

Contact

of the
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

DECEMBER, 1954

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



X
Mrs. Eunice Edwards
Box 636
Desloge, Missouri

"Behold, there came Wise Men . . ." (Matt. 2:1)



Personally . . .

Likes Covenant Idea

"Please rush me four copies of our church covenant. I think it is a splendid idea. Every home should have one, as well as class rooms and churches. I will do all I can to help you promote the idea. Keep up the good work."—Rev. Raymond T. Sasser, Wilson, N. C.

Express Appreciation

"I receive much inspiration and encouragement from reading *Contact*. First I glance hurriedly through to pick out familiar names, then I go back and thoughtfully read every article. Especially do I appreciate the history of Free Will Baptists, the editorials, and the Prayer Fellowship."—Mrs. Nancy Hancock, Tulsa, Okla.

Home Missionary Writes

"We have a very progressive group here in Shelton. We have an Auxiliary with eight members, a Wednesday evening Bible study period, a women's prayer group on Wednesday morning and from 35 to 40 in Sunday school. We have just organized a GTA.

"Enclosed you will find a check for the Cooperative Plan. This is a not a large amount, but we trust that it will be larger each month."—G. C. Lee, Jr., Shelton, Nebraska.

Likes Special Issue

"The 'Christian Home Issue' is the best yet. I wish every home could receive a copy, especially where there are children. This paper is so good that I want others to enjoy it also, so I am sending several subscriptions as gifts."—Mrs. Harvey A. Moore, Greenville, N. C.

Contact

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Few people realized how popular the Cooperative Plan of Support would become in such a short time when the national association adopted it last July. The idea for united promotion and support for all denominational agencies had been the dream of many for years, but the very fact that it was a change from present policy brought opposition from some quarters. Others did not feel conscientiously that it was the thing.

But what has happened since July gives dramatic witness that the large majority of our people want and will support such a program of harmony and cooperation.

Among the states which have given the plan official endorsement are Michigan, Georgia, Oklahoma, Texas, Florida, Alabama, and Missouri. A number of other states have given moral support to the program, while several others will officially adopt it at forthcoming meetings. District associations and local churches have received it with no less enthusiasm.

But endorsement and enthusiasm does not guarantee the success of any program. They help—but more, much more, is required. At least two more things are necessary—devotion to the cause and promotion of the cause.

Meeting with the executive committee of the national association in Nashville this month will be representatives from the various departments and leaders from all the states. It is a meeting of great importance, for out of it must come devotion and promotion if the program is to succeed.

The meeting is not to decide the fate of the Cooperative Plan. The national association has said that we shall have the plan, so now time will decide its fate. This meeting is to harmonize both men and present programs with the Cooperative Plan. It cannot fail if these words of Paul become the pre-

dominating principle: "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Philippians 2:4).

This is the spirit of the Cooperative Plan, as has been pointed out in a recent pamphlet, which says: "Up until the past few years it seemed that our states and agencies were working in competition with each other. Actually, this was not true, but our disconnected program made it appear so. We are learning better how to work together, but we need some symbol of this unity. What better way than a financial program where each will be able to submerge his own interests in the mutual interest of all the kingdom?"

* * *

The poem below appeared in two or three church bulletins which have come to *Contact*, so we do not know to whom credit belongs. We pass it along and respectfully dedicate to all pastors. Perhaps they are the only ones who can fully appreciate it.

Mrs. Huff is up the miff tree
On a seat fixed good and firm;
And she'd like to tell the pastor
A few things and make him squirm.

Mrs. Huff was sick abed, sir,
Yes, sir, sick abed a week!
And the pastor didn't call, sir,
Never even took a peek.

When I asked her if the doctor
Called to see her, she said, "Sure."
And she looked as if she thought I
Needed some good mental cure.

Then I asked her if the doctor
Knew that sickness laid her low,
And she said that she had called him
On the phone and told him so.

Now the doctor gets his bill paid
With a nicely written check;
But the pastor, for not knowing,
Simply gets it in the neck.

* * *

Rarely do we use the pages of *Contact* to make financial appeals for local congregations in building programs. We would be swamped if we did. Now and then, however, a special case comes along and we suspend the rule.

You can read about this special case on page 7. The congregation at Goldsboro, N. C., lost their church property in a \$65,000 fire. Insurance covered only \$10,000 of the loss. Despite this they are going ahead with plans to rebuild immediately.

They have not asked us to present their need to *Contact* readers, but we feel it would be a splendid exhibition of our love if many congregations would offer financial assistance to the Goldsboro church. The Bible encourages us to "bear one another's burdens." Here is a real need and a real opportunity.

Your offering should be addressed to Rev. J. R. Davidson, Pastor, 713 East Simons St., Goldsboro, North Carolina.



Love Found a Way

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10, 11) "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him." (I John 4:9)

Prince Wealth, Prince Nature and Prince Love were discussing their merits. Prince Wealth began by saying, "I provide for man the comforts and conveniences of life; an education to make him wise; pleasures to make him happy; savings to make him secure; investments to keep him busy. However", he admitted, "my provisions are for this life only; knowledge acquired may not always be properly used; pleasures obtained by me are sometimes short-lived; the security I give certainly varies. I am also a great risk as many have learned by wrong investments."

Prince Nature seemed eager to speak of his merits as he said, "I delight to present my merits on behalf of men for I am no respecter of persons. I scatter my rays of sunshine on the good and evil; I shower my raindrops on the just and the unjust; I blow my breath of refreshing air hither and thither; my beauty no artist can fully display. I must confess that in abundance my rays make miserable the earth and its fruit dies; a downpour of my raindrops may cause much destruction; my breath may be miserably cold or hot and my beauty is not always pleasant to the eye."

Prince Love Speaks

"I, Prince Love, have found many ways of expression in parental love, filial love, patriotic love and religious love but that in which I was perfectly manifested is now being told in yonder sanctuary. Prince Wealth, Prince Nature, join me in hearing my merits proclaimed."

The Christmas story is the story of the manifested love of God. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son . . ." and in the Lord Jesus Christ to bring light, joy peace and brotherhood to a world dark, sad, troubled and divided.

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come . . .", was the prophetic message of Isaiah and the star that guided the wise men from the east became a symbol of the "light which had come". Christ rose upon the Church as

Rev. J. Reford Wilson

Pocahontas, Arkansas

~~~~~  
"the Sun of Righteousness" imparting life, reviving courage, diffusing gladness, making bright with glory.

## **Darkness until Jesus**

This is the light of Christmas that makes glad the heart. "In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness . . ." (John 1:4, 5). Darkness until Jesus, for the light of the law was no light at all to compare with the light of grace. The Babe of Bethlehem brought light and diffused this light into his

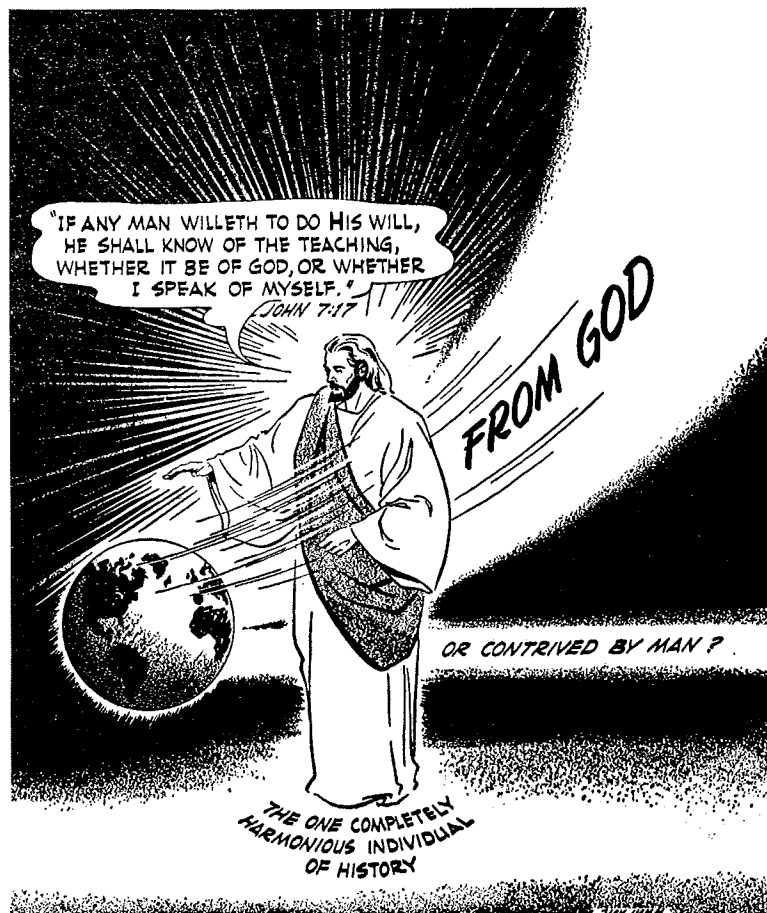
followers. *Therefore, man is no longer in a world of darkness but blind in a world of light.* Open your eyes now at this glorious event and know that yet in this world of today there is the light of truth and goodness.

The Church has not lost its witness though the night may seem dark indeed, "Ye are the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, not of darkness" (I Thess. 5:5). Love failed not, for the Star did shine. Light had come!

## **Stable Was Hallowed**

Simple was the setting in which Love gave birth for joy to come into a sorrowing world. In the crowded city a man and woman had failed to find lodging at the inn and were now resting in the shelter of a stable.

*(Please turn page)*



# Love Found a Way

(Continued from page 3)

Hallowed became this lowly place for the cry of a babe is heard as the Son of God is born! The noise of the city fades away and the night is still, the sheep lay quietly and the shepherds chant their songs in the night. In an instant the "glory of the Lord shone round about them . . . And the Angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy" (Luke 2:9, 10). It is said that the life of the shepherd is a lonely one and here the Angel found sure capacity for a message of great joy. But could the shepherds fully know the joy that had come?

The blind rejoiced in seeing, the dumb rejoiced in speaking, the lame rejoiced in leaping and the law-burdened soul found spiritual meanings never before known. This joy seems most akin to the celebrated birth of the Christ, but the indulgence of the ungodly at this season is most despicable. Amid the revelings of these days enter thou into the joy of the Lord "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory" (1 Peter 1:8).

Tidings from above lift the hearts of men to "rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil. 4:4). Meager may be the gifts of men but the gift of God brought joy unspeakable. "Joy to the world the Lord is come; let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing."

## Peace Amidst Unrest

In a disillusioned people the angelic choir stirred slumbering hopes with "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14). Their history had been marked with trouble and it was with great anticipation they awaited the coming of the Prince of Peace. The Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes was truly God in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself.

With as much fervency as did the Jews, we cherish the peace of God in a world of uncertainty and of unrest. Fears strive to overwhelm the emotions of the inner man, but Love manifesting itself brought peace through Christ, the ambassador of God. Rest to the sin-guilty souls of men—"by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

## Message Is Healing

Broken hearts, broken homes, and broken vows find in the Christmas message a healing for such wounds. Strange that in this Child of Bethlehem the world could end its search for a pact of peace. Triumphant is this peace for His kingdom is peace (Rom. 14:17) and "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever" (Rev. 11:15).

Not forgotten are the words of the heavenly chorus, "good will toward men" nor

## How's Your Memory?

Chances are that if you don't return your renewal envelope within the next three days, you will forget it until you have missed an issue of *Contact*. Our experience with renewals proves this. The biggest part of the renewals are returned to us in the first week. Those who wait usually forget longer than they intend to.

If there is a blue renewal envelope enclosed, your subscription expires with this issue. Don't trust your memory! Renew now!

can we forget that the announcing angel declared that the "tidings of great joy shall be to all people". The utopian goal of the world is a universal brotherhood by the means of a political and social regeneration, an impractical ideal. True brotherhood can only be found in Sonship to God as Jesus became the Christ of Calvary to redeem men that many might receive the adoption of sons.

## Establish Brotherhood

It was "good will toward men" when a missionary in China was taken prisoner by a Christian Japanese soldier and was treated favorably and when a Christian preacher became a prisoner of the Russians and by an order of the captain in command he was permitted to escape a firing squad. The preaching of the Christmas story will establish a brotherhood which "Iron Curtains" can never restrict. "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love," and this brotherhood encircles the globe.

A world in spiritual darkness, sorrow, unrest and strife can never by its wealth and works of nature redeem itself from these conditions.

And who are these bowing before the manger? "We, Prince Wealth and Prince Nature, with all demerits surrender our crowns to Prince Love."

As did they, so must we.

## Quoting Napoleon

Napoleon Bonaparte, the great French emperor and general once wrote: "I know men, and I tell you Jesus Christ was not a man. Superficial minds see a resemblance between Christ and the founders of empires and the gods of other religions. That resemblance does not exist. There is between Christianity and other religions the distance of infinity.

"Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne and myself founded empires. But upon what did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon sheer force. Jesus Christ alone founded his empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men will die for him."

## Immorality on Wheels

In cooperation with the President's Action Committee for Traffic Safety, *Contact* is glad to print the provocative article below written by a minister. President Eisenhower has declared December 15 to be S-D Day (Safe-Driving Day). The goal is to make every community completely free of traffic accidents for the 24-hour period.

The article, "Immorality on Wheels," follows:

Many who are concerned with the carnage on our highways are beginning to see that behind the fundamental causes of traffic accidents lie real moral issues. For too long people have only been concerned with traffic laws, and have been unconcerned with the moral problems which gave rise to those laws.

You see, sin is still a nasty little word. Even though our modern era tried laughing at it, it wouldn't go away; the era just before had tried to reason it out of existence, with like success. Many a person is willing to be a law violator who would resent being publicly recognized as a gross and unrepentant sinner. It is time we faced the fact that most traffic accidents are simply the normal consequence of wilful, wicked acts—acts that are habits of sin.

For example, a driver (your normally moral and friendly neighbor) leaves for an appointment in a nearby city too late to be assured of an easy trip and an on-time arrival. After a few minutes of impatience behind another vehicle, he suddenly decides to pass, well aware that it will be close. THIS DECISION is what should concern us, for it is the sin that may produce death, disabling injury, or may impoverish both the sinner and unknown innocents in at least two other vehicles. The real question is not whether the decision of the driver was legal or not; rather, it is whether the decision was immoral—wickedly, destructively sinful.

The driver who dawdles along at a pace well below the flow of traffic on a main highway is a sinner as well as a menace to life and limb. His sin is selfishness, reckless and often deadly selfishness. The sleepy driver is an egoist, assuming that he can safely operate a vehicle with practically none of his senses functioning.

The effects of these driving sins are those always produced by sin. They are outreaching circles of evil consequences, wavelets receding from the initial act. We are caught up in a web of sin on the highways, and heroic measures are called for.

The best answer to the problem is to recover our moral sense on the highway. For when we begin to see much modern vehicle operation as moral degradation, we can restore safety to our highways as a by-product of restoring morality in our drivers.

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

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A record number of 34 churches from 13 states reported Sunday school averages for October. Several of the number also reported League averages.

Both averages will be printed if they are reported early in the month. Send the information on a postcard along with the name of the church to *Contact*, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

October averages were as follows:

|                               | S.S. | League |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|
| ARKANSAS                      |      |        |
| Pocahontas                    | 175  | 74     |
| Phillips Chapel, Springdale   | 158  |        |
| Willoughby, Warren            | 120  |        |
| Mt. Harmony, Saffell          | 59   |        |
| CALIFORNIA                    |      |        |
| Kerman                        | 127  | 51     |
| ILLINOIS                      |      |        |
| Bear Point, Sesser            | 95   |        |
| KENTUCKY                      |      |        |
| Virgie                        | 50   |        |
| MICHIGAN                      |      |        |
| Highland Park                 | 432  |        |
| MISSISSIPPI                   |      |        |
| First Church, Columbus        | 138  |        |
| Beech Springs, Tupelo         | 97   | 86     |
| MISSOURI                      |      |        |
| Fredericktown                 | 213  |        |
| Fellowship, Flat River        | 187  |        |
| First Church, Monett          | 100  |        |
| Richwood, Desloge             | 88   | 53     |
| NORTH CAROLINA                |      |        |
| St. Mary's, New Bern          | 305  |        |
| Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie       | 123  | 38     |
| OHIO                          |      |        |
| Fairborn                      | 86   |        |
| OKLAHOMA                      |      |        |
| First Church, Tulsa           | 264  |        |
| Capitol Hill, Oklahoma City   | 244  |        |
| First Church, Turley          | 192  | 63     |
| Lawnwood, Tulsa               | 188  |        |
| Lewis Avenue, Tulsa           | 173  |        |
| Central Avenue, Oklahoma City | 144  |        |
| Henryetta                     | 127  | 76     |
| First Church, Tulsa           | 120  | 53     |
| Tecumseh                      | 107  | 50     |
| Airport Church, Tulsa         | 88   |        |
| SOUTH CAROLINA                |      |        |
| Lockhart                      | 158  |        |
| TENNESSEE                     |      |        |
| Elizabethton                  | 185  | 64     |
| First Church, Erwin           | 185  | 41     |
| Trinity, Nashville            | 148  | 80     |
| Bethlehem, Ashland City       | 114  |        |
| TEXAS                         |      |        |
| First Church, Houston         | 49   |        |
| Brightlight, Bryan            | 45   |        |

## Gift Suggestion

If there are some boys and girls on your Christmas gift list, the Board of Foreign Missions has just the gift to suggest. They can supply you with some wonderful missionary adventure story books. These are realistic stories right from the wilds of Africa, written by a man who spent ten years there and as a boy attended school and slept under the stars.

These books will thrill and inspire any boy or girl. Choose from a selection of three books — *Man Eaters Don't Knock*, *Chuma*, and *Rogue Elephant*. They are all bound with hard backs in tan, turquoise, and green. The price is \$1.00 each or all three for \$2.89. Order from the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tenn.



# The Prayer Fellowship

C. F. Bowen, Director

We have yet to plumb the depths of sincere, genuine prayer. We have yet to learn what the Lord meant when he said, "Call upon me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you know not." In this last month of 1954 let us resolve once more to search our hearts and dedicate them to his will. Let us pray with all our hearts.

*Wed., Dec. 8*—(John 9:37 to 10:18)—Pray for more Christian homes and warmer family altars.

*Thurs., Dec. 9*—(John 10:19-42)—Pray for Rev. William Mishler as he enters into greater endeavors in the National Sunday School Board work.

*Fri., Dec. 10*—(John 11:1-27)—Pray for Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery, our missionaries to Japan.

*Sat., Dec. 11*—(Read your Sunday school lesson)—Pray for your pastor as he plans tomorrow's services.

*Sun., Dec. 12*—Pray for victory in your church services today.

*Mon., Dec. 13*—(John 11:47-57)—Pray for the students on the Mt. Allen Junior College in North Carolina.

*Tues., Dec. 14*—(John 12:1-19)—Pray for the work of our National League Board.

*Wed., Dec. 15*—(John 12:20-40)—Pray for the Chapels for Cuba project sponsored by the National League Board.

*Thurs., Dec. 16*—(John 12:42 to 13:17)—Pray for Rev. Burkette Raper, president of the Mt. Allen Junior College.

*Fri., Dec. 17*—(John 13:18-38)—Pray for our Cuban missionaries.

*Sat., Dec. 18*—(Read your Sunday school lesson)—Pray for your Sunday school teacher and your league officers.

*Sun., Dec. 19*—(John 14:1-21)—Pray for the salvation of souls in your church services today.

*Mon., Dec. 20*—(John 14:22 to 15:11)—Pray for our college students who are home for the Christmas holidays.

*Tues., Dec. 21*—(John 15:12-27)—Pray for our missionary work in Africa.

*Wed., Dec. 22*—(John 16:1-15)—Pray for the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee.

*Thurs., Dec. 23*—(John 16:16-33)—Pray for our superannuated ministers.

*Fri., Dec. 24*—(John 17)—Pray for a revival in your own church.

*Sat., Dec. 25*—(Read your Sunday school lesson)—Pray for a sane and wonderful Christmas all over America and all over the whole world.

*Sun., Dec. 26*—Pray for your Christmas services.

*Mon., Dec. 27*—(John 18:28 to 19:12) Pray for a spirit of helpfulness on your part and that your church may seek to be a blessing to some needy families this week.

*Tues., Dec. 28*—(John 19:13-37)—Pray for the workers in our India school of missions.

*Wed., Dec. 29*—(John 19:38 to 20:10)—Pray for your prayer service tonight.

*Thurs., Dec. 30*—(John 20:11-31)—Pray for the orphanage work in your state.

*Fri., Dec. 31*—(John 21)—Pray for the Watch Night services in our churches tonight.

*Sat., Jan. 1*—(Read your Sunday school lesson)—Pray for a wonderful new year.

*Sun., Jan. 2*—(Matt. 6:25-32)—Pray for your pastor today.

*Mon., Jan. 3*—(John 4:19-26)—Pray for souls in your community.

*Tues., Jan. 4*—(Matt. 6:6-13)—Pray for the Lord's will in the matter of our Co-operative Plan of Support.

*Wed., Jan. 5*—(Luke 18:1-8)—Pray for your prayer meeting tonight.

*Thurs., Jan. 6*—(Luke 11:5-13)—Pray for the students in our colleges who are back at work.

*Fri., Jan. 7*—(John 3:14-21)—Pray for the plans of the Oklahoma Free Will Baptists in starting their school there.



## Georgia Association Reports Good Increase In Per Capita Giving

MOULTRIE, Ga.—Per capita giving for Free Will Baptists in Georgia increased from \$10 last year to \$18 in 1954, Rev. E. C. Morris, promotional secretary for the state, told delegates to the eighteenth annual session of the state convention.

"However," he pointed out, "there were only 567 professions of faith reported by our churches which means that it took twenty members to win one soul to Christ during the year."

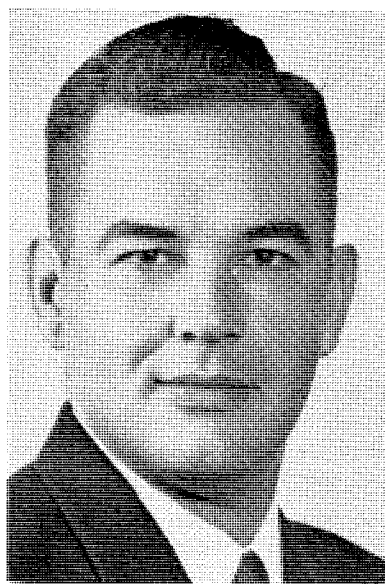
The secretary gave his report when the convention met November 16-18 at the Midway church near here. In an enthusiastic session the delegates approved the Cooperative Plan of support as outlined by the national association and adopted a \$25,000 budget for the state convention. This is a \$5,000 increase over the past year.

Considerable interest was shown in the progress of the state Unified Program. Mr. Morris reported that 121 of the 128 affiliated churches gave to the Unified Program during the year. Four associations—Union, Georgia Union, South Georgia, and Midway—enrolled every church in offerings to the Unified Program. Receipts have more than doubled in the three years it has been in operation, Mr. Morris said.

During the business session, delegates elected a standing board composed of a member from each district association to administer the youth camp. Highlighting the worship periods was the Wednesday night service with the emphasis on missions. Following a showing of slides of India and Palestine taken by Mr. Morris during his trip there in the spring, missionary messages were brought by Rev. H. L. Knighton, Albany, and Rev. L. H. Moulton, Savannah. At the close of the service a consecration service was held for the ministers.

Other speakers during the convention were Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, Rev. Damon C. Dodd, and Dr. L. C. Johnson, all of Nashville, Tenn., and Rev. Daniel Pelt, Marianna, Fla.

The 1955 session of the convention will be held November 15-17 at the New Salem church, near Colquitt.



C. E. OLIVER

## Texas Convention Sets Up New Office

HENDERSON, Texas—Adoption of the Cooperative Plan of Support and the setting up of an executive department through which to promote the program highlighted the state convention of Texas Free Will Baptists which met here November 2-4. The Jameson Memorial church was host to the convention.

The executive department was set up through a constitutional change which combined the offices of treasurer and publicity director for the state association into the office of executive secretary. The new officer was also charged with promotional duties.

C. E. Oliver, a layman from Henderson, was elected to the new office. Mr. Oliver is a member of Good Hope church.

Other officers elected included Rev. E. D. Hellard, Houston moderator; Rev. Gaston Clary, Henderson, assistant moderator; Rev. Herbert Richards, Dallas, clerk; Rev. E. E. Zoellers, North Zulch, assistant clerk; Mrs. Gaston Clary, statistician, and Rev. Floyd Ferguson, Henderson, parliamentarian.

Delegates voted to raise \$3,500 to support Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery, missionaries to Japan. The next session of the convention will be held November 1-3 at the First Free Will Baptist church, Houston.

## Oklahoma Adopts Budget of \$37,000

STIGLER, Okla.—Ministers and delegates attending the forty-sixth annual session of the Oklahoma state association of Free Will Baptists here October 19-21 voiced unanimous approval of the Cooperative Plan of Support as outlined by the national association.

The approval came during a vote to adopt a \$37,000 state cooperative budget, with \$16,000 included for the national cooperative budget. The rest of the budget was allocated as follows: state children's home, \$12,000; state Sunday school board, \$2,500; state missions, \$3,500, and state executive department, \$3,000.

Nearly 600 people, representing 13 associations, attended the sessions which were held at the First Free Will Baptist church here. Delegates voted to accept into the organization an association of Union Baptists in Western Oklahoma. Five of the six churches in the association had already voted to approve the merger, according to one of their pastors. The group, which holds identical doctrines started in Pennsylvania about 200 years ago from a Free Will Baptist church, but are now very weak in numerical strength, he said.

This gives the Oklahoma state convention some churches around Elk City, where they have previously had none.

The state mission board reported three new organizations during the year at Miami, Coweta, and Fairview. Organizations are planned during the coming year for Stillwater, Enid, Clinton, Lawton, and El Reno, the report stated.

All of the officers were re-elected. They included Rev. John H. West, Tulsa, moderator; Rev. Harry E. Staires, Tulsa, assistant moderator; Rev. Weldon Wood, Ada, clerk; Rev. Robert Duncan, Norman, assistant clerk; and Rev. Delbert Akin, Tecumseh, executive secretary.

Sermons during the convention were brought by Rev. Dale Munkus, Tulsa; Rev. M. L. Sutton, Fort Worth, Texas; Dr. I. W. Yandell, Oklahoma City, and Rev. E. A. O'Donnell, Stonewall. The next session will be held at the Central Avenue church, Oklahoma City.

## Arkansas Association Names Dixon Moderator

WARREN, Ark.—Rev. O. T. Dixon, Russellville, was elected for the third time as moderator of the Arkansas state convention which met at the Willoughby church near here.

Other officers included Rev. Ray Watkins, Grubbs, assistant moderator; R. D. Smith, New Hope, clerk-treasurer; Henry Brown, Russellville, assistant clerk; Rev. Lewis Barker, Warren, corresponding clerk, and Roy Ryals, Warren, assistant cor-

responding clerk.

Delegates authorized the convention to issue a certificate of ministerial standing to each minister who is active and in good standing, with the certificates to be renewed each year. They also voted to settle all disputes arising within the state by the treatise of the national association.

All state boards reported a record year. Both the home and foreign mission reports showed that the state had exceeded its

quotas for the year. A Foreign Mission Board was formed to take the place of the single director. Rev. Rupert Pixley, Fort Smith, was named chairman of this new board. A new office for Sunday school promotional work was also created and Henry Brown, Russellville, was named to the office to work with the national Sunday school department.

Speakers during the sessions were Rev. W. S. Isbell, Russellville; Rev. Ray Watkins, Grubbs; Rev. William Mishler, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. Rupert Pixley, Fort Smith, and Rev. Lawnie Coffman, Searcy.

## South Carolina Elects Promotional Secretary

TURBEVILLE, S. C.—With the emphasis on spiritual revival and the organization of new churches, the state convention of South Carolina Free Will Baptists met at the Newtown church here November 12-13 for the annual session.

A significant note of progress was the creating of a promotional office staffed by a part-time promotional secretary Rev. W. A. Hales, pastor of Haven church in Florence, was named to the new office. Mr. Hales becomes responsible for the direction of all promotion for both the state and national programs.

Delegates also took note of the rising tide of public opinion over the nation against the flagrant abuse of the advertising field by the liquor industry and elected a permanent temperance committee to work in every way possible to defeat the liquor forces. The committee will join other dry movements in South Carolina to work for state-wide prohibition. The convention also sent a telegram to the Senate committee which is investigating liquor advertising.

Sermons during the convention were brought by Rev. L. A. Holliday and Rev. T. A. Williams. Officers of the association are Mr. Holliday, Manning, president; Rev. A. F. Lawter, Lockhart, vice-president, and Rev. James Mellette, secretary-treasurer.

The 1955 session will be held November 11-12 at the Chester church in Beaver Creek association.

## Goldsboro Church Destroyed by Fire

GOLDSBORO, N. C.—A disastrous fire on November 7 destroyed the entire facilities of the First Free Will Baptist church here. Lost in the blaze were the sanctuary and seven Sunday school rooms, Rev. J. R. Davidson, pastor, said.

The fire occurred Sunday about middle of the afternoon when the church was not in use. The property was declared "worse than a total loss" by a builder. A contractor estimated that it would cost between fifty and seventy-five thousand dollars to replace it with a similar structure.

The church carried only \$10,000 worth of insurance, according to Mr. Davidson. The congregation voted in a called conference on November 13, however, to proceed to have the lot cleared as soon as possible after the release by the insurance company. They will either rebuild on the same location or sell the present property and purchase a new site.

"The congregation knows the task before them is stupendous," the pastor said, "but their hearts are happy and their chins are up. We are waiting upon the Lord for his will about the new structure.

(See related editorial on page 2.)

## Alabama Convention Approves Purchase of State Assembly Site

NORTHPORT, Ala.—Delegates attending the state convention of Alabama Free Will Baptists here November 12-13 authorized the purchase of property for a state assembly grounds. The Youth Camp Board had reported that they had found suitable property between Birmingham and Pell City on highway 78 and the delegates gave them complete authority to buy the property.

The Cooperative Plan of Support was also given unanimous endorsement. It was adopted to replace the present Unified Program which the Alabama state convention has been using for a number of years. The Cooperative Plan will become effective in Alabama on July 1, 1955, when the agencies of the national association switch over to the new financial program.

One proposal did not carry, however. A recommendation by the Executive Board to redistrict the local associations into county conferences was voted down. Judging from the discussion, the move was defeated largely on the basis that this was not the time for such action.

Rev. J. L. Lavender, Aliceville, was elected moderator of the association. Rev. A. J. Lambert, Florence, who served as moderator for this session, was named chairman of the Executive Board. Rev. J. J. Staab, Birmingham, was elected assistant moderator; Rev. Chester O'Donnell, Ashville, secretary-treasurer, and Rev. Barber, assistant secretary. Rev. R. Luther Sanders, Cordova, was named foreign missions director.

Because of no invitation for the 1955 session, the selection of a meeting place was referred to the Executive Board. Ministers who brought messages during the session included Rev. G. W. Franks, Rev. Luther Gibson, Rev. I. W. Gow, Rev. Tommy Willey, and Rev. Dave Franks.

## NAE Meeting Set for April 18-22 in Chicago

CHICAGO, Ill.—The 13th annual session of the National Association of Evangelicals will be held at the Sherman hotel here April 18-22, according to an announcement by Rev. George L. Ford, associate executive director of the association.

Preliminary plans call for emphasis on the various phases of NAE work in the open sessions of the convention with ample time for the separate meetings of some twenty commissions and affiliated organizations that comprise the overall evangelical movement represented through NAE.

The public sessions will be held in the grand ballroom of the hotel which seats 1,500. Fifty-one display booths will be available on the mezzanine floor next to the ballroom for the use of evangelical organizations.

## Cooperative Program Endorsed by Florida

COTTONDALE, Fla.—A resolution calling for approval, adoption, and promotion of the Cooperative Plan of Support as outlined by the national association was passed unanimously by delegates to the state convention of Florida Free Will Baptists.

The convention, which was the tenth annual session, met November 5-6 at the Salem church near here.

Rev. D. W. Poole, promotional secretary, was relieved of all his other duties to give all his time to promotion of the state program. Last year he had served as camp superintendent as well as promotional secretary.

Delegates voted to establish state headquarters at Tallahassee, which is the capital city. Mr. Poole will move there and establish the state office in that city.

The state minister's and deacon's conference was held in conjunction with the state convention. Rev. J. L. Grizzard, Tampa, was elected president, and Rev. H. L. Henderson, Pensacola, was named clerk. Placed on the arrangements committee for the minister's institute and camp meeting were Rev. Rufus Hyman, Rev. John M. Rich, and Rev. D. W. Poole.

The institute will open June 6 and the camp meeting will begin June 12 at the close of the institute.

Messages during the conference and association were brought by Rev. Rufus Hyman, Rev. Robert Wilfong, Rev. Daniel Pelt, and Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

The next session of the association will be held November 4-5 at Mt. Carmel church, four miles north of Perry. Convention officers are Rev. Daniel Pelt, Marianna, moderator; Richard Hughes, Pensacola, vice-moderator; Rev. Rufus Hyman, Slocumb, Ala., secretary, and W. W. Eiland, Marianna, treasurer.

## Alabama Youth Rally Will Meet at Fayette

FAYETTE, Ala.—The second annual statewide youth rally will be held December 18 here at the First Free Will Baptist church. There will be morning and afternoon sessions, but no night service is being scheduled, according to Rev. Charles Hollingshead, rally president.

Rev. C. F. Bowen from Nashville, Tenn., secretary of the National League Board will speak twice during the day. Youth groups from churches all over the state will present programs. The rally will begin at ten o'clock Saturday morning.

Plans are underway to purchase property to be used as state assembly grounds, and the state convention asked each church to have a special offering for this project ready for presentation at the rally.



## When Hell Almost Prevailed

EDITOR'S NOTE: Up to this time "The Free Will Baptist Story" has been a thrilling account of growth and progress. But it was not always so. In Part Nine, Mr. Dodd tells graphically one of the reverses which the infant movement suffered. *Contact* plans to issue the entire series of articles in book form when they have been concluded.

Damon C. Dodd

### Lacked Training

In the foregoing articles of the Free Will Baptist story we have traced the history of our denomination down through the various phases and periods of the times to the actual establishment of Free Will Baptist churches, as such, in the eighteenth century. Perhaps if our history had come to a close there, we would not be forced to include this chapter in the record. However, in the interest of correctness and honest presentation of facts, we must come now to the review of some of the first setbacks which the infant group suffered.

From the very outset, the message of free grace, free will, and free salvation struck discordant note in the ears of particular Baptists. The doctrinal basis of their preaching was Calvinism, richly spiced with fatalism and predestination. The ministry of the Particular Baptist group was based on controversial ethics—they were not as much constructive in their preaching as they were destructive in their derision and contempt of the free-will message.

### Describes Particular Baptists

The ministers of the Particular Baptist movement were men of learning who had been trained for the task of defending the faith as they interpreted the word, and of spreading it everywhere by any and all means. They were zealous and able, and as we will soon see, ruthless in some instances.

The Particular Baptist movement was well-organized and centralized. They had strategic centers located in the areas of densest population from which they operated a far-flung program of evangelization. Having strongly entrenched themselves in a given area, they would fan out in every direction and literally sow down those locales with their doctrine. Having more available ministers, they were able to man these outposts with settled pastors and give the people the full benefit of the church which they so desperately needed and for which they were looking. These men were well-grounded and rooted in their doctrines and were able through their ministry to persuade many people of other faiths to accept their creed and become a part of their church.

On the Free Will Baptist side the exact opposite was the case. By far the greater portion of their ministers were evangelists who went everywhere preaching. Very few of them ever actually settled in a given locality and pastored a church. Then add to this the fact that many of the Free Will Baptist preachers were unlearned men who had never been trained for the ministry or taught in the Word, plus the fact that they were so very few in number when all of them were counted, and we can easily reach these conclusions:

(1) The Free Will Baptist ministry was unable to cope with the situation because it was undermanned and undertrained.

(2) The Free Will Baptist membership was left without regular pastors, thus they were not properly taught the necessary facts which make for strong churchmen.

(3) People thus neglected were apt to fall easy prey to any group that was prepared to give them these things which they were lacking.

### Not Weak in Love

Let it not be understood here that these Free Will Baptist ministers were disloyal to the cause or weak in their denominational love. Many of them wielded great and lasting influence in the lives of individuals and communities. The same is true of several of the laymen of the Free Will Baptist movement. But for this fact, the entire Free Will Baptist church would have been wiped out in the transformation years between 1750 and 1760. And it is to this transformation period that we must now turn our attention.

For the account of this transformation story I am indebted to G. W. Paschall in permitting the use of materials in his volume "History of North Carolina Baptists" chapter nine. The facts contained in this work are corroborated by Elder Hearn who in 1897 compiled a history of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

### Few Churches Left

The transformation of the Free Will Baptists to Particular Baptists took place between 1750 and 1775 and may be regarded

as somewhat of a revolution. So thorough was the changeover that only four or five of the Free Will Baptist churches remained as such. In the area where the proselyting influence was first felt there were some sixteen or eighteen Free Will Baptist churches. The defection first began with the ministers and spread from them to the laity.

The first to fall was Rev. James Smart, the pastor at Fishing (Reedy) Creek. He first began to preach Calvinism in 1750 and though several of his members were sorely offended at this departure, they allowed him to stay on as pastor until 1755, when he went to South Carolina. In less than a year (1751) another Free Will Baptist preacher, Henry Ledbetter, saw reason to change his belief and become a Particular Baptist. The church of which he was pastor, Tar River, asked him to leave and he, too, went to South Carolina. In 1752 William Walker left the Free Will Baptist faith for the Calvinists and went to Charleston, South Carolina, and spent a year there in preparation for work among the New Lights, as the Calvinistic Baptists were called. Upon returning, Walker took over the church at Fishing Creek which Ledbetter was leaving.

### Proselyting Leader

Perhaps the greatest influence which led these men and others to adopt the Particular Baptist views was the proselyting zeal of Rev. Robert Williams of Welsh Neck in South Carolina. In 1745 he had spent some time in Pee Dee where he was trained in the Calvinistic doctrines of the Welsh Neck Baptists. In 1750 he returned to his native home in Northampton Co., North Carolina, and began to preach his Calvinistic views. Being a well-liked man and an excellent preacher he had great influence with the Free Will Baptists, especially those of the Kehukee Church.

In 1751 a man by the name of William Wallis, a sleigh-maker was converted and after being instructed in Calvinism by Williams, became an ardent disciple of Calvinism, persuading men to accept his viewpoint. He was indirectly responsible for converting Rev. John Moore and Rev. Thomas Pope, pastor of Kehukee church.

Williams did not stop with this, but realizing that abler men were needed for the task at hand, he sent to Philadelphia association for help. They sent Rev. John Gano, who came in 1754 on his first trip to North Carolina. Gano was one of the most outstanding ministers of his day and as an itinerant it is said he had no equal in



America except George Whitefield. On this first trip he passed through North Carolina and went to Charleston, South Carolina, to attend an associational meeting. On his return he came by Tar River, attended a gathering of Free Will Baptists and in May, 1755, visited Fishing Creek. Here he had an interview with the Free Will Baptist ministers which is told by Morgan Edwards thus:

### Methods Described

"On his arrival, he sent to the ministers, requesting an interview with them, which they declined, and appointed a meeting among themselves to consult what to do. Mr. Gano, hearing of it, went to their meeting and addressed them in words to this effect: 'I have desired a visit from you, which as a brother and a stranger, I had a right to expect; but as ye have refused, I give up my claim and am come to pay you a visit.' With this he ascended into the pulpit, and read for his text the following words, 'Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?'

"This text he managed in such a manner as to make some afraid of him and others ashamed of their shyness. Many were convinced of their errors, . . . and submitted to an examination. One minister, hearing this, went to be examined, and intimated to his people he should return triumphant. Mr. Gano heard him out, and then turned to his companion and said, "I profess, brother, this will not do: this man has yet the needful to seek.' Upon which the person examined hastened home, and upon being asked how he came off, replied, 'The Lord have mercy upon you, for this northern minister put a *mene tekell* upon me!'"

### Losses Recorded

On his return to the Philadelphia association, Gano reported the need of the Free Will Baptists for help and the association sent two of its ablest men, Peter Peterson Van Horn and Benjamin Miller on the mission. These men left Philadelphia on Tuesday, October 28, 1755 and upon arriving in North Carolina visited the Kehukee Church. On December 11, 1755, the Kehukee Church was reorganized with only ten members, including the pastor and John Moore, who was probably the pastor at Tar River Falls. The turning of the Kehukee Church to the Particular Baptists seems to have given impetus to the other churches in the association in doing likewise for during the next five or six years nine more followed her in succumbing to the proselyting of Calvinists. The following table shows the churches and the dates of their going over to the New Lights:

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Fishing Creek              |            |
| December 6, 1755           | 13 members |
| Bear Creek, Lenoir County  |            |
| 1756                       | 15 members |
| Swift Creek, Craven County |            |
| February 7, 1756           | 12 members |
| Lower Fishing Creek        |            |
| October 13, 1756           | 6 members  |
| Pasquotank (Shiloh)        |            |
| January 20, 1758           | 12 members |
| Fall of Tar                |            |
| December 3, 1757           | 7 members  |

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Toisnot           |            |
| September 7, 1758 | 14 members |
| Red Banks         |            |
| November 20, 1758 |            |
| Great Cohara      |            |
| October 15, 1759  | 12 members |
| Tar River         |            |
| April 3, 1761     | 20 members |

In the meantime Rev. Thomas Pope had crossed the Roanoke and organized a small church from the disorganized and pastorless members of Bertie, or Sandy Run, church.

### Few Members Turned

It will be noticed how few members the churches retained when they were reorganized. For example, Pasquotank had two hundred or more members as a Free Will Baptist church and only twelve of them remained in the reorganized church. Likewise Fishing Creek and Falls of Tar churches, both of which had large memberships, show only a small minority taking membership with the new groups. Hardly more than five per cent of the Free Will Baptist membership went into the newly constituted Particular Baptist churches.

The question arises, why did so few of the Free Will Baptist members have no part in the new movement? The answer lies in the fact that the preachers who were first induced to capitulate were not followed by their members as they had expected to be. The lay members were much more conservative than the preachers and even the small numbers necessary to form the new organizations were gained only after much labor and persuasion.

In some instances these lay-members showed open hostility to those who were taking away the old organization and putting the new in its place. For many years the two factions waged doctrinal controversy with great bitterness and other than this, had no dealings with one another. The two factions in the Toisnot Church each claimed the meeting house, and the pastor, John Thomas, "forcefully closed the doors of the church to the Baptist Society," that is, the Free Will Baptists. The latter brought the matter into the courts in 1759 but it was never brought to trial.

### Churches Reorganized

It is interesting to note the method of reorganization used by the Particular Baptists when taking over a Free Will Baptist church. The first act was to disband the organization which had previously existed. Then all who desired to become a part of the new organization were required to stand an examination which was conducted by approved Particular Baptist ministers who were present for that purpose. The examination was given to determine whether the individual had been converted before his baptism, and also to have him relate his religious experience at conversion. Many of the Particular Baptist ministers were extremely rigid and severe in this examination, making it impossible for some of the applicants to qualify.

While many of the Free Will Baptist min-

isters soon joined in the so-called reformation, at least three remained faithful to the end. They were Elders Joseph Parker, William Parker, and John Winfield. All of them had labored in the church at Meherrin, Joseph Parker being its first pastor and William Parker his assistant. The Meherrin Church continued as Free Will Baptist until the death of William Parker, in 1794, when it became a Particular Baptist Church.

### Some Remained Loyal

Meherrin was not the only Free Will Baptist Church to survive the reformation. We have definite record of at least three others which came through the trials and are still "true to the faith of Free Will Baptists today." Gum Swamp church, in Pitt County withstood the shocks of proselyting and remains today as a bulwark of the faith. Another is Little Creek church, in Greene County. This church had been quite severely divided at one time over the matter of going over to the Calvinists. The pastor and a large number of its members turned from the old paths, but a few remained firm and saved the church from going over completely.

The church at Wheat Swamp remained Free Will Baptist for several years but finally died for lack of a pastor. There were some of the old members remaining at Wheat Swamp as late as 1867 but the old building and its furnishings were destroyed during the Civil War. A Disciples of Christ church now stands on the site of the Wheat Swamp Free Will Baptist church.

### Recovery Program Begun

After the breaking up of the churches by the Particular, or New Light Baptists, the churches which remained began a recovery program. Soon the new Free Will Baptist organizations spread over fifteen eastern North Carolina counties, reporting a total of 2,000 members and forty ministers. They enjoyed peace and prosperity until the conference became large and it was thought best to have another conference. This new one was called Bethel Conference of Free Will Baptists.

However, another near-tragedy struck about this time, when in 1839 Elder J. T. Latham and a few other Free Will Baptist ministers embraced the views of Alexander Campbell and withdrew from the denomination. Bethel Conference was the most vitally affected due to the proselyting influence of Latham and others.

In 1839 Free Will Baptist membership was listed as 2006, with thirty-two ministers. After the Campbellite secession, in 1843 the membership stood at 1,440, with twenty-two preachers. However, recovery was rapid and in four years there were 2,563 members and fifty-eight ministers.

The new prosperity was short-lived and in the next chapter we shall point out the third serious schism in the Free Will Baptist ranks.

(Continued next month)

# Original Church Site Is Located; Marker Planned

Damon C. Dodd



A \$50,000 church plant, complete with educational facilities, was finished this year by the congregation of the Christian Home Free Will Baptist church, Blountstown, Fla. The first service was held in the new sanctuary August 1. The entire plant, which is constructed of cement blocks, was finished with an indebtedness of only \$12,000. It was built under the leadership of Rev. Daniel F. Pelt, who has been the pastor for fifteen years.

The new building is located across the highway from the site of the original church, which was organized in 1896. The auditorium of the new sanctuary will seat about 225.

## Two Boards Join in "School of Missions"

SNOW HILL, N. C.—A "School of Missions" sponsored jointly by the Foreign and Home Mission Boards of the national association and conducted October 24-29 at Hull Road church, near here, resulted in three definite commitments to full-time missionary service and scores of dedications.

This school was the first of its kind ever to be conducted by the two boards. Rev. Raymond Riggs of the Foreign Mission department and Rev. Damon C. Dodd, of the Home Mission department, were in charge. Classes in missions were conducted nightly and films and slides of the work in India were also featured.

Three students from Mt. Allen College made definite commitments to the Lord for missionary service. Two of them are planning for service on the home mission field and one of them will go to the foreign field.

One of the highlights of the school was the time spent with the student body at the college in Mt. Olive. Both Mr. Riggs and Mr. Dodd addressed the students in chapel services and also conducted special sessions for the benefit of the students who were interested in the mission cause. Every student attended both these sessions.

The Rev. Burkette Raper, pastor of Hull Road Church and also president of the College, characterized this school of missions as "one of the greatest experiences for both the church and the school that could have ever happened."

## Nebraska Gets First New Church in Half-Century

SHELTON, Neb.—The first new Free Will Baptist organization in the state of Nebraska for nearly half-a-century was set up October 8 in this town by Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary of the Home Mission Board.

The organization took place in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Wilcox, with 24 adults in attendance. Fifteen of the adults joined the new organization that night with eight members coming in later, making a total membership of 23.

Rev. G. C. Lee Jr., pastor of Elm Island church at Denman, was called to serve the new church. Mr. Lee is the only Free Will Baptist pastor in the state. The Home Mission Board hopes, however, to revive the denominational interests in the state soon.

The church elected Howard Phelps, Curtis Thienel, and Mr. Wilcox as deacons and made tentative plans to buy a church building and move it to Shelton. When this is done the congregation will set up a full-scale church program.

Shelton is a town with a population of something over 2,000. Mr. and Mrs. Lee went there last August under the direction of the Home Mission Board.

*If some men were as tender in heart as they are in pocket, what wonderful things they would do for the Lord.*

*If you are not made better by giving, double your gift.*

For the past twenty years I have had a burning desire to see the place where our fathers set out upon this great Free Will Baptist venture. In the early days of that ambition I despaired many times. The distance was immeasurable and the cost of transportation prohibitive. But I never ceased to dream.

On Tuesday, November 2, 1954, my dream became a reality. I actually stood on or near the site of the first Free Will Baptist church organized in the state of North Carolina or on the North American continent. As I drove along that morning toward Edenton, N. C., my emotions were mingled. Historical markers along the roadside pointed out events and places which were closely allied with the Free Will Baptist story. As I realized that the earth in these parts had at one time borne the footprints of such men as Paul Palmer, Joseph and William Parker, Josiah Hart, William Sojourner and other heroes of the faith, I felt almost like removing my shoes for I was on "holy ground."

Driving north out of Edenton on Highway 32, I soon came to a crossroad eleven miles away where there was a sign pointing to Cisco. This is the name of a little village that squats sedately on the coastal plains of eastern North Carolina. It was near this little village in 1727 that Paul Palmer organized the Free Will Baptist church.

There is very little left nowadays to remind one that such an important role was played here in Cisco. Only two small houses, a tavern, and a dilapidated school house make up the town. Anyone of several sites could have been that of our mother church.

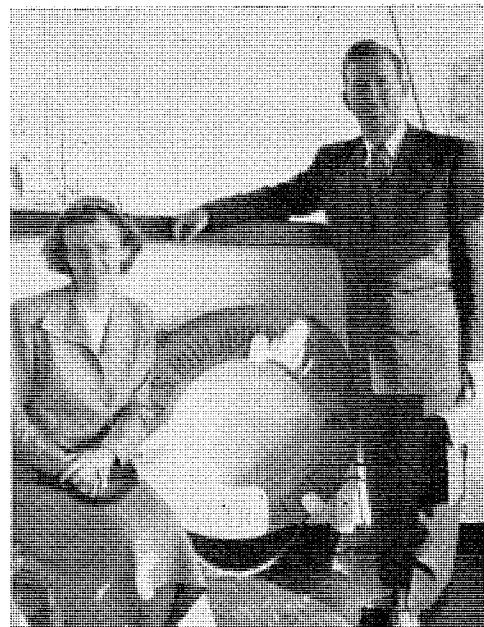
As I stood there with my hat in my hand and a feeling of the deepest solemnity gripping me, I felt a pang of remorse amounting to shame that we hadn't bothered, as a denomination, to set a marker of any kind to designate the site of our first Free Will Baptist church. And I resolved then and there that I was going to tell our Free Will Baptist people about the matter and urge them to begin now to plan for a suitable monument to mark the spot, sacred as it is to us.

If these are your sentiments, please write us at the Home Mission office and let us know. From your letters we will be able to formulate plans by which to set up this program for securing a monument and marking the site of the original Free Will Baptist church.

# Twenty-three Churches Report Revivals

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Twenty-three revivals, either scheduled or conducted, have been reported. Revivals which are scheduled should be reported by the 10th of the preceding month, while revivals which have been conducted should be reported promptly. Always give the information listed below.

| Church                                     | Evangelist          | Pastor           | Date            | Dec. | Add. |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|------|------|
| Henryetta, Okla.                           | Johnnie Postlewaite | Homer Young      | Nov.            |      |      |
| First church, Columbus, Miss.              | Paul Kettelman      | J. D. O'Donnell  | Oct. 17-22      | 14   | 2    |
| Lewis Ave. church, Tulsa, Okla.            | Raymond Riggs       | E. M. Kennedy    | Nov.            | 14   |      |
| Highland Park, Mich.                       | Milton Hollifield   | Charles Thigpen  | Oct. 31-Nov. 14 | 19   | 12   |
| Haskell, Okla.                             | Doyle Dipboye       | Bill Ketchum     | Oct. 30-Nov. 14 |      |      |
| Allen church, Sapulpa, Okla.               | Curtis Wilson       | Carl Hembree     | Nov.            |      |      |
| Bayshore church, Bay Cliff, Texas          | H. Ray Berry        | B. F. Daniels    | Oct. 25-31      | 15   | 15   |
| Thomas Memorial church, Huntington, W. Va. | H. E. Willis        | Carl Vallance    | Oct. 10-24      | 26   |      |
| First church, Flat River, Mo.              | James Franklin      | H. C. Beasley    | Nov. 1-         |      |      |
| West Side church, Owensboro, Ky.           | H. E. Willis        | Wilbur Kerrick   | Nov. 1-10       |      |      |
| Marble Hill church, Missouri               | Cecil Sheppard      | Cecil Sheppard   | Oct.            | 26   |      |
| Kermit, Texas                              | L. C. Pinson        | Nolen Robinson   | Oct. 10-17      | 3    |      |
| Tucson, Ariz.                              | L. C. Pinson        | W. B. Hutchinson | Oct. 19-23      |      |      |
| Stahl church, Mo.                          | J. E. Corey         |                  | Oct.            | 8    |      |
| First church, Hazel Park, Mich.            | C. F. Bowen         | Mark M. Lewis    |                 |      |      |
| Airport church, Tulsa, Okla.               | O. T. Dixon         | Dale Munkus      | Oct.            | 12   |      |
| Monett, Mo.                                | H. E. Staires       | James Davis      | Oct. 24-31      |      |      |
| Wewoka, Okla.                              | M. L. Hollis        | Ralph Staten     | Sept.           | 5    | 6    |
| Savannah, Ga.                              | F. B. Cherry        | L. H. Moulton    | Oct. 31-Nov. 6  |      |      |
| Calvary church, Durham, N. C.              | Bobby Jackson       | Adam Scott       | Nov. 14-21      | 13   | 2    |
| Edgemont church, Durham, N. C.             | Howard Chipchase    | Joseph G. Ange   | Oct. 10-24      | 66   |      |
| Searcy, Ark.                               | R. G. Webb          | Lawnie Coffman   | Oct. 13-        |      |      |
| Capital Hill church, Okla. City, Okla.     | M. L. Sutton        | E. E. Morris     | Oct. 3-17       | 21   | 22   |



REV. AND MRS. WESLEY CALVERY

## Calverys Arrive as Japanese Missionaries

TOKOROZAWA-SHI, Japan — After nearly a month as the first Free Will Baptist missionaries to Japan, Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery write, "We are sure that we are going to like it here very much." They arrived in Japan November 14. (The picture above shows them aboard the S. S. Philippine Bear on which they sailed to the Orient.)

They left San Francisco October 31 after a send-off by the First Free Will Baptist church in Richmond, Calif., of which Rev. Dean Moore is pastor.

They were met at Yokohama by Mr. John L. McPhail, a missionary with the New Tribes Mission, who served as the contact man within Japan. Mr. Calvery writes: "We went immediately to his home in Tokorozawa which is about two-and-a-half hours by train from Yokohama. The trains (nothing more than street cars) are almost indescribable. Everyone is running, pushing and coming from all directions to get on. Most of the time, however, there is at least standing room.

"When we arrived at the McPhail's we went into our first Japanese home. We took our shoes off and began our Japanese life. That night we slept on a Japanese bed (about like a heavy quilt on the floor). But we were so tired after that first ride on the train that I think we could have slept anywhere.

"Today we moved into our new house. It is a typical Japanese house with three rooms, which is very nice here but would not be much in the states. Our neighbors, who are all Japanese, have been very nice to us. They brought us tea and fruit even before we got moved in. We do not have our furniture yet, so we are still on the floor."

Their address is c/o Arai Chuichi, 122 Kotobuki-cho, Tokorozawa-shi, Saitama-Ken, Japan.

### MUCH NEEDED CHECK FROM HOME







# Woman's Auxiliary

"His Command — Our Task"

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

## Reports from the Field

WARREN, Ark.—A state Woman's Auxiliary convention was organized September 29 when women from three districts and two local churches met at the Willoughby church here. Mrs. Ralph Staires, Tulsa, Okla., recording secretary of the WNAC presided over the organization. Represented were Antioch, New Hope, and Social Band associations, and Willoughby and Pine Bluff churches.

The theme for the organizational service was "Here Am I: Send Me." Mrs. O. T. Dixon, Russellville, presided over the program. Rev. Reedy Saverance, host pastor, brought the morning sermon and Rev. R. G. Lane, Conway, conducted the installation service. Officers elected were Mrs. Dixon, president; Mrs. Clifford Sawrie, Conway, vice-president; Mrs. W. G. Henry, Russellville, recording secretary; Mrs. George Broadway, Pocahontas, assistant secretary; Mrs. Lawnie Coffman, Searcy, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Aubrey Lord, Pine Bluff, treasurer; Mrs. Ethel Wilson, Greenbrier, field secretary; Mrs. Rufus Doggett, Warren, youth chairman; Mrs. R. G. Lane, Conway, study course chairman; Mrs. Reedy Saverance, Warren, stewardship-prayer chairman, and Mrs. Redford Wilson, Pocahontas, personal service chairman.

Delegates adopted a constitution and decided to meet annually the day preceeding the convening of the state association.

SHELTON, Neb.—Nebraska's only Free Will Baptist church now has a Woman's Auxiliary and a GTA. The Auxiliary was organized November 4 with the pastor's wife, Mrs. G. C. Lee, Jr., presiding over the meeting. Officers elected included Mrs. Lee, president; Mrs. Maude Argo, vice-president; Mrs. Don Carlson, youth chairman; Mrs. Howard Felps, study course chairman; Mrs. Dale Wilcox, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Harold Bisland, personal service chairman, and Mrs. Curtis Thienel, secretary-treasurer. The groups has eight members and plans to meet monthly. Cottage prayer meetings will be held weekly, however.

The GTA's were organized November 12 with five members. Their officers are David Thienel, president; Bobby Carlson, vice-president; Lynn Thurston, secretary, and Bobby Thienel, treasurer.

DOTHAN, Ala.—The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist church here conducted a home mission study No-

vember 5. Twenty-nine were present to hear Rev. Charles Craddock, pastor, teach from the book, "Go Home and Tell Thy Friends." Mrs. Docia Allen presided over the meeting.

SHAWNEE, Okla.—New officers were elected Nov. 8 by the GTA of the First Free Will Baptist church. They are Betty Goodwin, president; Carolyn Lawrence, vice-president; Darlene Vaughn, secretary, and Kenny Vaughn, treasurer.

HIGHLAND PARK, Mich.—A Young Woman's Auxiliary was organized in September at the Highland Park church under the direction of Mrs. Charles A. Thigpen. The organization was completed with 21 charter members.

Officers are Jackie Boone, president; Rowena Lyle, vice-president; Odell Underhill, corresponding secretary; Nelda Lee, recording secretary, and Delores Dishman, treasurer. The group will meet monthly on the third Friday night.

FLAT RIVER, Mo.—The First church here had a new Hammond organ installed in the church sanctuary during October. The funds for the organ were provided by the Woman's Mission of the church. Mrs. Floyd Scott is president. Mrs. Albert Lee McFarland is organist and Mr. McFarland is choir director.

STIGLER, Okla.—Attendance at the fourteenth annual session of the state Woman's Auxiliary convention was over 200 when it met here October 19. Theme for the day was "God's Plumbline." Reports showed 574 members in local auxiliaries in five districts and 31 souls won to Christ through soul-winning efforts.

The convention message was brought by Rev. John H. West, Tulsa. Doris Burkett from the Progressive association won the declamation contest held under the direction of Mrs. Hattie Newman. The convention voted to publish a monthly information sheet with Mrs. Cherry Fipps, Tulsa, as editor.

The following officers were elected: Cleo Pursell, Shawnee, president; Rosemary Priest, Holdenville, vice-president; Peggy Blackburn, Oklahoma City, recording secretary; Mary Lou Dighton, Ada, assistant secretary; Cherry Fipps, Tulsa, treasurer; Leola Williams, Weleetka, youth chairman; Velma McAffery, Sulphur, study course chairman;

Verdun Bingham, Tulsa, stewardship-prayer chairman; Bessie Staires, Tulsa, program chairman, and Hattie Newman, Jennings, personal service chairman.

ASHLAND CITY, Tenn.—A workshop was held at the Bethelhem church October 23 for the Cumberland district Woman's Auxiliary convention. The theme was "Better Prepared Workers." A model Young People's Auxiliary meeting was demonstrated by the host YPA and the Bible College Auxiliary presented a playlet, "Comedy of the Minutes." Sermonettes during the day were brought by Rev. Clarence Burton and Rev. Henry VanKluyve.

Seven group sessions were held with the following leading the discussions: Mrs. J. B. Smith, Mrs. Avis Sublette, Mrs. Viva Lee Raymer, Mrs. Lonnie DeVault, Mrs. Billy Walker, Mrs. Ben Barrus, and Mrs. Hubert Sloan.

FLORENCE, S. C.—Mrs. Josephine Stevens, missionary to Africa, was speaker at the district Woman's Auxiliary convention held at the Haven church here September 25. The convention adopted the project of purchasing a generator to provide electric power for the mission station in Zululand where the Stevens' are serving. All but about \$50 of the purchase price of \$300 has been raised. Offerings should be sent to Mrs. G. D. Jones, Pamplico, S. C.

Theme of the convention was "I Send You Forth to Serve." Mrs. Paul Kettelman, President, welcomed into the convention the new Auxiliary at Charleston. Betty Robinson, YPA member of Horse Branch church placed first in the declamation contest. James Cook of the Haven church placed second. The president announced that "YPA Day" would be held in February at the Horse Branch church and the district workshop would be held in March at the Darlington church.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—One new member was added as the result of an enlistment tea held by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Central Avenue church here. Twenty were present for the meeting.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—A Woman's Auxiliary was organized at the East Thomas church November 3. Seventeen members joined the new organization. The officers were elected as follows: Mrs. Esther Lee Key, president; Mrs. Edna Kupres, vice-president; Mrs. Joe Smith secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Ann Holmes, devotional director, and Mrs. Ruby Elmore, flower and card chairman.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The pre-Christmas "Week of Prayer" will be observed by Woman's Auxiliaries over the denomination using the program in the 1954 yearbook. The program is "Ere the Lamp of God Went Out" and was written by Mrs. Eunice Edwards. Emphasis will be on national home missions with a special offering to be

received for home missions in honor of Mrs. Lizzie McAdams.

\* \* \*

NEW BERN, N. C.—New officers for the Woman's Auxiliary of Ruth's Chapel church were recently installed. These were Mrs. George Waters, president; Mrs. J. W. Odum, vice-president; Mrs. M. C. Perry, secretary; Mrs. R. L. Moore, treasurer, and the following chairmen: Mrs. Fred Hogan, enlistment; Mrs. Willie Bayette, youth; Mrs. Paul Horne, study course; Mrs. J. C. Griffin, program; Mrs. Walter Garrison, orphanage, and Mrs. M. M. Fulcher, benevolence.

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CONWAY, Ark.—The Woman's Auxiliary convention of New Hope association met October 9 at the youth campgrounds here with Mrs. C. E. Sawrie, president, in charge. Theme for the program was "Watch." Rev. R. G. Lane, Conway pastor, brought the morning sermon. A panel composed of members from Searcy, Greenbrier, Mt. Bethel, and Conway provided the afternoon program. Mrs. Lawnie Coffman is vice-president and Mrs. Sidney Sawrie is corresponding secretary.

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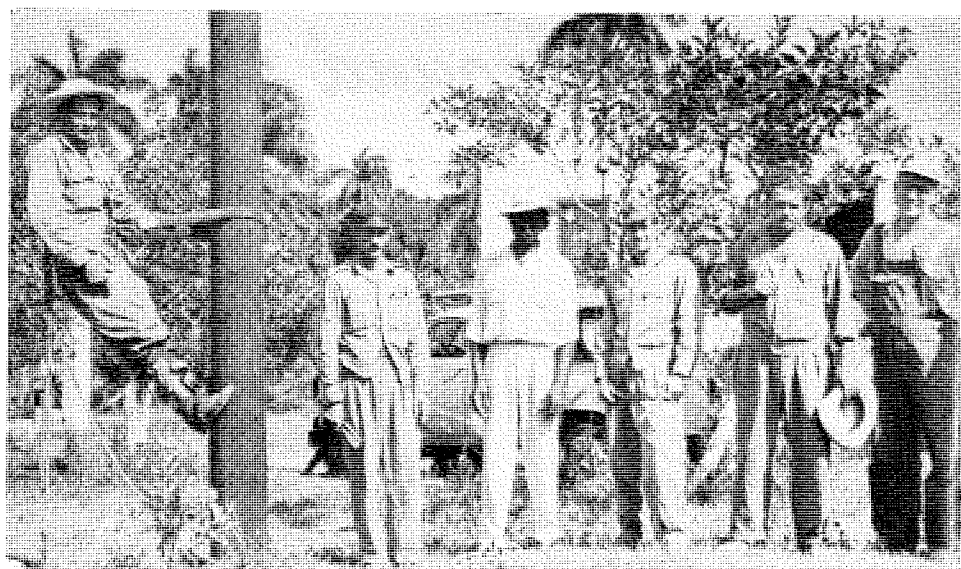
PAINTSVILLE, Ky.—New officers for the East Kentucky district Auxiliary convention were installed in a very impressive ceremony November 8. The convention met at the Southside church. Officers installed were Mrs. Dorothea Willis, president; Mrs. Jeanne Castle, enlistment chairman; Mrs. Emogene Barton, recording secretary; Mrs. Linchie Williams, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Edith Dobbins, treasurer; Mrs. Mary Young, study course chairman; Mrs. Verna Moore, personal service chairman; Mrs. Marjorie Compton, stewardship-prayer chairman, and Mrs. Dorothy Cox, youth chairman.

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MOULTRIE, Ga.—Seven districts and 18 local auxiliaries were represented at the eighteenth annual session of the Georgia state Woman's Auxiliary convention when it met November 16 at the Midway church. Mrs. W. J. Starr, vice-president, presided in the absence of Mrs. L. H. Moulton, president, who could not be present because of illness.

In the business session the women voted to begin a student loan fund for Georgia young people in college and to name it the "Dot Harvey Fund." Mrs. K. V. Shutes was named chairman of the fund. Rev. L. H. Moulton brought the convention sermon.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. L. H. Moulton, Savannah, president; Mrs. B. W. Clenny, Colquitt, vice-president; Mrs. S. T. Shutes, Colquitt, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. O. B. Everson, Colquitt, assistant secretary; Mrs. H. J. Kelley, Columbus, corresponding secretary; Mrs. T. G. Hamilton, Glennville, field worker, and the following chairmen: J. W. Franks, Tifton, youth; Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Blakely, study course; Mrs. H. L. Knighton, Albany, stewardship-prayer, and Mrs. E. C. Morris, Tifton, personal service.



Cuban workers install last pole to carry power to mission school.

## Lights Shine in Cuba After Leagues Provide \$2,500 for Special Project

WARREN, Ark.—A regular meeting of the Pleasant Valley Woman's Auxiliary was held November 9 with the devotional being given by Ruthie Mae Greenwood. Several others appeared on the program including a special number in song by the card class of the Sunday school directed by Mrs. Bes-sie Howsen.

\* \* \*

WEWOKA, Okla.—The Progressive district Auxiliary convention met here November 4 with seven local auxiliaries represented. Theme for the meeting was "Always Abounding in the Work of the Lord." The convention adopted plans to furnish the associational headquarters building at Wetumka. Mrs. Johnnie Postlewaite, McAlister was elected president and Mrs. Rosemary Priest, Holdenville, was named recording secretary. Mrs. R. B. Tipton, Wewoka, was in charge of the installation service.

\* \* \*

PLEASANT VIEW, Tenn.—Officers were elected November 26 by the newly-organized YPA of the Oaklawn church. Those elected were Wayne Smith, president; R. J. Sanders, vice-president; Louella Peery, secretary, and Joyce Balthrope, treasurer.

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NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Program books for Woman's Auxiliaries, YPA's, and GTA's went into the mails early in December, according to Mrs. C. F. Bowen, literature chairman. Local Auxiliaries which have not yet ordered their literature for 1955 should do so now, Mrs. Bowen said, in order to insure delivery by January 1.

A check or money order should accompany all orders, and they should be addressed to Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tennessee.

PINAR DEL RIO, Cuba—Electric lights now blaze through the windows of the buildings at the Seminary Los Cedros de Libano here all because Free Will Baptist leaguers gave their pennies, dimes, and dollars.

Leagues over the denomination raised \$2,500 in response to a campaign promoted through the National League Board to install electric lines from the city of Pinar del Rio to the Free Will Baptist school some miles away. The city had offered to install the lines and give two years' free service for that amount.

Before electricity was provided, the buildings at the school were lighted by dynamo powered by a gasoline motor which proved to be quite expensive and not altogether dependable.

In November the work had been finished and a dedication service was held at the seminary. The owners of the power company and the men who worked on the lines were invited for a feast. Two young pigs were roasted and the dining room decorated for the occasion. After the meal the students sang choruses and Lucy Wisheart sang a solo. Rev. Thomas H. Willey, director of the Cuban work, brought a message from Genesis 1:3, "Let there be light."

Mr. Willey writes: "After visiting the school the two partners, both young men, said, 'Let us give them an electric motor for the shop.' This motor is valued at \$150. Then after visiting the director's home the owner said to the engineer, 'Felipi, we must see that the bill is reduced.'

"The owner makes his boast that he is a faithful Catholic, but whenever we meet he is intensely interested in asking me questions about what we believe. God continues to raise up friends among the richer Cubans to whom we might witness."

Mr. Willey closes: "The faculty, Church of the Cangre, and the student body of the Seminary Los Cedros de Libano (The Cedars of Lebanon) again say, 'Thank you.'"

# Glancing Around the States . . .

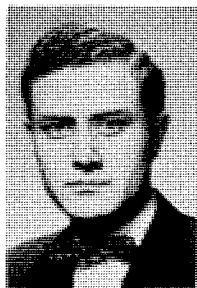
BEN BARRUS, News Editor

## Unusual Services Highlight Richmond Church Program

RICHMOND, Va.—A unique idea was used in the First Free Will Baptist church during November which gives the layman an opportunity to express himself concerning Jesus Christ. Men in vocational fields delivered the evening messages based on their view of Christ. The sermon series included "A lawyer looks at Jesus," Mr. Joe T. Mizell, lawyer; "A business man looks at Jesus," Mr. A. B. Gay, engineer; "A professor looks at Jesus," Dr. R. B. Pinchbeck, dean of Richmond college; and "A minister looks at Jesus," delivered by the pastor, Rev. Billy A. Melvin.

## Father Charges Son In Ordination Service

JASPER, Ala.—Carlton Lambert received his charge to the ministry from his father, Rev. A. J. Lambert, in an impressive ordination service on September 12 at the Jasper Free Will Baptist church. Mr. Lambert received his B.A. degree last spring at the Bible college in Nashville, Tennessee. He will work at the Jasper church as associate pastor.



LAMBERT

## Brotherhood Organized At Erwin First Church

ERWIN, Tenn.—A Brotherhood has been organized at the First Free Will Baptist church at Erwin. Rev. W. C. Clearman, pastor, lists the newly elected officers as Ernest Harris, president; Cecil Horne, vice-president; Porter Mashburn, secretary; and Everett Gentry, treasurer.

## Bryan Has New Minister of Music

BRYAN, Texas—Rev. Charles Sapp, pastor of the Bryan Free Will Baptist church, announces that his church has acquired the services of a regular minister of music. The new music director is Mr. James David Carter who is a student at Texas A and M College.

## Church Rebuilt After Destruction by Fire

MARBLE HILL, Mo.—The Marble Hill Free Will Baptist church which was destroyed by fire on December 27, 1953 has been completely restored. Rev. Cecil Sheppard, pastor, declared that the total damage exceeded \$5,000.00.

## Hollis Organizes Another Church

COLUMBUS, Miss.—Rev. M. L. Hollis has recently organized his nineteenth church. The new church is located in Columbus and will be called the Hollis Free Will Baptist Chapel. The twenty-one charter members raised \$1,330 to begin their new church building.

## Edgemont Has New Educational Director

DURHAM, N. C.—Rev. Daniel J. Merkh has accepted the position of educational director at the Edgemont Free Will Baptist church. Mr. Merkh formerly served a church in Jacksonville, Florida. Rev. Joseph Ange is pastor of the Durham church.

## E.T.T.A. Courses Planned At Hazel Park Church

DETROIT, Mich.—Evangelical Teacher Training courses are being taught at the Hazel Park Free Will Baptist church. The courses include New Testament and Child Study and are being sponsored by the Wolverine association.

## Phoenix Group Plans New Church

PHOENIX, Ariz.—Rev. J. D. Stepp, pastor of the Phoenix Free Will Baptist church, states that plans are being made for the erecting of a church on newly-acquired property. Mr. Stepp was formerly of Bixby, Oklahoma and announces that his new address is: 2347 N. 28th Street, Apt. 3, Phoenix, Arizona.

## Hull Road Church Host To Central Conference

SNOW HILL, N. C.—The Central North Carolina Conference convened at the Hull Road Free Will Baptist church November 10-11. Rev. J. O. Fort delivered the conference sermon. Rev. W. B. Raper was host pastor.

## Tucson Church Reports Growth

TUCSON, Ariz.—The First Free Will Baptist church of Tucson has purchased a new church building and is showing a steady growth in membership. Rev. B. W. Hutchison, pastor, states that since its organization on December 11, 1953, the membership has increased from 7 charter members to a present enrollment of 19 and an average of 55 attending Sunday School. The dedication service for the church was conducted October 10, during which time Lonnie Rolan was ordained to the ministry.

## New Building Planned by Central Avenue Church

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—The Central Avenue Free Will Baptist church will build a new educational building next spring as an addition to their present brick plant which was completed two years ago. Rev. Jack R. Dodson is pastor.

## "Harvest Day" Success At Core Creek Church

COVE CITY, N. C.—November 7 was "Harvest Day" at the Core Creek Free Will Baptist church at Cove City. The purpose of the special event was to raise money to pay off church indebtedness. The offering amounted to \$2,550 which enabled the church to remove the indebtedness from the organ and parsonage. Rev. T. O. Terry serves the church as pastor.

## Arkansas Association Convenes at Ratcliff

RATCLIFF, Ark.—The quarterly conference of the Arkansas association met at the Brooklyn Free Will Baptist church October 30-31. Rev. B. O. Stahl was elected moderator. Nine churches were represented and one new church was received into the association.

## Franklin County Group Meets at Bear Point

SESSER, Ill.—The Franklin county quarterly meeting met October 29-31 at the Bear Point church near Sesser. Rev. Paul Sulcer served as moderator. Speakers for the meeting included Rev. Thomas Morrow, Des Plaines; Rev. Lepton Harpole and Rev. Carl Williams of Mount Vernon. Bethel church, which has been recently organized at South Roxana, joined the quarterly meeting. Twenty-three churches now belong to this group. The next meeting is scheduled to meet in January at the Baker-ville church near Mount Vernon.

## Progress Reported At Dothan Church

DOTHAN, Ala.—Two new groups have been organized at First church under the leadership of their new pastor, Rev. Charles Craddock. Mr. Craddock reports a newly formed choir with a membership of eighteen. Officers for the choir include Miss Christine Adams, president; Mrs. Dorman Deal, vice-president; Miss Carolyn Enfinger, secretary; and Miss Geraldine Ingram, pianist. Also, a Sunday school worker's conference was organized. Officers include Mr. Junior Ward, president; Mr. Arthur Trawick, vice-president; and Mr. Grady Scott, secretary.



# Glancing Around the States . . .

## **Cofer's Chapel Conducts Founder's Day Service**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Founder's Day recognized during a special service at the Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist church on October 31. The service was held in honor of Mr. Thomas C. Cofer and others who were instrumental in the founding of the church. Rev. J. L. Welch is pastor.

## **Crossroads Church Adds New Building**

CALVIN, Okla.—Rev. Clarence Dodson, pastor of the Crossroads Free Will Baptist church near Calvin, announces the completion of a new church. The new building is valued at \$4,000.

## **Wooddale Structure Nears Completion**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Rev. W. H. Teague, pastor of the Wooddale Free Will Baptist church, reports that the new educational building under construction will be completed by the first of January at a cost of nearly \$10,000. The building will contain an assembly room, 10 classrooms, and will have a heating plant which will furnish heat for the entire church.

## **Beasley Goes To Flat River**

FLAT RIVER, Mo.—Rev. H. C. Beasley has accepted the pastorate of the First Free Will Baptist church at Flat River. Mr. Beasley formerly held a pastorate in Breckenridge, Michigan.

## **Blythe Church Reports Growth**

MIDLAND, Calif.—The Blythe Free Will Baptist church, which was organized last July with 19 charter members, reports 40 in attendance at Sunday school and plans are being made to organize a woman's auxiliary.

## **O'Donnell Visits Alabama Churches**

ASHVILLE, Ala.—The Alabama State association, at their last regular meeting, voted to send Rev. Chester O'Donnell to visit all the churches of the association in behalf of home missions. Mr. O'Donnell's address is Route 1, Ashville, Alabama.

## **Kerman Church Host To Center League Rally**

KERMAN, Calif.—The First Free Will Baptist church of Kerman was host to the Center Association League Rally which was held October 16. Rev. C. R. Fassio delivered the message on the theme "Heeding God's Call."

## **Dedication Service Held At Russellville Church**

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark. — Dedication services were conducted November 7 at the First Free Will Baptist church for the new education building. Speakers for the occasion included Rev. Willard Day, evangelist, and Rev. Thomas H. Dixon who conducted the first revival meeting in Russellville. Rev. O. T. Dixon serves the church as pastor.

## **Edgemont Holds Annual Missionary Conference**

DURHAM, N. C.—The second annual missionary conference met at the Edgemont Free Will Baptist church November 24-28. Speakers included Mrs. G. C. Timyan, returned missionary on furlough from French-West Africa; Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, treasurer of the North Carolina state mission board; Rev. Raymond Riggs, secretary-treasurer of the National Foreign Mission Board; and Dr. Clyde Taylor, executive secretary of the Evangelical Foreign Mission Association. Rev. Joe Ange is pastor of the Edgemont church.

## **New Church Planned For Fort Stockton**

FORT STOCKTON, Texas—Plans are now in progress to conduct a revival in Fort Stockton for the purpose of organizing a new church. Rev. L. C. Pinson, pastor at Hobbs, New Mexico, will conduct the meeting.

## **Corey Goes To Shibley Point**

KIRKSVILLE, Mo.—Rev. J. E. Corey of Maywood, Missouri, has accepted the pastorate of the Shibley Point church near Kirksville.

## **League Rally Meets At Allen's Chapel**

BATESVILLE, Ark.—The White River League Rally convened at Allen's Chapel church on October 10. Leagues from seven churches were represented with each church giving a program. Rev. J. W. Blanks was host pastor.

## **Georgia Pastor Drops Broadcasts**

BLAKELY, Ga.—Rev. K. V. Shutes, pastor of the Free Will Baptist church here, is now conducting only a Sunday radio program. He has dropped his daily programs, which have been broadcast on from one to three stations for the past five years. Because of this change in his schedule he announces that he will be able to accept revivals farther away from home than previously.

## **Norman Church Begins Work on New Addition**

NORMAN, Okla.—Construction is underway on an educational building for the Free Will Baptist church here. The new addition will be a one-story brick structure attached to the rear of the present auditorium. It will contain two assembly rooms and eighteen classrooms. It will cost an estimated \$12,000 and is scheduled to be finished by spring. The church here was organized in 1950. Rev. Robert Duncan is pastor.

## **Greenville Church Has Homecoming Day**

GREENVILLE, N. C.—Homecoming services were held October 24 at the First Free Will Baptist church. Among testimonials given were those by Rev. S. A. Smith, superintendent of the orphanage, and Ralph Bowen with the Free Will Baptist Press. Mr. Smith reported that the church had given more to the orphanage in the last year than any other church in the state, while Mr. Bowen said, "The Greenville church made the best all-around report of progress of any church in the state for the past year."

Rev. R. B. Crawford is pastor.

## **Arkansas Church Organizes Leagues**

BELLVILLE, Ark.—Three leagues have been organized at the Upper Spring Creek church recently. Attendance the first night was 44. Officers of the groups are Mary Ella Barker, president; Clyda Bull, vice-president; Mary Ella James, secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Clifford King, sponsor. Mrs. Clarence Campbell was elected director and recreation leader for the young people and smaller group. Rev. C. E. Campbell is pastor.

## **Gas, Oil, and Prayer**

WYNNEWOOD, Okla.—It is just a tiny room, but it is open to everyone. A sign over the door reads: "Prayer Sanctuary. You Are Welcome Regardless of Race, Color, or Creed. Enter in Good Faith."

From 25 to 50 travelers accept that invitation every day.

Irwin W. Tucker, who owns a service station in this small town in southcentral Oklahoma, planned the tiny chapel and makes it available to anyone who stops at his station. He believes you stand a much better chance to reach your destination safely if you mix a little prayer with the gas and oil that go into your car.

The thing that gives Tucker the greatest personal satisfaction is the fact that automobile accidents have been cut down on that stretch of highway 77 running through his town. And he likes to think his prayer sanctuary idea will spread until needless highway slaughter will be cut to the barest minimum.



## Cooperative Program Contributions Listed

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Voluntary contributions to the Cooperative Plan of Support have totalled nearly \$3,500 up to November 25, according to Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary of the denomination.

Several churches and states are already supporting the program, although it does not officially go into effect until July 1, 1955. Under the Cooperative Plan each department of the national association will get its budget through sharing in the cooperative receipts.

Only the five major departments are included in the Cooperative Plan this year. All other agencies will come under the plan in July, 1955. Money which is sent to the executive department now marked for the Cooperative Plan is allocated as follows: Foreign missions, 30 per cent; Bible college, 30 per cent; executive department, 20 per cent; home missions, 10 per cent, and super-annuation, 10 per cent.

Receipts thus far are as follows:

|                                          |            |
|------------------------------------------|------------|
| Piedmont association, N. C. ....         | \$ 12.32   |
| Roy O'Donnell, Auburn, Ala. ....         | 6.00       |
| Southside church, Paintsville, Ky. ....  | 156.08     |
| Central Ave. church, Okla. City ....     | 50.39      |
| Wolverine association, Mich. ....        | 418.00     |
| W. R. Oller, Red Oak, Okla. ....         | 5.00       |
| East Nashville church, Tenn. ....        | 150.00     |
| First church, Shelton, Neb. ....         | 5.00       |
| First church, Dothan, Ala. ....          | 49.71      |
| Salem church, Bluford, Ill. ....         | 25.00      |
| Oilton church, Okla. ....                | 20.00      |
| Fairmount Park church, Norfolk, Va. .... | 772.90     |
| Alabama state convention ....            | 84.80      |
| Bakerville church, Mt. Vernon, Ill. .... | 100.00     |
| Missouri state convention ....           | \$1,651.19 |
| Airport church, Tulsa, Okla. ....        | 90.00      |

## How to Kill a Church

Don't come.

If you do come, come late.

When you come, come with a grouch.

Visit other churches about half of the time to show your pastor that you are not tied down to him. There is nothing like independence.

Make the pastor earn his money; let him do all the work.

Never pay in advance, especially for religion. Wait until you get your money's worth, and then wait a bit longer.

Never encourage the preacher; if you like a sermon, keep mum about it. Many a preacher has been ruined by flattery. Don't let his blood be on your head.

It is good to tell your pastor's failings to any strangers that may happen in; they might be a long time finding them out otherwise.

If there happens to be a few zealous workers in the church, make a tremendous protest against the church being run by a clique.

If your church unfortunately happens to be harmonious, call it apathy or indifference or lack of zeal, or anything under the sun except what it is.

## Deep Calleth unto Deep

The needle of the compass is restless until it comes right against the North Pole. The wise men of the East didn't stop until they were directly in line with the star which appeared unto them; and the star itself never stood still until it touched the other Star, which shone more brightly in the manger than the sun did in the firmament. So the heart of man can find no rest until it comes to God.

In Psalm 42 David was seeking rest for his troubled heart. And through his searching he, too, came to know that peace of mind and complete satisfaction can be found only through humble submission to God. He could not have chosen more descriptive words than those used in this psalm: "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God."

David's experience is not an isolated one. His yearning heart echoes the cry of all who have sought happiness in the material resources of life and have failed to try God.

"Deep calleth unto deep . . ." he writes mysteriously in verse seven. Can we know its meaning? Concerning the mysteries of the things of God, Paul says, "But God hath revealed them unto us by his

Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10). And he adds, "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God" (v. 11).

He is saying there are some things about man which we cannot know as there are many things about God that are too deep for our understanding. When the soul is thirsty, the deep, mysterious part of man calleth unto the deep, hidden things of God for the serenity of spiritual peace.

The human mind can learn some things about God. The four arguments—moral, cause, design, being—teach us about God, but the deep things of God are known only through the Spirit. Too, we can know something about each other in that we understand the facial and vocal expressions, but there is yet something too deep about man for us to learn.

We cannot know the feelings and desires of the soul, but when from these depths a man cries out to God a connection is made with eternity and thrilling peace and joy which can only be experienced, not explained, fill the surrendered life. It all begins with, "Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner . . ."—Willard C. Day

