

Contact

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

MAY 1959

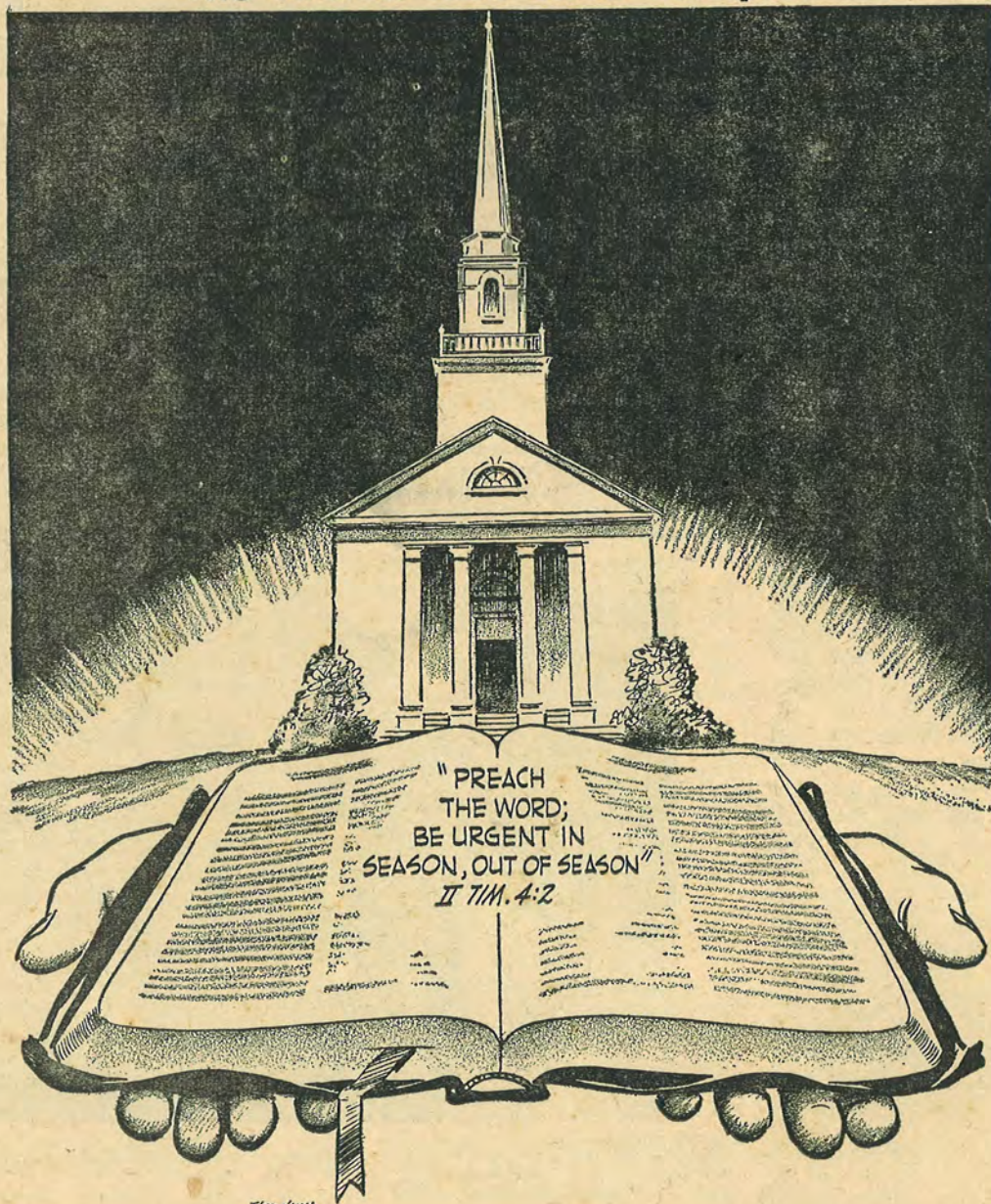
In This Issue

Proposed Literature
Contract Released
—Page 3

All About Preachers
—Page 4

League Conference
—Page 8

The Church That Shall Prosper



... They That Make Them Are Like unto Them . . .

Occasionally there comes to our door someone asking for money and at the same time holding up an idol of some kind, pleading in its name or for its sake. It has been interesting to hear what the young Christian girl who helps us says about such a plea.

She was until a few months ago an ardent Catholic, but since her conversion has taken a stand for Christ. She quickly lets the people know that she is a "crente"—a believer, as Protestants here are known. She usually says to the beggar about his statue, "They have no mouths or hands; they don't need money, food, nor clothes; they need nothing!"

The people here are deceived, as in many other places around the world, in thinking that to give to the poor, especially in the name of a saint or idol, will earn them some reward. Of course, those of us who are Christians know that the Bible does teach that we are to help those who are less fortunate than we, but we believe this in quite a different way than that taught by the Roman Catholic Church.

Our Christian girl was making the practical application of Psalm 115:4-7: "Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat." I doubt that it needs to be said that these people only wanted the money for themselves and were using their religious teaching to get it.

How thankful we should be that the God that we know and serve is not like that described above. In answer to the fact that "Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands," we quote the Apostle Paul when he wrote to Timothy these words, "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever, Amen" (1 Tim. 1:17). Then, too, we should be grateful that our God, Jesus Christ our Saviour, was able to speak these words, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let

it be afraid" (John 14:27). How troubled must be the hearts that know not the God that is able to speak these words of comfort. We read in 1 Peter 3:12 these words that should give us great comfort in knowing that we serve a God that is able to help us: "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers." And the same Jesus that walked upon this earth from village to village stretching out his hand of healing is the One in whom we have put our trust.

This is wonderful for us, but what about all the millions who have not even heard about this God of ours, much less had a chance to believe on His name and to have the joy of salvation? We have the same confidence that Paul writes about in 1 Corinthians 8:4-6, "As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. For though there

be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus, by whom are all things, and we by him." But Paul's very next words is the reason we send or take the Word of God to the regions beyond. He says, "Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge." Yes, there are even more people today than there were in the days of Paul that have not the true knowledge of salvation through Jesus Christ. What a challenge this is to those of us who name the name of the True God and stand in the Light of the Lord Jesus Christ, to carry the message of salvation to them.

The Psalmist said concerning the people who make these dumb idols that "they that make them are like unto them." I take this to mean that they, too, are "dead in trespasses and sins: wherein . . . (they are walking) according to the course of this world, according to the prince of power of the air," "neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" we dare not do less than "go . . . and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." The cause and the comfort of this is also found in the Great Commission when the Lord said, ". . . I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

With the church membership now over 100 and the church winning new converts regularly, the First Free Will Baptist church of Campinas, Brazil, is proceeding with plans to begin construction of its new building. Pastor Waldemar Daminelli (center) discusses the plans with missionaries Ken Eagleton and Dave Franks. The building will have a sanctuary seating 200, four classrooms and a baptistry.



THE GENERAL BOARD OF the National Association met in Nashville, February 17, 1959 to review the Sunday school publishing operations and to act on the resignations of the members of the Sunday School Board. Twenty-seven of the thirty-one members were present. This includes three proxy members who were appointed by regular members.

The General Board reviewed very carefully the business transactions of the Sunday School Board that had brought about the \$23,500 indebtedness and the subsequent resignation of the board members. It appeared that a large share of the debt was created by the rapid entrance into the publishing business, and therefore the first quarter's literature was almost a total loss. Then too, the number of churches that purchased this literature was inadequate for a profitable operation and caused the department to continue to operate "in the red" each quarter. Of course, it was pointed out that there was no overhead capital that the Sunday School Board had with which to begin this large operation.

After much discussion and consideration the General Board took the following action:

The resignation of the members of the Sunday School Board were accepted.

The following resolution was adopted, "In view of the accepted resignation of the Sunday School Board, and that because of the necessity of the continuance of the work of said Board and further because of certain financial obligations upon the Sunday School Board, therefore be it resolved:

1. That the General Board shall assume the responsibilities of the Sunday School Board until the 1959 session of the National Association.

2. That the General Board shall leave membership on the Sunday School Board vacant until the 1959 session of the National Association.

3. That the General Board delegate to the Executive Committee of the General Board the duties of the Sunday School Board until the 1959 session of the National Association."

Motion carried that the Executive Committee be instructed to approach the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, N. C., with a view to re-establishing a working agreement with the Press.

Motion carried that the recommendations of the Executive Committee be made known to our people through our publications prior to the meeting of the National Association.

The Executive Committee met in Ayden, N. C., with the Board of Directors of Free Will Baptist Press on March 4 and 5, 1959, and the following contract was drawn up. This contract was agreed upon by each member present with the understanding that the Executive Committee will recommend it to the General Board. The contract follows:

Proposed Contract with FWB Press Is Released

By Charles A. Thigpen, Moderator

National Association of Free Will Baptists

"This contract and agreement is entered into between the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina, and the Sunday School Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

"By mutual consent and agreement between the parties named above and with utmost respect for and confidence in each other's integrity and loyalty, and with a sincere desire to enlarge the activities and usefulness of our denominational enterprises, we enter the following covenant:

Press Board Agreements

"We, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina, do solemnly agree and pledge:

"1. To work harmoniously with the Sunday School Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in propagating the denominational Sunday School program.

"2. To be alert at all times to any possible improvement in our literature, and to co-operate with the Sunday School Board of the National Association in increasing the efficiency of the denominational Sunday School program.

"3. To allocate to the Sunday School Board of the National Association eight (8) per cent of the gross receipts derived from the sale of all Sunday school literature actually published by the Free Will Baptist Press up to and including \$30,000.00 per calendar quarter, and ten (10) per cent of said gross receipts from \$30,001.00 to \$35,000.00 per quarter; thereafter, negotiations shall be opened to consider percentage of allocations on gross sales exceeding \$35,000.00 per calendar quarter; said allocations to be made at the beginning of each calendar quarter; based upon the sales of the preceding quarter.

"4. To recognize a person designated by the Sunday School Board of the National Association as an ex-officio member (without voting privileges) of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press.

"5. To submit a quarterly report to the

Sunday School Board giving the total number of publications sold, by classification, during the quarter.

"6. To extend an agent's agreement to the Sunday School Board whereby its personnel may sell books and other merchandise on consignment from the Free Will Baptist Press at 20 per cent commission.

Sunday School Board Agreements

"In keeping with the above agreements and pledges of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press, we, the Sunday School Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, do solemnly agree and pledge:

"1. To recognize the Free Will Baptist Press of Ayden, North Carolina, as the Sunday School publishing house and/or agency of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

"2. To recognize the President of the Free Will Baptist Press as an ex-officio member (without voting privileges) of the Sunday School Board of the National Association.

"3. To use all funds received from the Free Will Baptist Press for general promotion of the denominational Sunday School program.

"4. To make itemized quarterly reports to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press of all receipts and disbursements at the end of each calendar quarter.

"5. To employ an editor who shall spend sufficient time at the Free Will Baptist Press each quarter to edit Sunday School manuscripts. The editor shall be covered by contract, stating duties and responsibilities; the contract shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press. He shall be elected by the Sunday School Board subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press when manuscripts are ready for editing; in the event of providential hindrances which prohibit the Sunday School editor's completing a manuscript in time for the periodical to be completed one month prior

(Continued on page 10)

Weddings and Funerals

In this article we will discuss some of the unusual services that the pastor is called upon to conduct—weddings and funerals. They are unusual only in that they are not regularly scheduled services because every pastor will be called on to conduct many of both. In our own pastorate during the last seven years we have averaged two funerals per month and one wedding. Some pastors will have many more and some less.

Weddings

Concerning weddings, it is both difficult and impractical to lay down a set method of procedure. Some weddings will be private, some public, some arranged ahead of time, and some unexpected. You will also have to satisfy a variety of wishes about the plan and the ceremony used. However, we believe that there are a few general principles that you may follow in the conduct of weddings.

First, become acquainted with the marriage laws in your state. This is important because the laws vary so much from state to state. For example, in some states it is necessary that the wedding be conducted in the same county where the license was purchased while in other states this makes no difference. The pastor who is not acquainted with the marriage laws in his state can endanger both himself and others.

Second, when you are asked to officiate find out if the parties are legally and scripturally qualified for marriage. Sometimes this is embarrassing, but it is better to suffer a little embarrassment before the wedding than to ruin your reputation as a minister. You will find a diversity of opinion about whether pastors should perform marriages where one or both of the parties have been divorced. The only sensible thing for the young pastor to do is study God's Word and pray about the matter until your mind is settled. Then adopt a policy that you will be willing to stand by. It is important that your policy be a consistent one regardless of what it is.

When you have settled this point you will be ready to make specific plans for the wedding. These plans will depend on several things: (1) The wishes of the couple; (2) The place of the wedding, whether it is in a home or in the church; (3) The hour of the wedding, will it be an afternoon

By Floyd B. Cherry

informal or an evening formal? (4) The customs of your church and community. Usually it is best for the pastor to be concerned with the ceremony only and leave all other arrangements to others.

In my pre-marital counseling, I usually try to find out several things about the couple: What plans do they have for the



future? Do they have a sound financial plan for making a livelihood? Weakness here causes the downfall of many marriages. Do they have plans for living apart from the relatives of both bride and groom? Even if the young couple has to move in the house with relatives later, I believe that during the first few months of adjustment, living alone is important. What are their church plans? Are they both Christian?

Although I admit that I do not always

succeed, I make a special effort to enlist the young couple for the church. Of course, it is important first that they be Christian and then they should be active in the work of the church. However, sometimes regardless of how much he may not want to, it is necessary that the pastor advise the young couple to go to another church. Don't let your desire to build up your own church keep you from giving the young couple the advice they need.

When the time for the service comes you will be nervous. Don't let this frighten you. I have been in the ministry for twenty-seven years and I am still nervous at weddings and I have heard pastors much older than I say that they were nervous. However, I hope you will not be as nervous as one fellow I heard about. After the closing prayer he intended to say to the groom, "It is customary for the groom to kiss the bride." But in his confusion he said, "It is kisstomary for the groom to cuss the bride." Try to overcome your nervousness by remembering that you are not the center of attraction.

Even though most of the wedding is planned by some one other than the pastor, we suggest that the pastor get some good book on etiquette and read it. The standard book for such a thing is, of course, Emily Post's *Book of Social Usage*, but a cheaper, and think very good one is *Christian Etiquette* by Lora Lee Parrot. This book is published by Zondervan and sells for two dollars.

Funerals

The pastor has no greater opportunity nor responsibility than that which a funeral brings. Every funeral is an opportunity to bind people to you as you comfort broken hearts, but here also is the responsibility for exalting Christ. There are no "big" funerals and "little" funerals. All funerals are "big" to the sorrowing family and they deserve to have the pastor's best effort.

We believe that the best thing a pastor can do when he moves into a community is to attend a funeral conducted by an older pastor who has been in the area for a long time. Regarding funerals, customs vary widely from one community to another. No pastor can successfully flaunt these customs. So the first thing to do is learn them and the best place to learn them

is by observing an older preacher who has been successful in the area.

Pastors are called upon to conduct all kind of funerals. There is the funeral of an old faithful, sainted member of the church who has meant much to the church and the pastor. To me, this has always been the most difficult type. There are those who are members of the church but have had no special place of service—nominal Christians. Then there are the children. These are always difficult for pastors. How can you explain why God would take her six-months-old baby to a sorrowing mother? Also, there are the sinners. There are all grades of these from the moral unbeliever to the drunken sot. Pastors do not have the privilege of selecting their funerals. We have to take all kinds as they come.

Regarding suggestions for the conduct of funerals, let me first give a few "Don'ts." Don't make the funeral too long. Long services are never good, in my opinion, and long funerals are inexcusable. Don't add pain to broken hearts by too many personal and sentimental remarks. You will be tempted to do this when some faithful member of the church dies who has meant a great deal to you. Don't do it. It won't help the deceased and it will hurt the family. Don't praise the deceased overmuch. This service is for the family and they know more about the loved one than you do. You could be wrong, you know.

My own practice has been to speak just a few words of commendation if the deceased is a Christian and has been faithful to the church. If the person is not a Christian or I do not know them personally, I usually do not make any reference to the deceased whatsoever, but try to present the gospel to comfort and bring men to Christ.

In our last article we discussed the fact that the pastor should go to the home as soon as he hears that there has been a death. After the funeral is one of the times that you can be of the most help to the family. During the sickness and funeral of the deceased, many friends usually come around and offer help and comfort. But after the funeral most of them forget. This is the pastor's opportunity to be of real help. There is that period of loneliness and adjustment that must be made where the family will need the prayers and counsel of the pastor. Let us not fail in giving it.

We do not feel that a pastor can prepare a funeral sermon that could be used for any funeral. Some do, but we doubt the wisdom of this. Perhaps, the best thing a young preacher can do to help prepare for funerals that he knows will come is to find a good funeral manual. There are many on the market. Read some good books on immortality and death. The best book on this subject is the Bible. Love your people and when the time comes, spend a while alone with your books and God. God will give you the message and help you to be a comfort to his people.

ALL VBS MATERIAL—

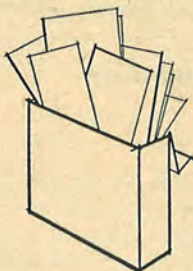
- Pupil's Books
- Teacher's Manuals
- Publicity Material
- Handwork Materials
- Scissors, Paste, Crayons, etc.
- Everything You Need

Will be stocked at the Sunday School office in Nashville. If you live near enough, drive in and pick yours up. Otherwise, order today for prompt shipment.

Here's help for you in planning your VBS program for 1959

Living for Jesus in the Space Age

We are offering for 1959 what we believe to be one of the most pertinent VBS courses we have ever seen, "Living for Jesus in the Space Age." This timely course, published by SCRIPTURE PRESS, is geared to capture the imagination of teachers and pupils alike, to whet interest in salvation and in Christian growth. Material is true to the Word of God, exalts Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and uses sound educational methods to teach Bible truth. Course has new packaged handcraft, and colorful manuals—at no increase in price.



GET THIS FREE GUIDEBOOK

Contains a planning calendar, space-age publicity ideas, guide for choosing material that will fit your school, and other helpful suggestions. Also gives complete description of this timely course produced by SCRIPTURE PRESS, "Living for Jesus in the Space Age." Describes convenient new packaged handcraft. Just the thing for VBS director, Christian Education director or committee in charge of choosing materials for VBS. Get your copy now.

ORDER THIS PREVIEW PACKET NOW

Handy packet—at a special reduced price—makes it possible for you to become fully acquainted with this VBS course well in advance of your school. Contains manuals for each department, Nursery through Intermediate; a description of the Young People and Adult lessons; actual handcraft packets for Nursery, Beginner and Primary departments; description of new packaged handcraft for Juniors and Intermediates; and samples of new theme-related publicity supplies. A \$4.13 value for only \$3.15.

☐ Please rush me a FREE copy of the 1959 VBS Guidebook describing the course "Living for Jesus in the Space Age."

☐ Enclosed please find \$3.15 for the big preview Introductory Packet of 1959 Scripture Press VBS materials.

Name _____

Address _____ RFD _____

City _____ () State _____

Church position _____



Convention headquarters will be at the George Vanderbilt Hotel, adjacent to the City Auditorium where all sessions will be held.

Hundreds Making Plans To Attend National Convention

Hundreds of people are laying plans to attend the annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists which meets July 13-16, 1959, at Asheville, N. C. As usual, the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention will open the sessions with meetings on Monday night, July 13, and Tuesday, July 14. The national convention will open on Tuesday night, July 14, and continue through Thursday afternoon, July 16.

Two factors will contribute to a larger attendance this year, it is believed. One of these is that the convention will be held in a section of the country where Free Will Baptists are the most numerous. From 60

to 70 per cent of the denominational constituency lives within a 250 mile radius of the convention city.

Another factor that should contribute to a larger attendance is the action passed last year which allows each local church to represent with one lay delegate. This would give a maximum of over 2,000 lay delegates if each local church would take advantage of this opportunity. All ordained ministers are standing delegates.

Five outstanding speakers have already been selected for the program. Bringing the keynote message on Tuesday night will be Dr. L. C. Johnson, Nashville, Tenn.,

president of Free Will Baptist Bible College. Speaking on Wednesday morning will be Dr. Herbert Mekeel of Schenectady, N. Y., president of the National Association of Evangelicals. Dr. Mekeel is an outstanding Bible preacher.

Wednesday night will be missions night and Dr. Clyde Taylor of Washington, D. C., secretary of the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, will present the missionary challenge.

An outstanding event will be the annual Laymen's Breakfast on Thursday which always attracts a large attendance. The speaker this year will be John Noble of Chicago, Ill., who spent nine years in a Russian slave prison camp, being released only in 1954. While a prisoner he was truly born again and his message is moving and stirring. No one should miss hearing his startling story.

The final message on Thursday morning will be brought by Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, pastor of Black Jack church, Greenville, N. C. His subject will be "Our Free Will Baptist Heritage."

In addition to the hotels listed on this page, the local hospitality committee also lists the following motels and tourist homes. Those wanting reservations are urged to write directly to the hotel or motel of their choice.

Motels

- Asheville Tourist Court
130 Merrimon Avenue
- Beaver Lake Court, Inc.
959 Merrimon Avenue
- Biltmore Auto Court
Sweeten Creek Road (US 25-A South)
- Down Town Motel
65 Merrimon Avenue
- Hamiltonian Court
1375 Haywood Road (US 19-23 West)
- Holiday Motel
125 Tunnel Road
- Hollywood Court
875 Tunnel Road
- Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge
Tunnel Road
- Malvern Springs Court
1550 Haywood Road
- Mountaineer Court
Tunnel Road
- Mountain Terrace Motel
145 Smoky Park Highway (US 19-23 West)
- Parkway Motel
1060 Tunnel Road
- Rhododendron Court
85 Merrimon Avenue
- Shamrock Court
140 Tunnel Road
- Skyway Motel
135 Tunnel Road
- Travel Haven Court
160 Tunnel Road
- Guest Homes**
- The Belvedere
73 Merrimon Avenue
- Sunnyside
173 Macon Avenue, Grove Park

Special Hotel Rates for National Association

Asheville, N. C., July 13-16, 1959

July 13-16, 1959

The hotels in Asheville, N. C., are making special rates available to all delegates attending the national convention. Those who are planning to attend are urged to write early for a reservation since it is not expected that there will be a large surplus of rooms. Please write directly to the hotel of your choice, stating the type of accommodation you desire. Mention that your reservation is in connection with the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

| Hotel | Location Relative to Auditorium | Single | Double | Twin | Triple | Four |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------|--------|------|
| George Vanderbilt (Headquarters) | next door | \$5 - \$7 | \$8.50-\$11 | \$9-\$11 | \$12 | \$14 |
| Battery Park | across street | \$5 - \$7 | \$8.50-\$11 | \$9-\$11 | | |
| Auditorium Hotel | next door | \$6 - \$7 | \$8 - \$9 | \$9-\$10 | \$12 | \$14 |
| Carolina Hotel | one block | \$3.50-\$5 | \$5 - \$6 | \$7-\$8 | \$9 | \$10 |
| Asheville-Biltmore | four blocks | \$5 - \$6 | \$8 - \$9 | \$9-\$10 | | |

Internal Revenue Has New Policy on Making 'Personalized' Gifts

The Evangelical Foreign Missions Association has announced from its Washington office that the Internal Revenue Service has adopted a new policy regarding "personalized" missionary giving. Rev. Raymond Riggs, foreign missions executive director and Rev. Homer Willis, general director of home missions, say they anticipate no trouble with the present procedure, but call attention to the paragraph which is in italics.

The news release is as follows:

"The Washington office of the National Association of Evangelicals and the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association presented a brief to the Internal Revenue Service late last year requesting a review and, if possible, a change in the regulations governing gifts for the support of individual religious workers by individual donors. This was done at the request of several evangelical agencies whose donors have had their "designated support" gifts disallowed by the Internal Revenue Service. As the Service checks more individual returns each year, unless changes are made, donors may expect more trouble. We have now had the official reply.

"The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that "personalized" gifts—including gifts to a mission board earmarked for a particular missionary—are not deductible for income tax purposes. The ruling, issued on April 9, necessitates certain changes in procedure for numerous home and foreign mission organizations. Furthermore, they indicate that they, after thoroughly studying the matter, find no way by which they can permit such giving for religious purposes and yet avoid the abuses the regulations seek to avoid.

"For many years the Internal Revenue Code has disallowed "gifts to individuals" as deductions. However, many mission boards have followed the practice of missionary "deputation" whereby missionaries are appointed to raise their own support, resulting in gifts earmarked for particular missionaries.

"A change in this procedure will now be necessary. If gifts by individuals are to be claimed as deductions they will have to be made to the mission board on a non-designated basis, or the designation will have to be toward a particular project of the mission. Such projects could include the work of a mission in any given area, or could even be confined to the work which a particular missionary is doing.

"The ruling read in part:

"Deductions for Federal income tax
(Continued on page 16)



REV. PAUL KETTEMAN



DR. THEODORE MERCER

Twenty-Two Will Receive Degrees At Bible College Graduation Rites

Twenty-two B. A. degrees and three Christian Worker's diplomas will be awarded at graduation exercises, May 28, at 8 p.m. at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville. Dr. Theodore Mercer, president of Bryan College, Dayton, Tennessee, will bring the commencement address. This will be the ninth year for students to receive B. A. degrees since the four-year program went into effect with the first degree graduates in 1951.

The baccalaureate service will be held at 8 p.m. May 24 in Memorial Auditorium with the Reverend Paul Ketteman, pastor of First Church, Columbus, Mississippi, bringing the message.

Graduating with B. A. degrees are: Freeman Edwards, Jacksonville; William Fulcher, Jr., Bridgeton; Jimmy Hughes, New Bern; Willie Justice, Jacksonville; Bertie Mangham, Farmville; Guy Owens, Fountain; Barbara Phipps, Ayden; Benny Turner, Asheville; Carson Weaver, Durham, North Carolina.

Harold Harrison, Weleetka; Joe Hurst, Midwest City; Gerald Mangham, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Ira Sue Nicholson, Loudon; Norma Travis, Ashland City, Tennessee.

Sarah Brown, Dorsey, Mississippi; Bobby Ferguson, Henderson, Texas; Margaret Hampton, Springfield, Missouri; Geneva Hicks, Effingham, South Carolina; Charles Hollingshead, Cordova, Alabama; LaVelle Sawyer, Norfolk, Virginia; Gordon Sebastian, Rantoul, Illinois; Cecil Sanders, New Edinburg, Arkansas.

Graduating from the Christian Workers Bible Course are Frank H. Dunn, New Bern, North Carolina; Harvey Helms, Wil-

ton, California; and Beverly Jones, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Free Will Baptist Bible College is operated by the National Association of Free Will Baptists and is completing its 17th year of offering Christian training for pastors, missionaries, and Christian workers.

Summer Term Set For Bible College

The third summer school session will be held May 26-June 5 at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, according to Dean Charles A. Thigpen. The schedule is so arranged that a pastor will be away from his church only one week end.

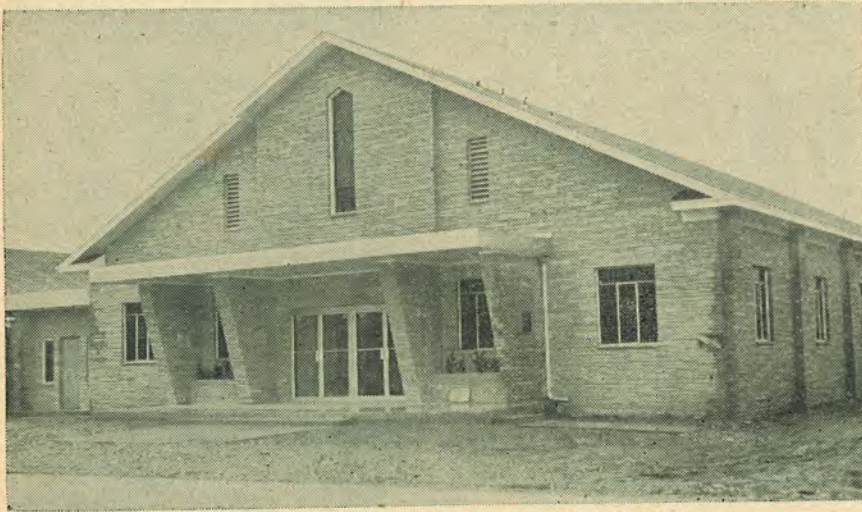
Pastors and lay leaders should consider the excellent opportunity of picking up three college credits from the following courses: Ephesians, Leviticus, Doctrine of Jesus Christ, Sunday School Administration, Free Will Baptist Missions, and Pulpit Speech.

Serving on the summer faculty will be President L. C. Johnson, Leroy Forlines, J. P. Barrow, Charles A. Thigpen, Raymond Riggs, and Homer Willis.

All students may live in college dormitories, including married students. Meals will be served in the dining hall.

A folder on the summer session has been mailed recently to all pastors on the College mailing list. Each person wishing to attend should send his application to the Bible College as soon as possible. All fees, including room and board, amount to \$59.

... THE HOST CHURCH



First Free Will Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas

League Conference Will Feature A Variety of Speakers, Talent

Many Leaguers from some twenty states are expected to attend the Eighth Nationwide League Conference which meets in Fort Smith, Arkansas, June 9-11, 1959. The opening service will begin 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Darby junior high school located near the downtown business area.

Guest Speaker

Robert G. LeTourneau will be guest speaker for the opening service on Tuesday evening. His subject will be "What Stewardship Has Meant to Me." Mr. LeTourneau is considered one of America's outstanding Christian laymen. He devotes 90% of his income to furthering Christian enterprises. Each week end is spent flying in his private plane to a speaking engagement. His audiences have filled the largest auditoriums in the principal cities of the United States and England. The experiences of this unique industrial genius and Christian philanthropist will thrill and challenge you. Don't miss him!

Devotional Leader

Rev. Rufus Coffey, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist church, Florence, South Carolina will provide the devotional thoughts, presented near the beginning of each conference session. Brother Coffey will use topics to correspond with the conference keynote, "Let Go—Let God." Special music and a variety of features will accompany these meditations.

Those who attended the 1958 session of the National Association in St. Louis will remember the fervency with which Brother Coffey presented the keynote mes-

sage. You will enjoy these daily devotional periods.

Religious Drama

Mrs. Charles Thigpen will conduct several sessions of religious drama workshop on Wednesday and Thursday of the conference. These periods are designed to help church leaders learn better how to present religious plays in a more effective manner. The making of inexpensive costumes and the improvising of equipment for use in play productions will be included.

On Thursday morning Mrs. Thigpen and a cast made up of students from Free Will Baptist Bible College will present "For He Had Great Possessions." The message of this play will not only be a blessing but those attending the drama workshops will see Mrs. Thigpen's suggestions being used.

Everyone who is interested in better and more effective religious plays to be used in the local churches, surely would not want to miss this unusual, first-time League Conference feature.

Missionary Emphasis

Tommy and Emma Ruth Willey will report of Free Will Baptist work in Cuba. Just several weeks ago the eyes of the world were turned toward the "Pearl of the Antilles" because of the revolution which has caused a great liberation for our workers and also many Cuban citizens throughout the island. Fresh news from our own Free Will Baptist missionaries who experienced the horrors of a revolution will interest everyone.

Mrs. Ethel Whaley, home missionary to

Alaska, will speak with regard to Free Will Baptists and the spiritual needs of Alaska. Mr. and Mrs. Whaley began a Free Will Baptist work in Anchorage, Alaska, March, 1958, and have made remarkable progress in this new state. Mrs. Whaley will warm your hearts while speaking of the prevailing spiritual conditions of a cold country.

Miss Molly Barker, home missionary to Mexico will give a report on the Spanish mission work. Miss Barker, 1958 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, will inform leaguers about the nature of the work, the needs of the people, and progress during the past several months. We feel very fortunate to have these representatives right from their respective fields to give international flavor to our program.

Crusaders Quartet

This Free Will Baptist Bible College quartet, composed of Jimmy Hughes, New Bern, N. C.; Jimmy Teague, Knoxville, Tenn.; James Puckett, Pine Bluff, Ark.; and Carson Weaver, Durham, N. C., will provide much of the special music to be used throughout the entire conference. These young men are dedicated to the Lord for various types of Christian service and will not only bless hearts with their singing, but also inspire many young people to give their lives for the Master's service.

Rudy Trio

Caroline, Patricia, and Mary Frances Rudy from Donelson Free Will Baptist church, Nashville, Tennessee, will appear on program several times. These girls are very active in local church activities and provide special music for various other religious services. What better place could young talent be used other than the Nationwide League Conferences?

Many more interesting features will be available for those who attend the Eighth Nationwide League Conference. Be sure to attend.

... SPEAKER



R. G. LETOURNEAU

What's Your Problem?



By LOUIS H. MOULTON

Q. I am a saved woman and know I am saved. Please tell me what is the Bible rule or law for today as pertains to permitting a woman to speak in the church?

A. We should keep in mind that Paul's instruction to women to keep silent in the church (1 Cor. 14:34) is very definitely connected with his teaching that the woman is not to usurp authority over the man. I believe, that God teaches in His word that the woman is not to take the authority over the man in the church, that is not to rule over him nor seek the place of preeminence over the man since the man is the head of the woman as Christ is the head of the Church (Ephesians 5:23). The Bible gives the place of authority to the man and this is certainly no reflection upon the woman. It is not a matter of superiority or inferiority, but simply a matter of recognition of her proper place according to the Word of God. There is no restriction on you as a woman as regards praying, testifying, teaching, so long as it is under the direction and in obedience to the man.

Q. We had quite a discussion in our Sunday school class about capital punishment. What does the Bible teach?

A. There are differences of opinions among many students of the Word regarding capital punishment. Personally, I'm for capital punishment and I think it's scriptural. Long before the law was given to Moses, God said in Genesis 9:6, "Whosoever sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." Under the law in Exodus 21:12 "He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death." The death penalty was decreed for other crimes such as kidnapping, etc. Exodus 21:16 "And he that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death."

Q. I have read of so many cases recently where people objected to hospital operations. Is there anything in Scripture that condemns surgery or being put to sleep for an operation?

A. If there is I am not acquainted with it. We do have an account of the very first operation ever performed and it was by God himself. In Genesis 2:21 we are told that "... God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh thereof." Of course with the rib God made a woman. What God

used to cause Adam to sleep we are not told but whatever it was it served the same purpose that ether, gas, etc., used by doctors today serves.

Q. Will you please explain the resurrection as given in the Free Will Baptist Treatise?

A. On page 36 and 37 of our treatise there is one brief paragraph entitled "The Resurrection." Frankly it doesn't give much on the resurrection except to quote part of John 5:28, 29. Then there are six other references given which if looked up and carefully studied will give a far more complete explanation than we have room in this column. Perhaps the reason that so little is given in our treatise on various doctrines is because of the many varying differences among our own people regarding such things as the resurrection, the judgment, the second coming of Christ, etc.

Q. I heard you preach once that the saved would be rewarded according to their works. Do you believe that the same applies to the sinner, that there will be degrees of punishment?

A. The Bible very definitely teaches that there will be degrees of punishment for the unsaved, depending upon the light which they have had and the rejection of it while here upon the earth. Luke 12:47, 48 says "And that servant, which knew his Lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes" See also Revelation 20:12, 13.

Q. If, as we are told, there was approximately four thousand years from Adam to Christ and if 1959 is the number of years since Christ, then we must be near the second coming of Christ. However there are some who say that 1959 is not the correct year in which we are living and that our calendar is way off. Is this true?

A. Without a doubt it is true that our calendar has been changed so many times that we do not know exactly what year this is. However, I believe that we are living just prior to the glorious second coming of the Lord. Someone has said that God has purposely allowed our calendar to get mixed up to keep us from setting dates relative to his coming. Perhaps it's true.

Q. I have been worried sick ever since my father committed suicide. Do you believe that there is any forgiveness for a suicide?

A. According to Revelation 22:15 and Galatians 5:21 no murderer shall enter into heaven. Suicide is without a doubt self-murder. Now there is forgiveness for even murder if one confesses his sins according to 1 John 1:9. Jesus said in Matthew 12:31 that all manner of sin,

(Continued on page 16)

Cooperative Gifts in April Go Over \$3,400

RECEIPTS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|------------|
| ALABAMA | | |
| State Association | \$ 21.87 | |
| Goodwater church, Slocumb | 5.00 | \$ 26.87 |
| ARKANSAS | | |
| Willoughby church, Warren | 2.67 | |
| State Association | 355.30 | 357.97 |
| CALIFORNIA | | |
| State Association | | 310.84 |
| FLORIDA | | |
| Northeast Florida Union | | 2.50 |
| GEORGIA | | |
| State Association | | 245.98 |
| ILLINOIS | | |
| Waltonville church, | | |
| Mt. Vernon | 29.60 | |
| Ina church, Ina | 49.73 | |
| Pleasant View ch., Kell | 36.90 | |
| First Church, Johnston City | 67.18 | |
| Oak Grove church, Scheller | 20.30 | |
| Alex Mt. Zion church, | | |
| Olive Branch | 34.79 | |
| Blue Point church, Flora | 77.99 | |
| Union church, | | |
| West Frankfort | 28.28 | |
| Bethel church, | | |
| South Roxana | 38.94 | |
| Webb's Prairie church, Ewing | 11.00 | 394.71 |
| KENTUCKY | | |
| Southside church, Paintsville | | 68.50 |
| MISSISSIPPI | | |
| South Mississippi Association | | 5.00 |
| MISSOURI | | |
| State Association | | 422.44 |
| NEW MEXICO | | |
| First Association | 5.61 | |
| First church, Hobbs | 82.00 | 87.61 |
| NORTH CAROLINA | | |
| Swannanoa church, Swannanoa | | 103.23 |
| OKLAHOMA | | |
| State Association | | 514.90 |
| TENNESSEE | | |
| Wooddale church, Knoxville | 41.51 | |
| Trinity church, Nashville | 130.00 | |
| Ashland City church, | | |
| Ashland City | 40.85 | |
| South Side church, Memphis | 26.77 | |
| Head's church, | | |
| Chapmansboro | 112.18 | |
| Horton Heights church, | | |
| Nashville | 72.21 | |
| Cumberland Western Quarterly | | |
| Meeting | 133.00 | 556.52 |
| TEXAS | | |
| Trinity church, Fort Worth | 50.00 | |
| State Association | 158.67 | 208.67 |
| VIRGINIA | | |
| First church, Richmond | | 79.45 |
| DESIGNATED | | |
| Oklahoma | | 25.00 |
| | | \$3,410.19 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Superannuation | 103.09 |
| League | 103.09 |
| Sunday School | 172.47 |
| Home Missions | 511.79 |
| Bible College | 681.82 |
| Executive | 846.20 |
| Foreign Missions | 991.73 |
| | \$3,410.19 |

Proposed Contract

(Continued from page 3)

to its publication date, the Press management is authorized to proceed with editing and publishing this periodical.

"6. To the editing, producing, ordering and shipping of all Sunday School literature from the Free Will Baptist Press.

"7. To handle literature purchased only from the Free Will Baptist Press; to handle merchandise from the the Free Will Baptist Press on commission basis named above.

"8. To put forth every effort at our command to further the use of Free Will Baptist literature published by the Free Will Baptist Press, in all our churches, fostering a spirit of good will toward the Free Will Baptist Press everywhere.

Mutual Agreements

"In keeping with the above agreements and pledges, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press and the Sunday School Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists mutually agree and pledge:

"1. That this contract shall become effective as follows: (1) When signed by the president and secretary of the Free Will Baptist Press and by the chairman and secretary of the Sunday School Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists; (2) When publishing and selling of Sunday school literature by the Sunday School Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists ceases.

"2. That any change or alteration in the established Sunday school program anticipated by either party shall first be presented to the other party for approval before any further action is taken.

"3. That in the event of grievances by either of the parties named herein, it shall be the responsibility of the aggrieved to register its grievance with the Executive Committee of the National Association before notice is given terminating the contract.

"4. That termination of this contract by either of the parties shall become effective upon notification of the other party in writing ninety (90) days prior to the desired date of termination."

If you will note in point five above of the "Sunday School Board Agreements," the statement is made that, "The editor shall be covered by contract, stating his duties and responsibilities." Both the Executive Committee and the Press Board felt it would be best to agree on this contract while we were meeting together. The following contract was drafted and approved by both parties:

"1. This contract of employment shall commence on the _____ day of _____, 19____, and shall continue so long as the services of the party of the second part are satisfactory to the party of the first part and approved by the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press; but in case

either party wishes to terminate this agreement, it shall give the other parties ninety days' notice in writing in advance of the date of the termination of same.

"2. The party of the second part, as editor of Sunday school literature shall edit Sunday school literature published by the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, North Carolina, as follows:

"A. He shall, when notified by the management of the Free Will Baptist Press, come to the Press for editing Sunday school manuscripts which have been submitted by writers employed by the Press.

"B. He shall work co-operatively, at all times, with management of the Free Will Baptist Press in the general policies and practices of the institution as to form, content and style of Sunday school periodicals.

"C. He shall work co-operatively with the manager of the Free Will Baptist Press in drawing up proposed plans for improvement and expansion of the Sunday school literature to be approved by the Sunday School Board and the Press Board.

"D. He shall maintain respect for the opinion of the manager of the Free Will Baptist Press, and shall expect to have his opinion respected in return."

At the conclusion of our two days of negotiations, the following joint statement was drafted:

The above contract drawn by the Executive Committee of the National Association and the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press was unanimous in agreement. The atmosphere manifested during the joint

setting of the personnel constituting both boards was warm and cordial.

This statement was signed by R. N. Hinnant, J. W. Alford, N. B. Barrow, W. L. Jernigan, Hubert Burrell, D. W. Hansley and Owen Thomas, Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press, and Billy A. Melvin, James Miller, M. L. Thigpen, members of the Executive Committee of the National Association.

As chairman of the Executive Committee, I feel that the above contract is reasonable and fair to both the National Association and the Free Will Baptist Press. Not only do I think it is reasonable and fair but also I believe this is a workable plan. This plan is recommended by the Executive Committee to the General Board for its consideration. If the General Board approves, it will be submitted to the National Association for adoption. Plan now to come to Asheville, N. C., July 4, 15, 16 and help to decide this matter.

No doubt it would be only fair to consider what would be the alternative to this recommendation, that is, if the National Association decides not to ratify the above contract. First, there will continue to be two sources of Free Will Baptist literature. This will naturally tend to division and you cannot restrict division to one area—it will spread to other areas. One thing we woefully need at the present time is unity. And second, there must be provided a goodly amount of capital to operate, expand and develop a sound literature program by the National Association and to liquidate the present indebtedness.

Please pray much for divine wisdom so that all of us may discern God's will in this vital phase of our denominational endeavor.



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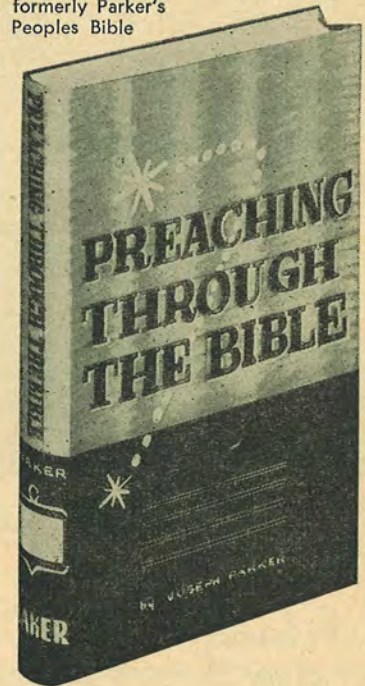
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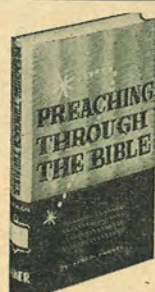
PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

| | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| June 1959 | Matthew I | Vol. 18 |
| June 1959 | Matthew II | Vol. 19 |
| July 1959 | Matthew III | Vol. 20 |
| August 1959 | Mark - Luke | Vol. 21 |
| September 1959 | John | Vol. 22 |
| October 1959 | Acts I | Vol. 23 |
| November 1959 | Acts II | Vol. 24 |
| December 1959 | Acts III | Vol. 25 |
| January 1960 | Romans - Galatians | Vol. 26 |
| February 1960 | Ephesians - Revelation | Vol. 27 |
| March 1960 | Index to entire series | Vol. 28 |
| April 1960 | Genesis | Vol. 1 |
| May 1960 | Exodus | Vol. 2 |
| June 1960 | Leviticus - Numbers 16 | Vol. 3 |
| July 1960 | Numbers 17 - Deuteronomy | Vol. 4 |
| August 1960 | Joshua - Judges 5 | Vol. 5 |
| September 1960 | Judges 6 - I Samuel 18 | Vol. 6 |
| October 1960 | I Samuel 19 - I Kings 14 | Vol. 7 |
| November 1960 | I Kings 15 - I Chronicles 9 | Vol. 8 |
| December 1960 | I Chronicles 10 - II Chronicles 20 | Vol. 9 |
| January 1961 | II Chronicles 21 - Esther | Vol. 10 |
| February 1961 | Job | Vol. 11 |
| March 1961 | Psalms | Vol. 12 |
| April 1961 | Proverbs | Vol. 13 |
| May 1961 | Ecclesiastes - Isaiah 26 | Vol. 14 |
| June 1961 | Isaiah 27 - Jeremiah 19 | Vol. 15 |
| July 1961 | Jeremiah 20 - Daniel | Vol. 16 |
| July 1961 | Hosea - Malachi | Vol. 17 |

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GLANCING AROUND THE STATES



Rev. J. C. Griffin, New Bern, N. C., presents the Bible to Rev. Lee Whaley (right), pastor of the newly-organized Free Will Baptist church at Anchorage, Alaska. Looking on is Rev. Fred Rivenbark, Norfolk, Va. Griffin and Rivenbark conducted a revival at the church and then officially organized the church.

Twenty Charter Members Join New Church Organization Formed at Anchorage, Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—After a little over a year of missionary activity, the first Free Will Baptist church in Alaska was organized Sunday night, April 26. Twenty charter members had their names placed on the roll. The charter was left open for 30 days for additional members.

This organization is the work of the first home missionaries to Alaska, Rev. and Mrs. Lee Whaley. Rev. J. C. Griffin, New Bern, N. C., and Rev. Fred Rivenbark, Norfolk, Va., conducted a revival at the church and the official organization took place at the close of the revival.

Mr. Whaley was named as pastor and the following other officers were elected: Mrs. Clayton S. Melton, clerk; Mr. Melton, treasurer; ill Enyder, deacon, Andy Widener and Frank Breedlove, trustees.

Nettie, W. Va., Has New Organization

NETTIE, W. Va.—The Odell Town Free Will Baptist church was organized here May 2 at the close of a revival in which there were 78 decisions. Rev. T. C. Morgan conducted the revival and was called to pastor the church.

Nineteen charter members joined the church and the Sunday school has an enrollment of 50. Officers are Mrs. Charles

Lester, clerk; Ike Casto and Charles Lester, deacons; Ike Casto, Sunday school superintendent, and Linda Casto, treasurer. Serving on the organizational council were Edward Hughes, Edward Meadows and Mr. Morgan.

"Week of Prayer" Held At Nogales Mission School

NOGALES, Ariz.—The Free Will Baptist mission observed a pre-Easter week of prayer with two services a day—one for the mission school children and one for adults. The afternoon services for the children had an average attendance of 53. The night services had an average attendance of 15. At both services messages on "The Footsteps of Jesus" were brought in both English and Spanish.

Molly Barker, teacher in the mission school, has been elected secretary of the Nogales Evangelical Association.

St. Louis Church Moves to New Location

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The Overland Free Will Baptist church, formerly the Wellston church, has recently moved to a new location at 9440 W. Milton. Rev. Harry Asher is the pastor.

Old Mount Zion League Rally Meets at Freedom

SPRINGDALE, Ark.—The quarterly League rally of the Old Mount Zion association met March 22 at the Freedom church. Churches represented included Clifty, Springdale, Rogers, Huntsville, and Freedom. The Clifty League won the program banner and the Huntsville church was given the attendance banner. The next rally will be June 28 at Huntsville.

California Church Adds Junior Chapel

ARVIN, Calif.—A new junior chapel has recently been completed at the Arvin church and new pews have been placed in the church sanctuary. The chapel has a seating capacity of over 100 children. The church recently closed a revival conducted by Rev. O. T. Dixon, Mountain Grove, Mo. Rev. Francis W. Boyle is the pastor.

New Classrooms Added At Drumright, Oklahoma

DRUMRIGHT, Okla.—New classrooms were dedicated at the Drumright church on March 29 with Rev. Ernest Kennedy, state executive secretary, bringing the message. He also spoke at the Easter services for the church.

Kentucky Church Gets New Property

ASHLAND, Ky.—The Second Free Will Baptist church has recently purchased property valued at \$13,000 for use either as a parsonage or a youth activities building. Rev. Robert Shockey is pastor.

Booneville, Arkansas, Will Dedicate June 7

BOONEVILLE, Ark.—The First church of Booneville will dedicate its church property on June 7 with Rev. Thomas Brashears preaching the dedicatory sermon. The church was started as a mission in 1956 and was formerly organized in September 1957 with eight members. The membership is now 53. The church owns property which includes the church auditorium and classrooms, another classroom and activities building, and a parsonage.

The church recently closed a revival led by Rev. Rupert Pixley. There were 12 decisions and 11 additions to the church. Rev. H. H. Hutchins is pastor.

Petaluma, Calif., Church Gets Unusual Bell, Chairs

PETALUMA, Calif.—Two unusual gifts were made recently to the Free Will Baptist church here. One of them was a bell

which once hung in a Buddhist Temple and now peals God's praises. It was given to the congregation by a retired Army officer. The other gift was two 16th century pulpit chairs which were brought from England by the husband of one of the recent converts.

The church has added 25 members the past year. Rev. Carl Young is pastor.

Berkeley City Church Adds Church Bus

BERKELEY, Mo.—The First Free Will Baptist church of Berkeley has recently purchased a 40-passenger bus for Sunday school transportation. Rev. Harvey Hill is pastor.

Texas Church Breaks Ground for Building

IRVING, Texas—Ground-breaking services were held recently by the First church of Irving for their first educational building (see picture on this page). Rev. H. Z. Cox, Dallas pastor, brought the message and Rev. Huey Gower, pastor, prayed the prayer of dedication. This first unit will accommodate approximately 125 persons. According to present plans, when the property

is developed there will be four educational buildings, a sanctuary with a seating capacity of 300, and a private parking lot that will provide off street parking for more than 50 cars.

Arkansas District League Rally Meets

EGYPT, Ark.—Nearly 200 leaguers, representing eight churches, attended the district League rally of the Social Band association held April 5 at the Little Brown church near here. The program was presented by the Jonesboro and Elnora churches. Attendance banner went to the Elnora church with 42 present. Winners in the Junior Sword Drill were Randell Pope, Poplar church, first place, and Lana Turner, Pocahontas church, second place.

Ohio State Association Will Meet at Fairborn

FAIRBORN, Ohio—The Ohio state association will meet June 19-20 at the Fairborn church. Officers are Rev. John Jeffreys, moderator, and Rev. Homer Nelson, clerk. Among the speakers on the program will be Rev. Melvin Sanford, Rev. Fred Evans and Rev. Baldwin.



DIGS IN Rev. H. Z. Cox, Rev. Huey Gower, W. J. Jackson and Mrs. Bob Harless watch Bob Harless dig in for the first shovel-full of dirt at ground-breaking ceremonies for the educational building of the First Free Will Baptist church, Irving, Texas. Gower is the pastor. (See story below.)

Revivals . . .

Midland, Texas; J. D. Stepp, evangelist; J. A. C. Hughes, pastor; May 11.

Pastoral Changes . . .

Lawrence Thompson has resigned at Salem, Mo., effective July 5. No definite future plans.

Malcolm C. Fry has resigned at First church, Bryan, Texas, effective July 1. No definite future plans.

Women At Work

(Continued from page 14)

Florence, S. C.—South Carolina youth day has been changed to May 23. The meeting will be held at High Point church, Lancaster. The South Carolina district YPA banquet was held May 8 at the Legion Hut in Timmons ville.

Coweta, Okla.—The Grand River district convention was organized March 28 at the Shahan church. Seven charter member auxiliaries were represented—Coweta, Locust Grove, Bixby, Muskogee Trinity, Wagoner, Checotah and Greenbrier. The following officers were elected: Billye Gwartney, president; Jessie Ketchum, vice-president; Marguerete Kern, recording secretary; Joyce Farmer, assistant secretary; Bernice Johnson, corresponding secretary; Erma Lee Beene, treasurer; Oneta Brandon, field secretary; Ruby Kinion, youth chairman; Evelyn Hayes, study course chairman, and Willie Gage, stewardship-prayer chairman.

Rev. Wade Jernigan brought the convention sermon. Also present were Mrs. Bertha Keiffer, state auxiliary president, and Mrs. Lela Crow, state field secretary.



BREAKS GROUND Mrs. Lois Holloway, charter member of the First church, Northport, Ala., prepares to turn the first shovelful of dirt in ground-breaking ceremonies for a new \$30,000 educational building. This is the first unit of a long-range building program. It will house a kitchen, small auditorium, dining area, and Sunday school rooms, covering 3,200 square feet. Watching Mrs. Holloway are T. E. Logan (left), chairman of the building committee, and Rev. Charles Hollingshead, pastor. Other members of the building committee are Doyle Yerby, Lewis Winters, Steward Stephens, and Samuel Key.

Women at Work



Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

Wagoner, Okla.—An auxiliary was organized March 17 at the new Free Will Baptist church here. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Nellie Bayes, president; Mrs. Joyce Farmer, vice-president and study course chairman; Mrs. Melissa Johnson, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Lola Tedder, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Anna Cox, secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Tedder and Mrs. Bayes, youth chairmen.

Nashville, Tenn.—The Trinity Woman's Auxiliary reports its circles have recently completed projects including \$10 to the Clarksville church; \$23.75 to Cuban missions and \$14.31 for the Owens in New Hampshire. During the last two months the circles have prepared and distributed 20 sunshine or fruit baskets to sick and shut-ins and 240 tray cards were made and sent to Vanderbilt Hospital.

Clarksville, Tenn.—The Pardue Memorial auxiliary was organized January 9 with eight charter members. Two have been added since then. Since its organization, the auxiliary has conducted study courses on the manual, prayer and missions. The women have made plans to support missions and the Co-Laborer Fund with regular monthly gifts. They have contributed \$14 to the national project.

Ardmore, Okla.—The local auxiliary of First church met March 19 for their regular monthly all-day meeting. Rev. J. R. Welsh, pastor, brought the circle lesson on "Thy Word hath Quickened Me to Have Faith." In the afternoon the program, "The Work of the Word in Japan" was presented by Mrs. L. C. Buck and Mrs. Lester McComber.

NATIONAL PROJECTS

The report on the national auxiliary projects through May 6 showed just a little over half of the amount received for missionary residences in Japan. The goal was \$10,000 and the amount received was \$5,305.74.

YPAs and GTAs had given \$699.28 for their project of buying a station wagon for missionaries to use in deputation work.

Henderson, Texas—The Texas state auxiliary convention will meet at the Good Hope church here on June 9. Special speaker will be Mrs. Eunice Edwards, national executive secretary. Mrs. E. M. Lewis, state youth chairman, will also speak on "The Word and a Modern Generation."

Florence, S. C.—The South Carolina state auxiliary convention has announced a state auxiliary camp at Cameron on July 22-25.



Shown here are some of the women who are members of the Woman's Auxiliary at Campinas, Brazil. All the members were not present when the picture was made. In the middle of the second row are Mrs. Kenneth Eagleton, Eula Mae Martin, and Esther Ruehle, all members of the American missionary staff.

Plans for the camp include teaching and speaking by Mrs. Eunice Edwards, missionary messages by Rev. Rufus Coffey, missionary film, prayer time, auxiliary helps and suggestions, recreation, good food, and Christian fellowship. Reservations should be made with Mrs. Rufus Coffey, 158 Queens Road, Florence, S. C.

Fort Smith, Ark.—An auxiliary has been organized at the South Fort Smith church with the following officers elected: Mrs. Tynne Belle Loudermilk, president; Mrs. A. C. White, vice-president; Mrs. C. B. Burris, youth chairman; Mrs. Bertha Glass, study course and program chairman; Mrs. Raymond Chronister, recording secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Wilmont Chamberlain, personal service chairman.

Nashville, Tenn.—The Cumberland district convention held a workshop at the Oaklawn church April 25. About 160 attended making it the best attended and most successful workshop ever held in the district, according to Mrs. Robert Hill, district president. Included on the program was the VBS film, "Living for Jesus in the Space Age," a missionary program, and officer clinics.

Little Rock, Ark.—The Antioch district convention met March 20 with the First church here. The group passed a recommendation that each auxiliary send \$5 to the state youth camp and also collect cups, glasses, and plates before the next camp session.

Tulsa, Okla.—The Turley auxiliary reports that three new members were added to their group in March. Pre-Easter prayer season was observed with an average attendance of 33. Rev. E. M. Kennedy, state executive secretary, spoke each morning. The auxiliary presented a pageant, "The Answer of the Cross," at the Easter sunrise service.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Although Vacation Bible School is not the purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary, in response to several requests from our women, Mrs. Billy Melvin, national study course chairman, has outlined a VBS workshop. It is available in mimeographed form from the WNAC office.

Ashland City, Tenn.—The Barnard Circle of the Ashland City auxiliary has adopted a new plan for becoming acquainted with missionaries and mission fields. Each month a mission field is presented by a member of the circle. She may bring information, pictures, and anything she has been able to gather about the missionary or field she has selected for the month. Pictures of the missionaries are pasted on a large map of the world. Notes are written and signed by all the members, then mailed to the "missionary of the month."

(Look back on page 13)

Third Honor Roll

"Every Church Family" Plan

Conway church, Arkansas
Waltonville church, Illinois
New Ebenezer church, Cochran, Ga.
Oskaloosa church, Liberal, Mo.
Wilson Memorial church, Belleville, Ark.
Horse Creek church, Kingsport, Tenn.
Cherry Hill church, Limestone, Tenn.
Faith Mission, Nashville, Tenn.
Lawndale church, Calif.
Richland church, Nashville, Tenn.
Brightlight church, Bryan, Texas
First church, Concord, Calif.
Willow Springs church, Mountain Grove, Mo.
Bonami church, Kirbyville, Texas
Cairo church, Kirbyville, Texas
Ashland City, Tenn.
Port St. Joe, Fla.
Olivet church, Guthrie, Ky.
Bonifay, Fla.
First church, Dallas, Texas
First church, Wichita, Kansas
Gartman's View church, Comanche, Texas
West Wayne church, Wayne, Michigan
Bethel church, South Roxana, Illinois
Monroe, Michigan
Rosedale church, Irwin, Ohio
First church, Oakland, Calif.
First church, Artesia, New Mexico
Cedar Creek church, Hartsville, Ala.

The addition of nine churches since we carried the honor roll two months ago now gives us a total of 29 churches on the third honor roll of fifty churches. Help us get 21 more churches so that we may begin the fourth honor roll!

We are so grateful to these pastors who led their churches in adopting the Family Plan. We will send complete forms for enrolling the families in your church if you will write us.

Many pastors testify that this plan is the finest and best way to see that the members keep up with church and world-wide religious news. Besides that, you save 25 cents on every subscription. Nearly 100 churches are now using this plan. If you've been thinking about recommending it to your church, please do it this month. We need to hear from a lot of churches very soon.

Rules for Honor Roll

1. Send names and addresses (zone numbers, too, please) of all families in the church. You need not send any money.
2. Your list will be checked against our circulation. Refunds on any subscriptions in effect will be credited to the church account.
3. The church treasurer will receive a bill quarterly for 25 cents for each subscription and a form for adding or dropping any names desired.
4. The plan remains in effect until the church requests that it be discontinued.

CONTACT

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Vol. 6 May, 1959 No. 7

personally . . .

What about Some Lay Preachers?

Anyone who has observed with much care the various practices of ordination in Free Will Baptist circles cannot help but be aware of the pressing need for some changes. Indeed, they are past due.

Now we are fully aware that all of the needed changes cannot be effected in one stroke, but we are going to have to make a start somewhere. One of the most flagrant abuses of ordination that is so evident in every conference and association is the large number of ordained ministers who are completely or largely inactive as far as the ministry is concerned. One association reports 45 ordained ministers of whom only 16 are pastors.

We have said for a long time and still contend that no man needs ordination who has not been called to pastor a church. What earthly reason could he do with his ordination except "show-off" his certificate? He has no occasion to serve the Lord's Supper, he doesn't baptize and only rarely would he ever be called on to perform a marriage ceremony (and to ordain for this purpose only is to prostitute for selfish purposes the most sacred ceremony a minister will ever undergo).

So we repeat—why ordain a man until he has legitimate reasons for ordination. It cheapens the high calling of the ministry to let any Tom, Dick and Harry who wants ordination only for vainglory carry around an ordination certificate. There is no reason for a presbytery or ordaining council to feel a compulsion to ordain a man just because he has served under license for one year—or even two! If they would wait until he has legitimate reason to use his ordination it just might mean more to him when he gets it.

We offer this suggestion: Let the National Association establish a ministerial category between the licentiate and the ordained minister where those who can't qualify for ordination might still find a place of service. This category could be called "lay preacher" or "exhorter" and those who hold these certificates could perform all the functions of a minister except those specifically reserved for ordained persons.

The question immediately arises: Who would fit into this category? There are several possibilities:

(1) Those who have proven themselves under license worthy of the ministry, but who have not been called to a church and so have no need yet for ordination. This might relieve some of the pressure a poor pastor suffers when he has four or five ordained preachers as members of his church.

(2) Those who by marital status cannot qualify for ordination. Some conferences will not ordain a man who has been married more than once. (This whole subject is, of course, worthy of full treatment, but we are not considering this here). Suffice it to say that God can forgive this sin of the past and still use a man even in the ministry, but if a conference did not feel that he should be ordained, there would still be a place for service in this new category.

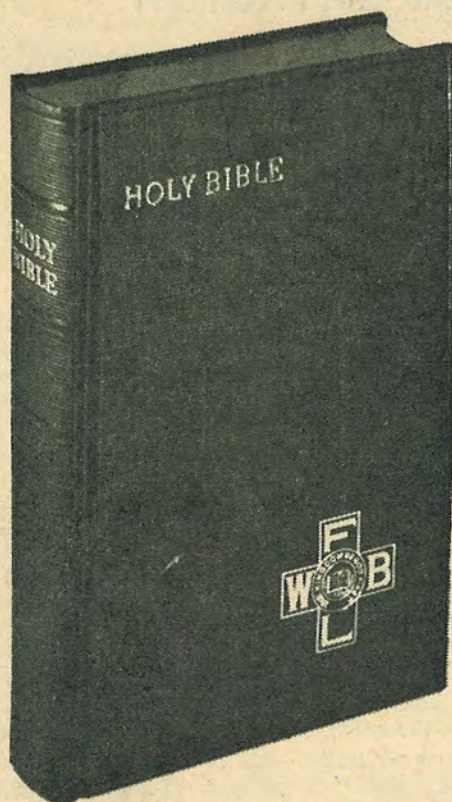
(3) Those who would not qualify for ordination by training or educational standards. Please notice that we did not say "could not qualify," but "would not qualify." We happen to be among that growing number of Free Will Baptists who feel that some educational requirements should be made of ministers wanting to be ordained. We are not suggesting how far these requirements should go, but we do feel they should be within the reach of anyone who had a sincere desire to preach. It is likely there would be some who would lack either the conviction or determination to equip himself educationally for ordination. Then let him serve in this new category until he does qualify himself.

(4) Some conferences refuse to ordain women to preach the gospel. Again, we are not going to discuss the merits of such rulings, but this would give those conferences an opportunity to give recognition to women, if they chose, without ordination.

We feel like this proposal is worthy of serious consideration. We have talked with quite a number of people who feel the same way. We recognize of course, that the procedure would have to be that the National Association would adopt it as a policy and it would then be up to each conference or association to adopt it and implement it with proper action.

What is your reaction? If you will write your views, we will carry a page of them in the next issue. So sound off—let us hear from you!

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Internal Revenue

(Continued from page 7)

purposes is a matter of legislative grace. In its present form section 170 of the 1954 Code does not permit the deduction, and section 262 of the 1954 Code prohibits the deduction of contributions made to individuals.

"A charitable organization may receive contributions which are used for individuals. However, if the contributions are earmarked for a particular individual they are treated in effect as being contributions to the individual designated and are not deductible.

"Contributions or gifts made to a qualifying organization even though designated for one or more of its particular projects constitute charitable deductions within the meaning of section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1945."

"There is no problem in those cases where individuals give to the general missionary program of their church and where the church in turn designates funds given to a mission board for the support of particular missionaries, inasmuch as the question of deductibility is not involved in a church designation. In essence, however, gifts of churches as well as individuals are generally understood to be for the work that particular missionaries undertake, not for the personal benefit of the missionaries. It now becomes necessary to make clear the distinction between the missionary and the work which he does for his mission or other religious organization.

What's Your Problem

(Continued from page 9)

except blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, would be forgiven men. That certainly includes murder, witness the case of the Apostle Paul. But if a person commits self-murder he has no opportunity to seek forgiveness. However, it is not a normal thing for a person to take his own life and I do not believe that anyone in their right mind would commit suicide. If your father was a saved man and had a definite Christian testimony before he lost his mind, if that be the case, then perhaps you should stop your worrying and just leave it in the hands of our God.