

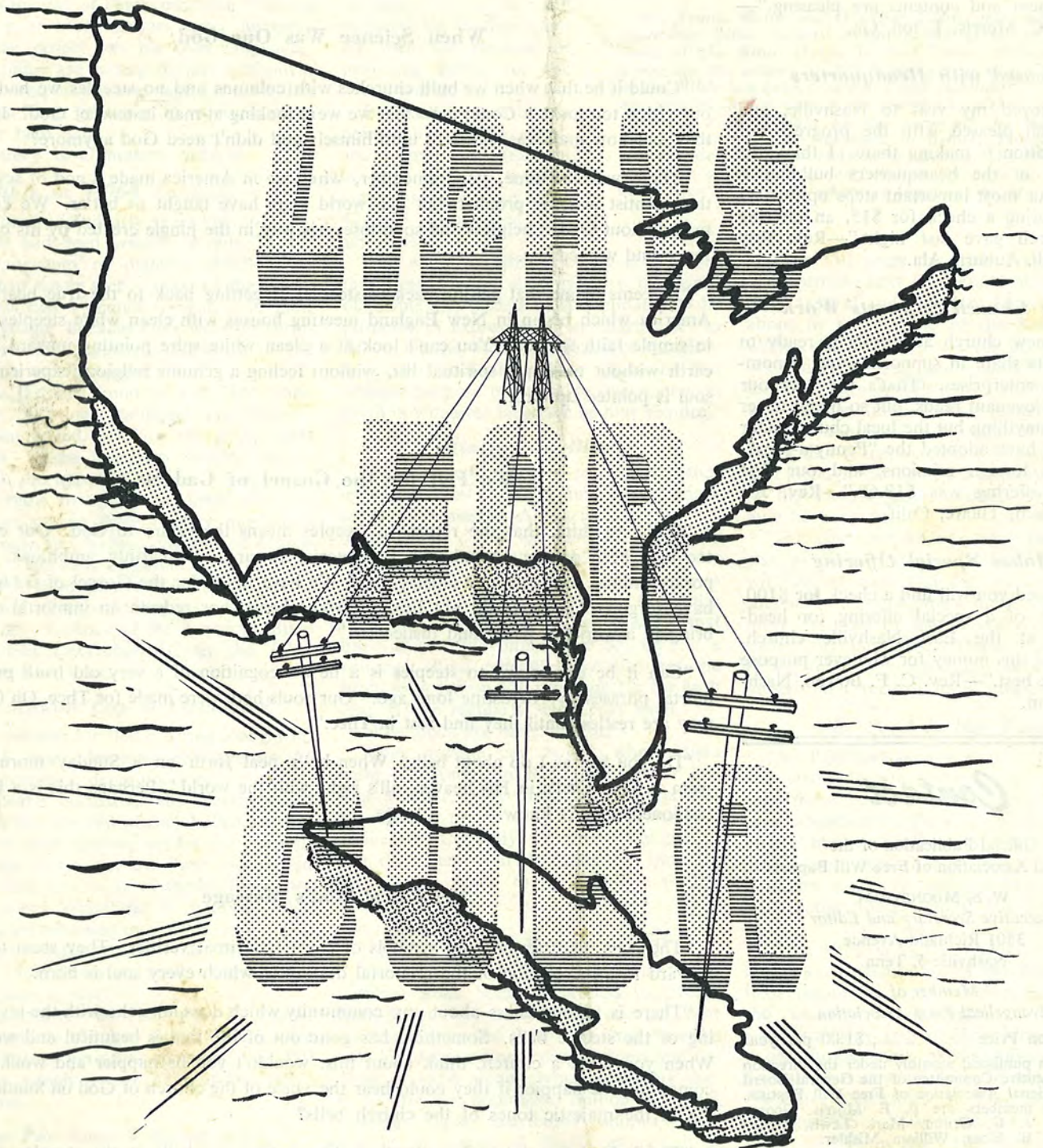
Mr. Thomas Conkey
Route 1
Wheelersburg, Ohio

Contact

of the
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

JANUARY, 1954

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



(See Story on last page)



Personally...

We are happy to present as guest editorial writer this month T. P. Chalker, editor of the *Alabama Christian Advocate*. Writing in this Methodist publication, Mr. Chalker presents some thought-stimulating material as follows:

"Contact" Meets Approval

"Enclosed you will find my check for the Thanksgiving offering to the headquarters fund. I hope the response to this drive will be sufficient to take care of the obligation at this time. I appreciate CONTACT. The first issue certainly meets with my approval and even surpasses my expectation. The arrangement and contents are pleasing."—Rev. E. C. Morris, Tifton, Ga.

Pleased with Headquarters

"I enjoyed my visit to Nashville, and I am well pleased with the progress our denomination is making there. I think the purchase of the headquarters building is one of our most important steps upward. I am enclosing a check for \$15, an offering our church gave last night."—Rev. Roy O'Donnell, Auburn, Ala.

New Church Supports Work

"Our new church at Visalia is ready to assume its share in supporting our denominational enterprises. That's the way our Church Covenant reads, but so many never think of anything but the local church. Our members have adopted the "Penny-a-Meal" plan for foreign missions, and our first month's offering was \$19.60."—Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare, Calif.

Makes Special Offering

"Enclosed you will find a check for \$100, the result of a special offering for headquarters at the East Nashville church. Please use this money for whatever purpose you think best."—Rev. C. F. Bowen, Nashville, Tenn.

Contact

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PAGE TWO

When Science Was Our God

"Could it be that when we built churches with columns and no steeples we had lowered our vision too much? Could it be that we were looking at man instead of God? Imagining that somehow man was sufficient unto himself and didn't need God anymore?"

"There was the time, you remember, when we in America made a god of science and the scientist was the prophet; but two world wars have taught us better. We know that man without God is helpless and soon loses his way in the jungle created by his own ignorance and wickedness.

"It seems to me that getting back to steeples is getting back to the true heart of that America which began in New England meeting houses with clean white steeples pointing in simple faith to God. You can't look at a clean white spire pointing upward from the earth without getting a spiritual lift, without feeling a genuine religious experience as the soul is pointed upward.

We Fell for the Gospel of Gadgets

"I like to think that the return to steeples means the return to God. Our eyes have too long been on the ground with its material rewards, its earthly ambitions, its temporary animal comforts and satisfactions. We have fallen for the Gospel of Gadgets. We have forgotten gadgets will not heal a broken heart, nor redeem an immortal soul, nor bring in a world of peace and justice.

"Can it be our return to steeples is a new recognition of a very old truth put in immortal phrases by Augustine long ago: 'Our souls here were made for Thee, Oh God, and they are restless until they find rest in Thee.'

"Do you feel as I do about bells? When bells peal forth on a Sunday morning they seem to say, 'God's in His heaven, all's right with the world.' Perhaps this is a little old-fashioned, I don't know.

Bells Peal God's Message

"The bells, like steeples, are symbols of eternal spiritual verities. They seem to call us upward to a recognition of the immortal destiny to which every soul is born.

"There is an emptiness about any community which does not echo with the joyous ringing of the steeple bells. Something has gone out of life that is beautiful and wonderful. When you build a church, think about this: wouldn't you be happier and wouldn't your community be happier if they could hear the voice of the church of God on Sunday morning in the majestic tones of the church bells?"

"Thank God for clean white steeples! Thank God for bells in the steeples calling to us with a message from out of the unseen eternal!"

CONTACT

Modern Day Pentecost

W. S. Mooneyham

The American Bible Society is making possible a 20th century Pentecost.

As on the day of Pentecost, when "devout men, out of every nation under heaven," heard the gospel "in his own language," nations today are getting the story of salvation who may have never heard it since that day when Peter preached to representatives of every race.

The story is a modern miracle.

Bible in 1,064 Languages

One hundred and fifty years ago, in 1804, the Bible had been printed in only 73 different languages or dialects. Millions of people had never seen a copy of the Book, much less had a chance to read it in their own language. Because there were no Scriptures for many languages the work of the missionary was hampered.

In the last one hundred and fifty years, however, 991 new languages or dialects have been added, bringing the grand total to 1,064. There has been nothing like it except in the apostolic age.

The credit for this marvelous piece of work goes to the Bible Society movement which began in London, England on March 7, 1804. This year the Bible Societies celebrate their third jubilee. It was to plan a program of advance for the years ahead that the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society met December 1-2 at the Bible House in New York.

25 Million Copies Circulated

I was present for that meeting along with some 85 other delegates representing 53 major Protestant denominations.

Our hearts burned as the secretaries of the Bible Society told of the challenging opportunities now opening up for the distribution of the Scriptures, and they also burned as we heard that many of the needs cannot be met now. While the 24 national Bible Societies are planning to publish or circulate over 25,000,000 copies of the Holy Scriptures in 1954, the actual need is for 50,000,000 volumes a year.

Dr. Eugene A. Nida, Secretary for Translations, told us that the Bible Societies are now printing Scripture portions in 650 languages which covers 95% of the world population.

Five Per Cent Without Bible

But what of the other five per cent? They do not have this Book of hope, but Dr. Nida

assured us that as rapidly as possible the Bible Societies are making the Bible available to these people. The American Bible Society is unique in its work. It is the only organization in this country with the purpose of providing Bibles for the whole world.

It maintains distribution points all over the world, and from its organization in 1816 to 1953 the Society has distributed 422,423,955 copies of the Scriptures.

The American Bible Society is a voluntary organization, supported by thousands of people and dozens of denominations. Its purpose, as expressed in its charter, is "to encourage the wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment and without purpose of profit, to every man on earth in whatever language he may require."

Ministry to Blind

Not only is its ministry to those in other lands, but they circulate hundreds of thousands of copies in America at greatly reduced prices. They also have a ministry to the blind. Miss S. R. Barrett, Secretary of the Work for the Blind, told representatives that while it cost \$60 to publish the entire Bible in Braille a blind person can buy that Bible in twenty volumes for \$5, or 25c a volume. Blind persons may also get the Bible recorded on 170 discs for 25c for each disc. These regularly sell for \$1 each.

How much are Bibles worth?

While anyone can buy a whole Bible from the American Bible Society for less than a dollar, every Christian will agree that the Bible is priceless, both in its value and influence. Certainly we would say that it has done, and will do, infinitely more to change the world than all the guns and weapons of war.

Harvest Has Been Fruitful

Yet in the last 150 years the twenty-four national Bible Societies around the world have spent only one-half of one per cent on distributing the Scriptures that America will spend for national preparedness and defense in 1954 alone. When you think that with gifts less than \$200 million the Bible Societies have distributed billions upon billions of copies of the Scriptures, it is evident how rich a harvest has already been gathered from such a meager financial base.



Dr. Frank Mann and Dr. Eric North, secretaries of the American Bible Society examine the globe on the first floor of the Bible House in New York. Painted on the globe are the names of 992 languages in which some part of the Bible has been translated and published. The names are painted in that part of the world where they are spoken. There is a small light by the name of the language in which an entire Bible has been published. The purpose of the American Bible Society is to circulate the Bible "without note or comment and without purpose of profit, to every man on earth in whatever language he may require."

"For 150 years the Bible Societies have been proving that they know how to bring forth fruitful and abundant harvests as told about in the Parable of the Sower," Mr. Gilbert Darlington, treasurer of the American Bible Society, said. "In 1954 through the World Good Will book (which will contain the signatures of Bible readers from 60 nations) and the larger vision of the world needs that it inspires, there is assured hope that through sowing of the imperishable seed of the Gospel large numbers of mankind may be born anew."

"To avert the tragedy of a third world war we need more brotherhood and good will among men and nations; more good shepherds to tend God's flock, rather than more soldiers to learn how to slaughter them," he continued. "The soil is ripe and ready for the life-giving, life-saving and imperishable seed of Jesus' gospel."

The Seed Is the Word

"St. Paul has assured us that those who sow sparingly will also reap sparingly, but that those who sow abundantly will also reap abundantly. Ours is the freedom to choose how we shall sow and what we shall reap. God grant that in the coming years mankind may sow and reap freedom and truth rather than tyranny and false propaganda."

"May 1954 be a year in which we sow the constructive inspiration of the Bible, rather than throw the destructive devastation of the A-bomb," he concluded.

Churches or individuals wishing to have a part in the work of the American Bible Society should send their offerings to the Executive Department at Free Will Baptist Headquarters, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee. The offering should be marked, "For the American Bible Society."

Why Should I Tithe?

FLOYD B. CHERRY

Editor, The Free Will Baptist

"If you know how a man deals with money, how he gets it, spends it, keeps it, shares it, you know one of the most important things about him," Henry Taylor, in one of his *Notes on Life*, has well said.

Money has often been called the "acid test" of a man's character. It is the test of a man as to what he will do to obtain it, and it is the test of a man as to what he will do with it after he gets it.

"Giving is the unselfish outpouring of one's self in substance. It is the voluntary bestowing of one's own possessions, expecting nothing in return," says David McCouughy.

A discussion of tithe giving is important because with too many people giving is only a matter of impulse. As long as God's people give by impulse rather than principle the cause of Christ will continue to languish and suffer. God's people must be taught and accept what the Bible teaches about proportionate giving if our denominational program is to be adequately financed. Giving should not be a matter of impulse or feeling, but a matter of faith and love.

Tithing Defined

The meaning of the Anglo-Saxon word tithe is "the tenth." It has special reference to the giving of one-tenth of our increase for religious purposes.

The first offering mentioned in the Bible is that of Cain and Abel. The offering of Abel was accepted, but that of Cain was rejected. Many scholars feel that Cain's offering was rejected because he did not bring a blood sacrifice. Others feel that his offering was rejected because he did not bring the whole tithe of his increase. Both conclusions could be right. One thing is certain, and that is that God had doubtless revealed his will concerning the matter of this sacrifice, and Cain knowing the will of God in this matter was disobedient to that will.

Someone, speaking of the Bible doctrine of the tithe, has said that:

Abraham commenced it—Genesis 14:18-20
Jacob continued it—Genesis 28:20-22
Moses confirmed it—Leviticus 27:30
Malachi commanded it—Malachi 3:10
Christ commended it—Matthew 23:23
Paul concurred in it—I Corinthians 9:13;
16:2

Only God has the right to say how much of our income shall be set aside and set apart unto Him. In the Old Testament, he

has said repeatedly that we should tithe or give one tenth of all our income to him, and there is nothing in the New Testament that introduces any change or that sets aside the teachings of the Old Testament on this important subject.

Tithing Defended

There are always those who readily admit that the Old Testament teaches tithing, but they claim that it is not for us because we are not under law but grace. They usually add that we have a different economy than that under which the Jews lived, thus making tithing impractical today.

It is true that we have taxes such as were not imposed upon Israel's theocracy. But it is also true that devout Jews continued to tithe even when they had to pay tribute. It is true that our poor are cared for through our municipal, county, state, and national taxes. But it also is true that in our country religion and the state are separate, and if the church is cared for it must be done by the voluntary contributions of the people apart from the government taxes.

Paul and Tithing

While Christ did not regard tithe-giving as fulfilling one of the weightier matters of the law, he did, nevertheless, approve of the practice and spoke of it in the terms of duty, using the word "ought." Thus while condemning the hypocrisy and inconsistency of the Pharisees, Christ expressed his approval of the practice of tithing.

And while the Apostle Paul does not openly speak of the tithe, he nowhere condemns it. However, Paul does in I Corinthians 16:2 give a divine rule for Christian giving. Instead of abrogating the tithe, it follows closely the plan of the tithe as given in the Old Testament. Both the tithe and Paul's rule for Christian giving are personal; both are periodic; and both are proportionate. Thus we find that Paul did not

establish a new law of giving, but reiterated and confirmed the law of the tithe.

Tithing Demonstrated

Have you ever known a person who conscientiously tithed over a long period of time that regretted it?

One night at a prayer meeting, Dr. Russell Conwell asked if there were any tithers present who had tithed through a series of years. Seven people stood up. He asked for a testimony from each one of them. Six gave radiant testimonies of blessings received. The seventh was a frail, gray-haired woman, who spoke with much reluctance: "I wish I could bear such testimony, but I cannot. I have skimped and saved and denied myself through the years to keep a vow made to tithe my income. But now I am old and I am losing my position. I have no means of support. I do not know what I shall do." She sat down and the meeting was closed in the midst of a profound and distressing chill.

The very next day, Dr. Conwell had an invitation to dine with Mr. John Wanamaker, the famous merchant. At the table, Mr. Wanamaker said, "I think you will be interested to know that we are about to inaugurate a pension system for our employees. The plan has been worked out, and we are to issue our first life pension today to a woman who has served us for twenty-five years." He mentioned the name of the woman and it was that of the woman who had testified the night before. God is working sometimes without our knowledge.

Millions Blessed by Tithing

Christian literature is filled with the stories of those who have been blessed by giving God that which belongs to him—the tithe. A. A. Hyde, a millionaire manufacturer, said that he began tithing when he was one hundred thousand dollars in debt. William Colgate, the soap man, started tithing when a lad of sixteen. He was blessed to give millions of dollars to the Lord's cause. Kraft, the cheese man; LeTourneau, the dirt moving man; . . . these and many more give testimony to the fact of God's blessings upon the tither.

But the greatest blessing that comes from tithing is the spiritual blessing, a consciousness of having done right, of having God's approval upon your life. Nothing brings more joy to the heart of the Christian than the feeling that comes when we know that we are in His will for our life.



Letter to an

UNSAVED

Church Member

Dear Barbara:

I have just read your letter in which you say you did not understand what a certain man meant when he referred to the time he was saved, nor could you understand how he could know it if he were saved.

Well, Barbara, the tragedy is that your same statement could be made by the great blundering mass of members of many churches today. They, too, as in your case, have never heard a real gospel message nor have they ever experienced what it means to "pass from death unto life." (God have mercy upon the preachers.)

The Scriptures prophesy a great falling away, you know . . . "a form of godliness, but denying the power" . . . before the second coming of Christ, and we are living, Barbara, in that perilous age.

Now, dear Barbara, the fact that you do not understand is not enough. The question is, "Do you really want to know?" For remember only an honest heart—not evading, not excusing, not withholding, but sincerely desiring to know the will of God—ever gets to God. It would be better to be ignorant about anything else in this world than to be deceived about the condition of your soul.

Unfortunately, Barbara, I was one of the mass of church members that blunder along for many a year, changing churches, doing good works, making good resolutions only to break them. Oh, yes, I had heard the preachers preach on believing in Jesus, keeping the commandments, feeding the poor, visiting the sick, loving the enemy, working in Christ's cause—yes, I heard a lot of theory, but not once did one tell me what was required of me to believe in Jesus or how to really get to God.

Oh, I probably had my share of the good, natural graces. I was tenderhearted, forgiving, quite faithful in my church attendance and I loved to serve, but I had never met Jesus. His Spirit had never come into my heart and He would have to profess on that day, "I never knew you."

Well, Barbara, it so worked out in my life that, in God's providence, I had a great sorrow. And through my great sorrow I felt my need of God—for something real and tangible, something I had never known. I read God's words in Jeremiah 29:13, "Ye shall seek me and find me when ye shall search for me with all your heart," and I got desperately in earnest.

Whenever there was a revival in the city, if I knew of it, I was there. But with all my faithfulness and diligence, it seemed I

could hear no preaching that would satisfy the longing of my soul until one night I found it in this verse, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold all things are become new" (II Cor. 5:17).

I had never heard any real preaching on being "born again," of being made a "new creature" in Christ Jesus. I had never heard before definite preaching on confession, forsaking of every sin, renouncing the sinful pleasures, being willing to live straight by believing on Jesus for salvation. No, Barbara, I had never heard a real gospel message.

When I heard that sermon I forgot all about being a church member. I saw myself as God saw me, trying to hold on to Him with one hand and to the world and unforsaken sins with the other. Oh, I wasn't an outstanding sinner. I was just an average church professed Christian walking near to the kingdom of God, but lost!

But, Barbara, I just got down to rock bottom where the deepest-dyed sinner could ever get and turned from everything in my heart that I knew was wrong. Not one corner of my heart did I reserve, that He might come and live in me. And oh, praise God, He came! In the twinkling of an eye I was born into His kingdom, made a new creature in Christ Jesus.

How do I know I am Christian? Praise His name, the Spirit of Christ bears witness with my spirit that I have met the conditions of God, that my sins are all forsaken and covered by the blood. Not one thing remains between me and the Saviour and I feel his abiding presence.

I shall be praying for you, Barbara, and hoping to hear the joyful news of your conversion.

In His name,

Mary Kate Jack

—Adapted from *Truth Promoter*



Bible College Honors Dr. Johnson

An air of festivity and gaiety dominated the dining room at the Free Will Baptist Bible College Friday night, December 1, when Dr. L. C. Johnson, college president, was honored with a banquet complimenting his outstanding record as head of that institution. The affair which was planned and arranged for by Mrs. J. E. Simpson, Dean of Women of the college, came as a complete surprise to Dr. Johnson.

The banquet which was attended by 150 persons including faculty members, students, and invited guests, was most unique in its arrangement. A width of grey crepe paper ran the entire length of the tables to represent a highway. Alongside the highway were miniature telegraph poles and lines. At intervals on the road were twelve floats depicting various events in the life of the guest of honor.

Heading the parade of floats was one on which rested a basinette, with a small baby and its mother as the principle figures. This was representative of the birthdate of Dr. Johnson, February 13, 1914.

A small boy standing before the blackboard in a school room was next on the roadway. On the slate was printed in primer style LINTON. This was symbolic of Douglas school near Alma, Georgia, where Dr. Johnson first attended.

Periods of Life Shown

Days on the farm was the life-period pictured in the next float, which showed a barefoot boy standing by a bale of cotton.

The service station business was featured on the road next and showed Mr. Johnson in the role of an Esso filling station man. This station was located on U. S. Highway No. 1, and was operated by him when he was 15 and 16 years old.

Soon after this venture, Mr. Johnson finished high school in Alma and enrolled in Middle Georgia College at Cochran. He remained there for one term, after which he left school and went into business for himself.

Enrols in College

"Johnson's E-Z Grow Fertilizer" was the caption of the next float and depicted Dr. Johnson in the fertilizer business. At this time he was twenty-one years old and was planning to enroll in Bob Jones College at Cleveland, Tennessee, in the fall of 1936. Said Mr. Johnson when questioned about the success of this venture, "It must have paid off, for I was able to enrol in Bob Jones the same fall."

During his first year at the college in 1936 he was a member of the Bryan Literary Society and played on their basketball team. During the next three years he managed the team and each year led them to scholastic championship. An attractive float showing simply one end of a basketball court with the hoop and net portrayed this particular phase of Mr. Johnson's life.



Rev. J. L. Welch, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, presents a portrait of Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the institution, to Rev. LaVerne Miley, dean. The presentation was made in behalf of the student body following a banquet in honor of the president.

Marriage Soon Follows

Graduation from Bob Jones College in June of 1939 at the age of twenty-four was the next big event in his already eventful life. While in his last years at college Mr. Johnson was pastor at Ashland City, Tennessee, church and also president of the student body at Bob Jones College. Upon graduating, he accepted the pastorate of Glennville, Georgia, church where he remained until called to the presidency of the Free Will Baptist Bible College. A float on which stood a miniature bride and groom marked the next lap of life's journey. The occasion was March 30, 1940, when Mr. Johnson and Miss Ruth Masser were married. The wedding was performed in the chapel of Bob Jones College with Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., officiating.

July, 1942, was a long-to-be remembered date for Free Will Baptists for it was at that time that the national association in session in Columbus, Mississippi, voted to establish Free Will Baptist Bible College. Mr. Johnson was chosen unanimously to serve as president of the infant college.

Comes to Bible College

School opened in September of that year with nine students, with three others enrolled the second semester and fourteen more the second year. In 1944 the first class was graduated and Mr. Johnson left the college to take up the pastorate of East Tupelo, Mississippi, church. A small replica of this church was on the highway representative of this event. He returned

to the Free Will Baptist Bible College in September, 1947.

The Degree of Doctor of Humanities was bestowed on Mr. Johnson in June of 1952 by Bob Jones University and the float commemorative of this event was well down toward the end of the highway.

At the very end of the road was a small figure standing behind the pulpit, representing Dr. Johnson in his present position as president of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

President Is Lauded

The Rev. LaVerne Miley, Dean of F.W.B.B.C. was master of ceremonies and presented the program. The college musical groups presented a trio, quartette, and men's chorus in appropriate numbers. The Rev. J. P. Barrow, professor at F.W.B.B.C. offered the prayer.

Representing the first student body of F.W.B.B.C., Rev. Damon C. Dodd, of Nashville, spoke on the early days of the college. He lauded the courage and ability of Dr. Johnson in these words, "His sincerity and straight-forwardness, his fortitude and faith did more to inspire and challenge the student body than did anything else in those early years."

Rev. Eskelle Baker, of the faculty, presented the lighter side of college life when he spoke on "Detours in the Road." His keen sense of humor and his knowledge of current occurrences among the students in F.W.B.B.C. made this a most entertaining feature of the banquet.

Welch Is Speaker

The feature speaker was the Rev. J. L. Welch who related the early history of Free Will Baptist educational ventures and tied in Dr. Johnson and the F.W.B.B.C. in the present-day educational movement.

Rev. Miley gave a detailed account of Dr. Johnson's life, revealing many amusing incidents as well as inspiring ones. He concluded his remarks by commending Dr. Johnson for the meritorious service rendered the F.W.B.B.C. and the denominational cause.

The banquet was concluded with group singing and the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. C. F. Bowen, East Nashville pastor and a member of the college faculty.

Students Prepared Floats

Credit for the decorations and color schemes, as well as planning of the menu, goes to Mrs. J. E. Simpson while to Bible college students goes the honor of having designed and built the various floats along the highway.

And to Dr. L. C. Johnson goes the gratitude of his great denomination for a job well done over the past years as he has guided the destiny of one of our greatest institutions—the Free Will Baptist Bible College.



The Prayer Fellowship

Rev. C. F. Bowen, Director
Pastor, East Nashville Church

"But my God shall supply all your need, according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19).

Three young college students scrambled into an old abandoned farm house as heavy rains began to deluge them. After building a small fire in a huge fireplace, they began to talk of sundry things. Eventually the conversation got around to the subject of the power of prayer. Thrilled by the prospect of God's manifesting his power through their lives, the Christian students vowed to pray until dawn for the salvation of two of their classmates who needed to be saved very badly. Long before dawn the youths were assured of answered prayer and witnessed the salvation of their friends at the next chapel service.

God can do it. Whatever it is you need, God can grant it. The question is not whether God is willing, but whether you believe it enough to keep praying.

Let's follow through this month. God is at your elbow.

Fri., Jan. 1—Pray that 1954 will be the greatest year from Free Will Baptist we have ever had.

Sat., Jan. 2—Pray for your own church officers and teachers who will lead you in tomorrow's services.

Sun., Jan. 3—Pray for your pastor as he preaches today.

Mon., Jan. 4—Pray for the college students who are returning to school.

Tues., Jan. 5—Pray for 50,000 new tithers in our denomination this year.

Wed., Jan. 6—Pray for our aged ministers who have "fought the good fight."

Thurs., Jan. 7—Pray for our missionaries in Cuba.

Fri., Jan. 8—Pray for our missionaries in India.

Sat., Jan. 9—Pray for your Sunday school teachers and league officers who will have so many responsibilities tomorrow.

Sun., Jan. 10—Pray for your pastor as he brings God's message to you today.

Mon., Jan. 11—Pray for our missionaries who are home on furlough.

Tues., Jan. 12—Pray for the development of our church literature.

Wed., Jan. 13—Pray for the "Lights for Cuba" project sponsored by the National League Board which will enable our mission school in Cuba to have electric lights.

Editor's note: Are you praying with us daily for world-wide Christianity and the Free Will Baptist cause? If you are a daily prayer warrior and will join with us in this prayer crusade, send your name and address to The Prayer Fellowship at national headquarters and we shall be glad to send you free your membership card.

If you will join us, please let us know so that we may enroll you with the hundreds of others as we fellowship daily around private and family altars.

Thurs., Jan. 14—Pray for fourteen student pastors in our Bible College at Nashville, Tennessee.

Fri., Jan. 15—Pray for the National Home Mission Board as it seeks to revive our work in Nebraska, Maine, and other states.

Sat., Jan. 16—Your church's officers and teachers need your prayers today. They have many responsibilities tomorrow.

Sun., Jan. 17—Your pastor needs your prayers, too. He will preach better if you pray for him today.

Mon., Jan. 18—Pray for Rev. D. W. Poole, newly elected promotional secretary of the Florida State Association.

Tues., Jan. 19—Pray for the growth and expansion of our Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.

Wed., Jan. 20—Pray for Rev. Delbert Akin, newly elected executive secretary of the Oklahoma State Association.

Thurs., Jan. 21—Pray for our Bible college family as it enters the second semester.

Fri., Jan. 22—Pray for the growth and expansion of our Free Will Baptist League work, and especially the work of the National League Board.

Sat., Jan. 23—Perhaps even at this moment your Sunday school teacher, as he prepares his lesson for tomorrow, is praying for you. You pray for him now.

Sun., Jan. 24—Watch the Holy Spirit use your pastor today—if you pray for him now.

Mon., Jan. 25—Pray for the hundreds of newly ordained ministers in our denomination.

Tues., Jan. 26—Pray for the National Sunday School Board and its work.

Wed., Jan. 27—Pray for our national executive secretary, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham. His are great responsibilities. We must hold his hands high.

Thurs., Jan. 28—Pray for the revivals

Are Prayers Unanswered?

Unanswered yet, the prayer your lips have pleaded,
In agony of heart these many years?
Does faith begin to fail? Is hope departing,
And think you all in vain those falling tears?
Say not the Father hath not heard your prayer;
You shall have your desire some time, somewhere.

Unanswered yet, though when you first presented
This one petition at the Father's throne,
It seemed you could not wait the time of asking,
So urgent was your heart to have it known?
Though years have passed since then, do not despair;
The Lord will answer you some time, somewhere.

Unanswered yet? Nay, do not say ungranted;
Perhaps your part is not yet wholly done;
The work began when first your prayer was uttered,
And God will finish what He has begun.
If you will keep the incense burning there,
His glory you will see some time, somewhere.

Unanswered yet? Faith cannot be unanswered,
Her feet are firmly planted on the rock;
Amid the wildest storms she stands undaunted,
Nor quails before the loudest thunder shock.
She knows Omnipotence has heard her prayer,
And cries, It shall be done—some time, somewhere.

Said the late Dr. A. C. Dixon once in a sermon: "When we rely upon organization we get what organization can do; when we rely upon education, we get what education can do; when we rely upon eloquence, we get what eloquence can do, and so on.

"Nor am I disposed to undervalue any of these things in their proper place. But," he added impressively, "when we rely upon prayer, *we get what God can do!*"

that are being held in our churches this month. Pray also that God's power through revivals may be felt in other churches.

Fri., Jan. 29—Pray for our nation that under God it may play the right role in international affairs. Pray also for true peace.

Sat., Jan. 30—Pray for those who will take active parts in your church services tomorrow.

Sun., Jan. 31—Take the name of your pastor before the throne of grace again. He will be a better shepherd if you will.

Sermon of the Month

Two free subscriptions to CONTACT will be awarded to the person writing the article chosen "Sermon of the Month" for the February issue, the editor has announced. "We hope," he said, "that we can receive manuscripts regularly enough so that the feature can become a regular one."

Articles submitted for this feature should be between 1,200 and 1,300 words in length, and, if possible, should be typed double-spaced. Manuscript must reach the editor by the 10th of the month preceding publication. Two subscriptions will be awarded for each article used.

No manuscript can be returned unless sufficient return postage is enclosed.

Thanksgiving Drive Brings in \$700 For Headquarters

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Seven hundred dollars has been received in Thanksgiving offerings toward making the \$4,000 payment on the denominational headquarters building, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary, has announced.

"Offerings are still coming in," he said, "but we are quite certain they will not make up the amount needed. It could be possible, however, if those churches and individuals who planned to do something but haven't yet would take some definite action now," he added.

"The drive will not be closed," the secretary said, and stressed that many offerings are still needed.

East Nashville church in Tennessee led all the others in giving with an offering of \$100, Mr. Mooneyham said. This was followed by a \$50 contribution from Mr. A. L. Luce of Fort Valley, Ga. The Northeast Missouri association made a \$40 gift.

Those making \$25 offerings included the Earlsboro, Okla., church; Mr. and Mrs. Mack Crabtree, Detroit, Mich.; and the South Georgia Union meeting. In the \$20 category were J. W. Perkins, Knoxville, Tenn.; Easleys' Chapel church, Comanche, Texas; Wardens Grove church, Lowland, N. C., and Forest Grove church, Knoxville, Tenn.

Other contributions above ten dollars were Auburn, Ala., church, \$15; Dodson Branch church, Cookeville, Tenn., \$13.50; Freedom church, Alma, Ark., \$12.64; Pleasant Hill Sunday school, Cordele, Ga., \$12.50; and the Russellville, Ark., church, \$12.

Ten dollar contributors included Patrick Borders, Paintsville, Ky.; Foster Holcomb, Winfield, Ala.; Rev. and Mrs. D. C. Dodd, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. Ernest O. Griffith, Ashland, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Bolin, Slocomb, Ala.; Mr. and Mrs. Starling Ingle, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Pocahontas, Ark., church; Robert E. Adams, Highland Park, Mich., and Mrs. Evelyn Smith, Greenville, N. C.

Other gifts included Sapulpa, Okla., First church, \$8.82; New Liberty church, Elizabethton, Tenn., \$8, and Good Hope Leagues, Henderson, Texas, \$6.11.

The rest of the offerings were as follows:

Rev. A. F. Pierce, El Paso, Tex.	\$5.00
Rev. Mary Wellbaum, Haddam, Kan.	5.00
Rev. E. C. Morris, Tifton, Ga.	5.00
Mrs. Homer Collins, Arkadelphia, Ark.	5.00
Sibyl A. Vass, Dexter, Mo.	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Holbrook, Orlando, Fla.	5.00
Rev. Abe Vanderpool, Emma, Ky.	5.00
M. D. Fulcher, New Bern, N. C.	5.00
Mrs. John M. Carter, Baxley, Ga.	5.00
Mrs. T. L. Howard, Ludowici, Ga.	5.00
Allen's Chapel church, Batesville, Ark.	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Morris, Baxley, Ga.	5.00
Huntsville, Texas, church	5.00

Nineteen Churches Report for November

Nineteen churches from eight states reported their Sunday school averages for November. This is the second appearance of this feature in CONTACT. If your church would like to be included, simply write the monthly average on a card together with the name of the church and address it to CONTACT, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee.

November reports were as follows:

Arkansas	S.S.	Leagues
Pocahontas church	176	
Phillips Chapel, Springdale	155	
Mt. Harmony church, Strawberry	65	
<i>California</i>		
Farmersville church	70	
<i>Michigan</i>		
Grace church, Royal Oak	34	
<i>Mississippi</i>		
First church, Columbus	111	
<i>Missouri</i>		
Mountain Grove church	216	
Third church, St. Louis	93	45
<i>Oklahoma</i>		
Norman church	107	
First church, Sulphur	107	
Oilton church	103	
Bristow church	100	
Hanna church	87	
Shahan church	83	
Okmulgee church	30	29
<i>Tennessee</i>		
First church, Elizabethton	211	
Loyal Chapel, Columbia	199	
Dodson Branch church, Cookeville	50	
<i>Texas</i>		
First church, Amarillo	115	

Berry Puryear, Springdale, Ark.	5.00
Snow Hill Leagues, N. C.	5.00
Free Will Baptist Mission, Greenville, N. C.	5.00
Mrs. Ivan Helsley, Hartsville, Mo.	5.00
Marvin W. Smith, Greenville, N. C.	5.00
Capitol Hill Woman's Auxiliary, Oklahoma City, Okla.	5.00
Macedonia church, Drifftan, Fla.	5.00
Rev. Lester Jones, Kirksville, Mo.	5.00
Holly Creek church, Broken Bow, Okla.	4.00
Piney Grove church, Kenly, N. C.	3.00
Fannie Smith, Ashland City, Tenn.	3.00

Those giving \$2 were Mrs. Sarah Miller, Mrs. Staley Selby, B. Houston, Mrs. M. G. Shiver, Mrs. Ethel Stevens, Opie Hargrave, Sheffie Pettry, Mrs. Ruby Utsey, T. O. Dunn, Mrs. Arthur Blanchard, Mrs. Edna Goolsby, Thelma and Clara Bloss, Mrs. Bert Horn and Mrs. Grace Wiley.

One dollar offerings came from Mrs. C. A. Curry, Mrs. Irene Sullivan, Mrs. Katie Demastus, Henry Evans, Mr. Jake McAnelly, Mrs. Lee Temes, Carroll Alexander, Bobbie Counts, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Sparks, N. O. Hodges.

Miss Johnnie Ipock, Rev. Jesse E. Pratt, Mrs. James Lawrence, Mrs. Adelia Grubbs, Claude B. Bond, Beulah Fondaw, Mrs. A. H. Morriss, C. A. Vause, Mrs. Shirley Christenson, Millard Morris, Will R. Young, Charles H. Harrell, Mrs. C. A. Heard, Rev. Vernon Coots, Henry Walker.

Mrs. C. A. Eubanks, Harold Kelsey, Fay Magness, Alice McLendon, W. F. Phillips, Mrs. Beuford Smith, Mrs. Lillian Riley, Kenneth Chappell.

Contact Now Has 1,894 Subscribers

CONTACT is still moving along toward its goal of 2,500 subscribers, although not quite as rapidly as it was during November. Some of the slack in subscriptions is probably due to the Christmas rush, however.

We are glad to tell you, nonetheless, that there are 1,894 subscribers to the paper as the third issue goes to press. Not a day goes by that the mail does not include some CONTACT subscriptions. Many envelopes contain multiple subscriptions. We are especially grateful for those who send more subscriptions than their own, although it is impossible for us to mention or acknowledge them all.

Perhaps this breakdown of the subscriptions will interest you as it did those of the staff. Here are the subscriptions by states:

Oklahoma	410
Tennessee	245
Arkansas	225
North Carolina	171
Missouri	111
Texas	101
Mississippi	98
South Carolina	81
Georgia	81
Michigan	62
California	62
Alabama	60
Illinois	53
Florida	33
Kentucky	30
West Virginia	21
Ohio	17
Virginia	13
Kansas	5
New York	3
New Mexico	2
Oregon	2
Louisiana	2
Indiana	2
Idaho	1
Nebraska	1
District of Columbia	1
Wisconsin	1

Mount Allen College Gets New Property

MT. OLIVE, N. C.—The Mt. Allen junior college, operated by the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, opened a winter session here November 9. Property was purchased at a cost of \$25,000, according to Rev. D. W. Hansley, chairman of the Board of Directors.

The school was moved from Cragmont, site of the Free Will Baptist assembly grounds in Western North Carolina. Twelve students were present for the opening of the semester. The school offers work on the Bible institute level and courses in the commercial department.

The property which was purchased by the board is located on highway 117 in the town of Mt. Olive and includes a whole block. The building is a two-story brick with fifteen rooms. It was formerly a public school and was purchased from the Wayne county Board of Education.

Four thousand dollars of the amount was paid down with the remaining \$21,000 to be paid in 18 months at three per cent interest.



Participating in the Conference on Home Missions and Evangelism held December 2-3 at the First Free Will Baptist church in Elizabethton, Tenn., were (left to right) Rev. E. M. French, Knoxville; Rev. Harvey Hill, pastor of the host church; Rev. W. H. Teague, Knoxville; Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Nashville; Rev. W. C. Clearman, Clarksville; Rev. J. B. Bloss, Columbia, and Rev. J. C. Howington, Elizabethton.

Elizabethton Church Hosts First Missions-Evangelism Conference

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Elizabethton, Tennessee, was the scene of an epochal event when the Conference on Home Missions and Evangelism was held there December 2 and 3, 1953. This was the first meeting of its kind ever to be held in recent Free Will Baptist history.

The conference, sponsored by the National Home Mission Board, was well attended and was marked by a high spiritual tide and a great degree of enthusiasm.

As the name indicates, the conference was devoted primarily to home missions. Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary for the national board was in charge and taught the booklet, *Go Home and Tell Thy Friends*. He also led in panel discussions and conducted question and answer forums during the all-day session Thursday.

One of the features of the conference was the evangelistic services held at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. each day. Rev. J. B. Bloss, of Columbia, Tennessee, board chairman and pastor of Loyal Chapel church of Columbia, brought the messages. Souls were saved and many dedicated their lives to the Lord.

Much of the credit for the success of the conference goes to Rev. Harvey E. Hill, pastor of Elizabethton First church. He and his people had planned every detail of entertainment most carefully. Meals were served in the church dining room.

Special mention must also be given Rev. C. J. Howington, pastor of Roan Street Free Will Baptist church, Elizabethton, for his

cooperation and assistance in making the conference worth while.

Appearing on the program in addition to those already mentioned were Rev. Horace Teague, pastor of Wood Dale church of Knoxville, and Rev. W. C. Clearman, pastor of Shady Grove church near Clarksville, who spoke on Tennessee Home Mission opportunities. Thirty-two immediate possibilities for new churches in Tennessee were pointed out by these speakers.

Rev. E. M. French, national home mission director for East Tennessee, also played a leading role in the conference. He figured prominently in the current plans to raise Tennessee's home mission budget in addition to bringing a challenging message on means of promoting home missions.

More than \$500 in cash and pledges was raised for home missions during the conference.

New York Firm Releases New Bible Study Book

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The David McKay Company has announced the publication of a new book, "The Bible in Question and Answers," which should prove valuable to pastors, students and laymen as a guidebook to Bible study.

This first volume on the Old Testament by Rev. William A. Karraker, sells for \$7.50. Based on the King James version, it is advertised as "an encyclopedic guide to the study of the Holy Scriptures."

Dodd Plans California Tour During January For Home Missions

Visiting fifteen churches from Richmond to Los Angeles and speaking at a district missionary rally will be the program of Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary of the National Home Mission Board when he goes to California January 9-20. The complete itinerary which appears below was arranged by Rev. J. L. Waltman, state director of home missions.

"This will be the first visit ever made to California by a representative of national home missions," wrote Rev. Waltman in a letter to Mr. Dodd, "and our people are looking forward to it."

"The Free Will Baptist work in California is a direct result of home missions," said Mr. Waltman, "and we feel that we in turn owe much to the program. We are ready to do all we can."

Statistics show that as recently as 1946 there was only one Free Will Baptist church in California. Today, seven years later, there are more than seventy churches of our faith in the state. Four of this number have been organized since August, 1953.

California's budget for 1953-54 calls for \$900 for national home missions, of which \$400 has been paid. It is expected that the churches will oversubscribe the quota during the January itinerary.

Following is the schedule for the state:

Saturday, Jan. 9, Salinas; Sun. morning, 10, Turlock; Sun. night, Modesto; Monday, 11, Concord; Tuesday, 12, Richmond; Wednesday, 13, rally at Kerman; Wednesday night, Selma; Thursday, 14, Porterville; Friday, 15, Tulare; Saturday, 16, Bakersfield; Sunday morning, 17, Arvin; Sunday night, Taft; Monday, 18, Santa Paula; Tuesday, 19, Bell Gardens; Wednesday, 20, Long Beach.

Cooperative Program Meeting Set February 3

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The Executive Committee of the General Board of the national association will have a meeting February 3 at the headquarters building here, according to an announcement from the chairman, Rev. E. E. Morris.

The committee will meet with representatives from the various boards of the national association to lay definite plans for the denominational Cooperative Program of Support. The national association called for such a program last July, but left the details to be worked out.

The Home Mission Board, which will be meeting at that time, will not hold sessions in the morning of that day to allow for this important meeting.

"NEW CHURCH OF THE MONTH"



After worshipping in a basement since their organization in 1945, the Sylvan Park Free Will Baptist church in Nashville, Tenn., is completing the fine house of worship shown above. The structure, 40' by 60', will contain a sanctuary seating 200, pastor's study, rest rooms and lounge and a baptistry. The basement will be used for educational purposes. Valuation of the property is \$40,000.

Construction of the new part was started in June, 1953, and the group expects to move in March 1. The men of the church, under the leadership of their pastor, Rev. E. A. Craft, did most of the work. Mr. Craft came to the church in 1951. The church, which is located at Wyoming and 47th streets in West Nashville, was organized in 1945 with 14 members. The present membership is 93.

Home Mission Board Meets Feb. 1-3

The semi-annual meeting of the National Home Mission Board which was slated for December 1-2 in Swannanoa, N. C., and was postponed due to providential hindrances, has been set for February 1-3 at the national headquarters building.

Sessions will be held beginning Monday, February 1, at 1:30 through Wednesday afternoon, February 3, in the conference room and will consist of routine business and laying plans for 1954-55. Rev. J. B. Bloss, chairman, will preside at the meetings.

During the time that the Board is in session, special evening services will be conducted in churches of the Cumberland association of Tennessee, with a member of the board bringing the message. A home mission rally will be held on Wednesday evening, February 3, in the college auditorium.

The tentative schedule for the services is as follows:

CHURCH	PASTOR	VISITING SPEAKER
Cofer's Chapel	J. L. Welch	Harry E. Staires
Trinity	Lonnie DeVault	Homer E. Willis
Sylvan Park	E. A. Craft	Willard C. Day
Head's Chapel	Robert Wilfong	J. B. Bloss
New Hope	Robert Hill	R. H. Jackson
Ashland City	Wesley Calvary	E. M. French
Bethlehem	Roger Reeds	E. C. Morris
Shady Grove	W. C. Clearman	Damon C. Dodd

Tuesday Evening

Mount Pleasant	Wallace Paul	Damon C. Dodd
Olivet	Ben Barrus	Homer E. Willis
Good Springs	J. B. Parsons	R. H. Jackson
Friendship	Harold Dunlap	E. M. French
Mount Zion	Wilburn Beasley	E. C. Morris
Columbia, First	James Davis	Harry E. Staires
Columbia, Loyal Chapel	J. B. Bloss	Willard C. Day
Tuesday Evening—(Nashville City Churches)		
East Nashville	C. F. Bowen	Lonnie DeVault
Cofer's Chapel	J. L. Welch	Earnest Craft
Trinity	Lonnie DeVault	C. F. Bowen
Sylvan Park	Earnest Craft	J. L. Welch

Operation Contact

DAMON C. DODD

Following the pattern recently adopted by the Home Mission department known as "Operation Contact," week end services have been held in Tupelo, Miss., and Birmingham, Ala., and a three-day meeting in Knoxville, Tenn., in the interest of national home missions.

The "kick-off" service in the Tupelo area was held at Beech Springs church at 9 a.m. Sunday, December 6. Rev. Luther D. Gibson, pastor, was in charge of the meeting which was exceptionally well attended.

This church has recently completed a building program, which gives them two additional Sunday school rooms and a new choir loft. They gave a total of \$125 in cash and pledges to home missions after the message by Rev. Damon C. Dodd.

The eleven o'clock service was at East Tupelo church again with Brother Gibson. Three churches were represented in the Sunday evening service—Priceville, Beech Springs, and East Tupelo. The film "Like a Mighty Army," was shown, after which an offering for home missions was received. The churches responded well with cash and pledges.

Friday, December 11, the promotional secretary went to Birmingham, for the week end. Rev. R. K. Franklin and his church at Ensley, Alabama, were host to this meeting which started off with a week end revival. One young man was saved and several dedications were witnessed during the three services.

Sunday evening, December 13, the service was held with the East Thomas church, where Rev. Lee Hanks is pastor. Pastors were present from eight other Free Will Baptist churches in the area.

The church at East Birmingham was not contacted on this trip but arrangements were made with the pastor, Rev. J. J. Staab for a Home Mission Day with the church in the near future.

Three churches in the Knoxville area were next on the itinerary. The Holston Hills church of which Rev. Thurman Pate is pastor, was visited on Tuesday night, December 15, and a wonderful response in offerings and pledges was received.

In company with Rev. Pate, Rev. Horace Teague and Rev. E. M. French, a profitable contact was made with Mr. Floyd Golden, relative to setting up a new church in Knoxville. Plans are now in the making for a church there.

Wood Dale church near Knoxville was the scene of the Wednesday evening service. Rev. Teague and his people had prepared well for this service and the results were most gratifying.

Rev. E. M. French and the Forest Grove church of which he is pastor, entertained us most royally in the final service on Thursday evening.

The Parable of the Second Wife

Fred T. Evans

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, Behold a certain man married a wife who was fair to look upon. She opened her mouth with wisdom, and in her tongue was the law of kindness. She looked well to the ways of her household, and did not eat the bread of idleness. She did him good and not evil all the days of her life. And it came to pass she became sick, even unto death. He made her grave among the lilies of the field, and the birds of the air sang her praise. And he thought within himself, saying; what shall I do? He girded himself with sackcloth and mourned many days. His neighbors came in to comfort him.

And in the process of time he took unto himself another wife. She also shewed him kindness, and he trusted her. She prepared a good table before him, and kept his house in order. Her neighbors came in and went out saying; It is well that he have her. Peace was their portion for many days. At last he saith unto her: Thou doest well, but thou art not as my other wife was. Thou hast rearranged my house, and the food which thou preparest is not the same as she set before me. How excellent were all her ways. Likewise he spake unto her many times.

And she answered and said unto him: Behold, I am thy wife now. I am not thy first wife; neither indeed can be. Thou praiseth her and thou doest well, but the day cometh, and now is, when thou art married to another. Therefore, if thou lovest me let peace abide in thy house. If thou lovest me not I will arise and go unto my father. And he said unto her; I have sinned against thee. Thou knowest I love thee: Henceforth, nothing shall come between thee and me. Arise! Let us rejoice and be glad.

Hear ye therefore the parable of the second wife. The husband is the church and the first wife is the beloved pastor who served long and well, but in due time departed from them. The second wife is the new pastor whom the church calleth, and anon discovereth that he differeth in certain things from the other pastor. The words of praise pertaining to her who had departed, and were not pleasing to her who now abideth in the house, are those words sometimes spoken amiss, extolling the virtues of a saintly servant to him who followeth after.

Therefore, I say unto you. Let that church which calleth a pastor perceive that he is himself and not another man, neither indeed can be. But as one star differeth from another star in glory, so shall one man differ from another man on the earth. God who sendeth the former also sendeth the latter. Be followers of him, even as he also is of Christ Jesus, and he will do thee good. Believe thou this?

—*Baptist and Reflector*

Around the Religious World . . .

Volunteer Labor Builds Army Church in Korea

CHORWON, Korea—Soldiers of the 7th Infantry Regiment in Korea recently dedicated a new chapel built by volunteer labor to honor the memory of their fallen comrades.

The interior is decorated in infantry blue trimmed in gold and white. The altar is white and gold. The 22 stained glass windows are decorated with different designs of blue, gold and yellow with a white border. The building also includes a small prayer chapel and an office for the chaplain.

In front of the chapel a 25-foot bell tower houses a large bell formerly a part of a Korean Protestant church, which was destroyed by bombing, and five brass bells donated by five companies of the regiment.

Free Methodist Church Expands Radio Ministry

WINONA LAKE, Ind.—The Light and Life hour, world-wide broadcast of the Free Methodist church, has enlarged its office and staff at the denomination's world headquarters in Winona Lake. A \$190,000 budget has been approved for the continuance and expansion of the radio ministry and plans are now underway for the building of new offices in the headquarters building, complete with studio and control room equipped for telecast experiments.

Forrest Boyd, promoter and business assistant for the Light and Life hour, directs the activities of the new office.

Christian Writers Will Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO, Ill.—Highlight of the sixty annual Christian Writers conference and workshop, which is expected to draw a record number of writers to Chicago January 28-30, will be a \$50 prize contest.

Featured speakers will include Joyce Goekzema, author of over 200 short stories and novelettes; Ethel Barrett of Good News Productions; Harry Dixon Loes, well-known composer, and Alvera Johnson Mickelsen, associate professor of journalism at Wheaton College. Editors of the Evangelical Press Association will meet in joint session with the conference on January 28.

"World Day of Prayer" Set for March 5, 1954

CHICAGO, Ill.—The "World Day of Prayer," sponsored each year by the National Association of Evangelicals, has been set for March 5, 1954; according to an announcement from Dr. R. L. Decker, executive director of NAE.

Program books for the prayer service have been prepared and are available without charge from the NAE office at 543 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 5, Illinois. The new program books are developed on the theme, "So Great a Cloud of Witnesses." The exact number of books needed should be stated when ordering.

"The 'World Day of Prayer' is a most significant time of prayer," Dr. Decker said. "We hope all over the world peoples of like precious faith are praying for God's will to prevail in these turbulent hours."

Canadian Church Raises \$30,000 During Convention

TORONTO, Ontario—A check for \$30,000 was presented to Dr. Oswald J. Smith, pastor of Peoples Church, Toronto, at the closing service of the first Home Missionary Convention held there. The presentation was made by Evangelist Pete Riggs. The objective was the underwriting of the congregation's new radio project.

Two thousand people witnessed the thrilling service. The morning offering was \$7,000; the afternoon \$4,000 and the evening gifts brought it to \$30,000. These offerings were in addition to the \$262,000 which the church recently raised for foreign missions.

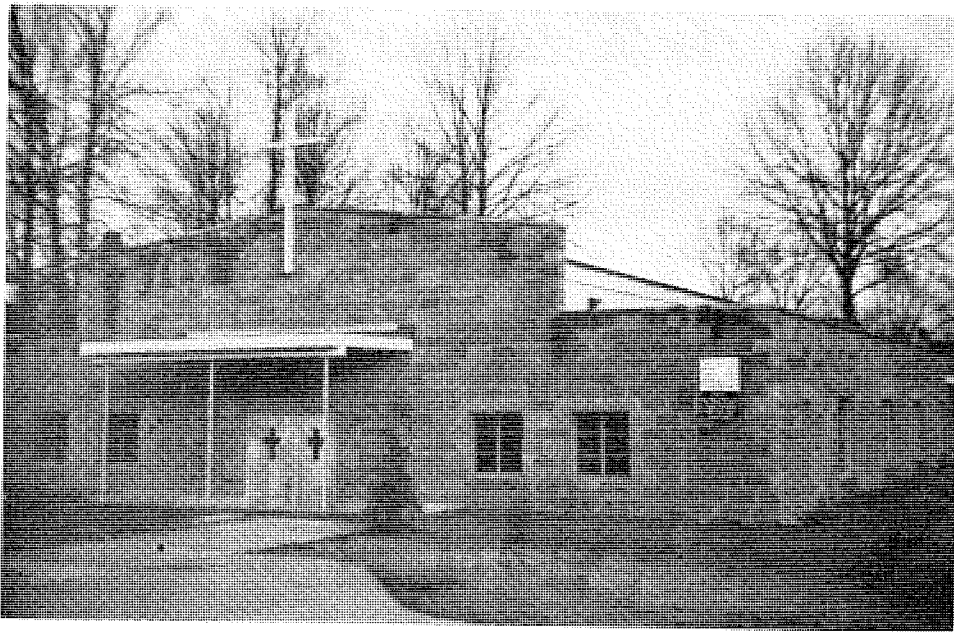
New Russian Dictionary Explains Religious Terms

MOSCOW, USSR—A revised edition of a one-volume "Dictionary of the Russian Language" containing 51,533 words, has been published in Moscow. In the new book many religious terms are classed "obsolete" or "colloquial."

"Glory be to God, meaning 'fine, excellent!'" is given as colloquial. Another word which is described as colloquial is "bezboshnik," or "godless one." It is defined as "colloquial: person who denies the existence of God, struggles against religious narcotic."

The "Second Coming," also classed colloquial or jocular, is "an event which will never take place."





MICHIGAN CHURCH BUILDS—The first unit in a building program has been completed by the First Free Will Baptist church, Hazel Park, Michigan. The structure shown above was built at a cost of \$18,000 and has complete worship and educational facilities for the congregation. Future plans, however, call for the erection of a sanctuary over the present basement building. Under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. Mark M. Lewis, the church erected and moved into the building in just a little over a year. When Mr. Lewis came to the pastorate in June, 1952, there was only \$600 in the building fund. The members responded so liberally, however, that the church was finished with an indebtedness of only \$7,000.

Sunday School Board Will Open Office at National Headquarters

The national Sunday School Board will open an office at the headquarters building with a full-time promotional secretary some time in the summer of 1954, according to Rev. William Mishler, chairman.

The announcement came immediately following a meeting December 10-11 with the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, N. C. An agreement was reached at the meeting, and a contract was signed by representatives of the two boards giving the Sunday School Board seven and one-half per cent of the gross receipts of Sunday school literature published by the Free Will Baptist Press.

The contract provides for the funds to be appropriated quarterly on the basis of literature sold the previous quarter. The agreement also specifies that the promotional secretary must be approved by the Board of Directors of the Press and that all funds allocated must be used by the Sunday School Board in promoting Sunday school work.

The National association at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, last July approved a constitution for the national Sunday School Board which stipulates in section 3 that the board ". . . shall regulate and control all literature pertaining to the Sunday school program of the denomination. . . . It shall enter into contract with any press (the Free Will Baptist Press of Ayden, N. C., to be given first consideration) to print and publish the literature that this Board deems necessary for the advancement of Sunday school work in the denomination."

Representing the Sunday School Board with Mr. Mishler was Rev. LaVerne Miley, vice-chairman of the board. The entire board will meet in April at the Bible conference in Nashville to select a promotional secretary. They hope to have the program in full operation by the meeting of the national association in July.

Educational Building Is Dedicated at Florence

FLORENCE, S. C.—Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the Free Will Baptist Bible college, preached the dedicatory sermon when the Haven Free Will Baptist church here dedicated a new educational building November 15. Also on hand for the special service was a large number of ministers from the South Carolina conference and Mr. James Schipman, mayor of the city of Florence, who gave an official welcome to the church and congregation.

The educational building is a two-story, 34' by 74' brick-veneer structure. The congregation was able to start building when land-owners from all over this section of the state donated trees for construction.

The men of the church cut the trees and hauled them to borrowed mills where they sawed and dressed the lumber.

"I have never seen such devotion," said the pastor, Rev. R. Luther Sander. "I could tell in detail how the men worked at their own jobs all day and then would work at night, sometimes until two o'clock in the morning, to get the material on the lots."

The church was organized in June, 1951, as a home mission project with about 45 members. Their new building, which is the first unit in a proposed building program, is located on three corner lots at King Avenue and Homestead Drive, one of the best sections of Florence.

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Subscribers to Alabama Paper Will Get Contact

ELDRIDGE, Ala.—The names of all the subscribers to the *Alabama Free Will Baptist*, formerly published here have been turned over to the new paper of the national association, CONTACT, according to Rev. W. H. Ryland, who was editor of the suspended publication.

At the suggestion of Mr. Ryland the subscribers to the Alabama paper will receive three copies of CONTACT on their old subscriptions. Mr. Ryland sent between two and three hundred names.

Glancing Around the States . . .

Kirkville Church Has Thanksgiving Service

KIRKSVILLE, Mo.—Families of the recently organized Free Will Baptist church here met Thanksgiving day on the grounds where their new church is being erected for services and a work day. Work was stopped at 11 a.m. and Rev. Lester Jones, pastor, conducted the worship service. This was followed by Thanksgiving dinner served for all attending. Many from surrounding Free Will Baptist churches shared the day with the congregation.

District Association Meets at Sulphur Church

SULPHUR, Okla.—The quarterly conference of Hopewell No. 2 association met with the First Free Will Baptist church here November 28-29. Seven of the eight churches in the association were represented. Messages during the conference were brought by Rev. E. S. Sunday, Rev. J. O. Hudson, and the host pastor, Rev. A. L. McAffery.

Texas Association Adds New Church

ODESSA, Texas—The Free Will Baptist church at Hobbs, New Mexico, was received into the Northwest Brazos association of Texas at the quarterly conference here November 27-28. The pastor, Rev. L. C. Pinson, was ordained at the conference. The next meeting of the association will be January 28-29 and the district League convention will meet January 30. The Hobbs church will be host to both of these meetings.

Educational Unit Planned at Russellville

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark.—Plans are underway for the construction of an educational building at the First Free Will Baptist church here after the congregation voiced approval of the recommendation by the Board of Trustees. The announcement was made by the pastor, Rev. O. T. Dixon.

Kentucky Minister Leads Indiana Revival

WABASH, Ind.—Rev. Vern Conley of Paintsville, Ky., conducted a revival at the Free Will Baptist church here during November. There are six Free Will Baptist churches reported in the southeast section of this state, all of them new works.

California Church In Remodeling Program

TURLOCK, Calif.—A remodeling program costing an estimated \$6,000 is nearing completion at the Free Will Baptist church here. Rev. Earl Jenson is the pastor.

California Church Acquires Property

BELL GARDENS, Calif.—The Free Will Baptist church in this suburb of Los Angeles has recently acquired a fine building, 50' by 100', from another denomination. The building, which is fully equipped, has class rooms, nursery, pastor's study, baptistry and kitchen. The auditorium will seat five hundred, and there is a 20' by 40' annex on the rear of the main building. Until getting this property the congregation worshipped in rented building since the organization nearly two years ago. Rev. Eual Gorman is pastor.

Richmond Will Host Virginia Conference

RICHMOND, Va.—The Tidewater quarterly meeting of Virginia will meet at the First Free Will Baptist church here January 8. The church is located at 5210 Monument Avenue and Rev. Billy Melvin is pastor.

College Student Received Ordination

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Rev. Clarence Burton was ordained to preach the gospel in a special service at the Third Free Will Baptist church December 22. The young minister is a junior at the Free Will Baptist Bible college.

Wolverine Youth Camp Set for July 25-31

DETROIT, Mich.—The annual summer youth camp of the Wolverine association will be held July 25-31 at the same state-owned campsite which has been used for the past few years. There had been some conflict of dates, but the above time has been confirmed.

Northwest Missouri District Meets at Mt. Zion Church

PLATTSBURG, Mo.—For the first time in many years the Mt. Zion church near here recently entertained the quarterly session of the Northwest Missouri association. This church and the Union Third Fork church, long inactive, have been reactivated under the leadership of Rev. Edward Corn. The Hickory Grove church at Haddam, Kansas, was also represented at the quarterly meeting.

Mississippi Church Plans To Build Educational Annex

COLUMBUS, Miss.—The First Free Will Baptist church has announced plans to build an annex to provide Sunday school rooms to take care of increased attendance. The annex, to be built on the rear of the present building, will be a two-story struc-

ture 18' by 72'. Members of the church plan to do much of the work to cut the cost of construction. Estimated cost will be \$10,000. Chairman of the building and finance of committee is Mr. Letcher Fields. Rev. J. D. O'Donnell has been pastor of the church since 1950.

Auxiliary Sponsors Thanksgiving Revival

OKMULGEE, Okla.—The Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist church here sponsored a revival during Thanksgiving week. The pastor, Rev. John B. Elliston, brought the messages, with the members of the Auxiliary conducting the devotional each night. Four conversions were reported.

GTA Organized By Oklahoma Auxiliary

OKMULGEE, Okla.—A Go-Tell Auxiliary with 12 members has been organized by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist church here. Mrs. Joe Zummer, youth chairman of the Auxiliary, directs the young people in their programs.

Three Revivals Are Reported

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Three revivals, two in Oklahoma and one in Texas, were reported to CONTACT during December. These revivals were at Schoolton, Okla., with Bailey Thompson, evangelist, and Albert Collier, pastor; Tulsa, Okla., with H. Z. Cox, evangelist, and John H. West, pastor, and North Zulch, Texas, with C. B. Thompson, evangelist, and Troy McDonald, pastor.

Arkansas District Ordains Young Minister

BATESVILLE, Ark.—Rev. Lonnie Clark was ordained to the ministry at a session of the White River quarterly meeting November 27-28. Eleven out of thirteen churches in the district were represented with 51 delegates, 11 ministers, ten deacons and six church clerks. Officers of the quarterly meeting are Rev. H. A. Lewis, moderator; Rev. J. W. Blanks, assistant moderator; Rev. Austin Mullin, clerk, and Mrs. Geraldine Johnston, assistant clerk.

Oklahoma Church Dedicates New Building

ALLEN, Okla.—A service of dedication for a new auditorium was held November 8 by the Richmond Avenue Free Will Baptist church here. Rev. E. E. Morris, moderator of the national association, preached the dedicatory sermon. The church was organized September 12, 1952, with forty charter members. The present membership is 76. Rev. Dale Munkus is pastor.

Glancing Around States . . .

Social Band Association Schedules Three Meetings

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—The League rally of the Social Band association will meet January 3 at the First Free Will Baptist church here. Other meetings scheduled during January include a fellowship meeting Monday night, January 4, at the Walnut Ridge church and the regular Fifth Sunday meeting at the Alice Brooks church near Sharum.

Progressive Association Holds League Convention

WEWOKA, Okla.—The first meeting of the Progressive League convention was held November 29 at the Wewoka Free Will Baptist church. The program was built around the theme, "Arise, Shine." Rev. Elvis Priest, Holdenville, is president of the convention. Other officers include Mrs. Leola Williams, Weleetka, sponsor; Doris Burkett, Holdenville, vice-president, and Jo Ann Walker, McAlester, secretary.

Missouri Sunday School Convention Meets in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The Triumphant Sunday School convention, including Free Will Baptist churches in St. Louis and Richwoods, met December 19 at the Fourth Free Will Baptist church here. Rev. Bill Turnbeaugh was the host pastor.

Ground-Breaking Held By Arkansas Church

WALNUT RIDGE, Ark. — Ground-breaking ceremonies for a new church were held December 7 by the members of the Free Will Baptist church in this northeast Arkansas town. Rev. Glynn Campbell is pastor.

Kentucky Church Calls James H. Owens as Pastor

PIKEVILLE, Ky. — Rev. James H. Owens has accepted the call to become pastor of the Free Will Baptist church here. He succeeds Rev. John W. Conley, who resigned to accept a pastorate in West Wayne, Mich.

Executive Secretary Speaks in Michigan

DETROIT, Mich.—Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary of the national association, was principal speaker at the quarterly conference of the Wolverine association December 3-5. Sessions were held at the Philadelphia church and were presided over by the moderator, Rev. Mark M. Lewis. The district Woman's Auxiliary convention met preceding the conference. Mrs. Rosalyn Montgomery is president of this group.

Bristow Teachers Have Training Course

BRISTOW, Okla.—Five Sunday school teachers received certificates for completing a teacher's training course held at the Free Will Baptist church here during November. Rev. N. R. Smith, pastor, taught the course. Those receiving certificates were Aaron Willeford, Virginia Johns, Pauline Johns, Ellen Johns, and Kathleen Johns.

Radio-TV Board Asks Churches for Offerings

COLUMBUS, Miss.—Over \$200 is needed by March 15 to clear the recording equipment purchased by the national Radio-TV Board, according to an announcement by Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, secretary of the board. The national association approved a \$2,500 budget for the board, but to date little has been received, he said. He called attention to the fact that the Florida state association had included the work in their budget and urged other groups to do likewise. Offerings should be sent to Mr. O'Donnell at 209 17th Street, South, Columbus, Miss.

Hanna Congregation Dedicates New Church

HANNA, Okla. — Dedication services were held December 13 at the Free Will Baptist church here. Rev. W. E. Wilson and Rev. Melvin Mouser preached the dedication sermon. The church was organized two and a half years ago with twelve charter members, and has grown to a present membership of 71. Rev. Austin Jenson is the pastor.

Arkansas Association Sponsors Radio Program

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—Churches of the Social Band association of Free Will Baptists sponsor an associational radio program on KPOC, Pocahtonat, at 2:30 p.m. every Sunday. Pastors scheduled to appear in January and February are Will S. White, Billy Rogers, Dewey Thompson, Carl High, Glynn Campbell, Grady Linebaugh and Reford Wilson.



REV. O. T. DIXON

Arkansas Broadcast Now on Four Stations

RUSSELLVILLE, Arkansas — "Meetin' Time," the weekly broadcast of the First Free Will Baptist church in Russellville, Arkansas, added a third station to its string when a contract was signed November 14 with KWHN, Fort Smith's most powerful station.

The other stations airing the program are Little Rock's NBC station, KARK, and KXRJ, the local Russellville station. The regular Sunday morning service of the church is transcribed and released by the stations at a later time.

Rev. O. T. Dixon, pastor of the church, directs the program and is the speaker. "Testimonies of conversions, rededications, and others surrendering to the ministry are frequently received," he says.

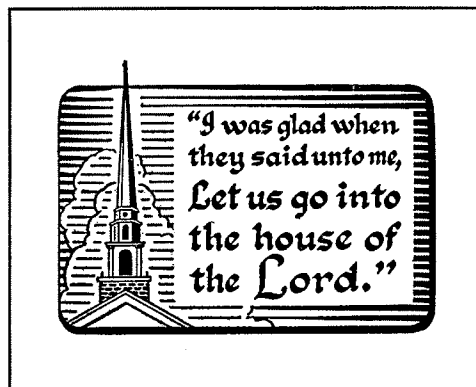
Besides his radio and church work, the young minister was recently elected president of the combined ministerial alliance of the Russellville and Dardanelle churches. He is also moderator of the Arkansas state association of Free Will Baptists.

Eleven Get Certificates Close of Extension School

ELDRIDGE, Ala.—Eleven certificates were awarded at the close of an extension school conducted at the Free Will Baptist children's home here November 16-27.

Rev. Leroy Forlines, head of the Extension Department at the Free Will Baptist Bible college, was director of the school. He taught courses in Free Will Baptist doctrine and the Church and its Auxiliaries. Those who completed the course received two hours Bible college credit for the work.

Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the Bible college, was present for the commencement exercises and delivered the sermon.



For Your Information . . .

This new column of chit-chat from here and there over the denomination will be a regular feature of **Contact**. Hope it's both interesting and informative. . . . The Free Will Baptist League Board has moved its office into the headquarters building. The Rev. C. F. Bowen, promotional secretary of the board, and his secretary, Mrs. William Hill, spend some of their days in the office, some at East Nashville church where he's pastor and she's church secretary. . . . Drumwright, Okla., church sends a check for the Co-operative Program and the bulletin of Oilton, Okla., church reveals they have voted to send a monthly offering for Co-operative Program, also. Full details on the program will be announced after February 3 meeting of Executive Committee.

A letter arrived at headquarters this week from Cpl. Floyd D. Coonrod with the Air Force in Korea, member of Silver City church in Oklahoma. He wants to enter Chaplains' Corp as a Free Will Baptist minister. We're investigating the possibility. . . . Bulletin of Highland Park church, Michigan, gives the name and address of a shut-in or two each week and asks members to remember them with a card. Good idea. . . . Special note to church finance committees: The Christian ministry has taken a 12.8 per cent cut in purchasing power in the last twelve years while wages in industry have gone up 42 per cent; service trades, 33 per cent; government offices, 24.9 per cent, according to a recent survey.

The Woman's Auxiliary department announces that copies of the Auxiliary hymn, "Co-Laborers," with words and music are available at two cents a copy. Order from the WNAC at headquarters address. . . . **FLASH! Arkansas is the first state to go over their quota for foreign missions. To date they exceed it by \$22.18. Congratulations.** . . . Speaking of Arkansas, the Leagues of Pocahontas church sponsored a float in the city's annual Christmas parade. Designed on the theme, "From the Manger to the Cross," it placed first. They are sending half of the award money (\$10) to the national League Board to help move the office to headquarters. . . .

Information for your file: address of the moderator of the national association is Rev. E. E. Morris, 2709 S.W. 33rd Ave., Oklahoma City. His phone is Melrose 2-6424. . . . Down in Columbus, Miss., thirty members of the First church are receiving **Contact**. A few churches can beat it (Armour Avenue church in Ft. Smith, Ark., among them), but not many. . . . **Mr. L. V. Borden and family (wife and year-old baby) have moved into the garage apartment at headquarters and he is our new caretaker. He is student at the Bible college from Detroit, Michigan.**

Rev. Raymond Riggs will be back from Oklahoma by the time this is read, but he's still there in services at the time this is being written. Reports from the services are already coming into the office. Rev. John H. West at Tulsa First church says, "Almost 100 people came forward in dedication of their lives at the close of our service. More than \$1,100 was raised for foreign missions." Said Rev. E. M. Kennedy, member of the State Mission Board, "Twenty-five hundred dollars was raised during the first two days. I'm sure no church will ever be the same after hearing Mr. Riggs' messages." Down in the southern part of the state, Rev. E. J. Wilson writes from Ardmore, "Ours was a great service. Many of our young people came forward promising the Lord they would go where and when he called them. More than \$200 was given in pledges and offerings."

Rev. Ollie Latch, editor of **General Baptist Messenger**, and Mr. James DeForest Murch, editor of **United Evangelical Action**, both write this month. Mr. Latch says he likes **Contact**, and the editor of **Action** writes, "We always rejoice at signs of progress among members of NAE. We want to congratulate you on **Contact**. It is well edited and a credit to your denomination." . . . **Material is being prepared in Home Mission office for "Crusade for Christ" in March and April, and the first pieces are most attractive. Theme for these simultaneous months is "The Church Points the Way."**

Good news for all: Rev. Damon C. Dodd was scheduled to make a trip to Maine during week of December 28 to investigate reclaiming Free Will Baptist work in the New England states. Dodd received a letter from an independent Free Will Baptist minister in Houlton who said several FWB churches that did not go along with the merger in 1910 are still in existence. Pray about it, for it may be the key to reclaiming much of this work we thought lost, Dodd says. **Contact** will carry a complete story in the February issue.



Cover Picture

Leagues Are Making Cuban Lights Burn

It's just a matter of time, now, before electric lights will burn in our Cuban school building. And they will burn because thousands of leaguers have sent in their dimes and dollars—and even pennies—to the "Lights for Cuba" fund.

Last summer, Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary for the Board of Foreign Missions, challenged the National League Board to raise \$2,500, the amount needed to install electric lines from the city of Pinar del Rio to our school some miles distant. The city had offered to install these lines and give two years' free service for that amount.

It was too much of an opportunity to miss. The National League Board grasped the chance to do something really worthwhile, and with the approval of the national association, the campaign began in earnest last July.

At the present time buildings at the school are lighted by dynamo, powered by a gasoline motor which proves quite expensive and not altogether dependable. Electric lights will indeed be a boon to our mission work there.

The National League Board has made contact with hundreds of leagues through the pages of the *FWBL Monthly*, the board's official publication, and through correspondence. The response has indeed been gratifying. When the report was tabulated on December 15 it showed almost half of the \$2,500 already raised.

But because the need for lights in Cuba is urgent, the League board is asking Leagues all over the denomination to join in the campaign with an offering. Here is the plan recommended by the board for raising offerings:

In your general assembly each Sunday night, ask those who have a birthday during the coming week to come forward and give a penny for each year old he is. If he and his wife have a wedding anniversary during the coming week, they will deposit ten cents for each year they have been married.

All gifts should be sent to the National League Board, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee. Below are the offerings which came in during the past month:

Dawson Grove, Enfield, N. C.	\$ 22.00
Black Jack, Greenville, N. C.	10.00
Coppermines, Fredericktown, Mo.	5.00
Union church Woman's Auxiliary, Thompsonville, Ill.	12.00
Hull Road, Snow Hill, N. C.	13.00
For leagues, Miss J. McCarley, Porterville, Calif.	10.00
Edwards Chapel, Merrimon, N. C.	5.00
Corinth, Jamesville, N. C.	13.00
Western League convention, Knoxville, Tenn.	46.00
Fairmount Park Auxiliary, Norfolk, Va.	25.00
First church, Rocky Mount, N. C.	10.00
Total to December 15	\$1,180.27