people

DR. CHARLES THOMPSON, PASTOR
FIRST CHURCH, RUSSELLVILLE
I SAMUEL 12:19-25, I KINGS 6:11-13
APRIL 25, 1965

THE anointing of Saul as the first king of Israel marks a shift in the life of the Hebrews. Their form of government had been theocratic. It was now to be monarchical. The period of the kings is usually considered to be a glorious era for the Hebrews. But the period really begins earlier than Saul. It begins with Samuel. He was the last judge and the first prophet of the Hebrews. He was the sole ruler during the period of transition from the theocracy to the monarchy. It became his duty to found the monarchy and organize the kingdom.



DR. THOMPSON

GOD'S PURPOSE

THE masses of the people of Israel were in no mood to acknowledge God's purpose. No one seemed to be concerned with it except Samuel and possibly Saul. We must give Saul due credit. At this point in his reign, he seemed to be a man of sincere humility with due regard for God's purpose as it related to him. He is not here the mad egotist of his last days. There always is someone who remembers God and dares to remind us of our dependence upon Him. Samuel was such a man and so was Saul at first. The Israelites were not so.

In the midst of their first victory under their new king, they wanted to establish their devotion to their man and their system. There was no need for God. Had Saul not demonstrated that he was just what they needed? In this time of sweet victory everything was going their way for a change. No need to remember God, since Saul could give them what they wanted. Of course, Samuel, God's

prophet, had to spoil it all with his clear call to get back to the main track before they ran aground.

It always requires the vision of of a prophet to see God's purpose in the midst of victorious accomplishments. Man often complains because he cannot see God's purpose in the evil of this world. This may well be because he does not see God's purpose in the good. Why do we expect to see purpose in evil, if we will not see it in good? Why should the Israelites weep over their evil days, which were many, when they seldom every really understood their good fortune?

It is worthy of note that Samuel did not spell out God's purpose in detail. He stated it in general terms. He said: "It has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself." Neither is it spelled out for us in an elaborate set of rules and regulations. Man cannot always understand the purpose of God against the dark shadows of so much that seems to indicate that there are evil purposes at work. But this lack of explanation, or even the inability to find any explanation, does not mean that there is no explanation. If man could see God's explanation of how His purpose never fails, it would be as clear as a bell. Neither does it mean that God has no purpose.

God's purpose is the result of His free sovereignty. Perhaps a better way to put it is to say that God's purpose for man accords with God's sovereign freedom. Really, now, God owes us no explanation. We are creatures. We are totally dependent upon the Creator. There is not the slightest possibility that we will ever fathom God. God alone can do as He pleases. For only God can please

to do what is in keeping with His nature. If God is God, He always has, is now, and forevermore will do right.

GOD'S MEANS

THE way that God accomplishes His purpose is quite as much His business as the purpose itself. But the facts seem to support the belief that God uses imperfect men to accomplish it. Of course, He uses imperfect men. What other kind are there? If men are to be used at all, they will be used as imperfect men.

Samuel exhorted the Israelites not to fear to follow God even though they had sinned. Their sin was serious. It was the insistence of the people that caused Samuel to anoint Saul king. God did not direct them to seek a king. But God's purpose is not dependent upon one means, although that comes as pretty shocking news to some of us. The theocracy had been the appointed way, but it was only a means. The monarchy was the choice of the people, but it, too, was only a means. Switching forms of government had not altered God's purpose.

The means of accomplishing the purpose of God had been altered and without God's specific direction. God allowed it because of the strong desires of the people. God may permit alterations in means. But His purpose ever moves toward His own goal. Oftentimes this is the situation with us. God has a better means of accomplishing His will in us, but we devise our own. In spite of this, God still uses us. But we must not identify God's purpose with a particular means of accomplishing it.

Men are useful to God, even though they are imperfect. To refuse to be used on the grounds of our imperfections is disastrous for us — not that by refusing we will alter God's purpose. Instead, this is true because we will make ourselves unusable as a means to accomplish what God intends. Man is always dependent upon God. God is never dependent upon man. God freely chooses to use us. We may freely choose to refuse to be useful. It is, indeed, a fact that God uses men who are usable. Their usefulness depends upon

their being usable, not upon their being perfect.

GOD'S WARNING

GOD gave the Israelites a warning through Samuel. Both the king and the people were warned that wickedness would lead to the uselessness of them as God's means. By the very nature of the case this is true as much for us as for them. It is utterly impossible to maintain the position that a wicked government or person can continue to enjoy the status of a helper in God's redemptive work. The Israelites did not heed Samuel's warning in later years. Neither did Saul. The record is plain for all to see that they were no longer used once they had become useless.

It took a long time. God was gracious and forgiving. A remnant seemed always to hold fast to their devotion to God. But by the time that Jesus was born the remnant had dwindled to a handful. In fact, it seems certain that by the time Jesus died He alone represented the remnant. God's purpose in Christ was accomplished and is being accomplished, but Israel no longer shares the leading role in that purpose.

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A Smile or Two

Beauty treatment

LITTLE Willie came home with a note from teacher explaining that he had been punished for putting mud in a little girl's mouth.

His mother was horrified. "Willie," she cried, "why on earth did you put mud in that girl's mouth?"

"Well," replied Willie, "it was open."

Whath that?

WHEN a reporter on a small southwestern newspaper filed a story with his editor, telling about a disastrous ranch fire in the area, he reported an incredible loss of 2025 cows. The editor, unable to accept the figure, called the rancher.

"You the rancher who had the fire that wiped out 2025 cows?" inquired the editor.

"Yeth," answered the rancher.

Turning back to the story, the editor changed the copy to read: "Two sows and twenty-five cows."

Will you hold the line?

WALKING into the office of Secretary of State Dean Rusk, a visitor recently overheard a secretary answering the telephone:

"I'm very sorry, sir," she said, "but Mr. Rusk has just stepped out of the country for a minute."

Art critic

MISSUS: "The Mona Lisa, you know, is a wonderful portrait, famous for that inscrutable smile on her face."

Mister: "Inscrutable my eye! That's exactly the way you smile when you think I'm trying to cover up something."

More from Texas

A TEXAS oil millionaire went to an honest dentist who promptly told him: "Your teeth are in perfect shape. There's no work necessary. They don't even need polishing."

"Start drilling anyhow," said the millionaire. "I feel lucky today."

PLEASE!



Always hold matches till cold
 Be sure to drown all fires
 Crush all smokes dead out

Only you can prevent forest fires

Attendance Report

		April 11, 1965		
Church	Freeman	Sunday School	Training Union	Ch. Adds.
Berryville	Heights	176	67	
Blytheville	First	782	206	2
	Chapel	66	35	
	Gosnell	303	105	
Camden	Cullendale First	434	181	4
	First	564	144	3
	Conway Pickles Gap	56	30	
Crossett	First	501	102	
	Mt. Olive	238	98	1
Dumas First	El Dorado	315	84	
	Caledonia	45	31	
	East Main	311	85	
	Ebenezer	175	66	2
	First	842	614	
	Immanuel	481	205	
	Trinity	222	134	4
Greenwood First		298	127	
Gurdon Beech St.		192	62	3
Harrison Eagle Heights		267	110	
Hope First		498	137	
Huntsville Calvary		57	36	
Jacksonville	First	477	139	2
	Marshall Rd.	183	93	3
	Second	265	122	4
Jonesboro	Central	528	205	6
	Nettleton	327	225	9
Lavaca		287	183	1
Little Rock	Immanuel	1,300	458	33
	Rosedale	308	95	
McGehee First	Chapel	446	200	4
	Chapel	89	44	
Magnolia Central		788	274	
Marked Tree First		189	51	
Marked Tree Neiswander		139	75	
Mena First		344	127	4
Monticello Second		304	153	4
North Little Rock	Baring Cross	688	179	
	Southside	61	42	
	Camp Robinson	31		
	Central	247	91	
	Forty-Seventh St.	199	91	
	Gravel Ridge First	189	99	3
	Runyan Chapel	73	47	
	Park Hill	835	279	2
	Sherwood First	215	101	
	Sixteenth St.	26	31	2
	Sylvan Hills First	303	124	3
Pine Bluff	Centennial	205	89	
	Second	214	64	
	South Side	826	245	
	Tucker	48	19	
	Watson Chapel	201	91	3
Springdale First		464	140	1
Star City First		248	86	1
Van Buren	First	449	176	
	Second	81	41	
Ward Cocklebur		48	32	
Warren	First	414	108	6
	Southside	82	57	1
	Immanuel	267	80	
Westside		121	64	

Religious News Digest

By Evangelical Press

Commutes sentences

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (EP) — Gov. Frank G. Clement of Tennessee commuted to life imprisonment the death sentences of five convicts after the House of Representatives, by a one-vote margin, rejected a bill to abolish capital punishment in this state.

After announcing the commutations in his office, Gov. Clement went to the state prison where he told the five condemned inmates: "I can commute your sentences. I can and have saved your lives, but I can't pardon you for your crimes and sins."

Loose leaf study

REDONDO BEACH, Calif. (EP) — George F. Santa, director of the Christian Workers Service Bureau here, has signed direct-mail sales rights with the Stuart Publishing Co. of Phoenix, Ariz., to market the new Lynn Loose Leaf Study Bible.

An innovation in study aids, the Bible currently offers the entire New Testament in 219 sheets of the King James Version with 80 ruled lines per page for notes on sheets designed to fit standard 8½ x 11 inch three-ring notebooks.

Canada 'best seller'

TORONTO, Ont. (EP) — Sales of the new United Church of Canada Sunday School curriculum have more than doubled early expectations, according to church officials. Widespread controversy over the material, called "The Word and the Way," was cited as a contributing factor in the sale of some 740,000 units since last June. It had been expected that by February orders would total only 300,000 units.



DR. TAYLOR



DR. HAYS

Racial revolution

MIAMI BEACH, USA (BWA)—Two leaders in America's racial revolution will speak on "Freedom and Responsibility" at sessions of the 11th Baptist World Congress in Miami Beach, June 25-30.

They are Brooks Hays, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, who was defeated in his campaign for re-election to the US Congress in 1958 because of his "moderate" stand for civil rights for Negroes, and Gardner Taylor, pastor of the Concord Baptist Church of Christ in Brooklyn, N.Y., who was the first Negro and the first Baptist ever to serve as president of the Protestant Council of New York.

Dr. Hays and Dr. Taylor will speak on the same program, Monday morning, June 28, in the Miami Beach Convention Hall.

Back death penalty

NEW YORK (EP)—A majority of readers who volunteered their opinions in a do-it-yourself poll conducted by *Christian Herald* said they believed the death penalty is morally justified and serves as a deterrent to crime.

An even larger percentage of the *Herald's* readers said they felt juvenile arrest records should be made public to discourage crime. Such a practice is forbidden by law in many states.

New headquarters

TORONTO (EP) — Federal Trade and Commerce Minister Mitchell Sharp officiated as the new \$500,000 international headquarters of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada was opened here. The new headquarters is the fifth in the 46-year history of Canada's Pentecostal Assemblies.

'Honest shepherding'

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (EP) — "If Christian stewardship is a part of discipleship, church leaders need to encourage the Lord's people in the management and dispersal of funds which God has put in their trust. Believers need responsible shepherding in this area of their lives."

So said Dr. David Hubbard, president of Fuller Theological Seminary, in an address to the second annual meeting of the Christian Stewardship Council here March 24-26.

Dr. Hubbard scored "wrong motives" and called upon the 118 representatives of 73 evangelical Christian organizations present to major on the Biblical incentive for stewardship — the love of Jesus Christ which "constrains us to use our wealth for His glory." Hubbard called for a policy of honesty as the only policy, not just the best one. "In neither evangelism nor public relations do we need to help the Holy Spirit through trickery," he said.

Half have Bibles

NEW YORK (EP) — Despite the fact that the Bible enjoys the reputation of being the all-time best seller, a recent worldwide survey discloses that there are no Bibles in half of all Christian homes. The United Bible Societies survey further showed that only one Christian in eight possesses a New Testament. In North America it is estimated that one person out of five has a Bible.

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