

# Contact

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OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

AUGUST 1959

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# ASIAN WEATHER REPORT

Larry Ward

Lary Ward, executive secretary of the Evangelical Press Association and Director of E. P. News, has just concluded a two-month tour of Asia. After photojournalism news-gathering and research that brought him into contact with both church and governmental leaders in various countries, along with travel that took him from far off the beaten tourist track up into the mountains and deep into the jungles, he has prepared this special report.



Tropical storms in Asia strike suddenly, often with apparently little warning. The experienced observer learns to sense their coming, however, even if sometimes the signs are barely distinct. There is a slight, almost imperceptible change in the atmosphere. Sometimes there is a brief period of stillness . . . suddenly the dark clouds sweep in, the palms and coconut trees sway and bend beneath the fury of a wind that comes from nowhere . . . and then sheets of tropical rain pound down, like the deluge that unexpectedly hit crowded Hong Kong in mid-June to claim at least 60 lives.

Right now, in the opinion of this reporter, there is a subtle, almost imperceptible change in the atmosphere of this critical part of the world. In some quarters—notably Singapore with its new Leftist government and Indonesia with its behind-the-scenes struggles and tensions—that pre-storm stillness seems to have settled in. Here is a country-by-country "weather report" covering key spots of Asia:

**HONG KONG:** Something has to give. This tiny British Crown Colony has for several years been absorbing some 6,000 refugees a month fleeing via junks and sampans over the waterways from Red China. In recent days, however, this pace has quickened. Despite new Communist blockades, more and more Chinese refugees are pouring into Hong Kong and nearby Portuguese Macao. They tell frightening stories of new persecutions, fierce new regimentation in Red China's communes (where traditional Chinese family life is completely shattered, where even marital sex life becomes a matter of government regulation), and especially of increasing pressures and persecutions for the church. But China's problems are Hong Kong's opportunity—as far as Christian work is concerned—and veteran missionaries report

response such as they have never before encountered among the Chinese. Pray for Hong Kong. "Fair and warmer" is the "weather report" for the moment—and yet any big storm brewing on the huge mainland that dwarfs little Hong Kong could wash away its opportunities overnight. . . .

**JAPAN:** This is the year of the Protestant Centennial in Japan, and Christian groups—surveying the not-overly-large inroads they have made in the life of Japan in 100 years of missions—have drawn together for special observances and celebrations and some cooperative evangelistic activity. But still much of the cooperation evident today seems to be on the part of the National church and *not* the foreign missionary. Forecast: some dark clouds still hovering over the horizon in the Land of the Rising Sun that may eclipse the gains of this special year. Rising strength of a militant post-war Buddhist sect, the *Sokka Gokkai*, also threatens to cloud Christian activity in this country still 99-1/2 per cent non-Christian after a century of Christian missionary enterprise.

**KOREA:** The land of revivals . . . needs one. Much publicity has been given to Korea's famed early-morning prayer meetings and virile church life, but the war and its challenges are far behind now . . . and many church and missionary leaders in Korea confess to deep spiritual concern over the spiritual state of their nation. At the moment, a heavy overcast.

**THAILAND:** "The door of opportunity is open," says a church leader, "and we must work now while it is day." Strong pro-American feeling (a rarity in Asia these days) continues, and gives American missionaries in Thailand a special opportunity. But the spires of a multitude of Buddhist pagodas still overshadow the here-and-there

steeple of the Christian church. Forecast: No immediate storms in sight; time for continued sowing if not for actual reaping.

**BURMA:** A surprisingly favorable forecast here. The military is in control; and while there is no direct opposition to Chinese or Russian Communism, Christian forces opposing the rise of Communism within Burma itself are meeting with unprecedented encouragement. The Christian National leadership in Burma is of outstanding calibre; and with prayer support from the rest of Christendom, the church there might well record its greatest advances in days just ahead.

**SINGAPORE:** That uneasy stillness that often precedes the storm has set in. The recent elections throwing off British colonialism and sweeping in Leftist control have created an uncertain climate indeed for the Church and its missionary enterprise in Singapore. The announcement of a new "Five Year Plan" has an ominously familiar ring, and Singapore—it is generally conceded—*could* become another China. Forecast: watch high and low pressure areas with careful eye.

**INDIA:** Nehru's amazingly strong stand on the Tibetan issue has added new strength to the backbone of this ancient-but-often-floundering land. Communist Kerala (in South India, only state in India to vote itself under Communist control) is torn by dissension, with Catholic and other church groups uniting in vigorous (if somewhat belated) protest against total Communist domination of the schools. But India is a prime target for Communist propaganda, especially printed literature, and the weak sun shining today could give way any moment to new storm clouds rolling in from the North and Northwest.



# Denomination Is Still All-American

By Beverly Ballard

**ALTHOUGH NO ACTION** taken by delegates and ministers at the 23rd annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists was in itself earthshaking, debatable issues proved to the outside world that this denomination is still all-American.

The democratic methods and the fact that people express their viewpoints in a church meeting as much so as at a political rally, no matter how much opposed, kept attention focused on the business sessions.

Then too, the paramount virtue in it all was that while men disagreed on the convention floor during business session, their hearts were unitedly warmed by the Gospel messages at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily.

Business accomplishments took second place to the urgency in five major messages on "Stewardship."

The convention, attended by a total of more than 2,000, featured speakers with a tremendous impact upon the needs of the Free Will Baptist denomination today.

While a lot of timely remarks were made and much was brought to surface concerning the "great heritage" of Free Will Baptists, noticeably missing from the agenda were mentionable messages impelling future growth.

However, a newsman in attendance and not affiliated, was moved by the stressing of a closer spiritual harmony and an enticement of communicants not to outdo spirituality by encumbering numbers.

"Stewardship's First Demand"—topic of the opening night message by Dr. L. C. Johnson—was one designed to shake the very roots of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

The matter of being faithful in many things was theme of the sermon. A departure from the early faithfulness to leadership, the Word of God, the principles of Christianity

and personal conviction, was forewarned by the speaker.

The Leader of leaders, he pointed out, is Jesus Christ.

Faithfulness to the leadership of Christ is an essential matter which has been lost by popular demands on following one's desires and not the direction of the Holy Spirit, the speaker further added.

The inspired Word of God is the best basis for a Christian's faithfulness, he underscored, and went on to give Biblical quotes upon which declare the authority of God's Word.

He scorned heresy and said, "Heresy has always come in through intellectual superiority."

Dr. Johnson, an educator in his own

rights, declared that an education can never take the place of simplicity and humility. "We need in going higher in education, to go lower on our knees before God," he declared.

All education, he inferred, should be first based upon the Bible.

The principles of Christ, he said in covering the next point, should be one and the same as principles of the Free Will Baptist denomination. He urged Free Will Baptists to be faithful to these principles.

On the final point, which raised an increasing number of "amens" from his audience, Dr. Johnson questioned, "Are we lowering our standards?" Then he went on to mention the need to urgently adhere to

(Continued on page 9)

*A familiar figure on the convention floor was Rev. E. E. Morris, Modesto, Calif., who led the opposition to the adoption of a contract with the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C., for the publication of Sunday school literature. Mr. Morris is a former moderator of the association and now is executive secretary of the California state association.*



Mr. Ballard is a reporter for *The State*, Columbia, S. C., and was press representative for the convention.



# Report of the Chaplain's Commission

"I am convinced that the challenge of the military chaplaincy and its importance in the military today is second to none." So writes Chaplain (Capt.) Mervin R. Johnson of the Evangelical Free Church. He continues, "Are we accomplishing anything? We earnestly pray to that end. I know of six young men who today are studying for the ministry who made their decisions for Christ in my chapel in England. I say this to God's glory." Thus, Chaplain Johnson expresses the challenge of the chaplaincy in his article, "The Military Chaplain's Ministry" in the May 26 issue of *The Evangelical Beacon*.

Hundreds of young men whom God has called into the ministry are recognizing the challenge of the chaplaincy as a field of Christian service and are preparing themselves to meet this challenge. These young men will join hundreds of others who are already serving Christ in the military chaplaincy.

The chaplaincy of the Armed Forces provides an opportunity to minister to the millions of young men in uniform, together with the families, at a time in their lives when Christian guidance is desperately needed. Other denominations are recognizing the opportunities for service available to qualified ministers and are making every possible effort to encourage young men to enter this field of service. We *must* do likewise.

Your commission would like to take this opportunity to emphasize again that the chaplain enjoys all the freedom necessary to carry out his duties and to preach the gospel. We have discovered that many of our young

men have a measure of interest in the chaplaincy, but have not pursued this field of service because of a prevailing sentiment that chaplains are limited in their ministry. We know, as a commission, by fact and experience that this is not true. Our chaplains and the chaplains of other evangelical groups are enjoying rich and fruitful ministries at this very time in all branches of service.

To enter the chaplaincy a minister must meet certain requirements. In addition to approval by his denomination, he must have completed 120 semester hours of undergraduate study in a recognized college and 90 hours of graduate study in a recognized theological school. Young men who feel that the military chaplaincy is the field in which they can best serve our Lord should make definite plans to pursue a course of study which will satisfy these requirements.

We would like to call attention to a wonderful field of service in which many of our pastors might serve—the Civil Air Patrol chaplaincy. At the present, there is need for one thousand Civil Air Patrol chaplains across the states. This service is voluntary in nature and does not involve enlistment in the armed services. If you feel that you might be interested in serving as a Civil Air Patrol chaplain, we would encourage you to make contact with your commission.

In conclusion, we would like to urge our people everywhere to remember in prayer those in our church who serve in the chaplaincy. Here, as in any field of service, prayer is essential if there is to be real victory.

*Looking over a copy of the convention programs are Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, moderator of the North Carolina state convention; Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of Free Will Baptist Bible College and keynote speaker, and Rev. J. O. Fort, general chairman for convention arrangements.*



## Committees Appointed

### Committee on Committees:

Rev. Homer E. Willis, Nashville, Tenn.  
Rev. H. Ray Berry, Bryan, Texas  
Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Slatillo, Miss.  
Rev. Rolla Smith, St. Louis, Mo.  
Rev. Thomas G. Hamilton, Glennville, Ga.

### Nominating Committee:

Dr. L. C. Johnson, Nashville, Tenn.  
Rev. Harold Pitts, Winfield, Ala.  
Rev. E. C. Morris, Tifton, Ga.  
Rev. O. T. Dixon, Mountain Grove, Mo.  
Rev. Ronald Creech, Durham, N. C.

### Resolutions Committee:

Rev. W. Burkette Raper, Mt. Olive, N. C.  
Rev. H. Z. Cox, Dallas, Texas  
Rev. John West, Tulsa, Okla.  
Rev. Julius Vause, Pamplico, S. C.  
Rev. Joe Haas, Norfolk, Va.

### Temperance Committee:

Rev. William Hill, Hazel Park, Mich.  
Rev. Albert McFarland, Miami, Fla.  
Rev. Walter Hooper, Paintsville, Ky.  
Rev. Eustace Riggs, Kenova, W. Va.  
Mr. L. E. Duncan, Tupelo, Miss.

### Placement Committee:

Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, Nashville, Tenn.  
Rev. Roger Reeds, St. Louis, Mo.  
Rev. Willard Day, Russellville, Ark.  
Rev. Jack Dodson, Richmond, Calif.  
Rev. Paul Woolsey, Sweetwater, Tenn.

### Program Committee:

The Executive Committee of the National Association and the Executive Secretary.

## Report of the Temperance Committee

We, your temperance committee, submit the following report:

We are reminded of the exhortations of the Apostle Paul in Romans 12:1, 2 that we are to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service, and to not be conformed to this world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

We, therefore, challenge the Free Will Baptist ministry to be temperate in all things, to invoke the grace of God, which teaches us to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world.

We further urge our local churches to call as their pastors only such men who abide by this Scripture found in Titus 2:11, 12.

We further recommend that a close analysis be made of items one, two and three under paragraph three of the temperance committee's report to the 1958 session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.



# Problem of Pastoral Turnover

By Lyle Garlow

Often moving pastors do not  
often have a moving ministry.

**T**HREE PASTORS in twenty months," a deacon stated. It was difficult to know if he were ashamed or boastful. Perhaps he was seeking needed help, for, there is approximately a one-third turnover of pastors each year in the Southern Baptist Convention, and possibly the percentage is higher in rural areas.

A continuous, changing of pastors leaves not only the church confused but also the community. Little organization is developed. Buildings receive meager attention. Few tithers are enlisted. Individual spiritual growth is at low ebb. Seldom does the youth enter Christian vocations.

Who is to blame? Is it the pastor, the church, the community, or circumstances? Does God change his mind so rapidly? Is the guidance of the Holy Spirit unreliable? Everyone is ready to accuse, but few to acknowledge guilt.

All are agreed that longer pastorates are essential if we plan to build strong rural churches. What can the pastor do?

The pastor must identify himself with his people. Paul said, "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22b). To live and associate with his people, to understand their interest, to talk their language is to become a part of them. Many a pastor has had to move because he refused to identify himself with his people and community.

Rubbing shoulders as he walks among his people welds a bond of love not likely to be broken in a few months or years. Negligence, backwardness, even a busy schedule might be given as an excuse for such a lack of identity, but to the people it appears that the minister has placed himself on a social and spiritual level above them. He must come down from his pedestal or be dethroned.

The pastor must exemplify love toward his people if his tenure with them is to be lengthened. A genuine love for the unsaved results in visitation and personal soul-winning. When the baptismal waters are being stirred, the grass at home appears much greener. Nothing gives a pastor a greater lift and assurance of his calling than to be winning people. Souls are not saved by sitting at home or in the study wishing. They are won by witnessing.

A Christ-like love toward members, who at times can be unlovable, will delay the moving van from the parsonage door.

Sympathy is "an entering into or sharing the feelings," and it must become a part of the pastor. When he stands looking over the shriveled, frozen peanuts, he feels that deep loss suffered by the friend beside him. He "enters into" the feelings of the deacon and wife whose boy has just been drowned. The cotton, destroyed by the insects, becomes his concern.

The pastor, who literally "suffers with" his people, but can still bring them close to the heart beat of God, endears himself forever in that pastorate.

The pastor must magnify preaching He

is often prone to major on the lesser areas of the ministry. Preaching is his first calling. The church will overlook many weaknesses if the Word is preached with power and conviction from its pulpit. Paul in writing to young Timothy pleaded with him to "never lose your sense of urgency" (2 Timothy 4:2, Phillips). The long pastorate, with its rewards, demands that the preacher study and grow.

Generally, the first pastorate is a rural church. The preacher is inexperienced and unaccustomed to leadership requirements. Sermons and ideas run out. The problems seem to grow, many of which come as a result of poor judgment, lack of tact, wrong attitudes, improper methods, indiscretion, and immaturity both physically and spiritually. It is easier to quit or resign and move to another church, than it is to study and pray, thus keeping the heart and pulpit aflame.

It also must be recognized that many a pastor's unspoken ambition is to use the rural church as a stepping stone to the "big" city church. Someone has said, "If you want to pastor a great church, build a great church where you are."

If pastoral turnover were only a "pastor problem," it could be remedied more easily. But it is also a "church problem." Church members, too, are human and subject to weaknesses of the flesh and heart. The rural church could improve the situation by taking a look at herself and realizing:

1. That the nature of her people, though generally stable, is often not as aggressive and optimistic as it could be.
2. That with the population shift to the urban area, prospects are fewer, demanding a more aggressive and active program.
3. That failing to respond to the energetic program of the pastor, disappoints him and tends to kill his spirit.
4. That neglecting to follow "Standards of Excellence" hampers growth.
5. That when church facilities are inadequate, and unnecessarily remain so, the pastor becomes discouraged.
6. That when her salary is inadequate and the parsonage (if any) is uncomfortable, she can't hope to keep a good pastor.
7. That her pastor cannot give his best if he must supplement his salary.
8. That refusing to help a pastor further his education, not only hurts the church and pastor, but the church misses a real mission opportunity and blessing.
9. That forcing a preacher to move, just because the new wears off, is unchristian and creates additional problems.
10. That careful investigation before calling a man avoids many difficulties.

The pastoral turnover problem is of great concern. Sincere pastors and awakened churches seek a common ground of understanding. Together they can find the solution. The emergence of stronger rural churches will be realized.—*The Baptist Program*



## Association Personnel

One star means elected at this session; two stars means re-elected.

### Officers

Moderator—\*\*Charles A. Thigpen, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Assistant Moderator—\*W. S. Mooneyham, Wheaton, Ill.  
 Clerk—\*\*Dean Moore, San Pablo, Calif.  
 Assistant Clerk—\*\*John I. Morgan, Elizabethton, Tenn.  
 Executive Secretary—\*Billy A. Melvin, Nashville, Tenn.

### General Board

\*E. B. Ledlow, Cordova, Ala.  
 \*Willard C. Day, Russellville, Ark.  
 Jerry Dudley, Concord, Calif.  
 \*\*W. B. Hughes, Chipley, Fla.  
 \*\*G. C. King, Sylvester, Ga.  
 \*Claude Childers, Johnston City, Ill.  
 \*\*F. S. VanHoose, Paintsville, Ky.  
 \*N. P. Gates, Detroit, Mich.  
 \*\*Wilburn Beasley, Saltillo, Miss.  
 Benjamin Scott, Fredericktown, Mo.  
 \*\*M. L. Johnson, Mount Olive, N. C.  
 \*Richard Howard, Miamisburg, Ohio  
 Wade Jernigan, Norman, Okla.  
 \*\*Rufus Coffey, Florence, S. C.  
 \*E. B. McDonald, Nashville, Tenn.  
 H. Ray Berry, Bryan, Texas  
 \*J. B. Chism, Warwick, Va.  
 \*\*Carl Vallance, Huntington, W. Va.

### Executive Committee

Charles A. Thigpen, W. S. Mooneyham, Dean Moore, Wade Jernigan, M. L. Johnson, E. B. McDonald, Willard C. Day.

### Foreign Mission Board

Mark M. Lewis, Mich. ....1960  
 J. Reford Wilson, Ark. ....1961  
 Rolla Smith, Mo. ....1962  
 Joseph G. Ange, Mich. ....1963  
 \*Eugene Waddell, Va. ....1964

### Home Mission Board

\*William Newsome, Mich. ....1960  
 Harvey E. Hill, Mo. ....1961  
 Harry E. Staires, Okla. ....1962  
 R. H. Jackson, N. C. ....1963  
 \*Fred A. Rivenbark, Va. ....1964

### College Trustees

K. V. Shutes, Ga; Paul Ketteman, Miss.; Ralph Lightsey, Ga. ....1960  
 Melvin Bingham, Okla., James F. Miller, Mo.; J. R. Davidson, N. C. ....1962  
 Luther Gibson, Miss.; Floyd B. Cherry, N. C.; M. E. Howard, Va. ....1964

### Superannuation Board

E. M. Kennedy, Okla. ....1960  
 C. A. Huckaby, Fla. ....1961  
 D. W. Hansley, N. C. ....1962  
 J. O. Fort, N. C. ....1963  
 \*Thomas G. Hamilton, Ga. ....1964

## Resolutions Adopted

BE IT RESOLVED that we express our appreciation to all who have served the National Association in any capacity during the past year.

BE IT RESOLVED that we express our sincere appreciation to the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina for their entertainment of the National Association in this 1959 session.

WHEREAS OUR AMERICAN heritage has suffered at the hands of theological liberalism and other encroachments, and

Whereas the progress of missions has been hindered by the modernists' social gospel, and

Whereas Protestant denominations have been engulfed by infidelity to the Bible, and

Whereas spiritual education has been replaced by non-Christian philosophies in many schools, and

Whereas the Free Will Baptist denomination is not immune to these dangers,

Be it therefore resolved that a commission be appointed to study the menaces of theological liberalism, secularism, worldliness, etc., and

Be it further resolved that this commission write informative articles in our publications to warn our people of these evils, and

Be it further resolved that a report of this commission's work be made to this body at the next session.

WHEREAS WORSHIP IS sacred and we, as a denomination, place great emphasis on preaching,

Be it therefore resolved that no board,

committee, or commission of the association meet during the worship services.

WHEREAS THERE IS much distraction by movement of delegates, ministers, and visitors during the session of our association,

Be it resolved that any person leaving the assembly while it is in session be requested to obtain permission from the chair.

WHEREAS THE REGIME in Communist China is godless and has proven itself to hold in contempt the God-given freedoms which were meant for all men, and because the Scriptures admonish us to not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers,

Therefore, be it resolved that the National Association of Free Will Baptists declare itself unequivocally and unalterably opposed to Communist China being given recognition by the United States and her admittance to membership in the United Nations, and that we commend the President of the United States for his realistic approach to the threat of Communism.

WHEREAS THE CHAPLAINS' Commission has been charged by the National Association with a certain area of responsibility, and

Whereas the commission has met with real difficulty in fulfilling this responsibility due to the lack of seminary level training within our denomination,

Be it therefore resolved that a study committee be appointed by the moderator to explore the possibility of establishing a Free Will Baptist seminary and report back with their recommendations at the next session of the National Association.

### League Board

James E. Davidson, N. C. ....1960  
 C. F. Bowen, N. C. ....1961  
 R. B. Crawford, N. C. ....1962  
 W. Burkette Raper, N. C. ....1963  
 \*\*Henry Melvin, N. C. ....1964

### Sunday School Board

\*L. H. Clayton, S. C. ....1960  
 \*Roger Reeds, Mo. ....1961  
 \*Robert King, Ark. ....1962  
 \*Paul Woolsey, Tenn. ....1963  
 \*Ralph Staten, N. C. ....1964

### Board of Publications

L. E. Duncan, Miss. ....1960  
 E. C. Morris, Ga. ....1961  
 Rufus Hyman, Fla. ....1962  
 J. C. Griffin, N. C. ....1963  
 \*\*I. J. Blackwelder, Ga. ....1964

### Headquarters' Trustees

J. B. Reding, Tenn. ....1960  
 D. W. Alexander, N. C. ....1961  
 G. W. Hunt, Tenn. ....1962  
 J. Russell Lee, Tenn. ....1963  
 \*\*H. D. Bailey, Tenn. ....1964

## Report of the Budget Committee

We recommend the adoption of a total denominational budget of \$589,436.48 as proposed by the following boards and departments:

Superannuation	\$ 26,000.00
Home Missions	76,464.00
Foreign Missions	222,990.08
Sunday School	26,000.00
League	10,900.00
Executive	29,600.00
Bible College	200,482.40

We recommend the adoption of the following percentages for the allocation of cooperative funds for the year 1960:

Superannuation	3%
Home Missions	14%
Foreign Missions	28%
Sunday School	5%
League	3%
Executive	24%
Bible College	20%
Headquarters' Trustees	3%



# The Preacher's Faults

By C. S. Spurgeon

He who boasts of being perfect is perfect in folly. I have been a good deal up and down the world, and I never did see either a perfect horse or a perfect man, and I never shall till two Sundays come together. You cannot get white flour out of a coal sack, nor perfection out of human nature; he who looks for it had better look for sugar in the sea.

The old saying is, "Lifeless, faultless": of dead men we should say nothing but good, but as for the living, they are all tarred more or less with the black brush, and half an eye can see it. Every head has a soft place in it, and every heart has its black drop. Every rose has its prickles, and every day its night. Even the sun shows spots, and the skies are darkened with clouds.

Nobody is so wise but he has folly enough to stock a stall at Vanity Fair. Where I could not see the fool's cap. I have nevertheless heard the bells jingle. As there is no sunshine without some shadows, so is all human good mixed up with more or less of evil; even poor law guardians have their little failings, and parish beadles are not wholly of heavenly nature. The best wine has its lees. All men's faults are not written on their foreheads, and it's quite as well they are not, or hats would need very wide brims, yet, as sure as eggs are eggs, faults of some sort nestle in every bosom.

There's no telling when a man's sins may show themselves, for hares pop out of the ditch just when you are not looking for them. A horse that is weak in the legs may not stumble for a mile or two, but it is in him, and the rider had better hold him up well. The tabby cat is not lapping milk just now, but leave the dairy door open, and we will see if she is not as bad a thief as the kitten.

There's fire in the flint, cool as it looks: wait till the steel gets a knock at it, and you will see. Everybody can read that riddle, but it is not everybody that will remember to keep his gunpowder out of the way of the

candle.

If we could always recollect that we live among men who are imperfect, we should not be in such a fever when we find out our friends' failings; what's rotten will rend, and cracked pots will leak. Blessed is he who expects nothing of poor flesh and blood, for he shall never be disappointed. The best of men are men at the best, and the best wax will melt.

It is a good horse that never stumbles,  
And a good wife that never grumbles.

But surely such horses and wives are only found in the fool's paradise, where dumplings grow on trees. In this wicked world the straightest timber has knots in it, and the cleanest field of wheat has its share of weeds. The most careful driver one day upsets the cart, the cleverest cook spills a little broth, and as I know to my sorrow a very decent ploughman will now and then break the plough, and often make a crooked furrow. It is foolish to turn off a tried friend because of a failing or two, for you may get rid of a one-eyed nag and buy a blind one. Being all of us full of faults, we ought to keep two bears, and learn to bear and forbear with one another; since we all live in glass houses, we should none of us throw stones.

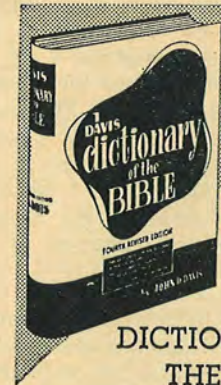
Everybody laughs when the saucepan says to the kettle, "How black you are!" Other men's imperfections show us our imperfections, for one sheep is much like another; and if there's an apple in my neighbor's eye, there is no doubt one in mine. We ought to use our neighbors as looking glasses to see our own faults in, and mend in ourselves what we see in them.

I have no patience with those who poke their noses into every man's house to smell out his faults, and put on magnifying glasses to discover their neighbors' flaws; such folks had better look at home, they might see the devil where they little expected. What we wish to see we shall see, or think we see. Faults are always thick where love is thin.

A white cow is all black if your eye chooses to make it so. If we sniff long enough at rose water, we shall find out that it has a bad smell.

It would be far more pleasant business, at least for other people, if fault hunters would turn their dogs to hunt out the good points in other folks, the game would pay better, and nobody would stand with a pitchfork to keep the huntsmen off his farm.

As for our own faults, it would take a large slate to hold the account of them, but, thank God, we know where to take them, and how to get the better of them. With all our faults, God loves us still if we are trusting in his Son, therefore let us not be downhearted, but hope to live and learn, and do some good service before we die. Though the cart creaks it will get home with its load, and the old horse, broken kneed as he is, will do a sight of work yet. There's no use in lying down and doing nothing, because we cannot do everything as we should like. Faults or no faults, ploughing must be done, and imperfect people must do it too, or there will be no harvest next year; bad ploughman as John may be, the angels won't do his work for him, and so he is off to do it himself. Go along, Violet! Gee woa! Depper!



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OF  
EVANGELICAL  
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# Report of Study Committee

We, The Study Committee, charged by the National Association (1958) to study and interpret the duties of the Executive Department, do herewith submit, as a result of our study, the following recommendations:

1. That the Executive Committee draw up a Constitution and By-Laws to govern its activities. The same to be approved by the National Association and to be in keeping with the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Association.
2. That the membership of the Executive Committee be composed of seven members. Three shall serve by virtue of their office in the National Association—Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Clerk. The other four members will be elected from the General Board, but in no case can a General Board member serve on this committee who is a member of any standing Board.
3. That the Executive Secretary be elected by the National Association for a two-year term and be responsible to the Executive Committee when the National Association is not in session. The Executive Committee shall have the privilege of presenting a nomination to the Nominating Committee and shall be charged with the responsibility of establishing the working contract of the Executive Secretary.
4. That the Executive Secretary become an ex-officio member of all standing boards without voting power, acting in the meetings of the boards only in an advisory capacity.
5. That the duties of the Executive Secretary shall include the following:

**A. Promotion and publicity of denominational enterprises.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to promote the program of each of the agencies of the National Association as arranged by the different boards or departments, and as approved by the National Association. To this end, he shall be expected to travel as widely as possible among our people and to attend, when permissible, meetings of the Districts or States.

**B. Fulfill those duties commensurate with his office.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to fulfill all duties which

normally and naturally belong to his office. This shall include the execution of those specific responsibilities laid upon him by his committee or the National Association; also, the presentation of those plans and procedures to his committee which he feels would be effective in the life of the denomination.

**C. Editor of National publication and bulletin service.**

The Executive Secretary shall serve as editor of the National Publication (*Contact*) and the bulletin service. He shall use these publications as a medium to foster unity among our churches and to promote the general program of the National Association.

**D. Coordination.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to coordinate as much as possible the work of the various boards. This is to be accomplished through his service as an ex-officio member of each standing board, acting only in an advisory capacity.

**E. Cooperative Program.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to promote the Cooperative Plan of support. He is further charged with the responsibility of receiving and disbursing these funds.

**F. Represent Denomination to other bodies.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to officially represent the National Association to other bodies when in the interest of our denomination.

**G. Oversee bookstore.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to operate a denominational bookstore. Books and supplies of general interest to our people will be stocked, and the entire operation will be under the direction of the Executive Committee.

**H. Supervision of Headquarters Building.**

It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to supervise the maintenance of the Headquarters Building. This includes such things as upkeep, collection of rent, supervision of custodian, care of mailing room, and all other matters which might come under the scope of this responsibility.



At the close of the Wednesday night executive secretary of the Evangelical Fellowship and missionary appointees gathered for a reception.

## Sunday School Report

### BALANCE SHEET

<i>Current Assets</i>		
Cash		\$ 4,943.79
Accounts receivable—		
customers	7,048.81	
Inventory of merchandise	1,917.64	
Prepaid Interest	44.17	
Claim to Freight Co.	118.50	
		<hr/>
Total Current Assets		\$14,072.91
<i>Fixed Assets</i>		
Office equipment (cost)	1,185.00	
Less allowance for depreciation	256.81	
		<hr/>
Total Fixed Assets—Net		928.19
		<hr/>
Total Assets		15,001.10
		<hr/>
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
Accounts payable	12,089.64	
Notes payable:		
First American National Bank	\$8,000.00	
The Higley Press	6,000.00	
Scripture Press	2,800.00	16,800.00
		<hr/>
Accrued interest	125.03	
		<hr/>
Total Current Liabilities		29,014.67
<i>Fund Deficit</i>		(14,013.57)
Total Liabilities and Fund Deficit		15,001.10
		<hr/>
<b>STATEMENT OF INCOME AND FUND DEFICIT</b>		
<i>Income from Sales</i>		\$27,206.07
<i>Cost of Sales</i>		
Beginning Inventory (estimated)	1,100.00	





enary service at which Dr. Clyde Taylor, Missions Association, spoke, missionaries d-fashioned "handshake" by the congre-

## Jan. 1, - June 30, 1959

Printing and materials purchased	19,914.08
	<u>21,014.08</u>
Less Ending Inventory	- 1,917.64
Less Claim to Freight Co.	- 118.50
	<u>18,977.94</u>
Cost of Sales	
	<u>18,977.94</u>
Gross Profit	8,228.13
<b>Expenses</b>	
Writers' salaries	1,000.00
Office and part-time salaries	2,225.02
Office supplies	298.54
Postage and mailing supplies	1,497.76
Travel	26.00
Board members' expense	293.27
Miscellaneous expense	224.41
Interest expense	465.62
Utilities	89.88
Auditing	211.20
Depreciation	49.37
	<u>6,381.07</u>
Total expenses	
	<u>6,381.07</u>
Net Gain from sales	1,847.06
<b>Other Income</b>	
Cooperative Plan of Support	1,119.98
Gifts on debt	1,179.60
Other gifts	350.70
	<u>2,650.28</u>
Total Other Income	
	<u>2,650.28</u>
Net Income	4,497.34
Fund Deficit at beginning of period	(18,510.91)
Fund Deficit at end of period	(14,013.57)

AUGUST, 1959

## Denomination Is

one's Christian convictions.

"How many of us preachers lambasted the movie houses until we got a television set in the front room? How many of us preached lustily against girls and women wearing shorts until our daughters began wearing them? How about dancing that we used to preach against? And other things once an object of every message?"

Those men who preached against these things were good stewards of their convictions, he declared.

"Christ calls all of us to an altar of repentance. Let us return to that simple love we had when we first became born again children of God," he challenged in closing.

In his morning message of the second convention day, Dr. Herbert S. Mekeel, Schenectady, N. Y., president of the National Association of Evangelicals and pastor of First Presbyterian Church, put Free Will Baptists in their place.

He declared, "The foundation of America rests upon bodies of believers such as yours. It is easy for a preacher to become cold and unorthodox. Do not lose the power of the Holy Spirit of God. There must be a presence of the Holy Spirit in the heart."

Dr. Mekeel exploited the history of the Free Will Baptist denomination and placed the church in a setting amidst a few of the fundamental denominations remaining active and vital to true Biblical doctrine.

He congratulated Free Will Baptists on being unfettered by theological rigidity—having freedom to rely upon the creator and not some creed. He further declared the church as one distinguished by lay leadership and lauded four "vital freedoms" found within the denomination.

These he noted as (1) freedom from cultures, (2) freedom from theological rigidity, (3) freedom to use properly the lay leadership in the church, and (4) a virility that overcomes the power of personal insertion, a tragic thing.

He warned against religious peril existing through the attempted domination by Catholics over the world. He related several instances in which Catholicism has caused a disruption in the Protestant mission fields of South America, particularly in Colombia.

He concluded by declaring that we may "never hate our Catholic brethren, but we must oppose any move that poses so great a threat to the true Christian belief."

Dr. Clyde Taylor's message on Wednesday night was mellowed with interesting experiences among missionaries on the field. His flow of words and vivid recollections stirred up emotions to a fervor in regard to lending aid to missions.

His talk ended and Free Will Baptist missionaries, both home and foreign, lined across the front of the great Municipal Auditorium for friends and loved ones to come forward for a genial handshake, hug and to present a cash offering as a token of

(continued from page 4)

love for missions.

The final day of the convention began early and began well.

A crowded banquet hall heard an impressive testimonial by John Noble, an American who was a prisoner in Russia for nine years. The deplorable conditions in the slave camps and how he, through Christ, overcame these conditions and came through it all victoriously, thrilled and chilled the listeners.

Mr. Noble's experiences spelled a warning to the United States and Christians especially to awake out of the lethargic condition existing and take note that "Russia is laying the foundation to do to us in the United States as she did to me in the prison camps," Noble said.

Capping off the convention, a timely message on "Our Free Will Baptist Heritage" was delivered by the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry of Ayden, N. C.

Reports of activities were all inspiring. Needs of missions were impressing. The one big item of business which took grossly of the time—the contract between the National Sunday School Board and Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden—struck some friction.

All in all, Free Will Baptists had nothing to be ashamed of for their convention. It was complete to the climax with drama, emotion, spirited enthusiasm and genuine businesslike promotion.

## New Executive Secretary



BILLY A. MELVIN

Rev. Billy A. Melvin, pastor of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va., was elected executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists at a special meeting of the General Board on August 20 in Nashville.

The new secretary, who is 29, will assume his duties about November 1 when he will move to Nashville with his family.





# Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD



Top officers for the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention elected last month in Asheville are shown above. Left to right are Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Nashville, Tenn., executive secretary; Mrs. Rufus Coffey, Florence, S.C., president, and Mrs. J. Reford Wilson, Pocahontas, Ark., vice-president.

## The Worth of a Family Altar

by Linda Smith

*(This is the winning entry in the essay contest. Linda is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Rolla Smith of St. Louis, Missouri.)*

A family altar is a source of spiritual strength in the lives of children and parents. Some families find it best to have family worship at the beginning of the day while others find that it fits into their schedule better at the close of the day's activities. Those that have family worship in the beginning of the day receive spiritual guidance and strength for the day. The time of family worship is not the most important thing. The important thing is to always find time in the day for it.

A family altar session should not only be a time for prayers but should include reading the Bible, memorizing scriptures, singing, a time for talking over personal problems of the members of the family, as well as taking time to mention the needs of missionaries, sick people and maybe school mates or anything of importance to any member of the family.

If a family takes times to memorize Bible verses or portions such as the Ten Commandments, the Twenty-third Psalm, the Lord's Prayer and others, it will strengthen them for the days ahead.

Children like to feel that their parents are interested in their spiritual problems. When members of the family share their problems they gain help from each other

and usually become less selfish. By talking about and praying about the needs of missionaries, people usually become thankful for their own blessings.

In my own life I feel that our family altar is so very important. My parents have had family worship all of my life. On the night before my seventh birthday I felt the Lord speaking to me concerning becoming a Christian. I told my mother that I wanted to be saved. She and Daddy answered my questions and told me how to talk to God and I accepted Christ as my personal Saviour. My Daddy then explained to me what had happened by taking a sheet of paper and writing down a list of the sins that I had done. They were telling stories, not minding, becoming angry and many others. Then he placed a clean sheet of paper over that one and told me that my sins had been forgiven and were covered by the blood of Christ.

Many times since then I have talked to my parents about such problems that were too big for me to work out by myself. I would not want our family to drop family worship from our daily schedule. I think that the members of our family have more love for each other and a better understanding of each other than we would have if we had not had a family altar in our home.

*(We want to encourage more of our boys and girls to enter the contest in the coming year. For complete instructions consult your program books or write to the WNAC office.)*

## Women at Work

**Paintsville Ky.**—Installation service was held at the Southside church on June 14. Officers installed were Mrs. Bryd O. Preston, president; Mrs. Chester Patrick, vice-president; Mrs. Whetsel Compton, recording secretary; Miss Brenda Kay Compton, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Ralph Williams, treasurer; Mrs. E. H. Overman, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Junior Blair, personal service chairman; Mrs. Homer Haley, and Mrs. Crawford Crace.

**Cameron, S. C.**—Woman's Auxiliary Camp. Wonderful services were experienced with 31 in attendance. Mrs. Maude Coffey was camp director and teachers were: Mrs. Coffey, Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Mrs. Carroll Alexander and Mrs. Reedy Severance. Speaker for the evening missionary services was Rev. Rufus Coffey.

**Oakland, Calif.**—A new auxiliary was recently organized with 6 charter members and has had one new member. The president of this organization is Mrs. Inez Noble.

**Timmonsville, S. C.**—A recent banquet was held for YPA members and their escorts of the S.C. District Convention. A delicious meal was enjoyed after which a program was given and a Christian film "Going Steady" was shown.

**Oklahoma City, Okla.**—Captiol Hill Auxiliary elects officers—Wilda Earp, president; Pat Pritchard, vice-president; Nancy Green, youth chairman; Marie Stewart, study course chairman; Alice Wood, program chairman; Louise Gordon, personal chairman; Doris Davison, recording secretary; Maye Ingle, corresponding secretary, and Francis Scott, treasurer.

**Norfolk, Va.**—A new YPA newspaper is being published by the Bethany YPAs. The editor is Sylvia Markos and assistant editor is Virginia Poole.

### WNAC OFFICERS

**President** — Mrs. Rufus Coffey, 158 Queens Road, Florence, S.C.

**Vice-President**—Mrs. J. Reford Wilson, Box 86, Pocahontas, Ark.

**Executive Secretary-Treasurer** — Mrs. Eunice Edwards, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

**Recording Secretary**—Mrs. Ralph Staires, 4675 N. St. Louis, Tulsa, Okla.

**Assistant Recording Secretary** — Mrs. Luther Gibson, East Tupelo, Miss.

**Youth Auxiliary Chairman**—Mrs. Eugene Waddell, 1616 Lansing Ave., Portsmouth, Va.

**Study Course Chairman**—Mrs. N. Bruce Barrow, Lucama, N.C.

**Stewardship-Prayer Chairman** — Miss Mary Ruth Wisheart, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

**Personal Service Chairman**—Mrs. Gaston Clary, 405 N. Alta Vista, Henderson, Texas



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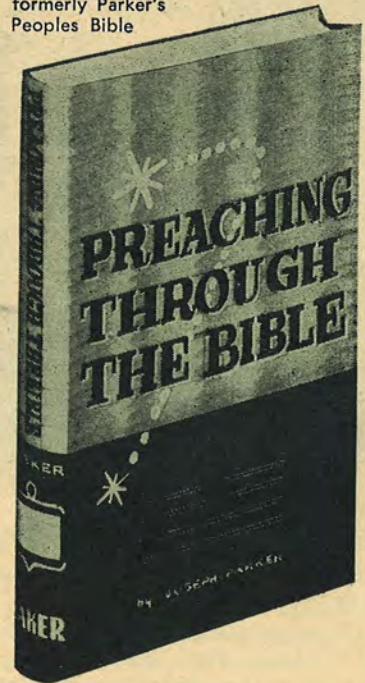
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## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

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



*New Educational building, Fairmount Park church, Norfolk, Va.*

### **Virginia Church Completes New Brick Educational Building at Cost of \$56,640**

NORFOLK, Va.—Pictured above is the new educational building recently completed by the Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist church. This is the first phase of a building program which will be completed when the second floor is added to this unit.

The new building is joined to the original educational plant and gives the church an additional 5,200 square feet of floor space. There are eight additional classrooms, a large assembly room, a utility room, a boiler room, pastor's study, reception room, and an office for the educational director. The cost of this building was approximately \$56,640. The pastor is Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark.

### **New Church Organized At Rockport, Washington**

ROCKPORT, Wash.—Another Free Will Baptist church has been organized in the state of Washington. Rev. Johnny Postlewaite, national home missionary, organized the church recently with 16 charter members. This church is several hundred miles from the first church organized in Washington at Wenatchee. The Sunday school was started in 1954. Rev. Fred Dellinger has been elected pastor.

### **Mount Olive College Seeks Historical Material**

MOUNT OLIVE, N.C.—A plea for some material to be added to the historical collection at Mount Olive Junior College has been sounded by President Burkette Raper. Specifically the library needs copies of the

minutes of the 1942 and 1943 sessions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in order to make the file complete. They also need the following issues of *Contact* for a complete file: August, 1955; September, 1955; March, 1956; August, 1956; September, 1956. If any of our readers can help with this material, please write directly to Rev. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive Junior College, Mount Olive, N.C.

### **Arkansas State Camp Registers Over 300**

CONWAY, Ark.—An overflow group of over 300 young people from all over Arkansas converged on the state camp site here the first week in July to tax the facilities almost to the breaking point. The attendance was about 100 more than was expected. There were many decisions for Christ registered during the week-long session.

### **Former Minister Wants To Hear from Friends**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A letter received at denominational headquarters recently from a former student at the Bible College and a former Free Will Baptist minister requests that we pass his address on to old friends and suggests that he would like to correspond with them. The letter was from Rev. Elton D. Coleman, Route 3, Libertyville, Iowa.

### **Arkansas District Ministers And Deacons Have Meeting**

BELLEVILLE, Ark.—The regular ses-

sion of the ministers and deacons of the Arkansas Association was held August 6 at the Ranger church with 26 present. The speakers for the session were Rev. Ernest Page and Rev. Robert Carter. A roundtable discussion followed the messages. The next meeting will be at the Upper Spring Creek church.

### **Jackson Speaks Again At Texas Summer Camp**

WOODLAKE, Texas—Evangelist Bobby Jackson was the principal speaker for the Free Will Baptist encampment held August 10-15 at Pineywoods Camp. Rev. H. Ray Berry was camp director assisted by Rev. H. Z. Cox.

The state League convention met in conjunction with the camp with Mike Fears, state president, in charge.

### **Johnson Will Direct Loyalty Fund Campaign**

MOUNT OLIVE, N.C.—M. L. Johnson, business manager of Mount Olive Junior College, has been appointed to direct the Loyalty Fund Campaign of the college again this year, according to President W. Burkette Raper. He announced that the college will seek to raise \$65,000 in gifts by February 10. Gifts to the institution during this same period last year amounted to \$50,000.

Last year 160 students were enrolled and formal accreditation was granted by the North Carolina College Conference and the State Department of Education. The school was opened in 1954.

### **REVIVALS**

Friendship church, Ashland City, Tenn.; Kenneth Frisbee, evangelist; Roy Duckett, pastor; June 1-10; 9 dec.

Beech Springs church, Saltillo, Miss.; Homer E. Willis, evangelist; Wilburn Beasley, pastor; July 20-26; 8 dec., 6 add.

Rock Springs church, Neptune, Tenn.; W. S. Mooneyham, evangelist; Paul Sitton, pastor; July 24-Aug. 2; 10 dec., 6 add.

### **PASTORAL CHANGES**

J. R. Davidson has resigned First church, Goldsboro, N.C. Future plans indefinite.

Robert King to Allen's Chapel church, Batesville, Arl., from Pine Hill church, Star City, Ark.

Everett D. Hellard has resigned First church, Houston, Texas. Future plans not announced.

C. F. Bowen to Shady Grove church, Dunn, N.C. church, Ashland City, Tenn. Future plans indefinite.

Jesse Stepp to Pryor, Okla. from Shellenbarger church, Bixby, Okla.

Bob Mantooth to Lindsay, Okla., from Felker church, Okla.

Ed S. Sunday to Healdton, Okla., from Stigler, Okla.

Robert Carter to Ranger church, Belleville, Ark.



# Importance of the Local Church

In our endeavors to gain cooperation and in trying to weld our denomination into a working force there is a danger that we may lose sight of the importance of the local church. Any step in that direction is a dangerous one.

One of the cardinal principles among us is the fact that no Association can reverse the action of the local church. This means that the church is the highest authority. This is necessary in our democratic form of government. We do temper the statement by insisting that there is a definite need for cooperation on the part of all the churches. The churches are to give to the Association a respectful hearing. They are to consider the advice of the Association and to give it courteous attention. In other words, the ideal situation is that each church give to others Christian cooperation in any program that sets out to build the kingdom and promote the glory of God. This can be done even while we maintain the integrity of the local church.

The integrity and the importance of the local church is a time honored and long cherished bit of our freedom. We do not want to destroy this or in any way weaken it. To do so would weaken our whole denominational structure. It would vest the power in the hands of a few men. This we do not want—regardless of who the men are. We must maintain the importance of the local church.

But on the other side of the picture, the local church also owes something to its sister churches and to the denomination of which it is a part. The local church owes Christian regard to others. It owes to itself and to the world about it to be the best possible church. It owes to its Master to be faithful to the task of evangelizing the world. There is no place in the program of the church to take an attitude of belligerent self-interest. The church has some responsibilities.

A prayerful spirit of cooperation on the part of all of us will do much to solve our problems.

We must cooperate or die. But we must cooperate as equals who have a Christian regard one for another. We need a program. We need guidance. And it is the duty of our leaders to give us guidance. But no program can be shoved down the throat of the local church. If this editor has any

conception of the quality of our present leadership, then no one in going to try to shove a program down the throat of any local church. But the fact remains that we need a program.

Once this program is devised, then it is the duty of the local church to give it prayerful attention. If the program is in keeping with the goals of the kingdom of God, then that program should be given courteous attention. Then, as a band of Christians united together to promote the kingdom, the church should cooperate to the best of their ability with the denominational program.

In conclusion, we are a group of independent churches banded together to promote a greater work than any of us can do alone. But we have guarded our independence so selfishly that we have not actually cooperated for the promotion of that greater work. Each church is important. It is an important unit in the kingdom of God. *But it is not the whole kingdom of God.*

## Rev. J. B. Bloss

A beloved Free Will Baptist minister, active in both local and national work for many years, died July 17. Rev. J. B. Bloss, 74, retired pastor of Loyal Chapel Free Will Baptist church, Columbia, Tenn., died of a heart attack after an illness of some few months.

"Brother" Bloss, as he was called throughout the denomination, had been pastor of the Loyal Chapel church most of the time since it was organized in 1939. In addition to his very active work in his local church, which he had to give up last year because of ill health, he had served for 12 years as a member of the Board of Home Missions.

He asked to be retired from the board three years ago, and was made an honorary member. Seven of the years in which he served, he was chairman of the board.

Funeral services were conducted July 19 at the Loyal Chapel church. Rev. Damon C. Dodd and Rev. Rupert Pixley conducted the services. Active pallbearers were Free Will Baptist ministers and honorary pallbearers were the deacons and trustees of the Loyal Chapel church and minister friends in the city.

He is survived by Mrs. Bloss; three daughters, Miss Clara Bloss, Mrs. Dewey Lindsey, and Mrs. Henry Mardis, all of Florence, Ala.; a son, Jimmy Bloss, Colombia; an uncle, G. C. Bloss, who had made his home with him for many years; a half-sister, ten grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

## Sam Jones Said It

I see a preacher starting out and proposes to be a preacher; never looks in a book, never thinks, never studies; he is going to open his mouth and let the Lord fill it. Well, the Lord does fill a fellow's mouth as soon as he opens it, but He fills it with aid. And there's many an old air-gun going through the country professing to be a preacher. I have listened to some men preaching an hour, and they didn't say one thing in the hour; and I got perfectly interested seeing how the fellow could dodge every idea in the universe and talk an hour. I just watched him.

I see a farmer the first three months of the year, instead of cleaning out his fence corners and repairing his fences and turn-

ing his land and being just as energetic and active in January as he is in May, instead of that he is loitering around doing nothing.

I don't need any tongue of the prophet to tell how he will come out farming. I have seen him down South. I have watched him, and I have told him before he started in how he would come out, too. Said I, "I'll tell you what will happen to you. You'll buy your corn from the West; you put in forty acres to the old mule, and," said I, "before the year is out the grass will have your cotton and the birds will have your wheat and the buzzards will have your mule and the sheriff will have you; and that's where you'll wind up."

Didn't plan anything—that's the trouble.



# What's Your Problem?



By LOUIS H. MOULTON

**Q.** I have been much concerned lately about the clothes which I am required to wear in the shirt factory where I work. It is compulsory for all the women to wear slacks. How do you feel about this?

**A.** I personally believe that it is absolutely wrong for a woman to wear men's clothing (Deut. 22:5). It is a bad influence and takes away from the femininity that belongs to the woman. The habits of women copying men, particularly in the wearing of men's clothing, have resulted in many of the evils of this modern day. There are some women who try to justify their wearing these clothes by saying that slacks, shorts, etc., are not men's clothing but made especially for women. But if such a person will take note of the wording of Deuteronomy 22:5 it says "The woman shall not wear that which PERTAINETH unto a man. . ."

**Q.** I notice that you let down the one who asked about the Trinity and as I have been given an answer by a man of God, I wonder if you would not like to have it. I like it and here it is: Let us take water, then ice, then steam—don't you see all are water. Yet one is solid, the other vapor or steam, yet all are water, three in one.

**A.** Thank you friend for this enlightening explanation. We have received it and have given it here verbatim for (as you stated in your letter) what it is worth.

**Q.** I am married to an unsaved husband. I am a Christian and wonder if I should obey my unbelieving husband.

**A.** You did not say whether you were a Christian when you married this unsaved man. If you were you should have heeded 2 Corinthians 6:14, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers. . ." However according to Ephesians 5:22-33 which begins "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife. . ." and according to 1 Corinthians 7 the Christian wife should very definitely obey her unsaved husband just so long as it does not interfere with or is contrary to the Word of God. Keep in mind always that "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

**Q.** Another couple who attends the same church that we do comes to our house about once a week and we play a friendly game of cards. Sometimes we go to their house to play. We do not play

for money, it is simply a pastime and we enjoy it. Is this really wrong?

**A.** Anything which might make us a stumbling block to some weaker Christian is wrong. In the minds of most Christians card playing is associated with gambling and with worldliness. It may never lead to that in your case but what case but what would happen if someone who had just become a babe in Christ were to see you? I'm sure the Apostle Paul must have liked meat but he said in 1 Cor. 8:13 "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend." Again in 1 Thessalonians 5:22 Paul says "Abstain from all appearance of evil." If you pray earnestly and sincerely about this I'm sure God will show you just what to do.

**Q.** It is nearing election time in my state and I have never heard so much rotten politics and so many rotten politicians. My pastor is constantly saying that we ought to pray for our leaders, for our president, for these rotten politicians. Why?

**A.** 1 Timothy 2:1-4 is the reason. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

**Q.** When the "New Jerusalem" comes down from God out of heaven who will be its inhabitants and where will it be located?

**A.** Its inhabitants will be the redeemed saints. In Revelation 21:27 we are told that only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life shall enter into it. As to where it will be located we are not told. M. R. DeHaan says that it "is generally believed that the New Jerusalem will be suspended in the air over the earth." He is the only one I have ever heard say this and we can only guess or surmise since the Bible does not tell us just where it will be.

**Q.** In Matthew 22:11-13 I read with interest about a man who was cast into outer darkness because he had not on a wedding garment. Who is this man?

**A.** This is one who came to the wedding in his own garments of self-righteousness. It speaks of one who was a professing believer without having been really born again. As a result he was excluded from the wedding as will be everyone who has not experienced the new birth.

**Q.** Do we have any record in the New Testament where Jesus smiled or laughed?

**A.** No. He may have smiled or laughed but there is no mention of it in the Scripture.

## Cooperative Receipts Top \$14,000 for July

Gifts to the Cooperative Plan of Support, in which all of the boards and agencies of the National Association share, were up to a little over \$4,000 for July. Your regular contributions help undergird every phase of the denominational program and are needed during these days of an expanding program. Many churches send a minimum of ten per cent of their offerings. Will you support this month?

The report for July is as follows:

RECEIPTS			
<b>ALABAMA</b>			
First Church, Dothan	\$ 105.87		
Goodwater Church, Slocomb	5.00	110.87	
<b>ARKANSAS</b>			
Willoughby Church, Warren	2.84		
State Assn.	270.59		
Phillips Chapel Church, Springdale	80.00	353.43	
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>			
State Assn.		480.44	
<b>GEORGIA</b>			
State Assn.		230.18	
<b>ILLINOIS</b>			
Oak Valley Church, Fairfield	15.57		
Pleasant View Church, Kell	15.35		
Oak Grove Church, Scheller	9.10		
First Church, Johnson City	53.50		
Bakerville Church, Mt. Vernon	52.02		
Waltonville Church, Mt. Vernon	16.67		
Johnsonville Church, Johnsonville	12.00		
Alex Mt. Zion Church, Olive Branch	49.90		
Union Church, W. Frankfort	10.28		
Ina Church, Ina	27.44	261.83	
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>			
South Mississippi Assn.		5.00	
<b>MISSOURI</b>			
State Assn.	759.74		
Mt. Pisgah Ch., Cabool	12.65	772.39	
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>			
First Assn.	8.62		
First Ch., Hobbs	65.36	73.98	
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>			
Swannanoa Ch., Swannanoa		84.36	
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>			
State Assn.		780.00	
<b>TENNESSEE</b>			
Olivet Ch., Clarksville	300.00		
Wooddale Ch., Knoxville	28.46		
Horton Heights Ch., Nashville	72.34		
Ashland City, Ch., Ashland City, Ch., Heads Ch., Chapmansboro	116.34	547.92	
<b>TEXAS</b>			
State Assn.		348.35	
		4,048.75	

DISBURSEMENTS			
Superannuation	121.44		
League	121.44		
Sunday School	202.45		
Home Missions	607.33		
Bible College	809.77		
Executive Dept.	971.69		
Foreign Missions	1,214.63	4,048.75	



## 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.  
Newark, Calif.

One new church has been added to the honor roll this month, giving us a total of 30 toward our goal of 50 churches on this honor roll. In addition, some churches have started using our new "Bundle Plan" in which we sent a quantity to one address in the church for distribution. A bundle of ten is only \$1.00 per month or a bundle of 25 would be \$2.50 per month.

### 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 August, 1959 No. 10

# Riggs Resigns Missions Post

Rev. Raymond Riggs, who has been general director for the Foreign Mission Board in a full-time capacity for six years, and in a part-time capacity for a number of years preceding that, has resigned his position. His letters to the board members follows:

"As you well know, for some time I have been feeling that perhaps the Lord was leading me to resign from the Foreign Mission Department and return to the pastorate. All of my ministerial life I have endeavored to seek and find the will of God regarding my place of service in His vineyard. Other than the written Word, the only dependable way I have found of knowing His will is by an abiding conviction. Realizing the importance of the foreign mission program of our church and also, because I love it so dearly, I have tried to "brush aside" this conviction, but it seems to linger still.

No doubt but what circumstances have contributed to these convictions, such as, family responsibilities, love for the pastorate, a desire to build a strong missionary church, financial strain, fear of rendering inadequate service, and perhaps others, but still I believe they all add up to the will of God for me at this time.

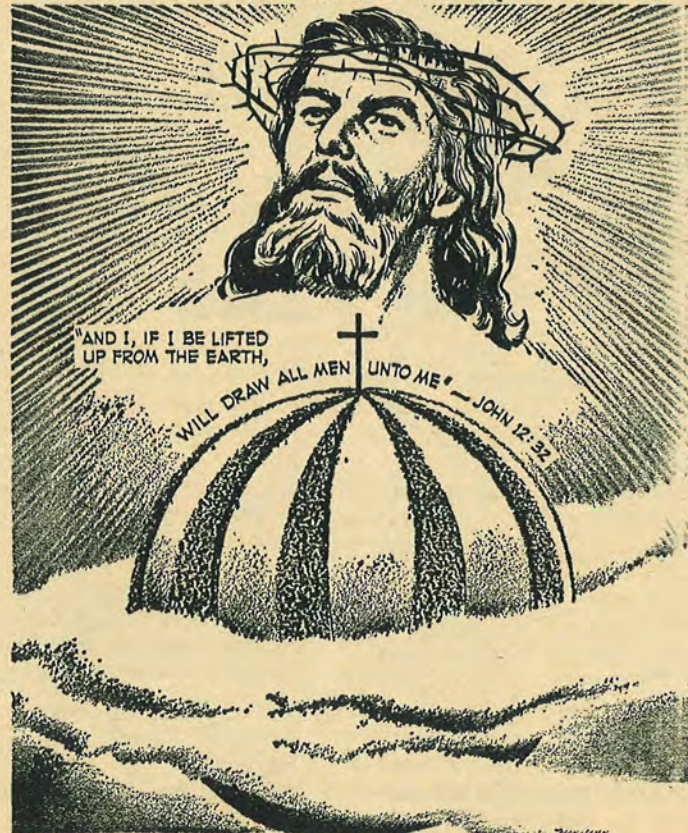
Because of these facts, I do hereby

submit my resignation as General Director-treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptist to become effective on or before January 1, 1960. This will give ample time for due consideration for my successor, and also will give us time to make the necessary move as the Lord directs. I have no plans at this time regarding future work, but I assure you that I intend to do my best to make 1959 the best year ever for the cause of foreign missions. Also, I expect to be an ardent promoter, and supporter to the cause of missions wherever the Lord enables me to serve.

I am glad to say that I believe the Foreign Mission Department of our denomination is on a sound footing. The years of service that I have rendered for the department will be cherished as some of the most precious years of my life. I have had blessed fellowship with every board member and staff member. Also, every missionary on the field today holds a sacred place in my heart. I intend to stand behind them in every way possible.

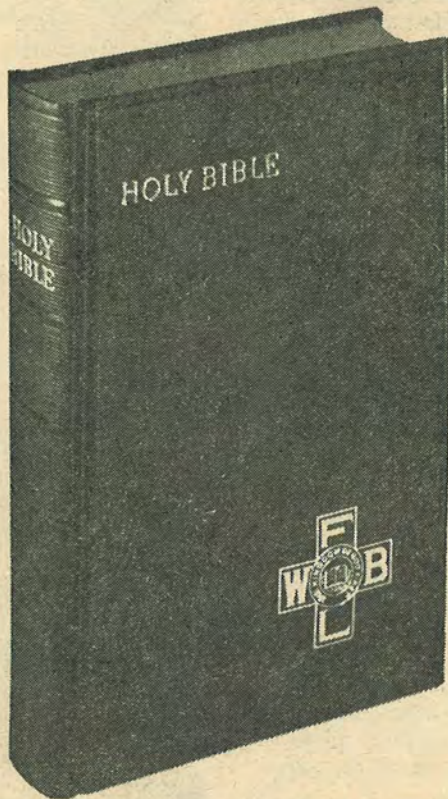
Please be assured that this letter has been a difficult one to write, and it is written after months of prayerful consideration, but I believe it to be God's will, and I pray you will receive it as such and vote to accept my resignation."

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## Spiritual Life Retreats Scheduled in Far East For Evangelical GI's

The National Association of Evangelicals today announced that it would sponsor two spiritual life retreats for evangelical servicemen in Japan and Korea during the month of September.

Featured speakers at the conferences will be the Rev. Roy McKeown, director of Youth for Christ, Los Angeles, California and the Rev. George Ford, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals. The conferences are planned as a source of spiritual inspiration and blessing for men serving with U.S. military forces in the Far East. It will include servicemen of numerous denominations, and for many it will be the first opportunity for such contact with other evangelical servicemen stationed overseas.

The first retreat will be held at the "Gohra" Tokyo, from Friday evening September 18 to Sunday noon September 20. The second retreat will be held at the Eighth Army Retreat Center, Seoul, Korea from Friday evening September 25 to Sunday noon September 27.

Arrangement for the conference are being handled in the U.S. by Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, acting executive secretary of the NAE Chaplains Commission, 1405 G St., N.W., Washington 5, D.C. In the Far East arrangements and registrations are being handled by Chaplain (1st Lt Calvin W. Roy, USAF, 6000th Support Wing, APO 925, San Francisco, California.

If pastors or parents have service personnel in the Far East, the NAE chaplaincy office will contact them for you in regard to these retreats if you will send their names and addresses to Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, NAE Commission on Chaplains, 1405 G St., N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

The chaplaincy office says, "Our one ambition is that these retreats may serve as a genuine stimulus to evangelical men who are not only separated from direct fellowship with your churches now, but are in the midst of every force that would tend to destroy their faith."

We hope all of you who have men in the area will write them giving them the information about the retreats (just clip the above story and send it) and urge them to attend.