

# Contact

of the  
National Association  
of Free Will Baptists

JUNE, 1954

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

## Special Convention Issue



Memorial Auditorium—Spartanburg, South Carolina  
Convention site for National Association of Free Will Baptists  
July 13-15, 1954

Rev. Henry Melvin  
RFD 2, Box 130  
Winterville, North Carolina

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# Noted Preachers on Program

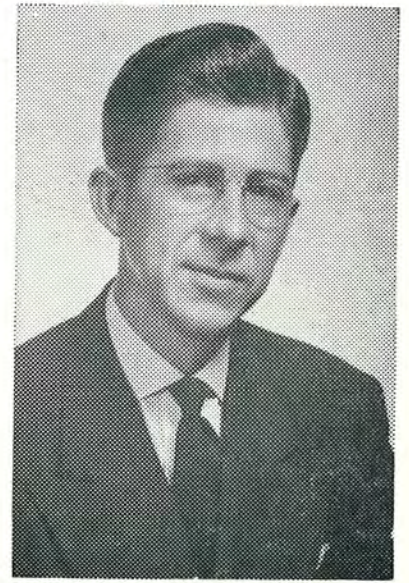
## Jones Will Speak



REV. CHARLES A. THIGPEN

Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., president of Bob Jones University in Greenville, S. C., will bring one of the messages to delegates attending the National Association. He will speak at 2:40 Wednesday afternoon, July 14, on "Evangelism and Revival." The afternoon business session will be suspended for a forty-minute worship service during which the noted Christian educator will speak.

Both Dr. Jones and his father, who is widely known for his great work in the cause of Christ, have proved themselves to be in sympathy with the work of Free Will Baptists and many will be looking forward to this great message.



REV. C. F. BOWEN

## Christian Home Theme

Because of the many forces being brought to bear against the American home, the program committee felt that a service emphasizing the need of revival in the Christian home during this year's association would meet a real need. So the entire worship service on Wednesday morning, July 14, will be developed around the keynote, "Revival in the Christian Home."

Selected to bring the message on "Revival Fires Burn on Family Altars" is Rev. Charles A. Thigpen, pastor of Highland Park Free Will Baptist church, Detroit, Mich., Donald Clark, Sulphur, Okla., will sing "Bless This House," and Rev. James Barker, St. Louis, will read the scriptures.



DR. BOB JONES, JR.

## The Keynote Message

While the theme for this session of the National Association is "Revival Now!" the keynote for the opening service on Tuesday night, July 13, asks the question, "Can We Have Revival Now?" Rev. C. F. Bowen, faculty member at the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville and secretary of the National League Board, will deliver the keynote message on "The Urgency of the Burning Heart."

This opening service is expected to set the pace for the entire convention. Rev. Burkette Raper, promotional director for the North Carolina state convention, will bring the devotional.

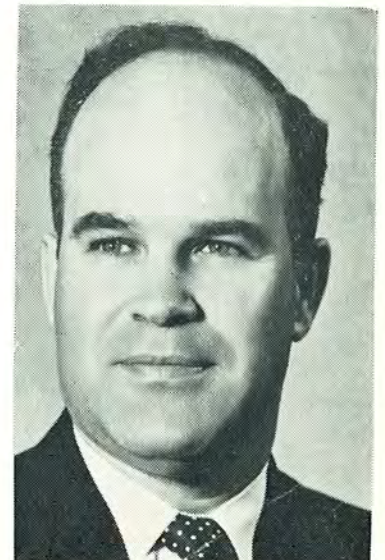


REV. RAYMOND RIGGS

## Missionary Emphasis

Coming right in the middle of the convention will be a service emphasizing the missionary program of the denomination. "Revival Power for World-Wide Witness" will be the keynote and Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretaries for the mission boards, will give their reports and bring inspirational messages.

A pre-service feature will be films about Mr. Riggs' recent trip to India. At the close of the service the Home Mission Board will commission its first teams for work in the homeland.



REV. D. C. DODD

# India Diary

Rev. Raymond Riggs

Promotional Secretary, Foreign Mission Board

*Editor's Note: On May 1, Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. E. C. Morris returned to the United States after six weeks abroad, with most of that time spent touring the Free Will Baptist mission work in India. Brief stops were made in England and Palestine, however, during the trip. Because every Free Will Baptist was vitally interested in this trip and because many thousands of them were praying for these men, we are presenting in two or three installments the diary of that six weeks which was kept by Mr. Riggs. It is our prayer that God will use it to awaken us to new missionary zeal.*

*Wed., March 10*—Arrived in New York about 8:30 this morning. Brother Morris arrived at the hotel about two hours later. After a rest and lunch we went on a guided tour of the United Nations building. Very interesting. If only Christ could have his rightful place, this could certainly mean world peace. We also had an interesting interview with India's permanent delegate, Mr. R. Doyal.

*Thurs., March 11*—This is the day we leave for London. Went up to the 83rd floor of the Empire State building and viewed New York. Checked out of the hotel, went to the airport and started on our way. Received telegrams at the airport from the family and the headquarters staff assuring us of their prayers. Certainly warmed our hearts.

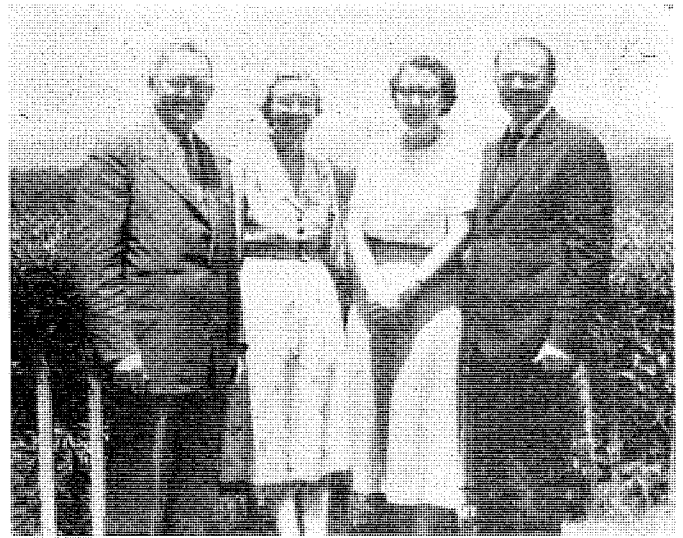
*Fri., March 12*—The weather was good for flying and the flight to London was fine. Landed first at Shannon, Ireland, where we passed through immigration and customs. On arriving at London we found that a mistake had been made on our small pox vaccination certificate, so it was necessary to be re-vaccinated. We registered at the Central YMCA and went straight to bed. The bed was hard, the noise from the street was terrible and neither of us slept well.

London is an old city and quite dingy. Changing our money into British currency is very confusing, but maybe we'll get along.

## Heard Billy Graham

*Sat., March 13*—Went on a guided tour of the city this afternoon. Saw many blocks that were still in ruins from the bombing raids during the war. We were taken through the House of Lords and House of Commons. I had a seat in the House of Lords, but not for long because the guard ordered me up "pronto." Tonight we rode the subway to Harringay Arena and heard Billy Graham. We stood in the rain and cold with a multitude of people. Many were turned away, but we got in. It was a wonderful service. The people seemed hungry for God.

*Sun., March 14*—Had devotions in our room this morning and read a sermon by a



*Taken during their stay at the mission station in South India, this picture shows the two Free Will Baptist missionaries at this station in Kotagiri and the secretaries. Left to right are Rev. E. C. Morris, Miss Laura Belle Barnard, Miss Yolena Wilson, and Rev. Raymond Riggs. Miss Barnard is director of all Free Will Baptist missionary work in India.*

British preacher prepared during war times. Attended services here at the YMCA tonight and heard a message on "The Church in Communist China."

*Mon., March 15*—Another tour of London today. Left London at 9:30 p.m. and flew all night. Had stops at Frankfurt and Rome.

## To Cyprus and Damascus

*Tues., March 16*—After leaving Rome at 6 a.m., we stopped at Cyprus and Damascus. To world travelers these are common places, but to us who love the Lord they arouse our sentiments as we think of Jesus, Paul and other great ones who knew these places so well. Flew over barren desert most of the afternoon. After a stop in Iraq we are on our way to Bombay, the gateway to India.

*Wed., March 17*—Brother Richie, a Plymouth Brethren missionary, met us when we arrived at Bombay. What a scene! Teeming multitudes of people in the middle of the streets—some walking and some riding bicycles, some carrying heavy loads on their heads and others driving herds of odd-looking cows. After supper we took a long walk by the Arabian sea. Had a conference with the Richies and another missionary, Brother McGregor, and then to bed.

*Thurs., March 18*—Said farewell to the Richie family and took a plane for Bangalore. Miss Barnard and two boys from the mission station were there to meet us. We were still 200 miles from Kotagiri, but as we got in the car and started for Mysore we had a prayer of thanks for a safe journey.

## Arrive in Kotagiri

*Fri., March 19*—Spent last night with Rev. Watts, a missionary in Mysore. Went to a Hindu temple while in Mysore. Had to remove our shoes before entering. Drove through jungle, plains and mountains to Kotagiri. The scenery was beautiful. Arrived in Kotagiri about 7:30 tonight and were given a warm welcome. The mission

house is lovely. Had supper, bath, prayers and to bed.

*Sat., March 20*—After breakfast we were thrust into a serenade of welcome by the school children. A special procession marched down the decorated driveway to the school chapel where a very impressive service was held. The children sang welcome songs and placed garlands about our necks. The pastor gave a most warm welcome address. A great lump came in my throat during the service. I shall never forget it.

*Sun., March 21*—Before church we went with Miss Barnard to survey the Indian village. Poverty and filth everywhere! Several have been saved, however, and live differently. I spoke at ten o'clock in the Union Church chapel. Big crowd and good service. Came down to the school chapel at 11 to hear Brother Morris. The mission church had 150 in Sunday school. I preached in the school chapel at the evening service. An Indian boy also preached and one person was saved. After service came to mission bungalow for fellowship and prayer. The Lord met with us in a wonderful way.

## Revival Experienced

*Mon., March 22*—Had conference with Miss Barnard in the office and we reviewed the mission work in general. The Lord has certainly blessed in Kotagiri. This evening I preached in the school church along with Samuel and some 25 or 30 accepted Christ as their Saviour. A large crowd and a wonderful service! Our things are packed ready for us to leave for North India in the morning.

*Tues., March 23*—Left early for Madras in the Chevrolet. The car certainly has been a blessing here on the mission field. The driver took us to Erode where we boarded the train. We had a second class compartment and managed to get a little sleep. We

(Continued on page 13)

# Sidetracked

Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

1st Corinthians 1:17, 18 "For Christ sent me not to baptize but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

Today, as ever, since the fall of Adam, men, women, boys, and girls all over the world are sick. They are in desperate need of an effective cure for the malignant, deathly diseases of sin. Down through the ages God has provided a cure for all mankind. Those who have accepted the cure have been healed. Finally, one day on Golgotha's brow, God perfected a once and for all remedy for the sins of the human race. This cure was the shed blood of Jesus Christ. This healing reaches the people as God-called preachers, teachers, missionaries, and Christian workers take the message of salvation to a needy world.

The Lord Jesus Christ spent three years or more training twelve men to whom He could intrust this gospel message. These men were told to go into all the world and preach the gospel. Likewise, Jesus also commissioned the seventy to go forth with this message. Still again, He told the one hundred and twenty that they would receive power and also be witnesses of this same message.

## *Disciples Had One Message*

These men, empowered by the Holy Spirit, went forth proclaiming the Gospel. They had but one message; a message they knew, if accepted, would convert the world. Because they preached with such vigor and chose to obey God rather than men, the church was an aggressive body and made rapid progress in bringing the lost to Christ. We see the church membership increase from one hundred and twenty to three thousand, then to five thousand; and daily additions were made such as should be saved.

This fire spread, moving out of Judea into Samaria, thence to Asia Minor, thence to Europe, and subsequently all over the world. The cure was working effectively. The souls of men were being healed. This Bible prescription has always worked when applied. Down through the ages wherever man has chosen to use another cure, a

*Rev. Joseph Ange, Pastor*

*Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church  
Durham, North Carolina*

substitute, we have seen the church miserably fail in its' mission. For instance, during the Dark Ages when the whole world was dominated by the Roman Catholic church, the light of Christianity practically went out. They no longer prescribed a miraculous transformation of the heart by the Holy Spirit but a system of works concocted by man was offered.

## *Church Not Aggressive*

The church today is not as aggressive as in days gone by. For instance, let us notice an example taken from the statistics of religious activities in the United States. Today there are sixty thousand churches in the United States which have no conversions whatsoever. There are thirty thousand churches which do not even have a pastor. This we must admit is a deplorable situation. There must be reasons for this impotent condition of the church.

Honest hearted people everywhere are asking, "What is wrong with the church?" The answer to that question, at least in part, is that the church is sidetracked. We are not offering the remedy to the sick that will heal them. We have misinterpreted the great commission given to the church by the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us notice this commission. In Mark 16:15, we read, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Jesus left this charge with us. We should take this message to those who need it. This commission is definitely one of preaching and teaching the gospel, for in Matthew 28:19 Christ says, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations . . ." The apostles and early followers of Jesus Christ placed the proper interpretation upon this commission. They understood Jesus to mean exactly what he said. The Bible record reveals that they went everywhere preaching the Word.

## *Message Is Precious*

Paul understood what his task was for he says, "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel." And again, "I am not ashamed of

the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." This message was precious to these men and to the early church. This blood, this prescription has been made available at infinite cost. It should be precious to every saint of God today. We should guard this message even with our very lives; yea, we should be willing to pay the supreme price to get this cure into the hands and to the hearts of the whole lost world.

The emphasis today is not altogether where it belongs. Ecclesiastical bodies, synods, associations, ministerial unions, etc. are offering to dying humanity substitutes. The proven method of lifting sin from human hearts has been sidetracked in many instances. The gospel has become a side line with many so-called gospel preachers. In many of our American churches, the gospel finds very little place in their programs.

Comparatively speaking, it is almost left out. Let me illustrate what I mean. Some churches, in order to entice young people are offering an elaborate sports program. There is the bowling team for the girls, soft ball and basketball for the boys. Yet in these churches, soul-winning teams, personal workers and prayer groups are seldom to be found.

## *Worldliness Warned Against*

Other church groups do not like sports so they keep their people pacified with temporal feasts, fellowship suppers they call them. One church I know, which has a membership of about twenty-five hundred, was once a flourishing church and its members loved souls. There was a warmth, a spiritual glow about the place. Somewhere along the way, their spiritual power began to wane. Worldliness crept in; the members became more anxious to make money than to save souls.

Their prayer meeting dwindled until there were only nine or ten in attendance. Then they decided to do something about the situation, but they failed to use the right method. They offered a substitute. Today, that church is having a fellowship banquet instead of the old time weekly prayer meeting. These or similar conditions exist all over America, some resorting to singing conventions, some to pompous church programs, some to beautiful choirs, and some to fancy affairs of all descriptions in order to bring the people in.

## World Wants Healing

These substitutes are admissions by the church that we lack the spiritual power that we need to bring the lost to Christ. The world is sick and tired of our untried remedies! They want to be healed. The early church was empowered by the Spirit in the upper room. They went forth to take this gospel message; consequently, they realized astounding results. The reformers under persecution gave forth the same message and the result was the emerging of humanity from the Dark Ages. As men of God down through the ages have yielded themselves to the proclaiming of the gospel, hosts of sin-stricken souls have been won to Christ.

Nowhere in the Word of God do we find that God ever commissioned us to adapt men to the gospel, but emphatically, we are told to transform men with the gospel. Many church leaders are saying that if we place unregenerate men in the right environment they will get better and better until they reach the blessed Utopia which we are all striving for. In many places the bars have been let down and ministers gladly welcome unregenerate people into the church. No wonder our churches have lost a lot of their power and spiritual fervor with such a heterogenous body comprising the church.

We look at these facts and wonder if anything can be done to remedy these deplorable conditions. Some are turning to one place, some to one agency and some to another to find a solution for this appalling situation. Some are even going off into false cults looking for relief. Suggestions range all the way from the ultra-conservative to the extremely fanatical. They will not look where the remedy may be found.

### No Substitute Offered

This condition cannot be alleviated by means of any substitutes devised by man. Jesus never offered any substitutes. On one occasion when Jesus was in Capernaum, He had just delivered His great discourse on the Bread of Life. He had told those assembled there in the synagogue that except they eat His flesh and drink of His blood they would have no life in them. Jesus explained in the same sermon what He meant by this because He said, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."

Many of his disciples turned back and walked no more with him because of what they termed a "hard" saying. Jesus did not beckon to those who were departing and entreat them to come back and that He would give them something that would tickle their ears and gratify their desires, but lovingly, tenderly, He turned to the twelve and said, "Will ye also go away?" Simon Peter knew, as did the others, that there was no one else to turn to except Jesus.

Today if we would see the lost won to Christ, if we would see the church revived,

## Thirty-four Churches Report S.S. Averages

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Large Easter crowds sent attendance records toppling right and left, according to the Sunday school reports received for April. There was hardly a church but what reported that all attendance records were broken for the month. From the reports received by CONTACT, however, First church in Tulsa, Okla., and Highland Park church in Detroit, Mich., had the highest attendances over the denomination Easter Sunday. Tulsa First exceeded their goal with 722 and Highland Park recorded 521.

CONTACT also broke the record this month by receiving reports from 34 churches. Average attendances are as follows:

Church	S.S.	League
Arkansas		
Phillips Chapel, Springdale	176	
Mt. Harmony, Saffell	59	30
California		
Modesto	194	
Kernan	110	
Kentucky		
Southside, Paintsville	140	
Virgie	45	
Mississippi		
East Tupelo	187	
Missouri		
Mountain Grove	233	
Leadington	132	
Third church, St. Louis	110	
North Carolina		
Reedy Branch, Winterville	180	
Hickory Chapel, Ahsokie	148	39
Oklahoma		
First church, Tulsa	465	
Capitol Hill, Oklahoma City	287	
Lawnwood church, Tulsa	229	
Ada	220	
Oilton	182	
Lewis Avenue, Tulsa	181	
Bristow	140	
First church, Sulphur	140	59
Haskell	139	
Allen church, Sapulpa	134	
Norman	126	
Ardmore	120	
Spring Hill, Lexington	105	
Greenbrier, Adair	75	
Okmulgee	43	26
Tennessee		
First church, Elizabethton	242	
Loyal Chapel, Columbia	199	
Midway	139	
Oaklawn	96	
Texas		
Bryan	175	
Pine Prairie church, Huntsville	92	78
Odessa	66	

if we would see the incurable cured, then we must adhere to the scriptural formula. This formula is unchangeable, it has never failed, it never will fail. The cure for the ills of the world is Christ; therefore, the formula is "preach the Word."

When the Word is preached, Christ is lifted up and Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." This is God's way, God's plan. Dare we use another?



### Wants History Book

"I have just received the last issue of CONTACT and it is great. God bless you who make it possible. Following Mr. Dodd's article on "Arminius vs. Calvin" I am praying that the series will be published in book form so we may purchase it and distribute our doctrine. We could clip it from the paper and file it away, but a book would be much better. If it is published, I want six copies—one for each member of my family."—Rev. Charles Moyers, Farmington, Mo.

### Commends Cartoonist

"We like the paper! The need for information such as is published is great. It is with great interest and pride that I anxiously read CONTACT. The articles are soul-stirring, inspiring and uplifting. I should also like to commend the cartoonist. Certainly God can use this medium of expression. We pray God's richest blessings upon the staff that contributes to the success of our paper. Enclosed is \$3 for subscriptions."—Buford Smith, Bakersfield, California.

### New Convert Writes

"Will you please send me a membership card in 'The Prayer Fellowship'. I have just been saved."—Billy Shivers, Omega, Georgia.

### Learns About Paper

"We recently had the pleasure of having Tommy and Barbara Willey with us for services in our church. While here they left us some sample copies of CONTACT. This was the first time some of us knew there was such a magazine and several resolved to send for it. Here's our subscription now."—Watson Dixon, Dayton, Ohio.

## Contact

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**Program of the 19th Annual Session**  
of the  
**Woman's National Auxiliary**  
**Convention**

KEYNOTE: *Declaring His Glory Now*

WATCHWORD: Psalm 96:3

CONVENTION HYMN: "Jesus Saves"

**Monday Afternoon, July 12**

1:30—Executive Committee meeting

**Monday Evening, July 12**

**PROGRAM**

*Thought for the Day*—The Need for Declaring His Glory Is Imperative

*Scripture*—"The hour is come, that the Son of Man should be glorified" (John 12:23)

7:00—Registration

7:30—"Declaring His Glory Now through Praise and Prayer"—Mrs. Marjorie Morris, Bryan, Texas

7:45—The business of organizing

8:00—"This Convention Will Declare His Glory"—Address of welcome by Mrs. Paul Kettelman, Pamplico, S. C.

—"May Our Lives Reflect His Glory"—Response by Mrs. Ruth Taylor, Greenville, N. C.

8:05—Inspirational singing  
—Special music

8:15—"Declaring His Glory unto the Farthest Shores"—Rev. and Mrs. Harold Stevens, missionaries to Africa  
—"Africa Calling"—Film showing missionary work of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens

9:30—Benediction

**Tuesday Morning, July 13**

*Thought for the Day*—No One Can Better Declare His Glory than a Consecrated Woman

*Scripture*—"Her price is far above rubies" (Proverbs 31:10)

9:00—"Letting Our Homes Declare His Glory"—Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Cairo, Ga.

9:15—Meet Your Neighbor—Learning who's here

9:25—"Our Task Now"—President's message by Mrs. R. B. Crawford, Greenville, N. C.

9:45—Music

9:50—Business period

10:50—Intermission

11:00—"Letting My Life Declare His Glory"—Miss Geraldine Gay, Nashville, Tenn.

11:15—Inspirational singing

11:20—"We Declare His Glory through Stewardship"—Declamation service led by Mrs. Paul Purcell  
—Presentation of awards

12:00—Benediction

**Tuesday Afternoon, July 13**

1:30—"Letting My Talents Declare His Glory"—Mrs. Robert Wilfong, Nashville, Tenn.

1:45—Business period and reports

3:00—Closing hymn, "Glory to His Name"  
—The last words  
—Adjournment and benediction

**Program**  
of the **NATIONAL**

THEME: *Revival Now!*

SCRIPTURE: "Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psalm 85:6)

**Tuesday Evening, July 13**

KEYNOTE: *Can We Have Revival Now?*

SCRIPTURE: "... for without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5b)

7:45—"O Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord"—Mr. I. L. Stanley, music director; Mrs. Stanley, pianist; Mr. James B. Smith, organist.

7:55—"Magnify Thy Word"—Rev. Burkette Raper

8:05—The Association called into official session and introduction of the moderator by Rev. George Waggoner, clerk  
—Moderator's remarks—Rev. E. E. Morris

8:15—We Are Glad You Are Here—Welcome address by Councilman John A. Wood, mayor pro tem  
—Our Churches Welcome You—Dr. James S. Day, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church

8:30—The congregation sings

—"The Lord's Prayer"—Donald Clark

8:40—The Keynote Message—"The Urgency of the Burning Heart"

The Messenger—Rev. Clarence F. Bowen

9:15—Appointment of Committee on Committees

**Wednesday Morning, July 14**

9:00—"Early in the Morning Our Songs Rise to Thee"—Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Mr. Smith

9:10—"Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart"—Rev. Wade Jernigan

9:20—Report of General Board acting as Credentials Committee  
—Seating of delegates

—Recognition of visiting delegates from other religious bodies

9:35—Report of Committee on Committees

9:45—Report of General Board—Rev. George Waggoner, secretary

10:40—Report of Woman's National Auxiliary Convention—Mrs. R. B. Crawford, president

10:50—Intermission

11:00—The Hour of Worship

*Keynote: Revival in the Christian Home*

*Scripture: "... learn first to show piety at home ... "* (1 Timothy 5:14)

—We Worship in Song—Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Mr. Smith

—Reading the Scriptures—Rev. James Barker

—Solo—"Bless This House"—Donald Clark

11:20—The Message—"Revival Fires Burn on Family Altars"  
The Messenger—Rev. Charles A. Thigpen

**Wednesday Afternoon, July 14**

1:45—The Hour of Prayer—Rev. D. W. Poole  
Hymns, Scripture and Prayer

2:00—Miscellaneous business

—Partial report of Nominating Committee and election of all board members

2:30—"Cooperation without Compromise"—Report of the National Association of Evangelicals by Rev. George Ford

2:40—Moments of Spiritual Refreshment

—Special music—Mrs. J. C. Moyer

—The Message—"Evangelism and Revival"

—The Messenger—Dr. Bob Jones, Jr.

3:20—Intermission

3:30—Report of Executive Secretary—Rev. W. S. Mooneyham

# of the Eighteenth Annual Session

# ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

- 3:45—Report of Stewardship Commission—Rev. Damon C. Dodd  
3:55—"Bibles for Bibleless Millions"—Report of the American Bible Society by Rev. Albert C. Johnson  
4:10—Report of Superannuation Board—Rev. J. O. Fort  
4:20—Report of Board of Publications and Literature—Rev. J. C. Griffin

## Wednesday Evening, July 14

*Keynote:* Revival Power for World-Wide Witness

*Scripture:* ". . . ye shall be witnesses unto me . . ." (Acts 1:8)

- 7:15—Report from India—color films and slides with commentary by Rev. Raymond Riggs on his recent tour of Free Will Baptist mission stations in India  
7:45—"Sing Praise unto the Lord Among the Nations"—Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Mr. Smith  
—Special music—Headquarters' quartet  
8:05—"The Gospel in the Uttermost Parts"—Report of the Board of Foreign Missions by Rev. Raymond Riggs  
8:35—Piano interlude—Rev. Herman Hersey  
8:40—"Revival Fires Are Kindled on the Home Front"—Report of the Board of Home Missions by Rev. Damon C. Dodd  
9:10—Commissioning service for home missionary teams (Those to be commissioned are Rev. and Mrs. Robert Wilfong, Flat River, Mo., assigned to work among Cubans in Ybor City, Fla.; Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Lee, Jr., Calhoun City, Miss., assigned to Nebraska, and Rev. and Mrs. Sylvester Crawford, Belmont, N. C., assigned to Oregon.)  
—Presentation of candidates—Rev. J. B. Bloss, chairman of Home Mission Board  
—Reading of the Scripture—Rev. H. E. Staires  
—The Missionary Charge—Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary of the Home Mission Board  
—Commissioning Prayer—Rev. Willard C. Day

## Thursday Morning, July 15

- 9:00—"O Come, Let Us Worship"  
Hymns by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Mr. Smith  
Scripture by Rev. George B. Dunbar  
9:15—Report of Placement Committee for 1955 session  
9:20—Report of Free Will Baptist League Board—Rev. C. F. Bowen  
9:30—Adoption of reports of Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board given last night  
9:40—Report of Sunday School Board—Rev. William Mishler  
9:55—Report of Radio-TV Board—Rev. J. D. O'Donnell  
10:05—Report of College Board of Trustees—Rev. J. L. Welch  
10:20—"The Part of Christian Education in Revival Now"—Dr. L. C. Johnson  
10:45—Miscellaneous business  
—Reports of committees  
—Election of officers  
12:00—Final adjournment

## Program Personalities

- Rev. James Barker—St. Louis, Mo., pastor of Third Free Will Baptist Church.  
Rev. J. B. Bloss—Columbia, Tenn., chairman of National Home Mission Board and pastor of Loyal Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.  
Rev. C. F. Bowen—Nashville, Tenn., instructor at Free Will Baptist Bible College and secretary of Free Will Baptist League Board.

- Donald Clark—Sulphur, Okla., member of First Free Will Baptist church.  
Mrs. R. B. Crawford—Greenville, N. C., president of Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.  
Rev. Willard C. Day—Mountain Grove, Mo., pastor of Free Will Baptist church and member of National Home Mission Board.  
Rev. Damon C. Dodd—Nashville, Tenn., promotional secretary for the National Home Mission Board.  
Rev. George B. Dunbar—Greenville, Tenn., pastor of Harris Memorial Free Will Baptist church.  
Rev. George Ford—Chicago, Ill., associate executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals.  
Rev. J. O. Fort—Lake Butler, Fla., pastor of Harmony Free Will Baptist church and secretary of the Superannuation Board.  
Rev. J. C. Griffin—New Bern, N. C., pastor of Ruth's Chapel Free Will Baptist church near Bridgeton, N. C., and chairman of the Board of Publications and Literature.  
Headquarters' quartet—C. F. Bowen, D. C. Dodd, R. R. Riggs, and W. S. Mooneyham.  
Rev. Herman Hersey—Raleigh, N. C., pastor of First Free Will Baptist church and vice-president of North Carolina state Sunday School Convention.  
Rev. Wade Jernigan—Kerman, California, pastor of First Free Will Baptist church.  
Rev. Albert C. Johnson—New York City, N. Y., secretary of Visual Aids for the American Bible Society.  
Dr. L. C. Johnson—Nashville, Tenn., president of Free Will Baptist Bible College.  
Dr. Bob Jones, Jr.—Greenville, S. C., president of Bob Jones University.  
Rev. William Mishler—Detroit, Mich., pastor of Philadelphia Free Will Baptist church and chairman of National Sunday School Board.  
Rev. W. S. Mooneyham—Nashville, Tenn., executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.  
Rev. E. E. Morris—Oklahoma City, Okla., moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and pastor of Capitol Hill Free Will Baptist church.  
Mrs. J. C. Moye—Snow Hill, N. C., music director for Hull Road Free Will Baptist church.  
Rev. J. D. O'Donnell—Columbus, Miss., pastor of First Free Will Baptist church and secretary of Radio-TV Board.  
Rev. D. W. Poole—Dothan, Ala., promotional secretary for the Florida state association of Free Will Baptists.  
Rev. Burkette Raper—Snow Hill, N. C., promotional secretary for the North Carolina state association of Free Will Baptists and pastor of Hull Road Free Will Baptist church.  
Rev. Raymond Riggs—Nashville, Tenn., promotional secretary for the Board of Foreign Missions.  
Cpl. James B. Smith—Fort Benning, Ga., chaplain's assistant in U. S. Army and member of East Nashville Free Will Baptist church, Tenn.  
Rev. H. E. Staires—Tulsa, Okla., pastor of Lawnwood Free Will Baptist church and member of the National Home Mission Board.  
Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Stanley—Greenville, Tenn., superintendent of Free Will Baptist Home for Children.  
Rev. Charles A. Thigpen—Detroit, Mich., pastor of Highland Park Free Will Baptist church.  
Rev. George Waggoner—Mt. Vernon, Ill., clerk of National Association of Free Will Baptists.  
Rev. J. L. Welch—Nashville, Tenn., pastor of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist church and chairman of Board of Trustees of Free Will Baptist Bible College.



# The Prayer Fellowship

**Rev. C. F. Bowen, Director**

Secretary, National League Board

The world has yet to see what Free Will Baptist people, united in concerted prayer and dedicated to the proposition that God's will is best in their lives, can do. True, the battle is the Lord's, but he needs great prayer warriors. There is much to pray about this month. Here are some suggestions:

*Tues., June 8—(1 Kings 17:1-7)*—Pray for our college students as they leave school for summer activities.

*Wed., June 9—(1 Kings 17:8-16)*—Pray for a last minute response to the Lights for Cuba project.

*Thurs., June 10—(1 Kings 18:7-24)*—Pray for the new churches recently organized in Mississippi.

*Fri., June 11—(1 Kings 18:30-29)*—Pray for the proposed organization of two churches in Iowa.

*Sat., June 12—(1 Kings 19:9-18)*—Pray for your pastor as he plans tomorrow's services.

*Sun., June 13—(Psalm 130:1-8)*—Remember in prayer today our churches everywhere as the gospel is being preached.

*Mon., June 14—(Psalm 1:1-6)*—Pray for the hundreds of Free Will Baptist leaguers who are on their way to the Sixth Nationwide League Conference at Nashville.

*Tues., June 15—(Psalm 2:1-12)*—Pray for the first session of the nationwide league conference which opens tonight at 7:30.

*Wed., June 16—(Psalm 3:1-8)*—Pray for the league conference at Nashville as it enters the second day.

*Thurs., June 17—(Psalm 4:1-8)*—Pray for the league conference as it enters the third day. Remember the Sword Drill contestants tonight.

*Fri., June 18—(Psalm 5:1-12)*—Pray for the leaguers as they begin their return trip home. Ask God to guide them on the highways.

*Sat., June 19—(Psalm 15:1-5)*—Pray for your Sunday school teacher and your league officers.

*Sun., June 20—(Psalm 138:1-8)*—Pray for your pastor. He will preach better if you will take him before the throne of grace.

*Mon., June 21—(2 Kings 17:1-12)*—Pray earnestly for the coming session of the National Association to be held in Spartanburg, S. C.

*Tues., June 22—(2 Kings 17:13-23)*—Pray for all the new churches that have been organized within the past month. There are many of them.

*Wed., June 23—(2 Kings 17:32-41)*—Remember in prayer the workers at our headquarters in Nashville.

*Thurs., June 24—(Prov. 3:1-12)*—Pray that we may have the greatest attendance at the National Association this year than ever before.

*Fri., June 25—(Isaiah 1:1-9)*—Pray for more family altars in our homes.

*Sat., June 26—(Isaiah 2:2-9)*—Pray for warmer fires on the family altars we already have in our homes.

*Sun., June 27—(Isaiah 1:24-31)*—Pray again for your pastor.

*Mon., June 28—(Prov. 3:1-20)*—Pray for the health of our missionaries during the long summer months.

*Tues., June 29—(Prov. 3:21-35)*—Pray for our aged preachers who have given so much and are so often forgotten.

*Wed., June 30—(Prov. 4:1-27)*—Go to prayer meeting tonight and pray for yourself and your friends.

*Thurs., July 1—(Prov. 5:1-23)*—Pray earnestly today for 5000 subscribers to CONTACT by National Association week.

*Fri., July 2—(Prov. 6:1-19)*—Pray that more churches will be enlisted on the honor roll of support for home missionary teams.

*Sat., July 3—(Prov. 6:20-35)*—Pray for a last minute response to the need for foreign mission funds.

*Sun., July 4—(Prov. 7:1-27)*—On this Independence Day many will be killed on the highways in traffic accidents. Pray that motorists and pedestrians will be extra careful over the weekend.

*Mon., July 5—(John 17:1-12)*—Pray for the thousands who are mourning the death of friends and loved ones who died in accidents during the Fourth of July holidays.

*Tues., July 6—(John 17:13-26)*—Pray for the continued success of our new Free Will Baptist Bulletin Service, sponsored by our executive secretary, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

*Wed., July 7—(Job 5:1-27)*—Pray again for the coming National Association.

## Writer's Conference Set for June 29-July 1

BLACK MOUNTAIN, N. C.—The first Writer's Conference ever conducted for Free Will Baptist writers will be held June 29-July 1 at the Cragmont assembly grounds near here. The conference is sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Press and will be under the direction of Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, editor-in-chief.

Principal speaker for the conference will be Russell T. Hitt, executive editor of *Eternity* Magazine. Mr. Hitt is also a former news editor of *Christian Life* and public relations director for Moody Bible Institute.

Mr. Hitt will discuss "My Church in the News" during two periods, "Writing Feature Articles," "Use of Pictures," and will conduct a question and answer period.

Others appearing on the program will be Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary of the National Association and editor of CONTACT. He will speak on "League Literature," "Opportunities for Writers in the Free Will Baptist Church," and "Publicizing My Church to My Church."

Miss Dorena Davis, writer of the Junior League quarterly, will discuss "Writing for Children" and Rev. William Mishler, chairman of the national Sunday School Board, is scheduled to speak on "The Effective Quarterly."

Mr. Cherry will open the conference on Tuesday morning with a message on "The Written Word." During the conference he will also speak on "Free Will Baptist Literature" and "Copyright Law and Writers." Devotions will be brought by Rev. I. J. Blackwelder and Rev. W. L. Moretz, both writers for the Press.

Two special features will be a film, "Punctuate It Right," and a panel discussion by three North Carolina ministers on "Christian Literature." On the panel will be Rev. Burkette Raper, Rev. Henry Melvin and Rev. James Evans.

## First Bulletin Folders Will Be Mailed June 15

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The first church bulletin folders produced by the new Free Will Baptist Bulletin Service will go into the mail around June 15, according to Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary. The bulletins will be for use in July.

Themes for the month will include patriotic for July 4, national convention for July 11, church attendance for July 18, and summer youth camps for July 25.

Weekly orders already total nearly 8,000, Mr. Mooneyham said, and they are expected to go up to 10,000 within a few weeks. The bulletins are lithographed in two colors and sell for 95c per hundred postpaid.



### 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, some of our subscribers are not receiving what they have paid for. When sending a change of address, please give the old address as well as the new one.

## Three States Top Annual Goal for Home Missions

With nearly two months remaining in the fiscal year, Arkansas has gone over the top in home missions, exceeding her assigned quota by more than \$100. She becomes the third state to reach the top, California and Tennessee being the others.

Arkansas' most recent surge for home missions came during itineraries conducted in May by Rev. D. C. Dodd and Rev. J. B. Bloss. Dodd visited churches in central and southern Arkansas, including Searcy, Rosebud, Ballew's Chapel, Batesville and Russellville in the central section, and Yorktown, Hamburg, and Warren in southern Arkansas. Each of these services was well attended and response for home missions was excellent.

In the Social Band association Rev. Bloss conducted services in the following churches: Bono, O'Kean, Walnut Ridge, Elnora, Pocahontas, and Poplar Valley. Receipts from these services plus offerings from the churches listed above combined to put Arkansas over her \$600 quota.

Receipts from Oklahoma and Georgia indicate that they will soon exceed their assigned quotas while Michigan has indicated that she will meet her quota of \$1,000 in its entirety before the June 30 deadline.

Already 1953-54 has been the record year for home missions in the history of the National Association and by June 30 all previous records will have been completely shattered.

The Home Mission Honor Roll for this month is as follows:

Antioch Church, Mississippi  
Amory Church, Mississippi  
Pearce Chapel Church, Mississippi  
Mt. Zion Church, Tennessee  
Greenbrier Church, Arkansas  
Oak Grove League, Tennessee  
League of Highland Park Church, Michigan  
Center Point Church, Oklahoma  
Elnora Church, Arkansas  
Walnut Ridge Church, Arkansas  
Poplar Valley Church, Arkansas  
O'Kean Church, Arkansas  
Pocahontas Church, Arkansas  
Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Norwood, Oklahoma  
Rev. Dennis Crow, Tennessee  
Rev. Fred Markland, Tennessee  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Romans, Virginia  
(Members of Missionary Baptist Church)

## NEW CHURCH OF THE MONTH



*The First Free Will Baptist Church at Savannah, Georgia, was a year old in May. Organized with 33 charter members, the membership has now increased to 64. Rev. Louis H. Moulton, who, along with Rev. Damon C. Dodd, established the church, is serving as pastor. Under his leadership the building shown above has been constructed and work was started early in April on the educational unit which may be seen in the background. When completed, this unit will provide eight Sunday school rooms and double the present facilities.*

*Sunday school attendance is averaging around 90. The church has a League, men's brotherhood, Woman's Auxiliary, youth auxiliary, and boy and girl scout troops are in the process of organization. They also have a radio program at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday over station WCCP.*

## Two Groups Studying Arminian Fellowship

In what may prove to be a history-making occasion, representatives of the Free Will Baptist National Association and the General Baptist National Conference met in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, April 23 to formulate a statement of faith for a proposed fellowship organization between these groups. Revs. D. C. Dodd, Reford Wilson, and C. F. Bowen represented the Free Will Baptists while Revs. Ed Runyon and Ollie Latch were the General Baptist representatives.

The Statement of Faith as agreed on at the Poplar Bluff meeting will be submitted to the committees representing the denominations—the Comity Committee of General Baptists and the Home Mission Board of Free Will Baptists, for their approval, after which it will be passed on to the national bodies for action.

The proposal is that a fellowship organization be set up in which each denomination will have an active part and with which other Arminian Baptist groups will be invited to cooperate. There will be no denominational properties or functions involved, but the organization will provide a means for mutual endeavor and interdenominational fellowship.

Further developments will be forthcoming after the two groups meet again in July.

## Illinois State Meeting In Progress at Benton

BENTON, Ill.—The Illinois minister's institute and state association are in progress this week at the state tabernacle near here. The sessions began June 2 and are scheduled to last through Sunday night, June 6.

Rev. Claude Hempleman, Bible college student, delivered the introductory sermon at the minister's institute Wednesday night. Devotionals on Thursday were brought by Miss Joyce McClerren and Gene Norris. Three topics were discussed by various ministers during the day's session.

The yearly meeting opened Thursday night with Rev. Dwight Dame bringing the introductory sermon. The association was officially organized Friday morning. Rev. Opal Hiltibidal was scheduled for a missionary message Friday night. She was also to give a report of Illinois' participation in the denominational missionary program.

Saturday will be business day with the memorial sermon coming at 1:30 p.m. Rev. Pete Williams is on program for this message. Miss Evelyn Lawrence, Bible college student, will bring a report from the school in Nashville.

The Saturday night service will feature a young camp program. Regular services will be conducted Sunday and the session will come to a close following an evangelistic service Sunday night.

# The Rise of the Baptists

EDITOR'S NOTE: No feature in CONTACT has met with such wide acclaim as this history of the Free Will Baptist movement by Mr. Dodd. This is Part Three of the series which is slated to run for several months. If the demand is great enough, the series 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 third installment of "The Free Will Baptist Story."

*Rev. Damon C. Dodd*

*Promotional Secretary*

*Home Mission Board*

In point of organization historically, the Baptist movement, as such, was rather slow in development. This was due to the fact that Baptists held to unique opinions on many views which branded them as heretics in many circles. Three of these views will be mentioned and treated with brevity here.

1. The competency of the individual with God. Baptists have always held that there is no place for the priest or the sacrament, but that Christ, the mediator, is all that is necessary. They further state that each one must be reconciled to God for himself, that the Church is composed of born-again believers, and that this salvation is by personal faith and not by baptism or any other rite or sacrament.

2. Baptism is by immersion and is to be administered to believers alone. Baptists have never believed in infant baptism, holding that baptism is not a sacrament and that it does not bestow salvation or any other good upon infants or any others, but that infants are saved without reference to baptism.

## *First Baptists Were Arminian*

3. The first Baptists (General) were Arminian in doctrine as opposed to the prevailing Calvinism of their day. This position brought on them opposition and persecution of the severest kind.

4. The church and state should be separate and function each in its own sphere: The church in things pertaining to the spiritual well-being of the individual, and the state to the political. This last point gained much public approbation for the Baptist cause as we shall see later.

Some of the early sects which give rise to Baptist principles must be treated with in order to get a well-rounded view of the train of thought. Please bear in mind as

you read that each of these groups in its historical development contributes to the story of our own Free Will Baptist rise and growth. Remember also that as the General Baptists of England emerge from this picture that you are getting a glimpse of the very beginning of our own denomination.

## *Earliest Sect Named*

Among the earliest of these groups was the Petrobrusian movement. This sect originated in southern France and took its name from Peter of Bruys, who was burned at the stake in 1126. The Petrobrusians were characterized by the following tenets:

1. They held to the scriptures as their sole authority, rejecting any other authority.

2. They believed the church to be a spiritual body, consisting only of believers.

3. They believed that baptism should not be administered to children before the age of understanding.

4. They denied transubstantiation (that under the blessing of the priest the bread actually became Christ's body and the wine his blood), purgatory, prayers for the dead, and the use of the cross as a sacred symbol.

5. They asserted that all churches should be pulled down, probably a reaction against the idolatrous rites then practiced in all the churches they knew.

## *Waldenses Came Next*

About 50 years later the Waldensian movement had its beginning when one Peter Waldo, a merchant of Lyons, gave up everything he owned in order to preach a purer gospel in southern France. His first followers were more like the Methodists than Baptists. They were strongly opposed to the

Catholics and claimed Apostolic succession through themselves.

A small portion of them rejected infant baptism and because they did not regard a corrupt priest as a qualified administrator of baptism, they demanded rebaptism of all who sought admission into their churches. Some historians hold that they did not practice baptism by immersion, while the weight of historical opinion says that they were immersionists.

Growing out of the John Huss movement, there came the Taborites in Bohemia in the 15th century. They owed their rise partly to the influence of Wycliffe in England and the Waldenses in France. They (1) appealed to the scriptures in matters of faith and practice, (2) denied baptismal regeneration and transubstantiation, and, (3) practiced infant baptism.

## *Other Groups Followed*

Another Bohemian group came into prominence in 1467 known as the Bohemian Brethren. According to the teachings of their leader, Peter Chelcicky, they regarded the apostolic church as the true model, from which nothing should be taken away or to which nothing should be added. They rebaptized all who became members of their body, but wavering at first on the matter of infant baptism, finally accepted it.

All those groups, except perhaps the Petrobrusians, are considered together as Waldenses. By the end of the 15th century they were the largest sect in southern Germany and they had numerous adherents in Prussia, Poland, and Austria. There were 400 congregations numbering 200,000 members in Bohemia and Moravia alone, among which were many powerful and influential political leaders. Another 200,000 were located in Italy and in other places in Europe than named above. They translated the scriptures in their tongues and between 1456 and 1517 published 14 additions of the German Bible, 4 of the Dutch Bible, and 98 of the Latin Bible.

## *Anabaptists Were Persecuted*

By the early part of the 16th century there were two distinct lines of development among evangelical Christians. In 1507

Luther took the first steps leading to the Reformation and the greater part of the Waldensian movement joined him. About 1525 those who are known as Anabaptists began to be found in Germany, Switzerland, and other European countries. They stood for (1) The divine inspiration and authority of the scriptures; (2) liberty of the conscience and freedom of the will; (3) believer's baptism. Many able scholars among this group defended the doctrines with such vigor and skill that the Anabaptists were branded by Roman Catholics as the worst of heretics.

Too, sharp conflict arose between them and the Protestant groups who believed in infant baptism. In addition to this, no discrimination was made between them and some others who were mystics and fanatics holding every shade of belief, so along with them, they were subjected to the most destructive persecution that ever shadowed the pages of Christianity. By 1530, 2,000 Anabaptists, among them many leaders of the movement, were executed. A few years later another 1600 were put to death in Tyrol, Italy. The remnant found a haven in Moravia, where for nearly a hundred years they were safe. Shortly thereafter, many of their successors in the faith were put to death in a most horrible slaughter.

### ***Fanaticism Also Noted***

A grave mistake made by these early Anabaptists was the preaching of the doctrine of millenarianism. The mistake lay in the fact that these were times of persecution and preached as it were to people of low literacy, it soon developed into vicious fanaticism. Jan Matthys, a Dutch Anabaptist who assumed the role of Enoch, and John of Leyden and Gerton Gloster who were named as his deputies, began to preach that the Lord was coming immediately to deliver His saints and punish their persecutors.

In 1534 they were able to gather at Munster, in Westphalia, great hordes of simple-minded Dutch and German peasants. Matthys declared that God had revealed to him that Munster was to be the New Jerusalem and that his people should possess it at once. They drove the Catholics and Lutherans from the city and set up Matthys as king. After a few weeks, Matthys was killed and John of Leyden became king.

### ***Holland Becomes Center***

On the basis of an alleged divine revelation, John established polygamy and immediately took four wives for himself, one of whom he later beheaded with his own hand in the market place for infidelity. Such gross sin and immorality continued for more than a year until in June, 1535, a band of besiegers under the leadership of the expelled bishops succeeded in taking the city. They tortured John and his lieutenants cruelly before putting them to death.

The Munster episode gave more reason than ever for Anabaptist persecution and in a short while they were all but exterminated

## **North Carolina Holds 15th S.S. Convention**

SWANNANOVA, N. C.—Seventy-five Sunday schools reported to the 15th annual session of the North Carolina Sunday School Convention-Institute held here the week of April 19, according to Rev. L. E. Ballard, field secretary for the convention.

Mr. Raymond T. Sasser, Wilson, was re-elected president and Rev. Herman Hersey, Raleigh, was re-elected vice-president. Other officers elected included Owen Thomas, Four Oaks, secretary; Milton Wiggs, Smithfield, treasurer, and Rev. L. E. Ballard, Ayden, field secretary.

Convention directors are Oscar Webster, Pinetown, organization; Rev. Hubert Burress, Saratoga, denominational enterprises; Lemmie Taylor, publicity; Mrs. Herman Hersey, Raleigh, records and reports; Mr. Ballard, literature, and Rev. Albert Coates, Smithfield, field program.

Two institute sessions were held during the convention. One was conducted by Mr. Ballard and Mr. Coates who presented the plan and program of the field work, and the other was led by Rev. Wilbur Overton who spoke on "The High Calling of the Teacher."

Other convention speakers included Rev. Billy Morris and Rev. R. P. Harris.

in every country except Holland. It was about this time that Menno Simon, a Catholic priest, was converted to the Anabaptist doctrine on infant baptism. He organized societies of Anabaptists and taught them to avoid all extravagances and fanaticism such as had been displayed at Munster.

### ***Persecution In England***

Their quiet and peaceful way of life soon attracted others and they began to grow in numbers. They were opposed to taking part in civil affairs and in war, and this latter view brought on renewed persecution in later years. This group is now known as Mennonites, and is to be found largely in our own country today.

The persecution of Anabaptists in the continent after the Munster incident forced many of them to seek refuge abroad. These refugees brought the Anabaptist movement to England and Wales. When news of these was first brought to King Henry VIII, he ordered that they should either be expelled or exterminated. Men, women, and children were burned at the stake.

Henry's successors were just as relentless as their father had been in their efforts to rid the kingdom of the despised Anabaptists. There was only one place to flee after 1580, and that was back to Holland, where again all creeds were tolerated. The migration of persecuted Christians continued from England to Holland until James the First had been ruler in England for several years.

*Next Month: The Arminian Baptist  
Movement in England*

### ***Bumper Strips Available***

Bumper strips advertising the National Association of Free Will Baptists are still available. The strips are 4" by 18" and are adhesive backed to stick easily. They are printed in ultramarine blue and fire orange Day-Glo and are 20¢ each. Order from national headquarters.

## **Ybor City Tour Shows Way Open For Gospel Work**

**By Damon C. Dodd**

"Yo no hablo mucho Americano. Hablo el Espanol solamente," said the old lady who sat on the bench by the side of one of the main streets in Ybor City, Florida. She was one of the hundreds whom we saw and heard during the few hours which we spent in walking up and down the streets of this Cuban settlement in Tampa, Florida, surveying the possibilities of establishing a Free Will Baptist Mission for the Cubans there.

Ybor City is almost entirely inhabited by Cubans. These people have come over from their native land to work in the cigar factories in Tampa and in the surrounding tobacco plantations nearby. While they have absorbed many of the American ways of life, they have not bothered to learn the English language sufficiently to converse in it. Inasmuch as there are only a few churches in the settlement, and these conduct their services in English, there is a wide-open field for Free Will Baptists there.

Everywhere in Ybor City one heard the musical Spanish language. The streets were crowded in the typical Cuban manner with hundreds of people doing nothing. The snack shops showed signs which read, "genuine Cuban sandwiches here" and the wares were displayed openly for all to see—and feel. The predominant newspapers were in Spanish, as were the magazines and books.

Ybor City is really Cuban in every sense of the word.

And above all—Ybor City needs the Gospel. The national Home Mission Board is going to send Rev. and Mrs. Robert Wilfong, of Nashville, Tenn. to these people this fall. They are particularly well qualified in that they spent some three years in Cuba and are conversant with the language and customs of the people. That they are ready to go was attested to by Brother Wilfong, when, after we had tramped the streets, looking and listening, and were waiting for the bus to take us back again to downtown Tampa, he looked up to me with tears in his eyes and said, "I'm ready."

And so, after September 1, 1954, Free Will Baptists will be represented in Ybor City, Florida.



# Woman's Auxiliary

"His Command — Our Task"

MRS. H. B. SLOAN, *Executive Secretary*

## 'Know God's Work' Is Third Workshop Theme

TUPELO, Miss.—The program for the third quarter's workshop for district Woman's Auxiliary conventions has been announced by Mrs. Luther Gibson, mission study chairman for the WNAC. The theme for the workshop, which follows the general theme for the year, is "Know God's Work."

The suggested program is as follows:

- 10:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:15 a.m. Hymn, "More Like the Master"
- 10:20 a.m. Greetings and devotional by member of host church
- 10:30 a.m. Roll call of Auxiliaries  
Seating of delegates  
Welcoming of new members, ministers and visitors  
Reports and minutes
- 10:50 a.m. Special music
- 10:55 a.m. "What Is God's Work or the Importance of Soul-Winning" (John 6:28)
- 11:10 a.m. "The Importance of Stewardship in Doing God's Work"
- 11:25 a.m. Song, "Co-Laborers"
- 11:30 a.m. Missionary message
- 12:00 a.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Devotional and missionary choruses
- 1:15 p.m. "Doing God's Work through the Local Church and Auxiliary"
- 1:30 p.m. Hymn, "Send the Light"
- 1:35 p.m. "Doing God's Work through Home Missions"
- 1:50 p.m. "Doing God's Work through Foreign Missions"
- 2:05 p.m. Treasurer's report  
Where do we go?  
Vote of thanks to host church
- 2:15 p.m. Miscellaneous business
- 2:25 p.m. Everybody sings
- 2:30 p.m. Playlet
- 2:45 p.m. Benediction



Officers of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention who will be leading this year's convention are shown above. Seated, from left to right, are Mrs. Paul Pursell, Shawnee, Okla., youth auxiliary chairman; Mrs. Homer Willis, Paintsville, Ky., stewardship-prayer chairman; Mrs. H. B. Sloan, Nashville, Tenn., executive secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Ralph Staires, Tulsa, Okla., recording secretary.

Standing left to right are Mrs. Luther Gibson, Tupelo, Miss., mission study chairman; Mrs. R. B. Crawford, Greenville, N. C., president; Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Desloge, Mo., personal service chairman, and Mrs. Adam Scott, Durham, N. C., assistant recording secretary. Other officers which are not shown include Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Blakely, Ga., vice-president; Mrs. C. F. Bowen, Nashville, Tenn., promotional chairman, and Mrs. Huey Gower, Henderson, Texas, literature chairman.

## Reports from the Field

ODESSA, Texas—A "Week of Prayer" was conducted by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist church here during the week of April 26-May 1. Members of the Auxiliary conducted the service each night and provided the special music while the men of the congregation took turns speaking at the services.

\* \* \*

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Offerings for foreign missions from the pre-Easter "Week of Prayer" services conducted by Woman's Auxiliaries throughout the denomination have totaled \$535 up to May 15, according to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, executive secretary of the WNAC. These offerings were received in honor of Miss Laura Belle Barnard, senior missionary to India.

\* \* \*

TECUMSEH, Okla.—The First Oklahoma district Auxiliary convention met at the associational campground near here May 13. Theme of the convention was "Know God's World." Rev. Jack Dodson, Oklahoma City, brought the convention message.

HENDERSON, Texas—"His Command — Our Task" will be the theme of the Texas state Woman's Auxiliary Convention which meets here June 8. Jameson Memorial church will be host to the meeting, which opens at 10 a.m. The stewardship declamation contest will be held at 11 a.m. and will be followed by the convention sermon by Rev. Charles Sapp, Bryan.

In the afternoon, Mrs. A. F. Halbrook and Mrs. W. O. Withers, both of Bryan, will speak to the delegates. Mrs. Halbrook will discuss "Our Progress in Missions" and Mrs. Withers will speak on "His Command — to Train Our Youth." Mrs. Bill Berry, Laneville, will conduct an installation service for the new officers.

(Continued from column three)

five points will be deducted for each minute over the allotted time.

Contestants will be judged on the following basis: Value in teaching stewardship, 50%; poise, 10%; expression and interpretation, 10%; memorization, 15%; and enunciation, 15%.

## Rules Are Announced For Oration Contest

SHAWNEE, Okla.—June 15 has been set as a deadline for entering the stewardship declamation contest at the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, according to Mrs. Paul Pursell, national youth chairman.

The contest, which is always a feature of the national convention, will be held July 13 at Spartanburg, S. C. Any boy or girl between the ages of 12 and 18 from the Sunday school, League or youth auxiliary is eligible to enter. However, names and addresses of contestants along with the oration title should be sent to Mrs. Pursell at 1111 East 11th St., Shawnee, Okla., before the deadline.

Suitable oration material may be found in any stewardship book, Mrs. Pursell said. Suggested titles may be found on pages 33 and 35 of the WNAC Yearbook. Orations must be limited to ten minutes, however, and

(See column two)

# Program Released for Arkansas Youth Meet

CONWAY, Ark.—The program for the third annual Arkansas state League Convention has just been announced by Rev. O. T. Dixon, president. Theme for the convention, which meets June 25-26 at the state assembly grounds here, is "Open Doors to Christian Service."

The convention will open at noon Friday with registration under the direction of Mrs. Clifford Sawrie. Rev. Gilbert Pixley, Alma, will be in charge of the music for the services. Following reports from the district conventions and a brief business session, the president's message will be brought by Mr. Dixon. A panel discussion and playlets will round out the Friday afternoon session.

Evangelism will be emphasized Friday night with the speaker yet to be named.

Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary of the National Association, will speak at the Saturday morning service. His message will be preceded by a business session and reports from district leaders.

Featured on Saturday afternoon will be a talent show, an Intermediate Sword drill and the final business session with the election of officers. Adjournment is scheduled for 4 p.m. Devotionals during the convention will be brought by Mr. Mander Evans, Rev. Opie Hargraves and Rev. Robert King.

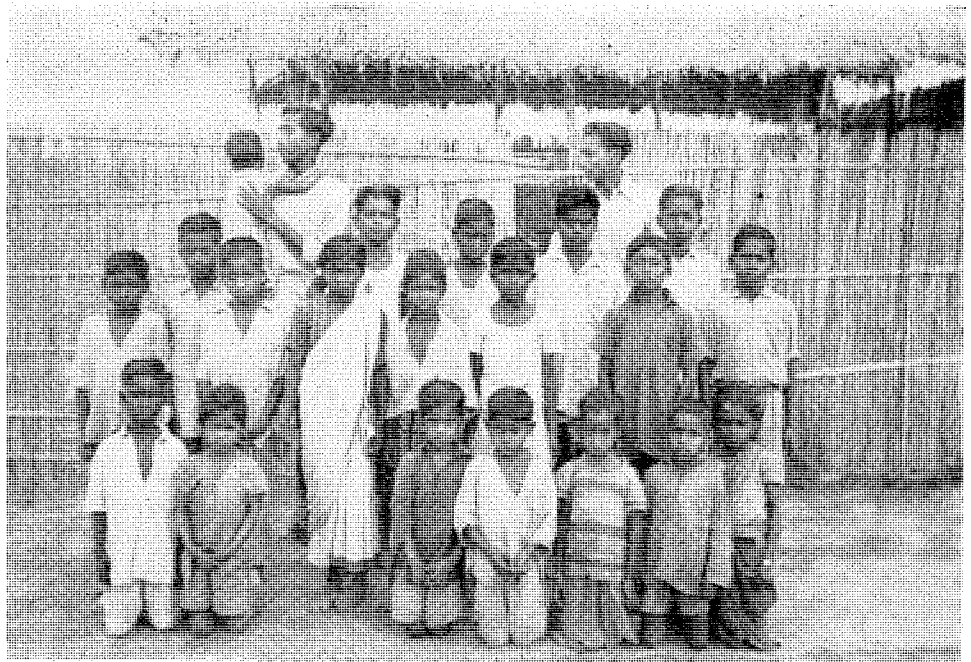
The new cafeteria, which has been completed this year, will be used for the first time during the convention, the president said.

## Auxiliaries Contribute \$500 for Furnishings

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The headquarters' furniture fund had just topped \$500 by April 15, which was only \$300 short of the goal, according to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, executive secretary of the WNAC. The Woman's Auxiliaries of the denomination adopted the project of furnishing the reception and conference rooms at the denominational headquarters building.

Six states have already met or exceeded their suggested quotas, Mrs. Sloan said, with only two states not yet heard from. Of the \$800 needed, a total of \$501 had been received up to May 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	20.00
Missouri	70.00	39.10
North Carolina	140.00	113.00
Ohio	10.00	10.00
Oklahoma	80.00	35.00
South Carolina	90.00	18.00
Tennessee	90.00	42.00
Texas	45.00	40.00
Virginia	10.00	10.00
West Virginia	10.00	5.00
	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$501.10</u>



These are part of the thirty pupils enrolled at the Chutikor Christian day school which is operated by Free Will Baptists in India. The two boys in the background are nationals who teach in the school under the direction of Rev. Dan Cronk. The thatched building is the schoolhouse.

## India Diary

(Continued from page 3)

are amazed at the teeming masses along the roadways. Over four hundred million people live in India and 90 per cent of them are in villages.

Wed., March 24—Dr. Sterrett, a missionary who is working among the college students in Madras, met us at the station. Among other things, we visited the St. Thomas Cathedral, St. Thomas Tomb and St. Thomas Mount, the place where the apostle was supposed to have martyred. At the gate leading to the mount a crowd of beggars approached us. They were a pitiful lot. Dr. Sterrett told us there are 1,500 Christian students in Madras. Remember his work in prayer.

### Leopard Visits Camp

Thurs., March 25—We took the plane to Calcutta, but missed Dan (Dan Cronk, who leads the mission work in North India) at the airport. I thought I spotted him through the restaurant door, but decided it wasn't. After we wandered around the waiting room for about 20 minutes, here he came out of the restaurant. It was him! While in Calcutta we visited the Carey Baptist Church and the business section of the city. There are many homeless people here who live on the sidewalks. Beggars were numerous and unsanitary conditions prevail.

Fri., March 26—Took the plane to Bagdogra and then a taxi out to Sonapurhat, which was about 36 miles. We were glad to find Trula (Mrs. Cronk) at the mission house, and after dinner and a visit with them we went down the road to see a leopard the villagers had caught the night before. Late in the evening we (Cronks, Hannas, Morris and I) went by jeep to "Junga Bit" where the Cronks had set up camp near a Santal village. The tent was

located on the banks of a lovely river. We slept on cots under mosquito nets.

Sat., March 27—Still in camp. Attended church in the village and heard Dan preach in Hindi for the first time. I was amazed at the way the people, including the preacher, sit on their feet during the service.

Waded river and visited nearby village. One dear old lady with burning fever came to us for medicine. She was pitiful. We need a nurse here badly. After church in the evening we had supper and went to bed. Shortly we heard a leopard growl just outside our tent. We all jumped up and got our lights, but didn't see him. We were frightened and left a lantern burning all night. We could hear the animal through the night and I slept very little. But the Lord watched over us and kept us safe.

### Morris Baptizes Woman

Sun., March 28—Went to church in the village today and Brother Morris baptized an Indian woman. We drove back to Sonapurhat after lunch and went with Hannas on the bus to Kishanganj. Another teeming Indian town and this time without electricity. The Hannas have a fairly nice house, but they use a gasoline lantern. Had a late supper, pour-on bath and went to the mission compound house to sleep. We met the three boys the Hannas are training.

Mon., March 29—Saw Kishanganj by rickshaw this morning. In the afternoon we went to the marketplace. What a sight! A multitude of things for sale and a great crowd of people, beggars and lepers were numerous. Had tea at the Hannas with two couples of their Indian friends—one Hindu couple and the other Christian. The Hannas seem extremely happy. The wound of Sheila's death has not healed completely, but it has no doubt helped to fit them for effective service.

(Continued on page 17)

# Savage Named New President of Evangelical Group

CLEVELAND, Ohio—The National Association of Evangelicals, in the twelfth annual convention here April 25-30, reported a high tide of optimism for the work and opportunities of all of its commissions and agencies during the next twelve months.

Dr. Henry H. Savage, Conservative Baptist leader from Pontiac, Michigan, was elected and installed as the new president of the national association, succeeding Dr. Paul S. Rees of Minneapolis, who returned to this country just long enough for convention duties before rejoining the Billy Graham evangelistic team in London.

Other administrative officers who will guide the NAE activities during the year include Dr. Paul P. Petticord of Portland, Oregon, first vice-president; Dr. Ralph M. Riggs of Springfield, Missouri, second vice-president; Rev. Arley Bragg of Chicago, Illinois, secretary; and Rufus Jones of Chicago, treasurer.

The NAE board of administration also announced the appointment of Rev. George L. Ford of Los Angeles to become the new associate executive director of the national association, with headquarters in Chicago.

Mr. Ford, who served as a promotional secretary for NAE in recent months, said in his report to the convention:

"We find the evangelicals have one solid footing upon which to stand—we all accept the Bible as the infallible, authoritative Word of God. On this sure foundation we have built a bulwark for the defense of the right of all to preach the Gospel. And, as the work has gone on, it has embraced a geographical and denominational spread that makes NAE the true evangelical voice in America."

High points of the convention program were the three evening mass meetings which brought forth a healthy interest among the Cleveland area friends of evangelicalism. Dr. Paul Rees' presidential address, Dr. Harold Ockenga's masterly and moving presentation of a complete philosophy of the challenge to the Christian church found in the current world situation, and a most unusual and humbling sermon by Dr. Alan Redpath of Moody Memorial Church, featured the three night sessions.

One of the most important phases of Christian life and liberty dealt with during the meeting was the current situation existing in Latin-American countries. The convention acted to appeal to the State Department and even "to American Roman Catholics themselves to ask their church for the same degree of religious liberty and tolerance for the Protestant minority in Colombia that the Catholic minority enjoys in the United States."



## Twenty-five Are Given Degrees at Bible College Graduation Exercises

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The largest graduating class in the history of the Free Will Baptist Bible College were awarded degrees at commencement exercises June 3.

Bachelor of Arts degrees, with a major in Bible and theology and a minor in English or Christian education, were conferred upon the twenty-five seniors shown above. Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., president of Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C., delivered the commencement address.

Baccalaureate speaker on May 30 was Rev. Henry Melvin, pastor of Reedy Branch church, Winterville, N. C., and former business manager of the college.

This was the fourth four-year graduating class. The first B.A. degrees were conferred upon a class of five in 1951. The number increased to six graduates in 1952 and to twelve in 1953. Twenty of this year's graduates received all their resident training at the Bible College and five transferred some of their work from other institutions.

Pictured above from left to right are: *Front row:* Christine Hooks, Kenly, N. C.; Ruth Floyd, Marion, N. C.; Mary Hess, Mount Hope, W. Va.; Evelyn Lawrence, Pittsburg, Ill.; Bonnie Lou Henson, Hurricane, W. Va. *Second row:* Betty Wall Lambert, Mount Hope, W. Va.; Lissie Chaudoin Turnage, Healdton, Okla.; Eloise Phillips, Cramerton, N. C.; Geraldine Hall, Cottonwood, Ala.; June Rivenbark, Durham, N. C.; Jane Ketteman Jackson, Ewing, Ill.

*Third row:* Johnnie Floyd, Marion, N. C.; Ray Turnage, Florence, S. C.; Elro Driggers, Coward, S. C.; Eugene Waddell, Kenly,

N. C.; Paul Wood, Nashville, Tenn. *Fourth row:* James Earl Raper, Snow Hill, N. C.; Lonnie Sparks, Sulphur, Okla.; Lonnie Davault, Moore, Okla.; Robert Edwards, Beulaville, N. C. *Fifth row:* Carlton Lambert, Florence, Ala.; Bobby Jackson, Eureka, N. C.; G. C. Lee, Jr., Calhoun City, Miss.; Sammy Wilkinson, Glennville, Ga., and Ben Barrus, Norfolk, Va.

Of this group twelve are ministers, four are ministers' wives, four are missionary students, and five plan to go into other Christian work. Eleven of the graduates received ETТА diplomas along with their degrees. These diplomas qualify them as approved teachers under the Evangelical Teacher-Training Association of Chicago.

Seven other students have completed the three-year course and were presented with the Christian Worker's Bible Course diploma at graduating exercises. In this group Carey Watkins, Cary, N. C.; Rachel Rollins, Pikeville, N. C.; Olin Phillips, Cramerton, N. C.; Eustace Riggs, Kenova, W. Va.; Wilburn Beasley, Winfield, Ala.; George Ludwig, Nashville, Tenn., and J. B. Hall, Jr., Cottonwood, Ala.

# Glancing Around the States . . .

## **Tennessee Preacher Wants Addresses in Oak Ridge**

OAK RIDGE, Tenn.—Initial plans are underway for the organization of a Free Will Baptist church in this atomic research center. Rev. H. H. Tatterow, Box 395, Oliver Springs, Tenn., plans to make necessary contacts for the organization. Anyone having Free Will Baptist friends or relatives living in Oak Ridge are asked to send their names, addresses and phone numbers to Mr. Tatterow. This will assist in an early organization, he says.

## **Fort Worth Pastor Begins Twenty-first Year**

FT. WORTH, Texas—Twenty years in the same pastorate—this is the record of Rev. M. L. Sutton, pastor of Trinity Free Will Baptist church here. On May 9 Mr. Sutton began his 21st year at the church which he organized. The organization and anniversary were observed with a special service.

## **Allen Auxiliary Observes Pre-Easter Week of Prayer**

SAPULPA, Okla.—The Woman's Auxiliary of the Allen Free Will Baptist church sponsored a pre-Easter Week of Prayer for their church. Rev. Jake Gage, Pryor, spoke during the week. The Auxiliary presented a missionary playlet the last night and received an offering of \$22 for foreign missions.

## **California Organizes Another New Church**

OXNARD, Calif.—A new Free Will Baptist church was organized here recently with 29 charter members. Rev. Arthur Billows is the pastor.

## **Willis Resumes Work After Accident Injury**

PAINTSVILLE, Ky.—Rev. Homer Willis, pastor of Southside church here, has resumed his pastoral work after several weeks out because of a serious injury sustained in an automobile accident. He expresses his deep appreciation to CONTACT readers for the dozens of cards and letters and the flowers which he received and requests prayers for a complete recovery.

The Southside church has finished a new baptistry at an approximate cost of \$2,000.

## **Social Band Leaguers Have District Convention**

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—Some 250 Leaguers attended the League rally of the Social Band association at the Arbor Grove church April 4. James Evans of Mt. Zion church won first place in the Intermediate

Sword drill and Joan French of O'Kean church placed second. The next rally will meet at O'Kean on July 4.

## **Ohio Church Dedicates New Building April 18**

BLUE CREEK, Ohio—A dedication service was held Easter Sunday for the new building almost completed by the Turkey Creek Free Will Baptist church. The church, which is located seven miles west of Portsmouth on Route 125, decided to build the structure in 1951. It contains a large auditorium, full basement, pastor's study, Sunday school office and prayer rooms.

Despite the fact that the church has a membership of only 45, the building was dedicated debt-free. It was built under the leadership of Rev. Philip Crabtree, pastor. The congregation was organized into a Free Will Baptist church in 1936 from another denomination.

## **Texas Association Has Quarterly Meeting**

HENDERSON, Texas—Rev. E. D. Hellard, pastor of the First church in Houston, brought the sermon at the quarterly meeting of the Texas association here. Attendance was estimated at 150. The next session will be held at Youngblood church.

## **Memphis Revival Set for June 13**

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Rev. M. L. Hollis, Amory, Miss., is scheduled to begin a revival here June 13 with the purpose of organizing a Free Will Baptist church. Plans originally called for tent revival, but city restrictions prevented this so a large hall has been rented for the meeting. It is located at Litewood and Sims Avenue. Free Will Baptists in the Tennessee-Mississippi area are urged to attend the revival.

## **Oklahoma Orphanage Names Promotional Secretary**

TULSA, Okla.—Mrs. Inabelle Hamilton, former church secretary for the First Free Will Baptist church here, has been named promotional secretary for the State Free Will Baptist children's home at Ringling. Mr. Clyde Cain is superintendent of the home which cares for 27 children.

## **Conference Issue of 'League Monthly' Available**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A limited number of the special League conference edition of the "Free Will Baptist League Monthly" are available to those who would like to have a preview of the nationwide conference to be held June 14-16, according to Rev. C. F. Bowen, League Board secretary. The papers

are free to those who will write for them, he said.

## **Dates Are Set for Florida State Camps**

COTTONDALE, Fla.—Dates for the Florida state camp meeting have been set at June 20-July 2, according to Rev. D. W. Poole, state promotional secretary. The youth encampment will be held the first, third, and fourth weeks in July, he said. All sessions will be held at the camp ground near here.

## **Two Organizations Planned for Texas Panhandle**

AMARILLO, Texas—The possibilities for the organization of at least two new Free Will Baptist churches in the Texas panhandle are being investigated, according to Rev. James F. Minor. A revival has been conducted at Panhandle by Mr. Minor with two professions and regular services are being conducted by Rev. Kenneth Walker.

Mr. Minor said he is asking the Lord for ten interested families at Leveland, where a large lot in the best part of town has already been acquired.

## **Bristow Church Finishes Second in City Crusade**

BRISTOW, Okla.—The First Free Will Baptist church here placed second in a city-wide membership attendance crusade which lasted from January 1 through Easter. This church, of which Rev. N. R. Smith is pastor, averaged 80% of their membership in church during the period. The church which placed first had an 84% average.

## **Mississippi Church Not Organized as Reported**

ABERDEEN, Miss.—While Rev. M. L. Hollis did conduct a revival here during April, a Free Will Baptist church was not organized as reported in CONTACT last month. Mr. Hollis said the interest was not quite enough for an organization, but that he does hope to return in the future and complete an organization.

## **Cragmont Assembly Lists Summer Dates**

BLACK MOUNTAIN, N. C.—June, July and August will be busy months at Cragmont assembly grounds for North Carolina Free Will Baptists. The schedule of activities is as follows: June 7-12, Minister's Conference; June 14-20, open for churches or family groups; June 21-26, Youth Conference; June 29-31, Writer's Conference; July 1-25, open; July 26-Aug. 6, camp meeting time; August 9-14, Youth Conference; Aug. 16-23, Woman's Conference, and Aug. 23-28, Family Week.

# Glancing Around the States . . .

## **Georgia Sunday School Convention Set for June 12**

ALBANY, Ga.—Rev. Sammy Wilkinson, Glennville, and Rev. I. J. Blackwelder, Alma, will be the principal speakers at the Georgia state Sunday School Convention to be held here June 12. The First Free Will Baptist church will be host. The convention will open at 10:30 a.m. and the morning programs will be presented by Albany, Corinth, Midway, Bellview and Christian Hill churches.

The programs in the afternoon will be given by First church, Columbus, and Satilla. The organization of the convention will come at 2 p.m.

## **Hyde Park Church Raises Funds to Purchase Land**

NORFOLK, Va.—Special services held April 11 on the site which they wanted to buy for construction of a new church brought in \$1,575 with which to purchase it for the Hyde Park Free Will Baptist church, according to Rev. E. H. Overman, pastor. The church was organized as a mission in February, 1953, with 57 members. Since then the membership has grown to 107.

## **New Church Organized At Gainesville, Texas**

GAINESVILLE, Texas—A new Free Will Baptist church has been organized in this north Texas town recently, according to Rev. Jack Arnold. Sixteen charter members joined the church and three more were added later. A building fund has been started and any assistance would be greatly appreciated, he said.

## **Kentucky State Association Will Meet at Martin's Branch**

ESTILL, Ky.—The Kentucky state association is scheduled to convene June 18-20. Martin's Branch church near here will be host to the meeting.

## **Michigan Association Has Joint Rally**

DETROIT, Mich.—Under the theme, "The Sunday School Teaches—The League Trains" the Sunday schools and Leagues of the Wolverine association met together May 21-22 for the first time in joint rally. Highland Park church was host to the meeting. Speakers included Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, Ayden, N. C., and Rev. Clate A. Risley, Chicago, general superintendent of the National Sunday School Association.

## **Cumberland League Convention Meets**

ASHLAND CITY, Tenn.—Rev. Bob Hill, New Hope pastor, was elected presi-

dent of the Cumberland League convention at the quarterly meeting here May 8. Rev. Stanley Pentecost was chosen vice-president and Rev. Bob Wilfong was named secretary-treasurer. Rev. Dale Burden, Bible college student from Oklahoma, brought the message. The next convention will be held August 7 at Shady Grove.

## **Pastoral Changes Listed For California Churches**

Several pastoral changes have been reported from California. Among those who are assuming new pastorates are Rev. Wade Jernigan, who goes to Kerman, and Rev. O. H. Doss who comes to Modesto. Martinez has called Rev. Lewis A. Lawson while Bakersfield has called Rev. Sylvester Crawford. Rev. Jerry Dudley will go to Tulare, Rev. Lester Davis takes the church at Hughson, and Rev. Marvin Bryant goes to Long Beach.

## **Tulsa Mission Becomes Church As of May 7**

TULSA, Okla.—Eleven months after the airport mission was started by the Tulsa First church the group organized as a church. Twenty-nine charter members came into the organization and Rev. Dale Munkus, who was serving as assistant pastor for the First church, was called as pastor. Rev. John H. West, First church, pastor, led in starting the mission.

## **Idaho Now Has Second Organization**

JEROME, Idaho—Idaho now has two Free Will Baptist churches with the organization April 14 of the newest one at Jerome. The other church is at Buhl. Both towns are in southern Idaho. The church here was organized following a revival conducted by Rev. Ernest Hayhurst and Rev. Earl Bandy. Mr. Bandy was called as pastor. Services are held each Sunday in a rented building on West Main Street.

## **Rev. Eddie Corn Accepts Norfolk Church**

NORFOLK, Va.—Rev. Eddie Corn has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First church, Norfolk, Va. He assumed the work there May 2. Prior to that time he had served churches in northwest Missouri.

## **New Arkansas Church Receives Assistance**

SEARCY, Ark.—The First Free Will Baptist church of Searcy was recently presented checks amounting to \$400 from the state and national Home Mission Boards. Rev. Lawnie Coffman, who led in the organization, received the gifts on behalf of the church. Since returning to his home state from the Free Will Baptist Bible col-

lege last year, the young minister has helped in the organization of three churches.

## **California Church Elects New Officers**

KERMAN, Calif.—New officers for the First Free Will Baptist church here were elected at the annual conference May 5. Those named were Mrs. Alfred Hall, clerk; Delmer Sharp, treasurer; Arlie Miller, choir leader; Darol Freeman, pianist; Alfred Hall and Royce Stevens, ushers, and Mrs. Arlie Miller, reporter. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Parker were named superintendents of the Junior League and Rev. and Mrs. Joy Freeman were elected Intermediate League superintendents.

## **Alabama Conventions Set for June 11-12**

FLORENCE, Ala.—The East Florence church will be host to the Alabama state Sunday school and League Conventions which will meet June 11-12. The League convention will be held on Friday, the 11th, and the Sunday schools will meet the following day. Those planning to attend should notify Rev. A. J. Lambert, 642 Sweetwater Ave., Florence, who is host pastor.

## **Georgia Names Dates For Camp Activities**

ASHBURN, Ga.—Dates have been set for the Ministerial-Auxiliary Institute and youth camp sessions to be held at the Georgia state campground near here. The institute will meet June 6-11, according to Rev. E. C. Morris, and youth camp sessions have been scheduled for June 20-25, July 4-9, July 18-23, and August 1-6. Rev. T. B. Mellette is general director for the youth sessions.

## **Roberts Now Pastoring Claremore, Okla., Church**

CLAREMORE, Okla.—Rev. W. T. Roberts, formerly at the New Home church and Airport Mission in Tulsa, has accepted the Free Will Baptist church here.

## **Bryan Church Adds Sunday School Annex**

BRYAN, Texas—A new assembly room and two new classrooms were completed by the church here during May. The new assembly room provides space for the Intermediate-Senior department, giving the Sunday school a total of four departments with eighteen classes. The goal is six departments, according to Edgar Morris, superintendent.

## **California Associations Set Meeting Dates**

CALWA, Calif.—The California state association will hold its annual session here June 16-18. Rev. Ralph Hampton is moderator and Rev. Wade Jernigan will bring the introductory sermon. The West

(Continued on page 17)



# Glancing Around the States...

Coast association met June 3-4 and the state minister's conference met May 28-29 at Porterville. Other district association meetings included Golden Gate at Modesto on May 20-21, Center at Parlier on May 13-14 and Southern on May 6-7.

## Oklahoma Church Plans Homecoming

TECUMSEH, Okla.—The first Homecoming-Anniversary Day at the Free Will Baptist church here will be held June 6. All of the former members and pastors are invited back for the event, Rev. Delbert Akin, pastor, announced.

## \$45,000 Building Program Started by Alabama Church

SYLACAUGA, Ala.—Ground-breaking ceremonies were held April 12 by the Unity Free Will Baptist church for a \$45,000 building program. Included in the project will be a 38' by 57' auditorium and a 31' by 65' educational building. Both of the buildings will be block construction with brick veneer. Plans call for the old church to be converted into a parsonage.

The church is located at Morris Ave. and Ogletree St., and Rev. Edward B. Ledlow is pastor.

## Plans Made for Oklahoma Encampment

DRUMRIGHT, Okla.—Rev. Willard C. Day, Mountain Grove, Mo., will serve as evangelist for the youth encampment of First Mission association to be held at the district campground near here. The camp will begin June 27.

# India Diary

(Continued from page 13)

## Interviews Officer

Tues., March 30—Visited a Subdivisional Police Officer today to discuss the government policy regarding missionaries coming into India. He was very congenial, but made it clear that Delhi (Central Government) did the approving or disapproving of all visas to missionaries. The Hannas left today for Landour, a thousand miles away, to continue their language study and we went back to Sonapurhat in the jeep with Dan and Trula.

Wed., March 31—Another village tour today. Most of those through which we passed have no gospel witness. We need at least 15 more missionaries to properly evangelize this large area. Had services in four of the villages. Brother Morris and I preached at two each. Also visited our mission school at Chutikor (See picture above).

In the last village a man with a very bad foot asked us for medicine. The village doctor had put a leaf and mud plaster on the sore. How we need a doctor and nurse in this area! This has been a long day, but a profitable one.

Next Month: Into the Himalayan Mountains and the Forbidden Country of Tibet

## Illinois Quarterly Meeting Held at Pittsburg Church

PITTSBURG, Ill.—The Freedom county quarterly meeting was held the weekend of May 16 at the Free Will Baptist church here. Fifteen churches were represented in what was described as a "very spiritual and harmonious session." Rev. Jake McNally was moderator and Rev. A. A. White was host pastor.

# Accommodations Are Listed for National Delegates

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—A list of hotels and tourist courts available for delegates attending the National Association of Free Will Baptists here has been prepared by the Chamber of Commerce. Since the convention will be held during the busy peach buying season, those planning to attend should write as soon as possible for reservations.

When writing be sure to state that you will be attending the Free Will Baptist convention. Give a second choice and ask for a confirmation of your reservation.

The following hotels or courts are recommended:

## HOTELS AND MOTELS

### Spartanburg

**Cleveland Hotel**  
178 West Main Street  
Single .....\$ 4.00 to \$7.00  
Double ..... 6.00 to 9.00

**Franklin Hotel**  
185 East Main Street  
Single .....\$ 3.50 to \$5.00  
Single—connecting ..... 3.25  
Twin beds ..... 6.50 to 7.50

**Hotel Franklin Annex**  
Single, with bath .....\$ 3.00  
Twin beds with bath ..... 5.00  
Single, connecting bath ..... 2.75  
Double, connecting bath ..... 4.50  
Single, without bath ..... 2.50  
Double ..... 2.75  
Twin beds with bath ..... 5.00  
Twin beds without bath ..... 4.00

**Morgan Hotel**  
277 Magnolia Street  
Single, with bath .....\$ 3.50  
Single, without bath ..... 2.50  
Double, with bath ..... 6.00  
Double, without bath ..... 4.00  
3 people ..... 2.50 each

**Richmond Hotel**  
225 East Main Street  
Single, with bath .....\$ 3.50  
Single, without bath ..... 2.50  
Double, with bath ..... 5.50 to 6.00  
Double, without bath ..... 4.00

**El Dorado Motel**  
Greenville Highway (Highway 29)  
Single, with bath .....\$ 5.00  
2 people ..... 6.00  
Double, 2 beds ..... 8.00  
4 people ..... 10.00  
2 rooms with 3 double beds each (5 people to room) ..... 15.00

**Crestview Motel**  
700 West Main Street  
Single .....\$ 3.50 to \$4.00  
Double—2 to room ..... 4.50 to 5.00  
Twin beds ..... 6.00 to 7.00

**Tower Motel**  
New Highway 29, at Fairforest, S. C.  
Single, with bath .....\$ 4.00  
Twin and double ..... 6.00 to 6.50  
3 people 1 room ..... 8.25  
3 people 1 room ..... 9.00  
4 people 1 room ..... 10.00

### Mammy's Restaurant nearby

It is possible the Peach Blossom Motel, New Highway 29, will be ready for occupancy in July—under construction.

# Twenty-two Churches Report Revivals

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Reports of revivals have been received from twenty-two churches this month. CONTACT is anxious to list reports of revivals which are scheduled and those which have been conducted, along with the results. Reports should be sent promptly and should include the information listed below.

Church	Evangelist	Pastor	Dates	Prof.	Add
Oilton, Oklahoma	Bill Ketchum	Ben Scott	April 18-28	8	
Savannah, Georgia	T. C. Hamilton	Louis Moulton	May 23-30		
Willoughby church, Warren, Ark.	O. T. Dixon	Lewis Barker	June 21		
Rose Hill church, Monticello, Ark.	O. T. Dixon		July 1		
Russellville, Arkansas	W. S. Mooneyham	O. T. Dixon	May 19-28		
Hobbs, New Mexico	Tommy Day	L. C. Pinson	April 27-May 5	9	
Ardmore, Oklahoma	Robert Maxwell	E. J. Wilson	April 3-13		
Pocahontas, Ark.	C. F. Bowen	J. Reford Wilson	April 19-28	8	10
Santa Paula, California	Wade Jernigan	Wiley Gregory	April	15	
Bristow, Oklahoma	J. R. Hall	N. R. Smith	April	4	
Calvary church, Durham, N. C.	W. S. Mooneyham	Adam Scott	April 18-25	1	2
Tulare, California	Dean Moore	Joe Mooneyham	May 9-21		
Loyal Chapel, Columbia, Tenn.	W. S. Mooneyham	J. B. Bloss	June 4-13		
First church, Okla.	Shawnee, E. M. Kennedy	Paul Pursell	April	5	4
Central church, City, Tenn.	Johnson Winston Sweeney	W. L. Gilton	April 11-25	13	20
First church, Texas	Dallas, R. E. Conner	H. Z. Cox	April 19-25	2	2
Spring Hill church,inton, Okla.	Lex, R. Holmes	Carl Waddle		4	
Muskogee, Oklahoma	Leonard Crowder	Eugene Riddle	April		
Haskell, Oklahoma	Oren Estes	Bill Ketchum	June 28		
Allen, Oklahoma	Paul Pursell		April 26-May 5		
Stewart church,son, Texas	Hender-Huey Gower	Huey Gower	April 11-18	4	4
Pine Prairie church, Huntsville, Tex.	Charles Sapp	H. Ray Berry	June 28-July 10		

# For Your Information

Rev. Ben Barrus, who graduated from the Free Will Baptist Bible College this week, has accepted a call to the East Nashville church. Mr. Barrus, who assumes his new duties June 13, is from Norfolk, Va. . . . Trinity church at Fort Worth, Texas, has achieved an enviable circulation figure for their weekly news bulletin. Rev. M. L. Sutton reports that it now goes into approximately 1,000 homes every week. Deacon F. E. Smith is in charge of distribution . . . Reports are already coming in from "Contact Sunday" as we go to press. There is hardly a doubt but that the circulation will exceed 5,000 by a considerable margin by the National Association.

A new columnist has been added to the Contact staff. He is Rev. Willard C. Day, pastor at Mountain Grove, Mo., who writes the evangelistic message for this page each month. It is our prayer that straying ones will be turned to Christ through his pointed illustrations and the cartoons by Jack Hamm. . . . We could use some more material for the "Sermon of the Month" feature each month. We are not able to use everything that comes in, but we can assure our readers better quality by having a selection from which to choose. Sermons should be between twelve and fifteen hundred words in length and we will award two free subscriptions for each sermon used. . . . A new folder, "How Free Will Baptists Can Support a World-Wide Ministry through the Cooperative Plan" is just off the press. It presents the plan approved by the Executive Committee which will be submitted to the National Association. Reasonable quantities are available free from the Executive Department.

Try this on your local police and gas station operators. Members of the First Methodist church in Waterbury, Conn., innocently ask town police where to find the church. If he tells them the way, they thank him; if he offers wrong directions or professes ignorance, they set him straight. A stranger in town might not have as much trouble locating you if you do this for a week or so every year. . . . Reservations are coming in thick and fast for the sixth nationwide League conference. Busloads already assured from North Carolina, Arkansas and South Carolina, Mr. Bowen says. The leaguers in your church ought not to miss this! Dates are June 14-16 and the place is Nashville.

## Building for Eternity

A story is told of a wealthy oil man and a young contractor who lived in the same city. The youthful builder heard that the successful oil man was planning to build an elaborate home in the aristocratic section. He went immediately to the prospective builder to place his bid. In haste, out of fear of loosing the job he gave an unreasonably low bid which was accepted.

After the contract was signed, the young man began work. He used every possible method to cut the cost of material, but saw that he would still loose money at his low bid, so his next idea was to use cheap inferior materials. This he did. While he was building the house he fell deeply in love with the rich man's daughter and became engaged to marry her. The father decided to do something real nice for them, so, on their wedding day he presented the happy couple with the key to the new home as their wedding present. The newly-weds moved into the house, the young man knowing it had been cheaply built. Before many days the rain came down in torrents and the inferior roof would not repell the water. The young contractor said to his charming wife

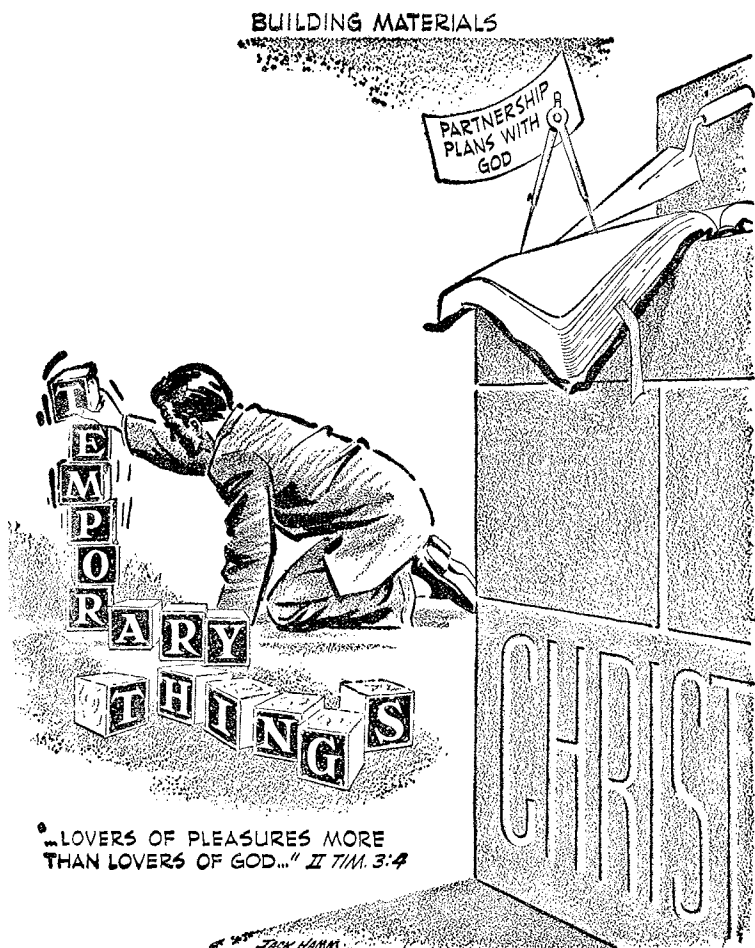
"If I had known we would have to live in this house, I certainly would have used better materials."

Jesus tells us of two builders in Luke 6:47-49; "Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like; He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.

"But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth: against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell: and the ruin of that house was great."

It always pays to use the best material, because the quality of the material will determine the stability of the structure. Jesus Christ is the master builder. Through faith in Him one can build for eternity.

—Willard C. Day





REV. PAUL J. KETTEMAN, *Chairman  
State Arrangements Committee*

## Arrangement Committee Doing Outstanding Job

Under the leadership of Rev. Paul J. Ketteman, chairman, the state arrangements committee in South Carolina is doing an outstanding job in preparing for the national convention. The state association appropriated \$2,000 for convention expenses and elected this committee, composed of Rev. A. F. Lawter, Rev. Seldon Bullard and Mr. Ketteman to supervise the planning and publicity.

The local pastor in Spartanburg, Rev. Paul Sheehan, and other state ministers and laymen are assisting the committee. This group is working to assure a large attendance from South Carolina at the convention. Among other duties, the committee has been responsible for the auditorium, committee rooms, and exhibit space.

Working with the national executive department, the committee has published a "Convention City" folder, arranged for ten outdoor billboards in Spartanburg.

### WHERE IN 1955?

*The Placement Committee for the 1955 session has received only one official invitation, according to Rev. C. F. Bowen, chairman. This invitation has come from the First Free Will Baptist church in Amarillo, Texas, and the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce.*

*Invitations to entertain the session should be sent immediately so the committee may have time to investigate the facilities which are available. They will select a site from the invitations received and make a report to the convention at Spartanburg.*

*"Those inviting the convention should give careful consideration to the availability of funds necessary to publicize and entertain the convention." Mr. Bowen said. Other members of the committee are Rev. Ralph Staten and Rev. E. E. Morris. Invitations should be sent to Mr. Bowen at 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.*



*Officers of the National Association who have served the past year and who will direct convention activities at Spartanburg this year include (seated left to right) Rev. W. A. Hales, Norfolk, Va., assistant moderator; Rev. E. E. Morris, Oklahoma City, Okla., moderator; Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, Nashville, Tenn., executive secretary; (standing left to right) Rev. T. G. Hamilton, Glennville, Ga., assistant clerk, and Rev. George Waggoner, Mt. Vernon, Ill., clerk.*

## General Board Will Meet Preceding Opening of the National Association

Prior to the national convention, the General Board of the National Association always holds its annual meeting to hear reports and lay plans for recommendations to the convention in session. This year the General Board will meet Monday night and Tuesday, July 12-13, according to an announcement from the Executive Committee.

Among the important matters to come before the General Board for consideration this year will be the proposed Cooperative Plan of Support. The Executive Committee has approved the plan for presentation to the Board and recommended its adoption this year to become effective July 1, 1955.

The General Board is composed of the general officers of the National Association, the chairmen of the standing boards, and one member from each affiliated state association. This last group is composed of Rev. A. J. Lambert, Brilliant, Ala.; J. E. Frazier, Ashland City, Tenn.; Rev. George Ritter, Detroit, Mich.; Rev. John Henson, Hurricane, W. Va.

Rev. Jack Ketteman, Ewing, Ill.; Rev. Russell Milan, Ohio; Rev. F. S. VanHoose, Paintsville, Ky.; Rev. Wayne Smith, Swannanoa, N.C.; Rev. E. J. Kilgore, Coeburn, Va.; Rev. E. C. Morris, Tifton, Ga.; W. G. Prude, Tupelo, Miss.; Rev. Seldon Bullard, Darlington, S. C.; Ernest Owen, Chipley, Fla.; Rev. George Scott, Myrtle, Mo.; Rev.

John Elliston, Okmulgee, Okla.; Noah Cole, Bryan, Texas; Rev. Ralph Hampton, Concord, Calif.; and Rev. O. T. Dixon, Russellville, Ark. Members of the standing boards of the National Association, along with the years their terms expire, include:

*Foreign Missions*—Raymond Riggs ('54), Mark Lewis ('55), Reford Wilson, ('56), Rolla Smith ('57), J. W. Alford ('58). *Home Missions*—Willard Day ('54), Homer Willis ('55), J. B. Bloss ('56), H. E. Staires ('57), R. H. Jackson ('58).

*League*—Henry Melvin ('54), Van Paschall ('55), C. F. Bowen ('56), R. B. Crawford ('57), W. B. Raper ('58). *Superannuation*—F. A. Rivenbark ('54), Lloyd Jeffreys ('55), C. A. Huckaby ('56), D. W. Hansley ('57), J. O. Ford ('58). *Publications*—L. C. Johnson ('54), L. E. Duncan ('55), Charles Thigpen ('56), Rufus Hyman ('57), J. C. Griffin ('58).

*Sunday School*—William Mishler ('54), Charles Sapp ('55), LaVerne Miley ('56), Earl Smith ('57), John H. West ('58). *Radio-TV*—Ralph Staten ('54), I. L. Stanley ('55), J. D. O'Donnell ('56), John Oliver ('57), Harry Beatty ('58).

*College Trustees*—Ralph Lightsey, Fred Powers, K. V. Shutes ('54); Melvin Bingham, J. F. Miller, J. R. Davidson ('56); Luther Gibson, F. B. Cherry, J. L. Welch ('58).

## Five Reasons Why I Ought to Attend the National Convention

### • MY DENOMINATION NEEDS ME

What if everybody stayed home when annual convention time came? Denominational life would soon disintegrate because of disinterest. What if everybody who is a pastor or lay leader would attend every year? The denomination would begin to move forward for God with a new surge of power. I ought to attend the annual convention because my denomination needs me. When I fail to attend I weaken every function of my church. God forbid that I should do this!

### • I OWE IT TO MY DENOMINATION

As a Free Will Baptist I have certain responsibilities. One of these is to cooperate with my brethren in making my denomination everything the Lord wants it to be. I do not have the right to stand aside and refuse to bear my part of the load. I was not forced to be a Free Will Baptist. I am one by choice—because I want to be—and when I joined the church and took that name I also assumed my denominational responsibilities.

### • I NEED THE FELLOWSHIP

Says the Psalmist, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." At the district and state conventions I fellowship with those of my own locality, but at the national convention, East and West and North and South all come together in Christian love. The fellowship is wonderful, and I need that fellowship. "No man liveth to himself" said the Apostle, *SCA* at the national convention I am strengthened through the fellowship with my brethren.

### • DENOMINATIONAL BUSINESS IS MY BUSINESS

The National Association of Free Will Baptists is a democratic organization. There are no bishops, popes or other ecclesiastical lords to dictate this organization of which my church and I am a vital part. All denominational plans and policies are presented to the annual convention for discussion and action.

### • THE WORLD NEEDS OUR UNITED VOICE

A voice crying in the wilderness can give a ringing testimony, but how much better are many voices lifted in unison. The world is facing many grave problems and 400,000 Free Will Baptist voices crying "Prepare ye the way of the Lord" can help point the way out of international chaos. At the annual convention we lift a united voice and I want mine added to the swelling chorus.

For this reason and many others, I *ought* to attend. Not only so, I *will* attend.

## INSIDE THE CONVENTION AUDITORIUM



The state convention of South Carolina and the city of Spartanburg have provided perhaps the best facilities which the National Association has ever enjoyed. The Memorial Auditorium where all sessions will be held is one of the finest and best equipped in the country. An outside view is shown on the front cover while the interior is shown in the picture above. Called the "Showplace of the South," it was constructed in 1951 at a cost of a million and a half dollars.

The auditorium seats 3,406 persons with comfortable, permanent, cushioned seats. The first floor seats 2,170 and there are two balconies. The state committee and National Association officials are hoping for at least 2,000 people in attendance. Since the convention city is within easy driving distance of nearly 75,000 Free Will Baptists in four states (South Carolina, 4,000; North Carolina, 49,000; Georgia, 10,000, and Tennessee, 10,500,) they feel it should not be too difficult.

Parking will be no problem for delegates attending. While the auditorium is near the heart of the business section of the city, it has a huge parking plaza directly behind the auditorium (see picture below) which will handle more than 700 cars.

The city of Spartanburg is located in the rich, rolling Piedmont section among the foothills of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. It is exactly midway between New York and New Orleans on the mainline of the Southern Railway, and is at the intersection of U.S. Highways 29, 176 and 221. It is 66 miles from Asheville, N. C.; 190 miles from Atlanta, Ga.; 400 miles from Nashville, Tenn.; 69 miles from Charlotte, N.C.; 213 miles from Raleigh, N. C.; 258 miles from Chattanooga, Tenn., and 350 miles from Birmingham, Ala.

## PARKING PLAZA BEHIND AUDITORIUM

