

# Contact

of the  
National Association  
of Free Will Baptists

MAY, 1954

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



*Eileen Butcher*

**NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK**

**MAY 2-9, 1954**

Mrs. Eunice Edwards  
Box 636  
Desloge, Missouri



# Personally . . .

It will be an unforgivable shame if Free Will Baptists turn up in Spartanburg, S.C., this July with 500 delegates to hold sessions in an auditorium seating 3,400. But unless the picture is changed from previous years, it is likely to happen.

For a special service during the convention we are sometimes able to muster up one or two thousand people, but only a skeleton group of a few hundred remain to conduct the association's business.

We have around 4,000 Free Will Baptist churches in the United States with somewhere near twice that many preachers. If the pastors alone attended the national convention, we would double or triple our delegation. *And every pastor should attend.* He has a responsibility to the denomination and to his church to know about and have a part in what is going on.

Not only so, but his church has a responsibility to see that their pastor is able to attend the national convention of his denomination. The salaries of a great many ministers make it extremely difficult for them to include the expenses of a convention in their budget. But it would be a simple matter for most churches to provide the money and make it possible for their pastors to be present. It would be a worthwhile investment in the spiritual life of both the church and the pastor.

If the ministers will come with a keen interest in the affairs of the denomination, it will not be long until hosts of laymen will catch the spark of enthusiasm and an auditorium the size of Spartanburg's will not hold the hosts of those who come to share the spiritual blessings of our annual convention.

We pray that the time is not far away, but until that time let us at least half-fill the magnificent auditorium in Spartanburg which South Carolina Free Will Baptists are providing for our sessions July 13-15.

### Experiencing Revival

"We are experiencing a great revival here at Union church. There have been 25 or 30 saved since April 1 and the meeting is still going strong. There were four saved tonight (April 11)." —Rev. John Kemper, Wheelersburg, Ohio.

### California Still Organizing

"Nine new churches have been organized in this state since our last state meeting. We are hoping to make it an even dozen by the meeting of the state association." —Rev. Wade Jernigan, Modesto, Calif.

### Thanks God for Training

"How thankful to God we ought to be for men and women who will spend their time in preparation for service to God. The world can't see the light of Christ through us when we become darkened with the sin of jealousy by condemning education and refusing to admit that a spiritual man can use a good education. We must keep moving forward in training our high school and college youth or lose them to other denominations." —Mrs. Arthur Denton, O'Kean, Ark.

### Pioneer Preacher Writes

"Free Will Baptists are on the move, and other groups are beginning to notice that we have something in doctrine that they do not have. Numbers of our young men are preaching the Gospel with boldness, using the Bible as their textbook. Thank the Lord for these young men!" —Rev. T. H. Dixon, Checotah, Okla.

MOTHERS — THE STRENGTH OF OUR NATION



## Contact

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# The Christian Home

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)

The Christian home is the most important institution in the world. That does not minimize the position of the church and state; they also have been ordained of God. But He places the home first—in time as well as in importance. It is the foundation upon which all other institutions are built; upon it the church and state will either stand or fall. What the homes are, the churches and schools are—and the government will be. Every place where there has been a neglect of home responsibility there eventually has been a crumbling of the nation.

It is imperative, therefore, that utmost care be taken in establishing and maintaining our Christian homes. And for this tremendous responsibility God has given us a perfect plan, which is a most beautiful picture. Two who know Him meet, they gradually learn to know each other, take time to seek the plan of God for their lives, exchange vows, establish a Christian home. Then a baby comes. Prayer is offered for the child before and after it is born. The parents trust God for it, but they know that its destiny is influenced by them.

## *Not Accepting Responsibility*

Unfortunately, some parents do not accept that responsibility. They shirk it or shift it on to someone else. Parents who know the Lord Jesus Christ, who have the Word, and yet who blame the church for the downfall of their child, deserve little sympathy.

The church has a real part in his training, but the home has the first responsibility; its influence is the greatest force in the life of the child. Neither are the mother and father excused who blame the school for their boy's or girl's delinquency. A child can be sent through a "pack of wolves" without becoming harmed, if he has been properly trained in his home.

But think of the joy that comes to parents who do accept the challenge of guiding aright the destiny of their children. To see their child respond to the teaching of the Word of God, accept Jesus Christ as Saviour, take his responsibility in the home and community, develop a burden for the peo-

*Rev. Wesley L. Gustafson*

*St. Paul, Minnesota*

ple around him, for the world, and desire to do the will of God (though there be a great deal of fumbling)—to see that spiritual development brings complete satisfaction to the Christian parents.

## *Results of Neglect*

On the other hand, consider the great anguish resulting when mother and father are careless and prayerless—slothful in training the one entrusted to them. The child is disrespectful to his home—and oft times a disgrace to the nation. For the many thousands whom this child represents, twenty billion dollars a year is spent in penal institutions. Orphanages, jails and reformatories are filled!

There is little spiritual hope for any home until the father takes his place as the spiritual leader. Many Christians fail in this important matter. They have been so taken up with their Christian service—with the work of the church, evangelization of the community, of the world—that they have not had time to evangelize their own children. If it is to be done, they must do it. The responsibility is heavy, but it is also very rewarding.

Remember the Word of God: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). This promise to other generations is for us to claim today. God will bring unto Himself those who have had proper training. This is an absolute fact. But we can't let the training go and claim the promise. If I want my children to know God, I have to train them. Then I can trust His promise—He will take care of bringing each of them to Himself.

## *How do we Establish a Christian Home?*

Here again let us look to the Bible for direction. In Matthew 6:6, the Lord Jesus

tells us very clearly how to proceed: "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

In the first place, we must walk personally with God. No one can lead any person further than he has gone himself. Unless the parents are walking with the Lord, the children may not have that privilege.

## *Prayer*

Then we must have a definite period for prayer. This takes discipline and planning—we must make the time. The matter of time is probably where we fail most often. We are terribly busy—sometimes sinfully so. How can we make time?

If I don't have fifteen minutes that I can spend in prayer and fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ and in the study of God's Word all alone during the day, something is wrong. If I have time for either reading the newspaper, listening to the radio, or watching television, then I have fifteen minutes for prayer. Although each of these activities may be good in itself, it is harmful if I do not have time to spend with God.

## *Rewards*

And now we come to the promise: "Thy Father . . . shall reward thee openly." Walking together as a family with God! God honors family discipline. My father always had a family altar, in the morning and in the evening. As soon as the meal was over in the evening, he would get out the family Bible and read. And in the morning, even when we had much work to do in the field and would have to be out early, he would get us up early enough to spend time with Christ before we would go to our work. Now he sees the promise fulfilled in his children's homes.

The maintaining of a Christian home is our first responsibility. The destinies of our children are to a great extent determined by us. How to "train them in the way that they should go" has been very clearly shown to us in the Word. What are we going to do about it?



*President and Mrs. Eisenhower examine a collection of Bibles and New Testaments in 78 languages presented to them on behalf of the American Bible Society by Daniel A. Burke (right), president. President Eisenhower, along with thousands of world leaders and plain people, will sign his name in the World Good Will Book called "one of the greatest mass statements of faith in human history."*

# *A Bible for Mary Jones*

A little more than a century and a half ago, a girl's craving for her own Bible opened a new field of Christian endeavor which has had no parallel in history.

Then—as now—millions were without the Word of God. But little Mary Jones, daughter of a Welsh weaver, did not think of the problems of millions. She knew only that she wanted a Bible as her own and that it was her own personal problem.

The story of Mary, and how she got her Bible, is one of the most heart-warming tales of faith. First she had to learn to read, then spend six years saving. When at last she had accumulated enough for her purchase, Mary trudged barefoot for 25 miles to learn that Bibles no longer were being published in her native Welsh and that none was obtainable.

## *Movement Springs from Incident*

It was the Reverend Thomas Charles, of the village of Bala, in Wales, who gave the girl her Book in the year 1800. From that small incident in a remote hamlet, sprang a movement which has seen the publication and distribution of more than 1,200,000,000 copies of the Scriptures in more than 900 languages and dialects.

To the minister it had been evident for years that the supply of Bibles for the Welsh people had been pitifully inadequate and every effort to get more had fallen upon agencies already overburdened with other duties or had resulted in prices too high for the scanty means of the people.

In that same year 1800, an edition of 10,000 Bibles was exhausted in four months and whole districts failed to receive any. Two years later, Mr. Charles tentatively suggested to some friends on a committee of a Religious Tract Society his idea for a new Society. The society would supply Scriptures for the people of Wales.

## *First Society Launched*

The idea caught fire. The alert mind of Joseph Hughes saw its possibilities. "If for Wales, why not for the kingdom? Why not for the world?" Why not, indeed?

On March 7, 1804, the British & Foreign Bible Society was launched. One hundred and fifty years later, people of at least 60 nations will commemorate the historic event. There are now 24 national Bible societies, all joined in the United Bible Societies and they are currently distributing 20,000,000 volumes of Scriptures each year.

In America, the first Bible society was formed in Philadelphia in 1808 and a hundred others followed quickly, until, in 1816, a national body, the American Bible Society was established. Today, the American society provides more than half of the total world distribution.

## *Jubilee Year of Observance*

The entire year of 1954 will be a year of observance.

Although the jubilee year will be observed with proper appreciation and thanksgiving for the accomplishments of the past, it is also a period for serious reflection on the work still to be done. Hundreds of millions of people are still without their copies of the Scriptures and the number grows greater, rather than less, each year.

Despite the amazing record of twenty million copies distributed in 1953, the total did not even keep up with the birth rate—much less keep up with the needs of replacements and the needs of the newly literate. In the year 1953, twenty-five millions were added to the earth's population while only twenty millions of Scripture copies were being distributed by the societies.

The first aim of the societies will be to increase distribution during 1954 to 25,000,000 copies, a total designed to keep pace

with the birth rate. By 1960, it is hoped that 50,000,000 copies will be distributed annually.

## *World Good Will Book*

The second goal is to bring about a mass statement of faith in the Scriptures. All who believe in sharing their Scriptures with those who want a copy of the Word of God—as Mary Jones wanted her copy—will be asked to sign their names in a World Good Will Book, which will be a compilation of signatures of people who have made a contribution of a single dollar or more to a special fund to make Scriptures available wherever wanted, wherever needed, throughout the world.

Throughout the world, in remote villages and giant cities, people will sign the book.

Each national society will collect its own signatures. The pages will be sent to the United States for binding when the campaign has been completed. Thereafter the "World Good Will Book" will be displayed in principal cities throughout the world, and and then lent for one year to each of the participating Societies.

## *Mass Statement of Faith*

"By signing their names in the pages of this book, people will be giving testimony to their love for the Bible, their faith in its teachings and their desires to share the Bible with others", said Dr. Robert T. Taylor, general secretary of the American Bible Society. He has described the "World Good Will Book" as "one of the greatest mass statements of faith in human history."

To Mary Jones, sobbing before the Rev. Thomas Charles, it was small comfort that a copy of the Bible was available in English. She could read only Welsh. A century and a half later, as whole nations become suddenly literate and as the art of printing explores new horizons, the goal, "To each in his own tongue," becomes a realizable accomplishment, and 1954 becomes a year of rededication.

(See related story, "Will Your Name Be in the World Good Will Book," on page 9.)



# The Prayer Fellowship

Rev. C. F. Bowen, Director

Secretary, National League Board

Hundreds have joined the Prayer Fellowship and are seeing God's answers every day. Why not enlist every member of your family in this worthy endeavor. Write today for your free membership card. Let's pray earnestly this month for the worthy things listed below.

Sat., May 1—(2 Cor. 1)—Pray for your pastor as he plans for tomorrow's services.

Sun., May 2—(2 Cor. 4)—Pray that everywhere on this Lord's Day the gospel may be preached and men's souls saved.

Mon., May 3—(2 Cor. 5)—Pray for Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. E. C. Morris, two of our ministers visiting our mission fields in India, as they return home.

Tues., May 4—(2 Cor. 6)—Pray for the home mission work that is developing in the state of Iowa.

Wed., May 5—(2 Cor. 12)—Pray for the orphanage work of our denomination.

Thurs., May 6—(2 Peter 1)—Pray for more people and groups to join the Honor Roll which is supporting home missionary teams.

Fri., May 7—(2 Peter 2)—Pray for a wide circulation of Rev. Damon C. Dodd's new book, "All of Mine for Him."

Sat., May 8—(2 Peter 3)—Pray for your Sunday school teacher today.

Sun., May 9—(Proverbs 31)—Don't forget that your pastor needs your prayers today. Let us remember to thank God for our mothers and pray for them, also.

Mon., May 10—(Isaiah 41)—Pause today to thank God for the success of our Crusade for Christ, sponsored by the Home Mission Board last month.

Tues., May 11—(Isaiah 42)—Pray for the students of our Bible College who are preparing for final exams these days.

Wed., May 12—(Isaiah 43)—Pray for all the new churches organized last month.

Thurs., May 13—(Luke 13)—Stop today and pray for all the superintendents of our state orphanages. Remember, also, the children.

Fri., May 14—(Luke 6)—Join the staff at Headquarters as they pray today for 5,000 subscribers to our paper *Contact*.

Sat., May 15—(Luke 7)—Pray for your league leaders who are planning for tomorrow night's services.

Sun., May 16—(Luke 11:1-26)—We would not let you forget your pastor again. He needs your prayers.

Mon., May 17—(Luke 11:27-54)—Pray for the Lights for Cuba project the leaguers of our denomination are sponsoring. We need more than \$500 yet.

Tues., May 18—(Luke 12:1-30)—Many churches are having revivals this month. Pray for them.

Wed., May 19—(Luke 12:31-59)—Pray for our missionary workers in Cuba.

Thurs., May 20—(Luke 16)—Thank God for more than \$30,000 raised on the college debt in Nashville. Ask God to assure us of the balance due.

Fri., May 21—(Luke 17)—These are days of excitement at our Bible college in Nashville. Please remember the students and teachers as they approach graduation.

Sat., May 22—(Luke 18)—Your pastor is preparing his messages for tomorrow. Remember him.

Sun., May 23—(Luke 21)—Continue to pray for the Billy Graham meetings in Europe.

Mon., May 24—(Luke 23:1-26)—Our people need to become good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Be earnestly in prayer for a stewardship revival in our churches.

Tues., May 25—(Luke 23:27-56)—Don't forget to remember our missionary work in Africa.

Wed., May 26—(Luke 24:1-35)—Pray for a personal infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Thurs., May 27—(Luke 24:36-53)—Pray for the work of our National Sunday School Board.

Fri., May 28—(2 Cor. 9)—Several teams are planning to go out in home mission work. Pray diligently for them.

Sat., May 29—(Col. 1)—Your pastor will preach better tomorrow if you pray for him today.

Sun., May 30—(Duet. 5)—Ask God to save souls in your church today.

Mon., May 31—(Duet. 6)—Pray for the extension schools which are being held this summer throughout our denomination.

Tues., June 1—(John 2)—Pray for the many vacation Bible schools that are being planned in our churches.

## National Family Week Scheduled for May 2-9

CHICAGO, Ill.—"National Family Week" will be observed in thousands of homes and churches in every corner of the nation May 2-9, according to information released by the National Sunday School Association office.

Pastors, Sunday school superintendents and church leaders will be emphasizing the importance of the Christian home in today's world. A primary emphasis of Family Week has always been the family altar. Pastors are urged to preach on the Christian home, and other church organizations are asked to hold discussions on similar topics.

"There is no separating the church and the home. They must work together to build Christian personalities," declared Clate A. Risley, general secretary of the association, in explaining the theme, "Train Up A Child," which is featured on the cover of *Contact* this month.

*Contact* is joining with NSSA in urging the observance of National Family Week. As a part of this observance, this issue of *Contact* features two significant articles. One is the Sermon-of-the-Month, "The Christian Home," by Rev. Wesley L. Gustafson, pastor of the First Evangelical Free Church in St. Paul, Minn.

The second article is on the family altar by Mrs. Eunice Edwards, personal service chairman of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.

Wed., June 2—(Titus 1)—Pray for the planners of the nationwide league conference and the participants of it. The date is June 15-17 at Nashville, Tennessee.

Thurs., June 3—(Titus 2)—Pray for our missionary work in India.

Fri., June 4—(Titus 3)—Pray for an increased interest among our people in the distribution of Bibles through the American Bible Society.

Sat., June 5—(Acts 1)—Pray for your pastor as he plans tomorrow's sermons.

Sun., June 6—(Acts 2:1-21)—Pray for your classmates and friends who may be unsaved.

Mon., June 7—(Acts 2:22-47)—Pray that the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, North Carolina, may secure a worthy editor-in-chief to succeed Rev. F. B. Cherry who recently resigned.



CHURCH-GOING  
SHOULD  
BE  
A  
FAMILY  
HABIT

## Home Mission Honor Roll Lists Thirty-Seven

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—With the addition of twenty-one names this month, the honor roll of support for the home missionary teams now lists 37 names. This is nearly half of the needed 80 supporters, and Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary of the Home Mission Board, declared the response to be most gratifying.

All of those listed on the honor roll have pledged to send \$5 or more each month for the support of the home missionary teams being sent out this summer. The latest additions are all \$5 pledges except the Crusader church in Detroit, Mich., which is sending \$10 a month.

In the meantime, preparations are going forward to send the teams immediately after the national association in July to Northeast Maine, Kenesaw, Nebraska, and Ybor City, Fla. The Oregon team will spend sometime in California before going on to their field.

The Honor Roll for this month is as follows:

Crusader church, Detroit, Mich.  
 First church, Columbus, Miss.  
 New Gauley S.S., Calhoun City, Miss.  
 Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Lee, Calhoun City, Miss.  
 Mrs. Perry Bryant, Miss.  
 Philadelphia church, Miss.  
 Red Bay Auxiliary, Ala.  
 Berkeley City Leagues, Mo.  
 Class of Harrison church, Sciotoville, Ohio  
 Porter church, Sciotoville, Ohio  
 Hazel Park church, Mich.  
 West Wayne church, Mich.  
 Rouge church, Detroit, Mich.  
 Grace church, Royal Oak, Mich.  
 Flint church, Mich.  
 Philadelphia church, Detroit, Mich.  
 Mrs. Homer Collins, Arkadelphia, Ark.  
 Highland Park church, Mich.  
 YA class of Sandy City church, Catlettsburg, Ky.  
 Phillips' Chapel church, Springdale, Ark.  
 Mt. Zion church, Hindsville, Ark.

## Organizational Revival Underway in Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—May 2-16 has been set as the date for the Free Will Baptist revival here in Memphis. The meeting will be sponsored cooperatively by the national Home Mission Board, the Northeast Mississippi association and the Tennessee state Home Mission Board.

Rev. M. L. Hollis, Amory, Miss., will be the evangelist.

This will be the first Free Will Baptist effort for this city. A number of Free Will Baptist residents have expressed a willingness to become charter members of the new church which will be organized at the close of the revival.

Plans call for a tent revival with services to be held nightly at 7:30. A 15-minute daily radio program is also being arranged. Churches from the surrounding Mississippi and Middle Tennessee areas are urged to come in groups and support the meeting.

### Contact Sunday

Subscription packets containing a sample copy of Contact, an attractive two-color poster and subscription forms went into the mail this week to 1,750 Free Will Baptist ministers. It is all a part of our effort to get 5,000 subscribers by July 13.

May 23 is "Contact Sunday," and everybody can help. Talk about Contact, get a friend's subscription or subscribe for a friend, and help your pastor use the subscription kit.

## Orders Are Coming in For Bulletin Service

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Orders for over 3,000 bulletins per week from the new Free Will Baptist Bulletin Service have already been received, according to Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary.

Most of those orders were taken at the spring Bible conference, he said. Samples of the bulletin service were recently mailed to a selected list of 600 pastors, he said, but there has not been enough time for many to reply by mail.

The secretary is hoping for a minimum total of 10,000 bulletins per week. This would be 100 churches taking a minimum order of 100 bulletins per week. The bulletins are lithographed in attractive colors on top-quality paper with a different picture each week. The back page each week will feature a denominational, seasonal or inspirational message.

Bulletins will be mailed flat once a month for local mimeographing or printing. The first bulletins will be shipped not later than June 15 for use on July 4. For Sunday, July 11, the bulletin cover will feature a picture of the auditorium in Spartanburg, S.C., where the national association will hold sessions July 13-15.

Above the minimum order of 100 bulletins a week, they may be ordered in multiples of fifty; that is, 150, 200, 250, etc. The price will be 95c a hundred postpaid, which is comparable to other bulletin services of similar quality, the secretary said.

For further information and an actual sample of the bulletin, write to Sunday Bulletin Service, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.



## Step Up 'Lights' Gifts, Bowen Asks Leagues

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Stepped-up contributions to "Lights for Cuba" during the next two months will practically insure the success and completion of the campaign by the time the nationwide League conference meets June 15-17, Rev. C. F. Bowen, League Board secretary, said in a special appeal this month.

Offerings received through April 16 brought the total to \$1,781.87, he revealed. A balance of \$718.13 is needed to complete the \$2,500 campaign to install electric lights on the mission station in Cuba.

"If our Leagues would send in \$500 of this amount within the next two months, we are sure to receive the balance, either in pledges or gifts, at the sixth nationwide League conference," Mr. Bowen said. Contributions for April totaled about \$123.

They were as follows:

Missouri state association	\$ 5.00
Mrs. W. J. Stankewitz	10.00
Mrs. L. D. Weathers	6.32
Rev. Charles Craddock	1.00
Goodsprings, Tenn.	6.10
Richmond, Calif.	5.00
Ashland City, Tenn.	5.15
Reedy Branch church, N.C.	10.00
Patmos church, Ga.	19.56
Pocahontas, Ark.	4.09
Tecumseh, Okla.	5.00
Ozias church, Ga.	15.51
Corinth church, N.C.	3.00
Mt. Harmony church, Ark.	5.00
Porterville, Calif.	10.00

## Press Editor Resigns Because of Ill Health

AYDEN, N.C.—Dr. Floyd B. Cherry, editor-in-chief of the Free Will Baptist since 1950, resigned in a letter mailed to the Board of Directors on April 1. His resignation is effective not later than July 1.

Ill-health was the reason given by Mr. Cherry for resigning the position to which he came from a pastorate in Durham, N.C. "Upon the advice of my family physician and the doctors at Duke Hospital, I hereby resign as editor-in-chief at the Free Will Baptist Press," the letter read.

"This resignation is offered reluctantly, and with the full intention of continuing to give the Press my wholehearted support. No one will know the anguish of mind and soul that this resignation has caused us," the letter continued. "We love the work at the Press, for there is no greater ministry than that of the printed page. Those who know us best, know that we had planned to find a place of service in the literature program of our church.

"We were so determined that we carried on several weeks against the orders of our family physician. But time has proved that he was right and that we must sever this connection."

Mr. Cherry said that he planned to continue in the pastorate and evangelistic work and that he will be doing some free-lance writing. He will continue at the Press until his successor is secured or until July 1.

## New Churches Being Planned for Mississippi

Plans for at least three new church organizations in northeast Mississippi have been completed and four more cities have been put on the prospect list in that area, according to Rev. M. L. Hollis, associational evangelist for the Northeast Mississippi Association.

Booneville, Aberdeen, and Corinth will have the new Free Will Baptist churches while West Point, Meridian, New Albany, and Holly Springs are prospective sites for other Free Will Baptist organizations.

A one-week revival in Booneville in May, 1953, resulted in 53 persons declaring their willingness to form the charter membership for a Free Will Baptist Church. Hindering circumstances, however, caused the postponement of the project. More recent developments have seen more prospective charter members including a man who will give a building site near the Booneville Junior College. Rev. Hollis will conduct the revival, which will be sponsored by the Northeast Mississippi Association, June 13-27.

Aberdeen has a Free Will Baptist church as of April 25. The organizational revival was held there April 11-25, and a church was organized at the close of the meeting. Aberdeen is located 15 miles west of Amory and 45 miles north of Columbus on Highway 45 W.

Situated on the Tennessee-Mississippi state line, 45 miles south of Jackson, Tennessee, on U.S. Highway 45 is the thriving city of Corinth, Mississippi. For a number of years, the Free Will Baptists of that city have been asking for a church of their faith. The Northeast Mississippi Association has plans to organize a church there sometime during the year.

Plans are indefinite for the four prospective cities, but it is hoped that within another year Free Will Baptist churches will be set up in each place.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Bumper stickers advertising the meeting of the National Association of Free Will Baptists are available from the Executive Department at the headquarters address. Printed in fluorescent ink, the stickers may be ordered for twenty cents each or six for one dollar.

### About the June Issue

If everything goes as planned, the June issue of *Contact* will be the biggest and best yet. It will be a 24-page "National Convention Issue" featuring many pictures relative to the national convention and complete copies of the programs for both the national association and the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention. This would be a good time to get those subscriptions in!

## NEW CHURCH OF THE MONTH



The building shown above is the first unit of a three-unit church plant which has been planned by the First Free Will Baptist church of Richmond, Virginia. Cost of the entire plant when completed will be approximately \$175,000. The present unit was built at a cost of \$35,000 and is complete with baptistry, nursery and four Sunday school rooms.

Organized in April, 1952, with 17 charter members, the church now has 34 members with a Sunday school average of 35. The church property is located at 5224 Monument Avenue in West Richmond. Rev. Billy A. Melvin, pastor, is a graduate of the Free Will Baptist Bible college and Taylor University, has completed two years of work at Asbury Seminary and is finishing his B.D. requirements at Union Seminary in Richmond.

## Plans Underway for Two Churches in Iowa

Free Will Baptists are getting ready to add another state to the 26 in which they now have churches with two cities in Iowa nearly ready for new organizations.

These two cities are Des Moines and Rome.

The promotional secretary of the national Home Mission Board was called to Des Moines on April 13 to look into an offer being made to a group of Free Will Baptist people. The Mondamin Avenue Christian Church was moving to new quarters and had their old building on the market for sale.

Rev. Matthew Robbins and forty-five other Free Will Baptists had been approached about buying the church plant with complete furnishings for \$15,000. The building includes a beautiful auditorium with balcony, baptistry, two pianos, eight Sunday School classrooms, and a fully equipped kitchen. Pews for the auditorium and all equipment in the classrooms is included.

The Free Will Baptist group has agreed to buy this plant. The organizational revival is scheduled for June and a list of prospective members shows upwards of a hundred people who plan to take membership.

Des Moines is centrally located in Iowa and affords a wonderful opportunity for a center from which to expand out over the state. Requests are already in for Free Will

## Home Mission Tour In Michigan Is Success

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A six-day itinerary in Michigan's Wolverine association netted about \$1,000 in cash and pledges and set the stage for Michigan to top her \$1,500 quota, according to Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary for home missions.

Eight of the churches pledged \$5 a month for support of the home missionary teams.

The itinerary was arranged by Rev. William Mishler, home mission director for Wolverine association, who was present in all except the first two services. Receipts and pledges from the various churches are as follows:

	Pledge Offering	
Hazel Park church .....	\$100	\$22.93
West Wayne church .....	60	54.00
Rouge church .....	60	27.00
Breckenridge church .....		10.72
Crusader church .....	120	21.00
Grace church .....	60	25.00
Flint church .....	60	17.25
Philadelphia church .....	60	45.00
Highland Park church .....	60	(To be sent)

Baptist organizations to be set up in Marshalltown, fifty miles to the north and Newton, about the same distance east of Des Moines.

Rome, Iowa is located in the southeast part of the state and a new Baptist organization there has requested affiliation with the Free Will Baptist denomination. Plans are in the making to investigate this work and receive it into our fellowship if arrangements are satisfactory.

# Arminius vs. Calvin

**Rev. Damon C. Dodd**

*Promotional Secretary*

*Home Mission Board*



knew him sufficiently to esteem; those who entertained no esteem for him are such as never knew him well enough to appreciate his merits."

### *Mantle Falls on Episcopius*

At the death of Arminius, his mantle fell on the shoulders of a young theologian who had studied under him at the University of Leyden, Simon Episcopius. He was pastor of a church near Rotterdam in 1610, the year that the Arminians came out against the Calvinists in what is known as "The Remonstrance." The next year he supported the Arminians at the Hague Conference. It was during this time that he systematized the Arminian theology and set it forth in detailed form. It must be remembered that Episcopius simply took the material which Arminius had already written and categorized it so that people would actually know what Arminianism was.

Like the Calvinistic doctrine, the Arminian doctrine can be set out under five main points.

1. The atonement of Christ was unlimited, having been designed for all men everywhere.
2. Election was conditional, depending upon the individual's acceptance of the terms of salvation.

3. The Gospel call was coextensive, and the message of salvation was to be preached to all.
4. The Grace of God and the call of the Holy Spirit were resistible, inasmuch as man had the exercise of his "free will" to accept or reject as he chose.
5. That it was possible for a person who had accepted Christ as his Savior, by faith in the atonement, to renounce the faith, disown Christ, and be forever lost.

In order to get a better idea of the vast area of difference between the doctrines, let us set them side by side and compare the main points. (See box at bottom of page.)

### *Conference Proposed*

Just before the death of Arminius a conference was proposed which would bring together the Calvinists, represented by Francis Gomar, and the Arminians, represented by Jakobus Arminius. However, Arminius died before the conference was held. The contentions of the Arminians that had raised such terrific furor were those denying the irresistible predestination and that Christ died not only for the elect, but for all men.

In 1614 the Arminians were instrumental in getting an edict passed by the states of Holland which gave toleration to both the Calvinistic and Arminian opinions and declared further controversy outlawed. This act served only to arouse the jealousy of the Calvinists and to fan the flame into a conflagration.

By this time the dispute burst through ecclesiastical bounds and began to effect all points of life. Every social class became engrossed in the dispute. Religious questions

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of articles by Mr. Dodd giving a layman's history of the Free Will Baptist movement. The series will run for several months and if the demand is great enough they will then be issued in book form. Because of the wonderful heritage of the Arminian movement as represented by Free Will Baptists, and because of God's blessings upon it, we are proud to present this second installment of "The Free Will Baptist Story."

The first installment of the Free Will Baptist story dealt with the rise and pre-dominance of Calvinism and the subsequent challenge to the established order by a new and Biblical doctrine known as Arminianism. Championed by a noble man of God, Hermans Jakobs, known to us as Jakobus Arminius, this new doctrine met with unparalleled opposition.

In this installment we will follow the fortunes of the men of God who fought the good fight of faith and won the victory which an omnipotent God afforded them.

The position taken by Jakobus Arminius touched off a terrific reaction. The uproar was the loudest in ecclesiastical courts where the divines of the day objected vociferously to the new doctrine. Arminius was successful in defending his position against all comers.

### *Death of Arminius*

However, when his friend and colleague, Franz Gomarus, turned against him and berated him and his new doctrine, it seemed that something went out of Arminius. Thus, worn out by uncongenial controversy and ecclesiastical persecution, Jakobus Arminius died without having developed any logical and consistent system. This was left for his successor, Simon Episcopius to do a few years later.

To Jakobus Arminius must go the credit for having actually broken the strangle-hold which high Calvinism had on the spiritual throats of the people. In one of his stronger statements Arminius set forth the views from which the Arminian doctrine was later formulated. He said that Calvinism made God "the author of sin, that it restricted his grace, that it left multitudes outside without hope, that it condemned multitudes for believing the truth; viz., that for them no salvation was either intended or provided in Christ, and it gave an absolutely false security to those who believed themselves to be the elect of God."

Peter Bertius, who preached the funeral of Arminius said of him, "There lived a man whom it was not possible for those who

### *Comparison of Arminianism and Calvinism*

DOCTRINE	TEACHING OF CALVINISM	TEACHING OF ARMINIANISM
1. Atonement of Christ	Limited to the "elect"	Unlimited. Christ died for all.
2. Gospel Call	Limited only to the "elect"	Coextensive and universal
3. Election	Unconditional, inasmuch as a certain few had been chosen of God to be saved	Conditional. The terms of the plan of salvation being the conditions.
4. Grace of God in the call of the Holy Spirit	Irresistible. Those who were the elect of God had no choice but to yield to the call of Grace	Resistible. That men surrendered or rejected as of their personal choice
5. Freedom of the will	None whatsoever. God had irrevocably sealed the will and mind of the "elect"	Man had the exercise of his "free will" inasmuch as God had made him a free moral agent.
6. Perseverance	The "elect" would persevere unto the end, according to the predestined plan of God for their lives.	The saved man had every reason to persevere but his perseverance was a matter of faith. Loss of faith meant loss of experience.



and political issues became entangled. The royalty of the House of Orange took up the cause of strict, fatalistic Calvinism while political opponents, led by Hugo Grotius, stood for Arminianism.

In 1617, Prince Maurice of Orange, the head of the political regime of the House of Orange, declared himself for Calvinism. He soon found occasion to imprison Grotius and the other leading advocates of Arminianism. With these men out of the way, he called a synod to meet in Dort for the purpose of crushing the Arminians.

### Arminians Excluded

The Synod of Dort was attended by various foreign deputies but was primarily a national group called to settle the Arminian question in Holland. At the fourth session of the conference it was decided to call in Simon Episcopius and some of the other Arminian remonstrants and charge them with heresy.

Accordingly, Episcopius and 12 others appeared before the Dort Synod. The Arminian deputies from the other countries were allowed to sit in on the deliberation but were not allowed opportunity to express themselves. When the 13 remonstrants appeared, Episcopius took the meeting by storm. He immediately launched into a bold and outspoken defense of the Arminian views. He accused the synod of being a schismatic assembly because they would not allow a full defense of the Arminian views.

The Arminians were asked to file documentary proof of their contentions with the Synod. The group then proceeded to catechise them and, objecting to the manner in which it was done, the Arminians refused to answer any of the questions. They were excluded from the meetings and the Synod condemned their doctrine as dangerous and heretic.

The leaders were sentenced to banishment from Holland and some of them were eventually executed. Episcopius was banished but after the death of Prince Maurice, he returned and became the first president of the Remonstrant college at Amsterdam in 1634. This was the first educational institution of any consequence that taught Arminian theology.

### England Receives Doctrine

With the ascendancy of Episcopius and the college which he headed, Arminianism began to spread over the continent. In a short time England and Wales were seething with the arguments, with the cause of Calvinism finding a stronghold in Scotland among the Presbyterians.

In England and Wales the story was different. These places were caught between two fires and the idea of a doctrine of "Free Salvation" and "Free Will" found fertile soil.

Puritanism and Calvinism had served to make political and religious slaves out of the masses of people in England and Wales. Puritanism, like Arminianism had its origin in Holland. William of Orange used it as a

*If you are moving . . .*

*. . . be sure to send us your change of address so you will continue to receive Contact without interruption. Nearly every month papers are returned with the notation, "Moved—left no address." Consequently, they no longer receive their subscription. Please note your old address as well as your new one.*

## Twenty-Six Churches Report S. S. Averages

Twenty-six churches from nine states have reported their Sunday school averages for the month of March. This is a slight drop in the number reporting last month. The average attendance of eight Leagues were reported.

To have your report included simply write the average attendance along with the name and location of the church on a postcard and mail to CONTACT, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn. Reports should reach us not later than the tenth of the month.

Averages for March were:

Church	S.S.	League
Arkansas		
Phillip's Chapel, Springdale	163	
Pocahontas	159	68
Mt. Harmony, Saffell	68	30
California		
Modesto	164	
Kerman	124	
Kentucky		
Southside, Paintsville	117	40
Virgie	52	
Michigan		
Highland Park, Detroit	438	
Mississippi		
Amory	119	
Missouri		
Mountain Grove	195	74
Fredericktown	183	51
Third Church, St. Louis	106	
North Carolina		
Hickory Chapel, Ahsoskie	124	30
Oklahoma		
Capitol Hill, Oklahoma City	228	
Ada	204	55
Lawnwood, Tulsa	166	
Drumright	140	
Oilton	129	
Bristow	113	
Ardmore	107	
Trinity Temple, Tulsa	76	
Greenbrier Church, Adair	67	
Okmulgee	43	30
Tennessee		
First Church, Elizabethton	204	
Loyal Chapel, Columbia	182	
Dodson Branch, Cookeville	57	

means of bringing a semblance of civil liberty to his people. Puritanism sought to "survey the political aspects of all moral and civil questions and give direction to human forces to build up a country on sound principles of human freedom . . ."

Like many other good things, Puritanism became perverted and at last settled like a millstone about the necks of those who sought political and religious emancipation. The Puritanical decrees became unbearable and the people came to hate the Puritans with an evil ugliness. Persecution came upon them and they left the continent under stress to go to the new land of America for a new start.

*Next month: The Rise of the Baptists*

## POSTER AVAILABLE

**WORLD GOOD WILL BOOK**

*Join This Great Mass Expression of Faith*

**GIVE**

and receive your Bible

**FREE**

one of the copies before as a witness to your faith in the Bible

## Will Your Name Be in World Good Will Book?

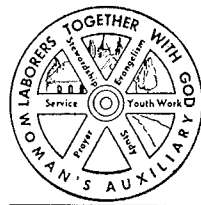
NASHVILLE, Tenn.—"We are anxious for hundreds of Free Will Baptist names to be side by side with thousands of other Bible-believing Christians in the World Good Will Book of the American Bible Society," Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary, said this week in announcing a plan of cooperation so the denomination may have a share in the world-wide distribution of the Scriptures.

The poster shown above, to which is attached signature blanks for the book, is available for church display from Free Will Baptist headquarters, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn. (See page 4 for complete story on the World Good Will Book.)

The executive secretary urged pastors, League directors, Woman's Auxiliary presidents and interested laymen to write for the posters and begin collecting Free Will Baptist signatures to testify of our love for the Bible.



MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS  
Personal Service Chairman



# Woman's Auxiliary

"His Command — Our Task"

MRS. H. B. SLOAN, Executive Secretary

## Reports from the Field

TULSA, Okla.—The Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa recently presented an award to the Woman's Auxiliary of Trinity Temple Free Will Baptist church for service rendered. The Auxiliary is active in two hospital projects: They serve at parties given for the children in the polio clinic and twice a month they roll bandages for the medical center. Since their organization last August they have finished 1,320 dozen bandages.

\* \* \*

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn.—A four-point aim was adopted when a Woman's Auxiliary was organized February 20 at the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist church near here. The aim is to win souls, support denominational work, carry sunshine baskets to the sick, and provide food and clothing for the needy.

Eleven members joined the new organi-

zation and Mrs. Allen Smith was elected president. Other officers include Mrs. Kenneth Albright, vice-president; Mrs. George Morris, YPA leader; Mrs. Allen Teasley, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Riley Albright, recording secretary; and Mrs. J. C. Bagwell, treasurer.

\* \* \*

OKMULGEE, Okla.—Easter week services at the First Free Will Baptist church here were sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary. Rev. John B. Elliston, pastor, spoke at the services during the week on the theme, "Footsteps of Jesus." The week was climaxed on Easter Sunday night with the women presenting the drama, "The Challenge of the Cross."

\* \* \*

HOBBS, N. Mex.—February 8 marked the organizational date for a Woman's Auxiliary here. Seven members joined the new organization. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Ada Holmes, president; Mrs. Beth Moore, vice-president; Mrs. J. O. King, treasurer, and Mrs. L. C. Pinson, secretary.

\* \* \*

ARDMORE, Okla.—Redecorating projects in both the parsonage and church nursery have been recently completed by the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist church here. Included in the complete redecorating of the recently purchased parsonage was inlaid linoleum on the kitchen floor. They also furnished the church nursery.

\* \* \*

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A letter from Mrs. J. P. Barrow, librarian at the Free Will Baptist Bible college, to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, WNAC executive secretary, expressed appreciation for the help given by the Auxiliaries. The letter said, "We still have a long way to go toward accreditation as far as the library is concerned, but I feel with the women behind us, it won't be long until we will have those necessary volumes on the shelves."

\* \* \*

HENRYETTA, Okla.—Mrs. Darrell Meadows was elected president of the Woman's Auxiliary organized here March 2. Thirteen members came into the new organization which was set up by Mrs. Paul Pursell, Youth Auxiliary chairman of the WNAC.

### WNAC Officer Cites Need of Family Altars

"No institution can perpetuate itself without capturing the youth," was the opening statement of the Communist party leader in a recent speech in the United States. Think on those words.

"No institution can perpetuate itself without capturing the youth." Think on who made that statement. If "capturing the youth" is a chief aim of the Communist party, should not Christian parents be aroused to the needs, potentialities, and responsibilities of capturing their children?

The family altar, fostered by Christian parents, has long been recognized as an outstanding institution in our nation. In the past it has contributed much to the progress and devotion of our nation. I daresay the church has not contributed as heavily to instilling Christian principles in the youth as has the worship at family devotions. What about the family altars in America today?

Look at these startling facts: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, in a statement to a Congressional Committee, February 7, 1954, states, "Crime costs each family in the United States an average of \$495.00 annually." For every dollar spent on education, Hoover estimated, \$1.82 is spent indirectly for criminal activities, and for every dollar donated to the churches, \$10 goes to crime.

He voiced concern over an increase in the crime rate among youths, and said, "7.8 per cent of the persons arrested in 1952 were under 18 years, 13.3 per cent were under 21, and 23.1 per cent were under 25."

Youth is the time of learning. But what  
(Please turn page)

### Furniture Fund Now At Half-Way Amount

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Woman's Auxiliaries across the denomination have already provided half the funds necessary for furnishing two rooms in the national headquarters building, according to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, executive secretary of the WNAC.

A suggested quota was set up for each state to be used to buy furniture for the reception and conference rooms, and already five states have met their quotas with three of the five going above the suggested amount. Only three states had not been heard from, Mrs. Sloan said.

Of the \$800 needed, \$406.60 had been received up to April 15. State totals are as follows:

State	Quota	Gifts
Alabama	\$ 40.00	\$ 14.00
Arkansas	10.00	16.50
California	40.00	45.00
Florida	20.00	17.00
Georgia	40.00	54.00
Illinois	25.00	—
Kentucky	20.00	2.50
Michigan	40.00	40.00
Mississippi	20.00	—
Missouri	70.00	34.10
North Carolina	140.00	60.50
Ohio	10.00	10.00
Oklahoma	80.00	18.00
South Carolina	90.00	8.00
Tennessee	90.00	42.00
Texas	45.00	40.00
Virginia	10.00	—
West Virginia	10.00	5.00
	\$800.00	\$406.60

# Need of Family Altars

(Continued from preceding page)

they learn is of utmost importance. No teaching will benefit them more than the principles of righteousness, fair play, and respect for parents that are instilled in children by worship around the family altar. The foregoing statistics certainly show the need of training different from that which our young people seem to be getting in this hectic twentieth century.

Whether children have better or worse manners than in the old days may be a debatable topic, but nonetheless, they are children—children who need help, children who need some basic teaching concerning the rights of others and the fundamentals of right and wrong thinking. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

Statisticians tell us further that the chances for going wrong are greater than they've ever been. If this is true, then all the more reason for giving our youth a heritage that will prepare them for the years of complex living ahead of them.

This great opportunity rightfully belongs to the parents. They can sow, water, and tend the Word in the lives of their children. David gave encouragement to the memorization of the Word when he said, "Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Family worship affords an excellent opportunity for Scripture memorization.

Too many young people are sinning against God and society for clear-thinking Americans not to be concerned about it. We hear the term, "juvenile delinquent" bandied about daily, but as often as not the term should be "parental failure." These so-called "delinquents" are objects of pity. They sin because parents have been too busy with *things* to teach them the eternal truths of God. Too busy for family altars. Too busy to read the Word to them. Too busy to pray with them. Too busy to love them with more than material things. Too busy to counsel with them concerning God's right to their lives. Wise parents help their children learn during their formative years about how to trust God, how to rely upon His guidance.

Usually, the delinquent child is unhappy, insecure, and wants to be loved. Ralph L. Smith, chief probation officer in St. Louis County, believes the increase in tensions in the home adds to the delinquency record. He says: "Parents are so busy today they haven't time for children. They have to sacrifice somewhere, so they sacrifice the kids. There are not many homes anymore where the parents are even home very often much less have time to listen to the child's problems."

Families are living in an uneasy world.

(Please turn page)



Handing a check for \$34,850 to Mr. Floyd Stone, an official of the First American National Bank in Nashville, was quite a thrill for the Bible college president, Dr. L. C. Johnson. The check paid in full the amount owed on the Richland Apartments building, purchased nearly two years ago. Observing the transaction are Rev. Bayless McDonald (extreme left), college treasurer, and Rev. J. L. Welch, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

## "Debt Liquidation" Campaign Brings In \$30,365; Debt Nearly Cleared

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Even though "Debt Liquidation Day" didn't produce quite enough to completely retire the indebtedness on the property of the Free Will Baptist Bible college, college officials did find enough to pay the \$34,850 note against the Richland Apartments building.

A few thousand dollars had to be transferred from the general operating fund to pay off the building, Dr. L. C. Johnson, president, said, but officials thought it would make a fine reward for the denomination because of the great response to the campaign.

The only debt which the college now has is \$3,000 against the president's home.

The debt liquidation campaign, which had been underway for several months, was climaxed April 1 at the close of the eleventh annual Bible conference when something over \$28,500 was given. Those attending the special service (about 400 from many states) went away thinking the total had gone over \$30,000, but an adding machine error accounted for the larger figure.

Enough funds came in up to April 15, however, to push the total to \$30,365.26. "Although the goal was not reached, it is the greatest thing of its kind in the history of Free Will Baptists," President Johnson said.

At the special service funds were presented from 22 states, with amounts ranging from \$1 from Louisiana to \$7,195.34 from North Carolina. The single church contributing most was Cofer's Chapel in Nashville. Rev. J. L. Welch, pastor, presented a check

for \$1,000 from the congregation which had been raised the previous Sunday in a special college service.

The church evidently contributing the most money per member was the Blue Lake church of Anderson, Texas, which sent \$400. Rev. Herbert Richards is pastor of the church of 30 members.

First church in Greenville, N. C., was among the top givers with a check for \$625 being presented by the pastor, Rev. R. B. Crawford. Other outstanding gifts came from the student body and faculty of the Bible college. The students gave \$1,164.12, while the faculty contributed \$600.

Personal gifts amounting to \$500 each came from Mr. J. A. Blackburn, Mt. Hope, W. Va., and Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Norwood, Sulphur, Okla.

Gifts from other states and organizations included:

Alabama .....	\$1,045.82
Arkansas .....	527.62
California .....	131.79
Florida .....	142.25
Georgia .....	3,592.20
Illinois .....	874.00
Indiana .....	20.00
Kansas .....	47.00
Louisiana .....	1.00
Michigan .....	858.00
Kentucky .....	504.00
Mississippi .....	1,229.52
Missouri .....	1,317.92
North Carolina .....	7,195.34
Ohio .....	251.25
Oklahoma .....	1,661.95
Oregon .....	12.00
South Carolina .....	1,076.91
Tennessee .....	4,872.15
Texas .....	1,552.31
Virginia .....	332.18
West Virginia .....	547.90
Woman's National Auxiliary	
Convention .....	100.00
Alumni Association .....	163.54
Offering on April 1 .....	547.49

# Native Indian Pastor Addresses Words of Welcome to Secretaries

Editor's note: The address below was given by Rev. R. Joshua Paul, native pastor of the Immanuel Free Will Baptist Mission in Kotagiri, India, to Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. E. C. Morris on their arrival there.

It is with feelings of deepest pleasure and gratitude that we, the workers in the vineyard of Christ, welcome you into our midst on behalf of the congregation, friends, and supporters of the Immanuel Free Will Baptist Mission in Kotagiri. Your auspicious visit, in the midst of your various and crowded preoccupations betokens the love in your hearts for this land and her peoples. The Immanuel Free Will Baptist Mission of India owes its existence to the great love of these devoted souls whom you represent and to the self-sacrificing and untiring labors of Miss. L. B. Barnard, who is rightly called the "god-mother" of the Harijans in Kotagiri and the surrounding areas.

Our hearts rejoice at the message of hope and cheer and of salvation that you bring to this down-trodden community, as a precious gift from your country. Those that lived in darkness have seen the light and the light is kept burning for others to see and come.

Eighteen years ago the gospel seed was planted in this valley in the shape of a humble schoolroom with one teacher and about twenty Harijan children. Fed and strengthened by Miss Barnard's devoted care the baby school soon grew up and today it can boast of its status as a government recognized school with three trained and certificated teachers and over 120 children receiving free education, including first aid. Out of this school two have gone out to the South India Bible School at Bangarapet; one to the Church of South India Teachers' Training School, Darapuram, and one for Bible Woman's training at Gobichettypalam.

## Children Being Taught

Besides this, six teachers conduct regular Sunday classes in five Harijan centers of Kotagiri, with a total strength of about 120 children. Preparatory classes for Sunday school teachers are a regular feature of this work. Thus our humble foundation is being laid in the hearts of tender children that they may be won for Christ in the years to come, and we acknowledge with gratitude the keen, personal care that Miss Barnard continues to bestow for the health and general welfare of these young ones.

Thanks to the undaunted and persistent endeavors of Miss Barnard and Miss Wilson, a new church was organized and started two years ago with a congregation numbering

over eighty souls and the commissioning of a pastor and a Bible woman was made possible. Since the inauguration of the church twenty-five souls have been baptized and at present there are thirty enquirers.

Evangelistic work under Miss Barnard and Miss Wilson is being carried out throughout the Harijan centers of this district. Weekly prayer meetings are regularly conducted in the Free Will Baptist Mission bungalow. Quite recently in response to an urge expressed by some young men of Kotagiri, revival fellowship meetings are now being held in the mission bungalow on Sunday evenings and thus many local young men who otherwise idle away their Sunday evening hours, have been afforded fellowship in prayer and songs.

## Tells of Co-operation

In general the policy of the mission has been one of close co-operation with other main denominations such as the C.M.S. and the Methodist and this was well demonstrated during a Sunday school rally held by us some time ago. The mission is determined to continue this beneficial policy in all its activities.

We also acknowledge with gratitude all the kind and beneficent help of Rev. H. Merriweather, who through the years has been a friend and advisor and rendered invaluable help to the mission.

Again our hearts rejoice in the thought that this great and sacred work in the midst of these Harijans was made possible by the great love and sympathy of the supporters and well-wishers of this mission abroad and we lift our prayers and thankfulness to Him who guides and inspires all human hearts and efforts.

## Quotes Scriptures

We pray that the blessed hand of Christ may protect and comfort and guide you in all your travels and out-goings in His service. Finally we would quote St. Mark 16:15 and St. Luke 19:10 for our inspiration in all our efforts.

- (1) Mark 16:15—"And He said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."
- (2) Luke 19:10—"For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

# Need of Family Altars

(Continued from preceding page)

With the rising divorce rate the family seems to be in the process of decay. The Christian idea of the family must be strengthened. Religion must again be viewed in its proper perspective if we are to rescue our nation from rank paganism.

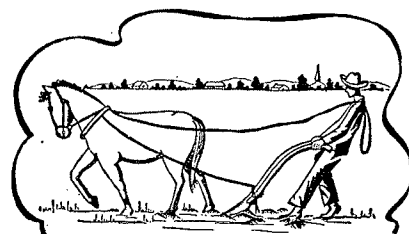
The best and most logical place to begin this right evaluating is with the mothers. The recovery of family worship clearly points the way to higher standards of thinking. But, from somewhere or other, we have developed a wrong concept of motherhood. We seem to believe that it is more important for our mothers to earn "pin money" than to teach Mary and Johnny about God, or about the basic principles that made America great.

When mother says, "It's time for our devotions," she rings the bell for genuine fellowship; for release of tension accumulated during the day; for God's blessings upon those assembled; for future strength for the children of the home; for recognition of the rightful place of parents in the children's lives; for a real bond of unity for the entire family.

The idealism of family worship is deeply religious in tone and promotes communion with God and abiding love between its members. It may sound trite to say it, but it is just as true today as always: the family that prays together, stays together.

By adherence to family worship, we build our own homes of the future—homes of security, homes that are able to cope with the problems of the present world. By neglecting to do so, we destroy our most precious freedom. We, Christian America, "must capture our youth!"

The time to begin family worship is today. The children will be gone tomorrow. The boys will be gone away to camp for military training. The daughters will be gone away to school, or, into a home of their own. In either case, they will need the stabilizing influence of remembered family worship.



No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. Luke 9:62

# Secretary Writes about India Trip

**Editor's note:** The following is a letter written from India by Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, who is on tour there with Rev. E. C. Morris, promotional secretary for the Georgia state association. The secretaries are expected to return to the states about May 7 from the two-month tour.

DEAR FRIENDS:

Rev. E. C. Morris and I left New York for India on March 11, 1954. We came by way of Shannon, Scotland, arriving in London, England on Friday, March 12. Due to our airlines schedule we stayed in London for three days with our headquarters being the Central YMCA. On Saturday night we stood in line in bitter cold and rain for almost two hours outside the Harringay Arena waiting to go inside for the Billy Graham campaign.

We were finally admitted but there was some two thousand people who were unable to get inside. The arena was packed to capacity, and this was the third service of the day. Mr. Graham preached a very simple, yet powerful message and between three and four hundred people went forward to accept Christ as Saviour. They came without coercion or persuasion, and to use the words of the evangelist, "This is of God."

## Urges Prayer for England

As we know, England has been a land of revivals. It has been known as a land that produced great Christian leadership,—but that England is no more! We are told that less than five per cent of the people of London attend any church on a given Sunday. The population of London is over seven million people. It has always been and still is a strategic point in the Protestant world. Please continue to pray for our own "mother country." On one of our tours of the city it was pointed out to us the very spot from which the Pilgrims sailed.

We left London, Tuesday, March 16, en route to Bombay, India. We stopped at Frankfurt, Germany, Rome, Nicosia (Cyprus), Damascus, and Karachi.

To be sure, we did not see too much by air and to many of our fellow travelers these stops were common places, but to we who love the Lord there is quite a sentiment attached in viewing the places of Old and New Testament times. We flew for hours and hours over barren desert, but who knows but some day it may blossom as a rose?

## Met By Barnard

Our first look at India was the city of Bombay. We were deeply impressed by the teeming multitudes of people as they mingled in the crowded streets, amidst the hundreds of cows, bullock carts, rickshaws, cars and busses. Many of them were carrying heavy loads on their heads, and their countenance also reveal there are burdens on their hearts.

I see already I can tell you very little in this letter—so I will skip and tell you about our own work and missionaries.

As we were landing at the airfield in Bangalore, I saw from the window of our plane our senior missionary, Laura Belle Barnard. There was something about seeing her there in the hot sun, surrounded by the many dark Indian faces, waving a sun-tanned hand of welcome that I shall never forget.

A lump came in my throat, and I could hardly hold back the tears. As you know, she came out as a young woman. She has been in India twenty years. Except for her graying hair she still possesses the qualities of youth, and perhaps is in better health than in previous years. She is highly respected by all who know her in India, both for her consecration and initiative abilities.

## Time of Revival

The first Sunday we spent on our mission station in South India was a time of blessing indeed. First of all, the fellowship with our missionaries, Miss Barnard and Miss Wilson, was an inspiration. We were so glad to find them comfortably situated in our very lovely mission bungalow, which had been just decorated both inside and out, mostly for our benefit, I am sure. On Sunday night a revival broke out in the school chapel.

After I had preached, Bro. Samuel, a young Indian evangelist, brought a message and deep conviction seized the people. One young man was saved at the close of the service. But on Monday and Tuesday nights, between 25 and 30 each night came and gave their hearts to Christ. Numbers from different castes and classes yielded to the Lord. The missionaries all say they never saw such before in Kotagiri. For this we praise the Lord, and ask that you pray that revival may be experienced throughout India. *It is so badly needed!*

## Trip to North India

Since our work in North India is 1500 miles from our station in South India, it required almost three days of travel by car, train and plane to Sonapurhat. Bro. Cronk met us in Calcutta and the next day we arrived. It was a real joy to see the Cronks and the Hannas and especially to find them well and happy in the Lord. To use the words of Mr. Hanna, himself, "We are extremely happy for we feel we are in the center of the Lord's will."

Upon arriving in Sonapurhat, we learned that the Cronks had set up camp at Jungla

Bitra, near villages of Santal Indians, so Friday and Saturday nights were spent in the tent at Jungla Bitra. On our way to camp in the jeep we stopped and looked at a large leopard that had been trapped in a cage. We learned that at this time of the year they are quite dangerous, so you can imagine our anxiety when on Saturday night, we were serenaded throughout the night by two of these jungle beasts.

## Jungle Experience

Shortly after we had gone to bed, we were suddenly aroused by the deep growl of the leopard just outside our tent. Everyone jumped out of bed, (I got tangled up in my mosquito net on the way out) and grabbed our flashlights, but the leopard lost himself in the shadows. The people in the near-by village had also heard him so many of them came up to our camp. To be sure, there was some excitement. Well, we all retired again, but very shortly we were greeted with the unwelcome growl of the leopard. This time a lantern was lighted and continued to burn throughout the night—and everyone but me seemed to have gotten a night of rest.

Several other times during the night the hungry growl of the hunting leopard could be heard in the distance, and as it blended in with the other strange noises of the night, I must confess I have heard better lullabye songs.

*Yours for Souls Everywhere,*  
RAYMOND RIGGS

## Two States Exceed Foreign Mission Quota

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Two states, Arkansas and California, were over their quotas for foreign missions as of April 1, according to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, bookkeeper for the department. Arkansas was fifty per cent over their \$1,100 quota and it looked like they might double it.

A large part of California's \$1,094 total came from the Bible Center church of Santa Ana, where Rev. and Mrs. Herbert Phenecic, missionaries to Cuba, once had their membership. The church continues to support these missionaries since they have joined the Free Will Baptist staff in Cuba.

Total receipts for March were just under the \$6,000 needed each month to meet the budget. Receipts for the first nine months of the church year were \$50,140, leaving a little less than \$25,000 to be raised before July 1.

# Glancing Around the States . . .

## **Elizabethton First Plans For Educational Building**

ELIZABETHTON, Tenn.—The First Free Will Baptist church here has recently elected a building committee to promote a fund-raising campaign and make plans for the erection of a new educational building in the near future. The Sunday school average for the past two months of 217 and 204 have filled to capacity the present facilities, Rev. Harvey E. Hill, pastor, says.

## **Invitations Being Received For 1955 Association**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Those who would like to entertain the 1955 session of the national association should contact the Placement Committee soon, Rev. C. F. Bowen, chairman, announced. The committee will investigate all of the facilities being offered in each invitation before July and will make a recommendation to the association in session about a meeting place next year. Those interested may contact Mr. Bowen at the headquarters address.

## **Arkansas League Rally Scheduled for May 30**

GREENBRIER, Ark.—The New Hope associational league rally will meet May 30 at the Greenbrier Free Will Baptist Church. Wayne Thacker is president of the rally.

## **Missouri Sunday School Convention Has Meeting**

SALEM, Mo.—The Triumphant Sunday school convention of Missouri met March 20 at the Free Will Baptist church here. During the business session Rev. Don Ellis, St. Louis pastor, was elected convention president. Rev. Lawrence Thompson, host pastor, was elected vice-president and Mrs. Dobkins was retained as secretary-treasurer.

## **McAdams' Visit Florida Churches on Tour**

HUNTSVILLE, Texas—Rev. and Mrs. H. M. McAdams visited a number of churches in Florida recently following a revival in Miami. Among the churches where services were held were Chipley, Piney Grove, Bonifay, Cottondale, Poplar Head, Pleasant Grove, Pensacola and Atmore, Ala.

## **Overman Accepts Pastorate At Hyde Park, Norfolk, Va.**

NORFOLK, Va.—Rev. E. H. Overman has recently accepted a call to become pastor of the Hyde Park Free Will Baptist church here. He resigned the First church, on Little Creek Road, and succeeds Rev. Daniel Merkh at Hyde Park.

## **Darlington Church Calls Rev. Coffey as Pastor**

DARLINGTON, S. C.—Rev. Rufus Coffey has accepted a call to the Darlington Free Will Baptist church following the resignation of Rev. Seldon Bullard, who becomes superintendent of the Kentucky orphanage. Mr. Coffey was recently received into the Cumberland association in Tennessee from the Southern Methodist denomination. He was formerly pastor of the First Southern Methodist church in Nashville, and Mrs. Coffey is a former instructor in the Free Will Baptist Bible college.

## **Florence Church Begins Building**

FLORENCE, S. C.—Ground-breaking ceremonies were held during the week of March 22 at the Eastside Free Will Baptist church. The formal ceremonies marked the beginning of a building program for the newly organized church. Rev. Monroe Harrell is the pastor.

## **Tulsa Churches Have Easter Week Services**

TULSA, Okla.—All Free Will Baptist churches in the greater Tulsa area cooperated in Holy Week services Monday through Saturday, April 12-17.

Services were held in the following churches: West Tulsa, New Home, Lawnwood, Turley, First, and Lewis Avenue. Free Will Baptist pastors in the area brought the sermons each night with the following pastors speaking: H. E. Staires, John H. West, E. M. Kennedy, L. A. Yandell, Melvin Bingham, Carl Hembree and Doyle Dipboye.

## **Kentucky Pastor Injured In Automobile Accident**

PAINTSVILLE, Ky.—Rev. Homer Willis, pastor of Southside church here and member of the national Home Mission Board, is slowly recovering from a severe leg fracture sustained in an accident in March. The accident occurred when Mr. Willis was returning home after a night service in Huntington, W. Va.

## **California Church Has Sunday School Rally**

KERMAN, Calif.—Rev. Dean Moore, pastor at Richmond, Calif., was guest speaker for a Sunday school rally held March 28 at the Free Will Baptist church here. The rally came at the close of a teacher training course conducted by the pastor, Rev. O. H. Doss.

## **Social Band Association Sets Quarterly Meeting**

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—Rev. Will S. White, associational evangelist, will bring the introductory sermon at the quarterly meeting of the Social Band association May 28-29. Rev. R. S. Shelton will also speak at the session. Pirtle church will be host to the meeting. Rev. J. Reford Wilson is moderator.

## **Homecoming Set By Alabama Church**

PELL CITY, Ala.—All-day home-coming services have been scheduled for May 23 at the Mt. Zion church here. Rev. Floyd C. Barber, pastor, announces that a revival will begin that night with Rev. S. W. McDonough of Gadsden as evangelist.

## **Wewoka Named as Site For Extension School**

WEWOKA, Okla.—The First Free Will Baptist church will be host to a state-wide extension school of the Free Will Baptist Bible college which will be held the first two weeks in May. Rev. Ralph Staten is pastor and Rev. Leroy Forlines, Bible college instructor, will conduct the school.

## **Home Mission Secretary Will Visit Georgia**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary for the Home Mission Board, will conduct services in Georgia the latter part of May. Rev. G. W. Cloud, promotional secretary for the South Georgia association, announces that he will conduct two services in that association. They will be at Philadelphia church, near Folkston, on May 27 and Memorial church, near Surrency, May 28.

## **New Church Formed At Kermit, Texas**

KERMIT, Texas—Eighteen charter members joined the new Free Will Baptist church organized here April 4. Rev. Nolan G. Robinson, Odessa, was called as pastor. On the organizational council were Rev. H. H. Haston, Paducah; Rev. M. T. Holly, New Deal, and Mr. Ogles, a deacon from the Odessa church.

## **Young Service Preacher Licensed by Committee**

HOBBS, N. Mex.—Roy M. Thomas, serving at the Roswell Air Force Base in New Mexico, was licensed to preach April 2 by the Hobbs church. On the licensing committee were Rev. L. C. Pinson, local pastor; Rev. M. T. Holly, New Deal, Texas; and Mr. B. J. Medart, Tucson, Arizona.

# Glancing Around the States . . .

## North Carolina Church Has Ground-Breaking

TARBORO, N. C.—Ground-breaking ceremonies on March 21 marked the beginning of construction of a new educational building for the First Free Will Baptist church here. Services are being held in the Jewish synagogue since the organization September 6, 1953. The membership has grown from 35 to 87, and the congregation will use the \$30,000 educational building for services until a sanctuary can be erected. Rev. Frank Davenport is pastor.

## Texas League Rally Draws Record Crowd

HENDERSON, Texas—An estimated 300 persons attended the district League rally of the Texas association held April 13 at the Stewart. It was said to be the largest group of Free Will Baptists ever assembled in the association. Good Hope church was awarded the attendance banner with 91 present.

## Arkansas Association Reports Mission Work

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark.—A new plan for promoting home missions has met with success in the Antioch association of Arkansas. Rev. W. S. Isbell, who was elected contact man for the association, has visited most of the churches in the association and reports offerings amounting to \$217.94. The following churches have participated: Russellville, Hickory Grove, Welcome Home, Harmony, Mt. Home, Union Grove, Moreland, Slaty Crossing, Sweet Home, Red Oak and Pleasant Grove.

Rev. O. T. Dixon, state director for home missions, urged other districts to follow the plan so that quota could be met by the end

of the associational year. Rev. Damon C. Dodd conducted an itinerary in the state April 25-30.

## California Church Reports Great Progress

MODESTO, Calif.—Reorganizing the Sunday school and redecorating and improving the building highlights the report from the Modesto church. The Sunday school has recently been standardized with the six-point record system. The school now has two assemblies with thirteen classes. Building improvements include new pews for the choir, a public address system, central heating unit, addition of a nursery, and complete landscaping and painting of the outside. Rev. Wade Jernigan is pastor.

## Okmulgee Church Has First Anniversary

OKMULGEE, Okla.—The Free Will Baptist here celebrated its first anniversary March 28. Organized a year ago with eleven charter members, the church now has 29 members and a Sunday school enrolment of 63. The church has complete organizations with six Sunday school classes, three Leagues, a Woman's Auxiliary and a GTA. Rev. John B. Elliston is pastor.

## Rev. James F. Minor Resigns Amarillo Church

AMARILLO, Texas—Rev. James F. Minor announced his resignation as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist church here on April 4. He has been with the church since it joined the denomination from the ranks of the Free Baptists. His resignation becomes effective June 1. By that time the church expects to have finished a building

program that will provide facilities for a Sunday school of 175 and a parsonage.

## Sunday School Workshop Scheduled in Oklahoma

HASKELL, Okla.—A state-wide Sunday school workshop is scheduled to be held at the Free Will Baptist church here on May 17. Under the direction of the state Sunday School Board, it will feature inspirational messages and clinics for teachers and workers. Rev. Bill Ketchum is host pastor.

## Kerman Church Extends Call to Wade Jernigan

KERMAN, Calif.—Rev. Wade Jernigan has been extended a call to become pastor of the Free Will Baptist church here. He will come to Kerman from Modesto where he has been the past year. He succeeds Rev. O. H. Doss, who has been here seven years.

## Convention Pamphlet Ready for Distribution

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The first publicity material for the convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists went into the mail from denominational headquarters last week.

It was a four-page, two-color pamphlet entitled, "Convention City, 1954," which contained information about the convention city, Spartanburg, South Carolina.

The folder said in part, "Picked out of more than half-a-dozen invitations, the city of Spartanburg, along with 4,000 Free Will Baptists in South Carolina, will be host to the eighteenth annual session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists which meets July 13-15.

"It is a fitting place for Free Will Baptists to meet and commemorate the passing of 227 years since the establishment of Free Will Baptists in the United States.

"Attendance at the national association is increasing every year. At Mt. Vernon, Ill., last year nearly one thousand delegates, ministers and visitors were present. Since the convention city this year is within easy driving distance of nearly 75,000 Free Will Baptists in four states (S. C., 4,000; N. C., 49,000; Ga., 10,000, and Tenn., 10,500), the state committee and national officers are anticipating an attendance of 2,000.

"Spartanburg will have no difficulty taking care of the increased delegation. All sessions of the association will be held in the new memorial auditorium seating 3,406 persons with comfortable, permanent, cushioned seats.

"The program, which will develop the theme, 'Revival Now!', will be highlighted by messages from the hearts of men like Rev. C. F. Bowen, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. Charles Thigpen, Detroit, Mich., and Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., Greenville, S. C.

"A pamphlet listing accommodations and transportation will be ready about May 15 and the complete convention program will be ready for distribution by June 1."

## Eighteen Churches Report Revivals

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Eighteen revivals, some of them scheduled for May and others already concluded have been reported this month. Most of them were held as a part of the denomination-wide "Crusade for Christ" during March and April. Revival reports sent to the paper should give the church, evangelist, pastor, dates, number of professions, additions to the church and baptisms.

Church	Evangelist	Pastor	Date	Prof.	Add.	Bap.
Tecumseh, Oklahoma	Clay Richey	Delbert Akin	April 18			
Crow Church, Beckley, W. Va.	R. H. Doan and Elden Pauley			13		13
Amory, Mississippi	Louis Moulton	M. L. Hollis	May 30			
Verdella Church, Liberal, Mo.	Willard Day			1		
Ardmore, Oklahoma	Robert Maxwell	E. J. Wilson	April 4			
Okmulgee, Oklahoma	Homer Young	John Elliston	Mar. 21-Apr. 4	2		
Pikeville, Kentucky	Lloyd Pike	James N. Owens	Apr. 18-May 2			
Ragland, Alabama	John Hull	H. A. O'Donnell	March 17	7	1	
Healdton, Oklahoma	Bill Ketchum	E. S. Sunday	March 29	12	3	3
First Church, Miami, Fla.	Lizzie McAdams	J. A. Sikes				
Fairmount Park Church, Norfolk, Va.	Bob Jones, Jr.	W. A. Hales			33	
Dairs Chapel, Berry, Alabama	Floyd C. Barber	C. D. Burrell	Mar. 20-28	8	11	7
Mt. Zion Church, Pell City, Alabama	S. W. McDonnough	Floyd C. Barber	May 23			
Mountain Grove, Missouri	Willard C. Day	Willard C. Day	April 11			
Myrtle, Missouri	J. Reford Wilson	George Scott	Mar. 24-Apr. 2			
Sharum Church, Ark.	Ralph Staten		March 22-28			
Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie, N. C.	T. O. Terry	Walter Reynolds	April 4-10			
St. Louis, Missouri (all Free Will Baptist churches co-operating)	W. S. Mooneyham		May 17-28			

# League Groups Are Planning to Attend Sixth Conference

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Reports are already arriving in the office of the National League Board from individuals and groups who are planning to attend the sixth nationwide League conference here June 15-17.

"We are definitely planning to charter a bus," Rev. J. Reford Wilson writes from Pocahontas, Ark. At least two other groups—Pitt County Youth for Christ in North Carolina and a group in South Carolina—are talking about bringing busloads to the conference.

The Arkansas leaguers have already sent reservations for twenty-nine from that area. An increasing number of reservations and inquiries will come in as conference time approaches, Rev. C. F. Bowen, League Board secretary, says.

Sessions of the conference will be held in the Memorial auditorium on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Bible college. Keynote of the conference, which has become one of the outstanding denominational meetings, is "Learn from Me." Featured on the program will be dozens of League leaders from all over the denomination.

As always, the heart of the conference will be the afternoon simultaneous study sessions for all ages. There will be four of these sessions each afternoon. The first section will include presidents, vice-presidents and secretaries who will discuss, "Leaders Who Lead." In the second section will be group captains, pianists, choristers and Bible quiz leaders who will study "Better Weekly Programs."

"The Business-like Way" will be the subject of section three for general directors, general secretaries, pastors, treasurers and district and state leaders. The fourth section will be for superintendents of intermediate, junior and story hour Leagues and sponsors whose topic will be, "The Romance of Leading."

One of the highlights of every League conference is the nation-wide Intermediate Sword Drill on the closing night. Mr. Bowen says he is hoping for a dozen contestants this year. Arkansas, Texas, and Florida have already notified the secretary of their contestants.

Representing Arkansas in the drill will be James Evans, Mt. Zion. Judy Eagleton from the First church in Fort Worth will be Texas' contestant, and Lucius Pooser, Marianna, Fla., will represent his state.

Plus all of this, there will be missionary emphasis, challenging dramas and plays, and the finest music. Information regarding reservations and costs is available from the National League Board, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee.

# The Sinner's Last Match!

Out on the icy waters of the Atlantic one cold, dark night, a captain and his crew learned that their ship was slowly sinking. Quickly the lifeboats were lowered. The captain, stepping into one laden to the gunwale, began to search the surface of the water for a light from another craft.

After a few suspense-filled moments, he saw a glimmering ray from another vessel, but the problem now to be solved was finding something to use for a signal. They hurriedly searched the loaded boat and found a battered lantern with an inch or two of candle in it. But their problem was yet unsolved—they must have a match!

Every man searched his pockets and finally they found just one. In their critical situation, however, it was difficult to decide who would shoulder the responsibility of striking it. It was decided that each man would remove his jacket and together they would form a windbreak. When this was done, the captain with steady fingers struck their last match, the lantern was lighted and waved through the air and immediately the captain of the other ship saw their light and altered his course for the rescue.

To those shipwrecked sailors the match was invaluable. It represented their last chance.

The Scriptures declare that all who are in sin are in darkness, and the only signal that God will recognize is repentance and faith toward Him. God is under no obligation to call the sinner more than once, but because of His love he constantly calls him to accept right and reject wrong. Paul wrote, "The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11), and Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

From the glowing personality of the sinless Son of God comes the heart-warming rays of glorious salvation, and when you are willing to make the contact through repentance toward God and faith in Christ, these powerful rays will illuminate your soul which has been in spiritual eclipse.

The Scriptures prophesied, "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2) and the New Testament affirms its fulfillment with the words of Jesus, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

*"Look to the light; all will be right.  
Morning is ever the daughter of night.  
All that was black will be all that is bright."*  
—Willard C. Day

