

Contact

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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AUGUST 1960



CONVENTION CAPSULE

• General Board in session prior to the meeting of the National Association called on the Democratic Convention, then meeting in Los Angeles, to select a nominee "whose religious beliefs are consistent with the separation principle contained in the Constitution of the United States and who could serve as President upholding separation of church and state without mental reservation and without pressure from ecclesiastical authority." The board made known its feelings in a wire to Gov. Leroy Collins, the permanent chairman of the Democratic Convention and governor of Florida.

• Mr. Arthur Selland, Mayor of Fresno, gave the welcome address to the ministers and delegates from 28 states and two foreign countries at the opening service on Tuesday night.

• Churches in three new states were received into the National Association at the recommendation of the Credentials Committee. They were the Free Will Baptist Churches of Limerick, Maine; Littleton, New Hampshire; and Waipahu, Hawaii.

• Free Will Baptist Bible College of Nashville, Tennessee, reported a total enrollment of 210 students for the 1959-60 year. Their budget calls for a total of \$187,950.00 in the general fund for the year 1960-61.

• The combined ministries of Othel T. Dixon, Ralph Lightsey, and Reford Wilson were a great blessing to the convention. These men faithfully ministered from the Word and God honored with definite decisions.

• The convention heard with interest the report of the commission appointed for a study of theological liberalism and then voted to make this a permanent commission with the following elected to serve: Eugene Waddell (5 years), N. R. Smith (4 years), Ronald Creech (3 years), Paul Ketterman (2 years), and Bobby Jackson (1 year).

• Executive Committee was charged with the responsibility of studying the present Constitution and By-Laws to offer proposed By-Laws which would define more clearly the work of the General Board. This work is to be reviewed at the next session of the National Association.

• Executive Secretary Billy A. Melvin presented a special 25th anniversary session program to be climaxed in Norfolk, Virginia, July 1961. The theme will be "Committed to the Changeless Christ in a

Changing World." There will be three main points of emphasis—1. Committed to Christ, 2. Faithful to the Great Commission, 3. Loyal to the Church.

• Study Committee charged with the responsibility of exploring the possibility of a Free Will Baptist Seminary suggested that an immediate move at this time would not be wise, but did recommend that the denomination take "proper steps" and look forward to the time when a seminary could be realized.

• The Foreign Mission Board reported 17 missionary candidates approved and ready for the field. All of these hope to be in missionary service within the year. The Foreign Mission budget calls for a total of \$230,000.00 in 1961.

• All visitors, delegates, and ministers heard Dr. Bob Pierce, President of World Vision, on Wednesday night at a special missionary service. Dr. Pierce, just back from Japan where he viewed the recent riots, challenged the convention with the truth that "the time is ripe again for discipline in the church—for humbleness, servitude, sacrifice, courage, self-denial, and work." Ten persons responded to the invitation at the close of the service.

• Dean S. Collins, representative from the American Bible Society, gave a report of their work for the last year. He reported that translations and revisions in 40 languages are now underway, Bibles or portions of the Bible were issued in the amount of 14,220,687, ten million pieces were distributed in the United States, and 7½ million pieces were distributed overseas.

• Home Mission Board announced the appointment of six missionaries. Rev. and Mrs. Mark Vandivort to New England for the summer, Rev. and Mrs. Kirby Joe Godwin to Alaska, and Rev. and Mrs. Roy Thomas to the Northwest. Their budget for 1961 calls for \$88,232.00.

• Convention voted to set up a Historical Commission to be charged with the responsibility of preserving the history of our denomination.

• A special resolution was also adopted by the convention which will become effective in July 1961. This resolution confines national fund raising by the boards to their own area of responsibility. The resolution reads in part, "Whereas the present need is for an undergirding of prayer, training, and stewardship at the local church level, there-

IN THE VINEYARD

■ Mrs. Eunice Edwards, WNAC Executive Secretary, will attend the Southeast Missouri Yearly meeting at LeMay on August 12. She will attend the woman's camp at Cragmont, N. C., August 15-20, and South Carolina's woman's camp on August 24.

■ Foreign Missions Director Rolla Smith participated in a missionary conference held at Southside church, Paintsville, Kentucky, July 29-31. He will be in revival and missionary services August 14-21, at Fellowship church, Bryan, Texas. Following the Missouri state association which he will attend, he will speak at Fellowship church, Flat River, Missouri, on August 28.

■ Billy Melvin, Executive Secretary, held revival services August 1-7 in Evergreen church, Iola, Texas, and will attend the Texas Youth Camp at Piney Woods, August 8-12. He will also attend the Union Association of East Tennessee on August 17-18 and the Missouri state association which convenes August 23-25.

■ Home Missions Director Homer E. Willis spoke at the First church, Amarillo, Texas, on July 3 and visited the churches at Tulare and Kerman, California, on July 10. Following the national association he visited with Free Will Baptist families in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 17.

■ League Director Ray Turnage attended Cumberland Association youth camp, Henderson, Tennessee, July 31-August 6.

fore, be it resolved that each board or agency confine its national fund raising to its own area of responsibility. Be it further resolved, that the Woman's Auxiliary, Master's Men, YPA, GTA, Leagues, Sunday Schools, etc., be encouraged to continue their support of all phases of the national work through the local church."

• Nashville, Tennessee, was selected as the convention site for the 1962 session of the National Association. Norfolk, Virginia, had previously been selected for the 1961 session.

• Rev. Ralph Staten of Belmont, North Carolina, was elected as Moderator. He replaces Rev. Charles A. Thigpen of Nashville, Tennessee, who had served for six years. Others officers elected were: Rev. W. Stan Mooneyham, Assistant Moderator; Rev. Dean Moore, Clerk; Rev. Bobby Picirilli, Assistant Clerk; and Rev. Billy A. Melvin, Executive Secretary.

WE HAVE HEARD a great deal in recent years about vitamins and their value for health and strength. Without certain vitamins we are told, our bodies become ill. If this is true in our physical life, is it not possible that there are vitamins which we need for our spiritual life and our church life? And are not certain vitamins necessary in the life of our Sunday School if we are going to have a vital organization?

I would suggest six vitamins that are essential to our Sunday School life if we are going to have real victory.

Vitamin A Is Action. An entire book of the New Testament is given over to action, the Acts of the Apostles. That book is primarily the history of the apostles Peter and Paul. Wherever we open this book, we see the Lord's servants busily engaged in His work.

When Paul went into a city, it was not long before a New Testament church was started. He began witnessing in the synagogue, then in the market place. Before long in someone's home a group of Christians was meeting. This was a result of action. It was the result of talking to people everywhere about Christ.

A verse in the Epistle of James (1:22) demands action: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." It is not enough that we are orthodox in doctrine; we must be orthodox in our living. Men have a perfect right to question the spirituality of one who claims to be "so spiritual" but is not doing anything about it.

Dr. Henrietta Mears says that "We have a situation in many churches today where so many people just sit. . . . Sitting church members always create a situation."

We must distinguish between activity and spirituality. It is altogether possible that we may have activity without spirituality. But I do not believe we can have real spirituality without activity. When there is the right kind of spirituality something is going to happen. That something is revival.

I read some time ago of a man who lived next door to a church. Though he had lived there for many years, it meant little to him. Perhaps some years back a call or two had been made, but the church members had soon put him down as a hopeless case. He was known in the city as the town agnostic.

But once, in the middle of the night, the church caught on fire. This man, with other neighbors and friends close by, a few of the members, rushed to the church to see what they could salvage. While he was watching the structure burn, the neighbor was interrogated by a church member, "What brought you over to the church? I've never seen you here before." This is the first time I've seen the church on fire," came the reply.

We must be certain that there is some

Dr. Clate A. Risley is Executive Secretary of NSSA. This article was supplied by National Sunday School Association in observance of National Sunday School Week, September 25-October 2.

Vital Vitamins for Sunday School Victory

*Is your Sunday School
sick and run-down? Has
your school suffered
a summer slump?
Here are six vitamins
which will give new
life to your school.*

By Clate A. Risley

fire in the pulpit and in the pew if we are going to meet the needs of any community!

Vitamin B Is The Bible. We must be certain that our action is Bible-centered. A Bible-centered program will be a Christ-centered program, for Christ is the subject of the Bible.

The message of the Bible is the great contribution the Church has to offer to any community. There are other organizations with perhaps better buildings, finer equipment and more money, but these do not give the people the Word of God. We must be careful that we do not allow ourselves to deteriorate into just another organization. Let us remain God's organization, the Church, giving the Word of God to the people.

It is the Bible that makes the difference in life. It is the Bible that makes the difference in homes, in the family, in churches, in communities and even in nations. With all our sinfulness in this great nation we still can see and feel on every hand the influence of the Word of God through the lives of the people of God. We shudder to think what America would be and what it will be if the time ever comes when we cannot preach and teach the Word of God.

As a church and as a Sunday School, if we are going to give out God's Word we must be certain that we know it. For how can we teach it, if we do not know it ourselves? The law of teaching declares that the teacher must know what he is to teach. So must each and every one of us study to show himself "approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth."

When I think of that verse, II Timothy 2:15, especially in relation to Sunday School, I always think of the various age groups and the different departments. It says, "rightly dividing the word of truth."

To me this means giving it out in such a way that whether we are talking to a four or five year old or to a fourteen or fifteen year old he will be able to grasp something of that Word. That means, we must learn how to impart it to the beginner, the primary, the junior, the junior high, the young person and the adult.

It is tragic when someone teaches a group of juniors as though they were young adults. And it is just as great a tragedy vice versa. And, yet, how often a teacher will talk over the heads of the children and another teacher will talk down to a group of young people. The children cannot grasp that which is put above them and the young people resent that which is put down to them.

Be certain as a teacher that you are giving your class the Word of God every single week. But if that Word has not become a part of you and if you are not practicing it, you will not impart it to others so that they can interpret it into daily living.

Vitamin C Is Contact, an important vitamin for victory in every Sunday School program. May I challenge you to look around and see today the denominations and the churches that are growing most rapidly. You will find that, without an exception, they are those which have a real Sunday School program. Take a closer look and you will discover that a vital part of their program is visitation and contact. Going out and witnessing to the people about Christ, and inviting them to the church and the Sunday School is certain to bring results.

Do you know that there is not one single command in the Word of God for the unsaved to come to church? All of the directives and commands are for the church to go out—to go into the highways and hedges and to persuade them to come in.

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*Newly elected Moderator
Ralph Staten (left) of North
Belmont, North Carolina
is seen at right with the
retiring Moderator
Charles A. Thigpen.*



*Special missionary speaker was Dr. Bob
Pierce, President of World Vision, Inc. With
a warmth of spirit and deep compassion, he
challenged every Christian to work for Christ
now!*



Picture Story

The Convention At Fresno



*Rev. Teddy Wilbanks and Mrs. Billy Morris
were a capable team at the piano and organ.
Their ministry of music was a rich blessing
to the convention.*



*Mr. Delmer Priest (left), Juvenile Court
Officer of the Richmond Police Department,
was the speaker at the Master's Men break-
fast, Bob Hill is chairman of the Board.*



*Rev. Lee Whaley, missionary to Alaska, dis-
plays an eskimo doll at the Home Mission
booth. Rev. Homer Willis, Director, stands
at the left.*



There was a definite emphasis on missions and evangelism at the Convention. Wesley and Aileen Calvary are pictured here extending greetings from Japan.

All the worship services were a rich blessing—used and blessed by God. Here Ralph Lightsey speaks to the Convention.



Dr. and Mrs. LaVerne Miley, missionary appointees to Africa, greet delegates and visitors at the conclusion of the Wednesday night service. Rev. Rolla Smith, Director of Foreign Missions, stands at the left.



Dressed in native clothing, the Sanders family from Hawaii is an attractive trio. They looked especially cool on such a hot night! Miss Bessie Yeley, missionary to Mexico, stands at the right.

Religious NEWSFRONT

Vote for Sunday School

CHICAGO, Ill.—The theme for the 1960 observance of National Sunday School Week — "Vote for Sunday School" — emphasizes the spiritual duties of all Christian people in this important political year.

National Sunday School Week is September 25 to October 2. It is a time when church people are alerted to the strategic importance of the Sunday School and when Sunday Schools reach out into their communities to enlist new members.

This year Americans will be reminded many times of their duty to vote in the presidential election. More important than the outcome of this race, however, is the outcome of the current spiritual conflict. Secularism is attempting to do away with Christianity. Human expediency would unseat Christian morality. Materialism is out to destroy eternal Christian values.

One of the best ways for Christian people to voice their will in these matters is to vote for Sunday School. The strongest vote a person can cast is his personal, regular attendance and full support of the Sunday School program in his local church.

National Sunday School Week is sponsored by the National Sunday School Association, 175 N. Franklin, Chicago, Illinois. NSSA produces a full line of materials to help churches observe the week, and a suggestive guidebook. NSSA also sponsors an annual Sunday School Convention, which in 1960 meets in St. Louis, Missouri, October 12-14.

Church Leaves ABC

WICHITA, Kansas (EP)—The First Baptist Church of Wichita, which failed in its efforts to persuade the American Baptist Convention to leave the National Council of Churches, has itself withdrawn from the American Convention.

Members of the church, one of the largest in the American Baptist Convention with 4,300 members, voted 739-294 to end their affiliation.

At the recent meeting of the Convention in Rochester, New York, the church had supported a move to have the denomination cease promoting the ecumenical movement in its Sunday School literature and other magazines.

The motion failed by an overwhelming majority, and a layman in the church told reporters that this left the Wichita church's affiliation with the American convention "in jeopardy."

The church has not indicated whether it would seek affiliation with another Baptist convention or association.

Gideons Meet

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The 61st Annual Convention of The Gideons International was held July 19 to 24 at the Statler Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles, California. The Gideons International is a Christian Businessmen's Association numbering nearly 19,000 members in the United States and over 50 other countries around the world. The Association is engaged in a program of placing the Holy Bible in such public institutions as hotels and hospitals, and of presenting the New Testament to such groups as military personnel, students from the 5th through the 12th grades inclusive, and to nurses. Up to the present time more than 44,000,000 Bibles and New Testaments have been placed and distributed in these areas of life by Gideons.

Ackley Dies

WHITTIER, Calif. (EP)—The Rev. Alfred Henry Ackley, one of the best known hymnologists of the century, died here July 3 at the age of 73.

Ackley, who had teamed with his late brother, B. D., in writing more than 5,000 hymns, was best known for "He Lives," "Heartaches," "God's Tomorrow," "Song of the Soul Set Free," and "At the End of the Road."

In the early 1900s, he and his brother wrote "Jesus, I'm Coming Home" for a Billy Sunday revival. For more than a half century thereafter he penned hymns, gospel songs and children's choruses—producing, in collaboration with numerous other song writers, messages in music that have touched thousands of hearts through the years.

A retired Presbyterian minister, Rev. Ackley had been affiliated with the Rode-heaver-Hall Mack Co., for more than ten years prior to his death.

Born in Springhill, Pa., Jan 21, 1887, he is survived by his wife, Alice, and sons, Henry and William.

Criswell Cites Results

DALLAS, Texas (EP)—If Democrat nominee Sen. John F. Kennedy is elected to the presidency of the United States, it could "spell the death of a free church in a free state." So warned the pastor of the world's largest Southern Baptist Church in a recent Sunday sermon.

Kennedy's election, said W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, would kill "all hopes of continued full religious liberty in America."

"If Kennedy is nominated and elected," said the 50-year-old minister, it would inevitably open the door for a United States

ambassador to the Roman Catholic Church, tax support for Catholic schools, and finally the recognition of the Roman church above all others."

Supporting his thesis, Criswell pointed to a recent article in *Osservatore Romano*, official Vatican newspaper, which declared: "The church has full power of jurisdiction over all the faithful and hence has the duty to guide and direct them on the plane of ideas and action. The church has the duty and the right to intervene even in the political field. A Catholic can never prescind the teachings and directives of the church."

Baptist World Alliance Closes

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (EP)—Facing what he termed the biggest crowd he has ever addressed, Evangelist Billy Graham spoke at a gigantic evangelistic service on July 3, closing the 10th Congress of the Baptist World Alliance. The audience was estimated at approximately 150,000.

Every continent was represented on the program for this special service, and at its close hundreds stood to indicate their acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour.

Earlier, the Baptist World Alliance had elected as its new president John Soren, for 26 years pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rio, and five times president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention. Vice-presidents and continental representatives of the Alliance include V. Carney Hargroves and Joseph H. Jackson of the United States; Lam Chi Fung of Hong Kong; Alfonso Olmedo of Argentina; Alan C. Prior of Australia; William R. Tolbert of Liberia; Henri Vincent of France and Yakov I. Zhidkov of the Soviet Union.

Lauds World Council

NEW YORK, N. Y. (EP)—"Catholics should be grateful to the World Council of Churches." So says a Catholic theologian in hailing the Ecumenical Movement of the World Council of Churches for producing an "openness of mind" in ecumenical circles "unparalleled in the history of Christianity."

Father Gregory Baum, a member of the faculty of St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto, said that the Ecumenical Movement had "declared an open war on all religious prejudice" by recognizing that the divided state of Christianity was not "simply the result of a religious conflict."

Writing in the June 24 issue of *The Commonweal*, a national weekly, published here by Catholic laymen, Father Baum praised the writings on the Catholic Church published under the auspices of the World Council, saying they represented a "phenomenon altogether new in the history of inner-Christian controversy."

Protestants, he said, are now "able to acquaint themselves with (Catholic) doctrine by reading studies prepared by fellow Protestants, speaking their language, free from persuasion, and yet presenting an authentic picture."

REPORT OF COMMISSION TO STUDY THEOLOGICAL LIBERALISM

PAUL WARNED that "the time will come when men will not endure sound doctrine." That time came when the visible church became engulfed in the Roman Catholic heresy. Later, after the rise of Protestantism and the revival of New Testament Christianity, the church faced new doctrinal attacks. The climax of these is the attempt of satan to destroy God's work by modernism. This is perhaps his most successful attack because it is his most subtle attempt. It works from within. Like a worm in an apple, modernism eats away at the core of the church leaving a beautiful outside but no heart.

Report on Our Work

This Commission has studied the foe of theological liberalism. Attention was given to the fact of what constitutes a modernist in church work. The term is used to designate those who believe and teach certain modern theories about scriptural truth. It does not necessarily apply to the use of modern equipment. It does not necessarily refer to a church with a new building of contemporary design. In the most generally accepted sense a modernist is a theological liberal who does not hold to historical Christian truths. The doctrines of the modernist are such errors as the following: The Bible is a human book full of mistakes instead of the inerrant WORD OF GOD; the miracles of the Bible are more myth than miracle; Jesus is the illegitimate son of an unfortunate woman instead of the Virgin Born, sin-less son of the Almighty God; the death of Christ was a martyr's finish to a religious leader's life instead of the substitutionary atonement for the sins of the world; the resurrection of Jesus was a mental hallucination of some misguided zealots instead of the victorious bodily triumph of the King of kings and Lord of lords; the need of the world is psychological adjustment instead of Holy Ghost regeneration; and the mission of the church is more to construct a new social order than to snatch sinners from eternal hell by God's gospel.

Consideration was also given to the new-modernism: neo-orthodoxy. This is the erroneous method of using good old fundamental gospel words to disguise deceptive beliefs. Many who can freely use such terms as "conversion", "Word of God", "inspiration" and "preach the gospel" mean something very different from the preaching of such men as Elder Benjamin Randall and Elder Paul Palmer.

Some thought was given to worldliness and secularism which breed modernism. The more deadly enemies enter through the doors opened by loose living.

A few papers have been written. Extensive plans have been laid to cover the subject thoroughly by the help of a large number of able Free Will Baptists. The Commission

feels its chief duty is to encourage qualified people to submit material on the needed subjects. We have not sought to edit anything. We the members have also written some material which we hope to get before our people through our papers.

Appraisal of Our Denomination With Respect to Liberalism

The Free Will Baptist Denomination is greatly blessed in that we have no great problem over modernism at the present time. Certain factors play a part in this picture.

One characteristic of our churches in the past that has helped us is conservatism. This in itself is no particular virtue, but it has given us the tendency to steer away from the liberal ideas of modernists.

Alignment with the National Association of Evangelicals has helped make us aware of certain dangers. This group of denominations helps alert members to the peril of modernism. It keeps us aware of the trends created by its antagonistic counterpart—the National Council of Churches.

The firm position taken by the Free Will Baptist Bible College on the fundamentals of our faith is strongly in our favor. Current concern over future denominational loyalty to our historic beliefs chiefly arises from this factor. We find that modernism's biggest enemy among Free Will Baptists is the Bible College.

The orthodoxy of our denominational leaders is an encouraging sign. We feel that those now leading the work of the National Association will never betray the cause by being soft on liberalism.

However, as we see it, Free Will Baptists are approaching a crossroads. Within this decade additional measures should be taken to insure our future against modernism or else trends toward liberalism might set the stage for false doctrine in years to come. It is not enough to be relatively free from the peril now. Safeguards should be created against future encroachments. One of our weakest points might be our inevitable drive for progress. All of us must recognize that the only real progress made is spiritual and scriptural progress.

Suggestions for the Future

Free Will Baptists must pray and work for a revival of Bible standards in Christian living. Great stress should be given to the holy heart and separated life of the Lord's people. Worldliness should be defined and churches should call on members to tow the line. High spiritual standards should be maintained in the ministry. Brotherly love should be exercised in dealing with the problems of worldliness.

Separation from modernists in accordance with II Corinthians 6:14 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

R. Eugene Waddell, Chairman, N. R. Smith, Ronald Creech, Paul Kettelman, Bobby Jackson

Vital Vitamins

(Continued from Page 3)

In the New Testament there are a number of different kinds of contacts pictured. Let me call attention to two of them. First, we find the accident type. There are no accidents as far as God is concerned, but we know what we mean when we use the term. Consider the time when Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well. From a human point of view we would agree that this meeting seemed accidental. Our Lord capitalized on an opportunity to speak to the Samaritan woman and to reveal His Messiahship to her.

Each new day is filled with opportunities. We do not know all of those who are going to meet. We do not know who will come to our door. We do not know who may come to our place of business or even whom we may meet on the street. Perhaps it is someone we have never met before or someone we may know but have failed to witness to or invite to come to our church and our Sunday School. Perhaps he does not even know where to go to Sunday School. Here is an opportunity. We must make the most of our accidental contacts.

But we hasten to say that even though every church member made the most of his accidental contacts that would not be enough. Planned contacts are also necessary. There are areas in your community that you would never enter unless you specifically planned to go there. A scriptural illustration of a premeditated contact is the one where Andrew brings his brother Peter to Jesus. That was a planned contact that paid great dividends.

If we are going to do the job that God has for us to do in our community, we must make the most of planned contacts. This will mean an organized visitation program for the church and the Sunday School—with leaders, those who will give assignments; with those who will keep records; with those who will follow up. Every teacher should be expected to keep in constant contact with the pupils of his class. That is one advantage of having classes that are small. The teacher can know the whereabouts of every pupil every single week.

It was my privilege several weeks ago to serve as a judge for the National Sunday School Attendance Contest sponsored by *Christian Life* magazine. One thing about that contest stood out in particular. As judges we commented upon it while going over the books and discovered that no matter how many different ideas or gadgets a Sunday School used, none brought results like visitation. Not that the other methods, rightly used, do not bring results but with or without them, visitation meant the most for success. The more people making contacts, the more contacts that were made, the greater were the results, almost without an exception.

Vitamin D Is Dependability, the greatest

ability that any man can have. Where that trait is lacking, it makes little difference what other abilities a man may possess. It does not make much difference how well one can teach or sing or speak or usher or anything else if he is not on the job when the job needs to be done.

God is looking for men and women today with vitamin D, men who are there on the job week, in, week out, long after the glamour has worn off. God is looking for men and women with vitamin D in the summer. He is looking for such men and women in hunting season. A person who thinks more of a fish, a deer or an elk than he thinks of the soul of a boy or girl has no business teaching a Sunday School class. We must have vitamin D—Dependability.

There are many men and women of great talent who have been laid on the shelf because God could not count on them. It is required of a steward that he be found faithful. Dependability and faithfulness are vital for the success of any program.

Vitamin E Is Efficiency. Oh, how we need it in the Church of Jesus Christ today. It grieves my heart to see the carelessness, on the Lord's Day of people who are meticulous in carrying out the secular duties of the week.

How often we see those who would not think of being late to work on Monday morning coming late to Sunday School even when they have responsibilities. How often we see those who would not stay home from work on Monday because of a slight headache or company use such excuses for absenting themselves from their place of responsibility on the Lord's Day.

Do you know what an excuse is? It's "the skin of a reason stuffed with a lie." That is what many people hand God for their carelessness in carrying out their duties for God.

Two Scripture verses are especially applicable here. One is found in Jeremiah 48:10 which says, "Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord negligently." Jeremiah was not talking to the wicked, but to the people of God. He said there is a curse upon the people of God that are careless and negligent in the way they do the work of the Lord. The other is Romans 12:11 "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord."

There are five "keys" of efficiency. The first key of efficiency for the Christian is prayer.

The second key is planning. We must plan. To plan means to think. We must learn to think in two different ways: alone and with others. Many have learned to do one but not to do both.

Third is program. We must have a program. What are we planning to do as a Sunday School this year? What are our long-range plans? What are the details? Who is going to work them out?

The fourth key of efficiency is promotion. We may have the best program in the world but we have to be sure that it has hands and feet.

Every leader should find out that if a program is to be a success someone has to push. How are we going to push? With publicity. Here is our last key of efficiency. We must let people know we are in business, where our church is, when our program starts, what is taking place. Nobody ever goes to a store unless he knows there is a store there. Nobody ever goes to a Sunday School unless he knows there is one there. It is our job to let people know that there is one there and that we are operating.

We promote with publicity in many ways—through announcements in meetings, through the mail, through radio, through the newspaper. The best publicity of all is a satisfied customer. So we must be certain that we are taking care of those who come to us—by being friendly, by introducing them to others, by giving them that which is a help to them in their spiritual life.

Vitamin F Is "First Things First." In Matthew 6:33 the Lord says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

If we will put first things first, all of these other vitamins will be taken care of. Our great need is not a lot of new methods but renewed men to do the things that they already know ought to be done. Basically, most of our problems are spiritual.

I trust that we shall use the vitamins we need in our own life, in our own Sunday School and in our own church in order that our community may see the difference in our Sunday School.

The Absentee

"Someone is absent," the Shepherd said,
As over my class book He bent His head:
"For several Sundays absent, too,
So tell me, teacher, what did you do?"

"I didn't call as perhaps I should,
I wrote some cards, but they did no good,
I've never heard and she never came,
So I decided to drop her name."

He answered gravely, "A flock was mine,
A hundred—no, there were ninety and nine,
For one was lost in the dark and cold:
So I sought that sheep which had left the fold.

The path was stony and edged with thorns;
My feet were wounded, and bruised and torn,
But I kept on seeking, nor counted the cost;
And oh, the joy when I found the lost."

Thus spoke the Shepherd in tender tone,
I looked and lo—I was all alone;
But God a vision had sent to me,
To show His will toward the absentee.

—Unknown

CONTACT

THEOLOGICAL LIBERALISM

(Continued From Page 7)

... and other scriptures should be maintained. Clear lines of loyalty to Scriptural Brethren should be held. Though one loves the soul of the modernist, his false beliefs should be *exposed*.

Those who have been educated by modernists and have had close association with them should make their alignment with orthodoxy and disapproval of theological liberalism known clearly and unquestionably. Young men should be discouraged from going to liberal institutions, particularly for theological training.

Pastors should doctrinally prepare their people to "give a reason for the hope." Laymen need to be aware of the issues at stake. Doctrinal sermons help teach the Lord's people. Some ministers have brought a series of doctrinal messages for this purpose. The minister should take his stand against evolution and other errors in the public schools.

More care should be taken by ordaining councils in ordination. Furthermore when one's doctrines are questionable this group should examine. A preacher of sound doctrine will *gladly* restate his position.

A survey of liberalism in other denominations reveals that the chief place of entrance is educational institutions. Generally speaking "as a denomination's schools go, so goes the denomination." We must be kept aware that we need more than just education. We need the right kind of education. Therefore, constant vigilance should be kept over all our Free Will Baptist institutions.

All of us need to maintain a strong spiritual witness and testimony. Forceful, effective evangelism and modernism do not mix. "The best defense is often a strong offense." Furthermore, we must remember that a soul-winning church is a doctrinally sound church.

Finally, we appreciate the opportunity of serving this past year. We feel that the job has just begun. This is a continuous task. Such a commission should be in permanent existence. Therefore, we recommend that the Moderator be authorized to appoint a permanent commission.

Convention Memories

(Continued from Page 11)

amount received from the women of the denomination. Our project for the coming year is a medical station in Africa for the Mileys. The Y.P.A., G.T.A., and B.A. project will be the facilities for the children's division of same. Goals were set for states.

The annual yearbook has been replaced by a Quarterly magazine. This will take the place of the yearbook and newsletter. This is the greatest step forward possible at this time. I am excited at the difference it will make in our meetings, to have something fresh from the field. We can truly enter into the work through knowledge and prayer.

"God Is Able." Are we willing? What of the coming year?

AUGUST, 1960

—CLIP FOR REFERENCE—

PERSONNEL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

- Foreign Missions
- Home Missions
- Bible College
- Sunday School
- League
- Superannuation
- Executive Dept.

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

Officers

Moderator—*Ralph Staten, North Belmont, North Carolina.
Assistant Moderator—**W. Stan Mooneyham, Wheaton, Ill.
Clerk—**Dean Moore, San Pablo, Calif.
Assistant Clerk—*Robert Picirilli, Nashville, Tenn.
Executive Secretary—**Billy A. Melvin, Nashville, Tenn.

General Board

- **E. B. Ledlow, Cordova, Ala.
- *Lynn Wood, Phoenix, Arizona
- **Willard C. Day, Russellville, Ark.
- **Jerry Dudley, Concord, Calif.
- *Harold Harrison, 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.
- *Othel T. Dixon, Mtn. Grove, Mo.
- *W. V. McPhail, Hobbs, N. M.
- **M. L. Johnson, Mt. Olive, N. C.
- **Richard Howard, Miamisburg, Ohio
- *Lonnie DeVault, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- **Rufus Coffey, Florence, S. C.
- **E. B. McDonald, Nashville, Tenn.
- **H. Ray Berry, Bryan, Texas
- **J. B. Chism, Newport News, Va.
- **Carl Vallance, Huntington, W. Va.

Executive Committee

Ralph Staten, W. Stan Mooneyham, Dean Moore, Othel T. Dixon, Rufus Coffey, M. L. Johnson, Jerry Dudley.

Foreign Mission Board

- J. Reford Wilson, Okla. 1961
- *Raymond Riggs, Va. 1962
- Joseph G. Ange, Mich. 1963
- Eugene Waddell, N. C. 1964
- **Mark M. Lewis, Mich. 1965

Superannuation Board

- C. A. Huckaby, Fla. 1961
- D. W. Hansley, N. C. 1962
- J. O. Fort, N. C. 1963
- Thomas G. Hamilton, Ga. 1964
- **E. M. Kennedy, Okla. 1965

League Board

- C. F. Bowen, N. C. 1961
- R. B. Crawford, N. C. 1962
- W. Burkette Raper, N. C. 1963
- Henry Melvin, N. C. 1964
- *Russell Spurgeon, Mo. 1965

Sunday School Board

- Roger Reeds, Mo. 1961
- Robert King, Ark. 1962

College Trustees

- Melvin Bingham, Okla., James F. Miller, Tenn., J. R. Davidson, Ga. 1962
- Luther Gibson, Miss., Floyd B. Cherry, N. C., M. E. Howard, Va. 1964
- **Paul Ketterman, Miss., **Ralph Lightsey, N. C., *Delmer Priest, Calif. 1966

—CLIP FOR REFERENCE—

What's Your Problem?



LOUIS H. MOULTON

Q. My mother has been attending some meetings of a group who identify themselves by the name "Unity". She has entered a subscription to their magazine in my name and sends it to me. Some of the articles which I have read sound pretty good but I'm not just sure about this group or sect. What do you think of their doctrine?

A. Unity takes its place among a great number of other fast growing false cults. I, too, received their magazine which someone had sent me without my knowledge and my advice to you is to have nothing to do with this group at all. They deny the fundamentals of the Bible. The plan of salvation through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ is not only not taught but denied. Leave them alone, break off any relations which you may have with them and do it quick lest Satan get a greater hold on you through this satanic cult. Advise your mother to do the same and pray much for her.

Q. Recently my family and I moved to a city where there is no Free Will Baptist Church. We are wondering just where we should go to church.

A. I am glad that you agree that you should and must go somewhere to church even though one of your own faith is not to be found. I cannot advise you as to any single denomination since a local congregation of many denominations oftentimes depends so much upon the local pastor and his leadership. Since so many false doctrines are being taught today you must be careful, but search out a good, sound, Bible-believing church where the truth is taught concerning the death, resurrection and coming again of the Lord Jesus Christ. You cannot be too careful in your selection of the church where you go for spiritual food.

Q. We have a preacher who will not allow a League group or Sunday School class or the Girls' Auxiliary to have any kind of a little social gathering at the church. Is there any place in the Bible where we are told that we cannot have a young people's social in the church? Our only reason for wanting this is to promote fellowship and perhaps provide supervised recreation for our young folks.

A. I personally have never been against providing supervised recreation for the young people and social gatherings for

not only the young but for the old as well. The argument has been that the young people are going to find their fun and recreation somewhere. Why not provide it and have it supervised by mature Christians? However many disagree. Perhaps your pastor uses 1 Corinthians 11:22 and the remainder of that chapter where Paul asks, "What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God and shame them that have not . . ." These words, without any doubt, are clear and plain and there is the danger that your social events may become the big things in your church while the spiritual things are neglected. If your pastor preaches the gospel, condemns sin in every form and has as his main passion the winning of souls, then stick by him and thank God for him.

Q. I feel that I am a Christian and yet I do not belong to a church. Do you think I must become a member of the church to be a good Christian?

A. Joining the church will not make you a good or bad Christian if there are such. You must be born again (John 3:7) to become a Christian. Then, I believe, if we have really had an experience with God we will seek the fellowship of those with kindred minds. Perhaps you are looking for perfection in a church. You will not find it. Since we are quite imperfect ourselves we surely must bear with and overlook the flaws and imperfections of even our church leaders. The New Testament with its example of the early church teaches that it is our duty (your duty) to search out a Bible-believing church that preaches the gospel of Christ in all its fullness, where we can find sweet fellowship and affiliate ourselves therewith.

Q. Our church does not affiliate with the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Some of our members say they can see no benefit in it. What say you?

A. Space here certainly will not permit a detailed answer. Let me suggest that you write to Executive Department, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn., for full information. But briefly: Any Free Will Baptist Church should be interested in having a part in determining the policy of our Mission Boards, both home and foreign; the sending forth of missionaries in fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19); every Free Will Baptist Church should take an active interest in our Bible College and the training of young men and women for Christian service. These are just a few reasons not even to mention the interest that should be manifested in our national Sunday School Board, the League work and the National Woman's Auxiliary work.

Cooperative Receipts Show Improvement

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS for the month of June were higher than May receipts. \$3,976.47 in undesignated funds was received with \$285.87 more coming in as designated funds.

The six month record for the year shows a sizeable increase over the same six month period last year. Cooperative receipts for the first six months of last year totaled \$21,334.00. In the same period of this year, Cooperative receipts ran \$22,903.48 or an increase of \$1,569.48. This increase is due to the systematic giving of more and more of our churches through the Cooperative Plan.

We would urge all of our churches to consider the Cooperative Plan of support as the time approaches for the adoption of new church budgets.

JUNE COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

ALABAMA		
First church, Dothan		124.87
ARKANSAS		
State association		198.60
CALIFORNIA		
State association		520.24
FLORIDA		
State association		244.96
GEORGIA		
State association		280.54
ILLINOIS		
Southern Yearly	151.92	
Johnston City church	119.64	
Oak Grove, Scheller	11.20	
Southern Yearly	320.82	603.58
MISSOURI		
State association		708.07
NORTH CAROLINA		
Swannanoa church		123.35
NEW MEXICO		
First association	13.67	
First church, Hobbs	73.93	
First church, Grants	37.12	124.72
OHIO		
First church, Dayton		2.00
OKLAHOMA		
State association		667.51
TENNESSEE		
Olivet church, Clarksville	250.00	
Oak Grove, Charlotte	17.81	
Horton Heights, Nashville	60.22	328.03
TEXAS		
Trinity church, Ft. Worth		50.00
		3,976.47

DESIGNATED

FLORIDA	205.87	
OKLAHOMA	40.00	
TENNESSEE	40.00	285.87
		4,262.34

DISBURSEMENTS

Foreign Missions	1,224.48	
Bible College	820.28	
Executive Department	1,004.34	
Home Missions	587.43	
Sunday School Dept.	201.83	
F.W.B. League Dept.	121.30	
Headquarters' Trustees	119.32	
Superannuation	119.32	
W.N.A.C.—Designated	64.06	4,262.34



Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

"CONVENTION MEMORIES"

by Mrs. Dale Burden

"Oh that (women) would praise the Lord for his lovingkindness and for his wonderful works to the children of men." Psalms 107:1.

From the Executive Committee meeting in April to the last item of business July 12, the W.N.A.C., with an attendance of about 560, met with greater unity of spirit than ever before experienced. The theme "Abounding to Every Good Work" was so timely; our watchword "God Is Able" so fitting, for only through God's direction can such unity exist.

During the executive committee meeting the officers of W.N.A.C. proxies, state presidents and missionaries and their families heard a stirring devotion by Miss Bessie Yeley, challenging us to move mountains "in the Lord." Her soft tone gave strength for the weary, assurance for the doubtful, and a challenge to the faithful. The officers had prepared a program "The Christian World News Round-Up" giving the very latest news from each of the Free Will Baptist mission fields in television script form.

After reviewing the year's work, the executive committee had a season of prayer for the convention proper, the new project, and for our president Mrs. Rufus Coffey, who was unable to attend because of illness.

Declamations Heard

Monday afternoon the declamations were heard and the judging was a matter of prayer and careful listening. Those young people had messages that were really worth hearing. The field was narrowed down to two Y.P.A. contestants and two G.T.A. contestants to be heard by the convention.

Monday night the State Auxiliary of California gave a warm welcome and the state of Hawaii presented the officers with beautiful orchid leis.

The white woman missionary, a black people's witch doctor, laughter of scorn, and a new-born baby were woven into the story related by Mrs. Lorene Miley as her devotional thought. Simply and quietly she unfolded God's will that all men everywhere be saved and that she and her family must follow the Lord's bidding to Africa. They are ready to go but there are not enough funds to send them.

Mrs. Reford Wilson, Vice President, opened the meeting and appointed committees. Just before the message Mrs. Wilson sang "Tell It Again" and turned the service to Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Billows, missionaries from Monterrey, Mexico. Mrs. Billows gave her testimony of the work being done

and the strength God had given in the hours of need. Our hearts were blessed by her story of Mother's Day, when the young people of her church honored her, calling her their "Mother in the Lord." Brother Billows brought the message laid upon his heart for our women, taken from the book of Acts and from his experience on the field. "We must train native workers. Bible schools, camps, and services should all be for the purpose of training the native to love his unsaved country and go out and win the lost. The doors are closed to missionaries, but no one can close the doors to the Christian native. Perilous times demand an indigenous church."

Thought for Day

As the session began Tuesday morning, Mrs. Wilson reminded us of the thought for the day: God's work everywhere has been fraught with problems from the beginning. Problems in God's work only serve as calls to renewed faith, prayer and dedicated obedience. How rewarding will be our investment in Him.

Our missionary to Japan, Mrs. Wesley Calvery, revealed her heart for the work to the women. "America has given Japan electricity, washing machines, kitchen utensils, and clothes, but the women have no peace, no joy, no lovingkindness in the Lord, for they have no Saviour. The American woman has a time saving kitchen, but what does she do with the time saved? As His people, we ought to be intercessors for those who have not the love of God shed abroad in their hearts." She used passages from Isaiah asking us to feel the hurt of sin in Japan, praying for Japan as we would our own children.

Mrs. Helen Sanders, proxy for Mrs. Eugene Waddell, presented the declamation contestants. G.T.A. member Ricky Duncan of Oklahoma used a declamation written by Mrs. Miley, "The Heart of This Ten Year Old." Cynthia Phillips from North Carolina was next. Both had a wonderful message and were well delivered. The judges chose Ricky Duncan, first place and Cynthia Phillips, second place. The two Y.P.A. contestants had written their declamations concerning their own futures and the Lord's work for them. Harvey Dupree from North Carolina won first place and Maybelline Eaddy from South Carolina won second place.

Children Sing

The Calvery children, Rebecca and Jonathan sang and gave a few words of testimony. Brenda Sanders gave her tes-

timony about Hawaii and sang a solo. Vernon Whaley sang "How Great Thou Art" and Rodney praised the Lord for His goodness because the trouble with his eyes has been arrested. Later that afternoon little Danny Billows from Mexico was recognized and waved bye-bye to everyone.

While the congregation sang the convention hymn, the curtains came open showing a large choir of the women of California. They sang the "Awakening Chorus" doing a marvelous job. They were from all sections of the state. We really appreciated their efforts to practice and sing for us. Mrs. Sue Lindsey directed the choir.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards, our W.N.A.C. Executive Secretary, brought the morning message. Speaking heart to heart to women she used the book of Lamentations as the background for her message. Especially chapter 2, verses 11-13.

"If Jeremiah had cause to weep over Israel how much more Christian women need to mourn over our nation. Sin has entered our homes and stripped us of our testimony. Children are ignored or neglected, while many mothers cherish things. We have food, clothing and shelter, and have become self-satisfied. Jeremiah wept over the state of worship in his day. Our churches have lost their zeal to do the work of a soul-saving station. We had rather be a social order with serene calmness, while the millions of the world blinded by sin grope hopelessly, only to find eternal punishment."

Surrender Asked

Mrs. Edwards called upon the men present to preach righteousness and live a holy life. She called upon the women to dedicate themselves anew to the task of teaching our children, and our neighbors the eternal truths by holy living. Only through a spirit-filled life can the world be brought to the Lord. Mrs. Edwards gave an invitation of consecration while the organist played "I Surrender All". As the Spirit moved, women from all sections of the United States met together at the altar, bringing their lives to Him to be used as He sees fit. May all the dross have been consumed at that moment and eternal good performed.

Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Luther Sanders brought a message about Hawaii, making the need evident. Most of Hawaii is Buddhist. They do not understand, receive no joy, but are in bondage to this religion. She gave the goal for her life, as a holy life, a living witness, and a vessel of honor. Mrs. Betty Landrum, a member of our Free Will Baptist church in Hawaii sang "Lord, Lay Some Soul Upon My Heart."

Mrs. Wilson opened the business session, calling for reports from the committees. These will be included in the minutes which will be printed at a later date, but these segments were important. Our project for the past year was a mission station for Mexico. Mrs. Edwards presented a check in the amount of \$8,948.41 which was the

(Continued on Page 9)

GLANCING AROUND THE STATES

Decisions Recorded

NORTH CROSSETT, ARK.—A revival meeting which started June 6 and continued for ten days in the North Crossett Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Othel T. Dixon of Mountain Grove, Missouri, as the evangelist, resulted in 24 decisions for Christ and 18 additions to the church. Rev. Cecil Sanders is pastor of the church, assuming the pastorate of the church after graduation from Free Will Baptist Bible College.

V. B. S. Successful

LAKE CHARLES, LA.—The Free Will Baptist Church here experienced the most successful Vacation Bible School in four years. The average attendance was 85 with a record attendance of 95. Surpassing the attendance in importance, was the fact that 14 pupils accepted Christ as their Saviour. This church was started as a mission in 1955 by the present pastor, Malcolm C. Fry.

180th Anniversary

NEW DURHAM, N. H.—The Rev. C. Vaughn Overman, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of America, located here, has announced the observance of the 180th anniversary of the historic "mother" church of the Free Will Baptists. Sponsored jointly by the New Durham church and the Farmington-New Durham Historical Society, the program was held at the church on Thursday evening, June 30.

To Build Church

SESSER, ILL.—The Bear Point Church has voted to build a new church. It is hoped that construction will begin in the very near future. A recent revival at the church resulted in 21 decisions with 11 of these uniting with the church. Rev. John Rogers of Fredricktown, Mo., was the evangelist and Rev. Lawrence Thompson is the pastor.

Special Notice

NEW BERN, N. C.—After due consideration, we, the Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, this day, July 20, 1960, recommend to the Executive Committee of said Conference that Brother Cecil H. Campbell be silenced as a minister until he meets with a joint session of the Examining Board and the Executive Committee and clears himself, he having failed to abide by the Ministerial Code of Ethics and to keep proper relationship with St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church and the Eastern Conference.

Signed: Lloyd Vernon,

Secretary of Examining Board

The above recommendation was unanimously passed by the Executive Committee, this July 20, 1960. A further motion was passed

that we commend St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church and its pastor for their stand in the above mentioned matter, and assure them of our loyal support. A motion was also passed that this action be published in the local newspapers and our denominational papers.

Signed: J. W. Alford,

Secretary of Executive Committee

Church Organized

GRAYSVILLE, ALA.—A new Free Will Baptist Church has been organized in this town located ten miles west of Birmingham. The church organized with 18 members following a two weeks revival conducted by Rev. W. H. Ryland and Rev. J. J. Staab. A 200' x 200' lot has been donated by Mrs. Nichols and construction has already begun on a church building. Estimated cost of the finished brick structure is \$35,000.00.

Youth Conference

MOUNT OLIVE, N. C.—Mount Olive Junior College sponsored a Youth Conference during the week of August 14-19. The purpose of the conference was to provide an opportunity for young people of high school and post-high school age to enjoy a special week of Christian instruction, fellowship, worship and recreation at the College which is sponsored by North Carolina Free Will Baptists. Dean Michael Pelt served as director of the conference.

Turner Evangelist

FLORENCE, S. C.—The Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. James B. Skipper, had revival services in June which resulted in 18 decisions—eight for salvation and ten for rededication. The evangelist was

Rev. Bennie Turner, recent graduate of Bob Jones University and pastor of the Oates Free Will Baptist Church in Oates, S. C.

New Organization

LAKE CITY, S. C.—The Grace Free Will Baptist Church was organized here in the month of June with ten charter members. An eleven day revival was sponsored by the South Carolina State Home Mission Board with Rev. Willard C. Day as the evangelist. The church was organized the night after the revival closed under the direction of Rev. Clarence E. Lambert, South Carolina State Home Mission Director. He was assisted by the Rev. W. L. Jernigan of Timmonsville, S. C., Rev. J. B. Vause of Pamplico, S. C., and Rev. Tyler Watford of Darlington, S. C.

Has First V.B.S.

OATES, S. C.—The Free Will Baptist Church here had its first Vacation Bible School in the month of June. The teachers were: Nursery—Mrs. Lulu Melton, assisted by Mrs. Louise Melton; Beginners—Mrs. Ruby Pope, assisted by Mrs. Pearl Parnell; Intermediates—Mrs. Otra Mae Howell, assisted by the pastor Rev. Bennie Turner. Mrs. Jackie Sansbury was in charge of the music. Average attendance was 35.

Pastoral Changes

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C.—The Rev. David Hutchinson has resigned as pastor of the Faith Free Will Baptist Church here to become effective August 28, 1960. He is available for pastoral work and may be contacted at 206 North 24th Street Morehead City, N. C.

CARY, N. C.—Rev. Carey Watkins has returned from Peru, South America, and is presently available for special missionary services and evangelistic work. A graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, he may be contacted at the following address—Route No. 1, Box 202, Cary, N. C.



The Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church has recently completed the brick parsonage pictured above. This church is located about 30 miles from Nashville, Tennessee, and is pastored by Rev. Roy Thomas.

The Family BOOKSHELF

The Minister in Christian Education by Peter P. Person. Baker Book House, 134 pp., \$2.95.

In the Preface to *The Minister in Christian Education* the author states that he has written the book with the average pastor serving an average church in mind. Having had experience as a teacher of psychology and Christian education, he has an adequate knowledge of the theoretical basis of his subject. The book, however, is more than a theoretical discussion of Christian education; it is remarkably practical.

The author believes that the pastor is the key person in the program of Christian education and that the ultimate responsibility for the educational program of the church rests upon the pastor. He discusses the possibilities for educational work through the Sunday school, the vacation church school, the church membership class, the youth camp, and other phases of the church program.

The reader will find a great deal of common sense applied to the problems of conducting an educational program in the church. The book should be especially valuable to the pastor who is his own director of Christian education.—Roy O'Donnell

Called to Maturity by Myron S. Augsburger. Herald Press, 132 pp., \$2.50.

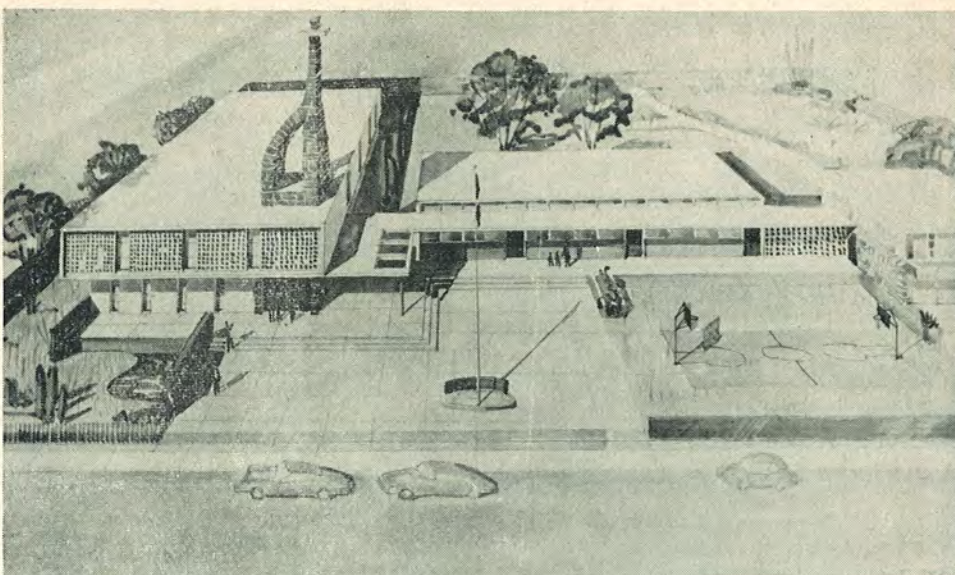
Called to Maturity is a book about a subject that is too often neglected by the average Christian. The author has nothing new to say about spiritual growth and maturity, but the fact that so many Christians are unaware of what has been said about the subject is sufficient justification for the writing of the book.

The following partial list of chapter titles suggests the contents of the book: Maturity in Effective Prayer; Maturity in Confession of Sin; Maturity Through Assurance of Salvation; Maturity in Victorious Living; Maturity in the Practice of Love. Other chapters deal with various other aspects of the subject of spiritual maturity.

The author emphasizes the Scriptural teachings concerning growth in grace, and the reader who gives prayerful consideration to the contents of the book will profit by reading it.—Roy O'Donnell

Soul-Winning by Dorothy C. Haskin. Baker Book House, 53 pp., 75¢.

Dorothy Haskin very astutely points out the obvious truth Jesus meant when He said, "Ye shall be witnesses." If you are a Christian, you are a soul-winner. You have no choice in the matter. She then gives some pertinent, practical advice on how to pursue this Christian business. A book that is easy to read and understand.—Eunice Edwards.



Pictured above is the architect's drawing of the proposed mission station in Monterrey, Mexico. Gifts totaling \$8,948.41 from the National Woman's Auxiliary Convention were presented to Home Mission's Director Homer Willis and Rev. Arthur Billows, missionary in Monterrey. This gift will make possible the first addition of the above proposed plant.

Report of Temperance Committee

WHEREAS the tide of Alcoholism is sweeping over our Nation, flooding our Nation's Capital and engulfing our youth, we recommend that Free Will Baptists throughout the Nation rise up to combat this enemy of the soul and agency of Satan. We should attack alcoholism from the pulpit and by aligning ourselves with organizations that have pledged to bring about the defeat of this enemy.

We recognize the fact that worldliness has made inroads among Free Will Baptists. Today we sanction practices that were objected to strongly by our founding fathers. We recommend a more definite stand against worldliness by our ministry.

The moral standards of America are lower now than at any other time in the history of our country. One of the major contributing factors is the obscene literature that appears on almost every newsstand and magazine rack in America. Free Will Baptists everywhere should take a definite stand against this evil.

We need to take a more definite stand against the indecent mode of apparel that seems to be the trend of our times. This, too, has contributed to our lowered moral standards.

Realizing that they could be a more effectual witness for the cause of Christ the ministry and laity of our denomination should lay upon the altar the use of tobacco in any form.

Special Resolution Adopted

WHEREAS, in the past, many needs of our denomination have been supplied through national projects promoted by various boards or agencies, be it therefore resolved, that we express sincere appreciation to all boards and agencies that have sponsored and completed such projects, but,

WHEREAS, there has been a careful analysis of our overall denominational program and consideration of our national fund raising, and,

WHEREAS, there has been a development in our denominational program on both the state and national level, which has brought into existence a growing number of denominational agencies, and,

WHEREAS, there are now at least ten national agencies that engage in fund raising, not counting the state fund raising agencies, and,

WHEREAS, some of this is in duplication, and,

WHEREAS, the present need is for an undergirding of prayer, training, and stewardship at the local church level, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that each board or agency confine its national fund raising to its own area of responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Woman's Auxiliary, Master's Men, YPA, GTA, Leagues, Sunday Schools, etc., be encouraged to continue their support of all phases of the national work through the local church.

Since some agencies have already begun projects, be it resolved that the above mentioned resolutions become effective in July, 1961.

Report of Seminary Study Committee

THE RESOLUTION. "WHEREAS the Commission on Chaplains 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, "THEREFORE be it 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."

To begin with, this committee has been faced with the problem of exactly what areas were intended for our study. We did not want to go too far afield from the area specifically designated by the resolution, since to do so might seem presumptuous on our part.

The resolution charged us simply to "explore the *possibility*". Note that the word is not "need", or "interest", or "advisability", or "methods", or "reasons for or against" establishing a seminary. The area of "possibility", of course, cannot entirely be studied apart from some consideration of some of these others—and we have given some degree of thought to some of them; but considering the charge, we have intentionally refrained from exploring these other areas to any degree greater than necessary to determine the "possibility".

In considering whether or not it is possible to establish a FWB seminary, we first must interpret the question to mean "establish immediately" or "soon", since we all know that if it just means "establish sometime", all things are possible and there would be no need of study to see whether it will someday be possible to establish such a seminary. Secondly, we also must interpret the problem to deal with establishing an "accredited seminary" or "standard seminary", since it is already obvious that it is possible for anyone who desires to establish a sub-standard seminary anytime he chooses. The existence of many sub-standard seminaries which offer spurious degrees—such as Light-house, Pioneer, etc.—attests this conclusion fully.

THEREFORE, we add these qualifications to the original question and feel it has been our responsibility to explore only the *possibility* of establishing, *in the near future*, a *standard* (or accredited) seminary by our denomination.

With these qualifications in mind, it becomes obvious that the primary question, then, is to see what the requirements for an accredited seminary are. Only by so doing can we determine whether or not it is possible to begin a seminary with a standard academic program. We have carefully studied the requirements set up by the

American Association of Theological Schools for an accredited seminary. In so doing, it became immediately apparent to us that the toughest requirements in that area for us to meet are in the matter of faculty qualifications.

In the first place, it must be understood that when a seminary is accredited by AATS, it means that the majority of its students must come from regionally accredited senior colleges. Such a "feeder" institution for a seminary the Free Will Baptists do not have, and cannot soon have. Of course, accreditation for two years (Junior-college level) is fairly easy to get—and our Bible College has what is tantamount to this at present. But four-year accreditation is an entirely different question! The main reason is simply that the regional accrediting association requires that the department heads in a college must have an earned and legitimate doctor's degree. When one thinks on this matter for a moment, it soon appears what an extraordinary difficulty this presents. To illustrate, our Free Will Baptist Bible College has ten different departments at present. That means, then, that for the Bible College to become regionally accredited for its four-year program, it would be necessary to hire *ten* persons with earned doctorates!

In the next place, not only are there hard faculty requirements for an undergraduate college which we cannot now meet, we must also consider faculty requirements for the seminary itself. The AATS requires a minimum of *four* professors for a seminary, and these must have a legitimate doctorate in the field of religion!

To summarize, then, our first and perhaps hardest problem is that we do not have nearly enough persons either with the stated qualifications or at present even near to the attaining of the qualifications to consider a soon beginning.

While it would seem hardly necessary to go into other factors (with the first one so prohibitive), we will mention briefly some others. A second major problem relating to the question of the possibility of establishing a seminary is that of finance. For one thing, simply library requirements alone will demand an enormous expenditure. For example, our Bible College, in order to become accredited by the Association of Bible Colleges, had to push hard to attain the 8,000 volume minimum allowed by that association. But to become regionally accredited so it could feed an accredited seminary would make it necessary to more than double the present number, even though the Bible College library is already the largest accumulation of books in the denomination. Such an expansion would require at least \$50,000. Then the seminary library would have to have a library which would cost a

great deal more than that again.

Not only will library requirements demand a large expenditure, but many other areas will require large sums of money. To meet regional accrediting standards, for example, all those ten department heads we mentioned would have to be paid a *minimum* of \$4,500 per year. That salary figure alone would thus reach around \$50,000 per year—not counting other teachers than department heads. And the salaries of the seminary faculty would reach a similar annual amount.

So we estimate—and we believe conservatively—that to begin operating a standard seminary and accredited "feeder" college would add at least \$100,000 to our denomination's annual educational expenses—not including initial outlay for library, campus, equipment, and the like.

While it may not be necessary to bring in a third factor in the question of possibility, we do wish to point out briefly that it is also very important to decide whether or not such a seminary would be possible from the standpoint of having sufficient students. Perhaps this area touches more heavily on the question of "need" than "possibility"—but since it would be obviously impossible to operate a seminary without students, we must at least consider the question. Let us look, for example, on the number of Free Will Baptist students in the United States who are presently in seminary. While we have no way of accurately counting the number, we would estimate that there are probably at present not over a half-dozen Free Will Baptist ministerial students working on their B. D. degrees.

Having said these things, we must now state some further conclusions about which we are equally sure. While establishing a seminary very soon seems out of the question, we must not let the difficulties involved cause us to feel it is an impossible task which must be forgotten. This committee feels that our denomination needs to look forward to establishing a seminary as soon as it is possible to make a beginning which can at least seriously look forward to being "standard". Our denomination, which has for years now encouraged new ministers to get four years of training at our Bible College, can well afford to work into a program where the suggested period of training will be seven years instead of four. Such a program would give us far more mature and better-prepared ministers going into the pulpits.

However, it is not enough *just* to "look forward" to it. If definite promotion of the idea is not given, and if some steps are not taken to work toward its accomplishment, we will always just be "looking forward" to it.

In conclusion, we wish to recommend that a committee be appointed for the purpose of giving further study to the whole matter on a broader scope, and that it shall be charged to report and make recommendations to the National Association as is deemed necessary and good.



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE

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Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Billy A. Melvin, Editor, 3801 Richmond Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee. Member of Evangelical Press Association.

Issued monthly under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Board. Members are Ralph Staten, W. Stan Mooneyham, Dean Moore, M. L. Johnson, Jerry Dudley, Rufus Coffey, Othel T. Dixon.

Vol. 7 August, 1960 No. 10

personally . . .

Your Executive Secretary Reports

At the National Association in California your executive secretary gave a report of his work and the work of the Executive Department. With gratitude to the Lord, we were able to report a very successful year and the best audit in the history of the department. This by no means has been the work of one individual. Each member of the Executive Committee along with each of you as Free Will Baptists, who have supported this work both with your prayers and contributions, has made this report possible.

Since many of you were unable to attend our National Association this year, I would like to share with you in this column a portion of my report that was given at the Convention. This portion of the report has to do with three observations which I have made since assuming the office of Executive Secretary.

First, there is a desperate need for closing of ranks in the work of our National Association. I believe that some progress has been made in this respect, but we must not let up in our efforts to realize a united front. The challenge which is presented to Free Will Baptists today is tremendous. To meet such a challenge, we must move forward—together.

Another need lies in the field of finance. It appears that our finance has not kept pace with our increased activity. Some adjustment here is immediately necessary! We must either do a better job in the financial support of the work represented by the National Association, or we must consider a curtailment of our denominational activities. Actually, only a few of our churches give regularly and systematically to the work of our National Association. Whatever the cause for this, if we are to meet the needs of this year, we must enlist more of our churches in the financial support of our denominational activities.

Finally, I observe that there is the need across our denomination for a deeper consecration and personal holiness. It is alarming to note the many instances where open sin is tolerated—sometimes among the clergy. Besides this, there is the constant pressure to compromise with the world. In some areas the compromise has already been realized. Revival is needed, but revival will never come so long as these conditions exist. Let us, therefore, challenge our people to live clean, consecrated Christian lives. Surely, this is the pathway to revival.

Convention Sidelights

There were many impressive things about our convention this year, but perhaps the most impressive thing was the spirit of harmony that prevailed. All deliberations were carried out in a spirit of love and oneness, making it possible for the worship services to be the high point of the convention. This is as it should be and the convention proved to be a rich spiritual blessing.

But, let us take a closer look at the spirit of this convention. What brought to this National gathering a spirit of love and oneness? As a participant in the work of our National Association, permit me to make a few personal observations.

I think one factor that must be considered is the record of the past. For the last two or three years, we have experienced rather "stormy" sessions. This has not been altogether wholesome for the work of the National Association. Perhaps, this year, our people felt that if we were to really accomplish anything to the glory of God a spirit of love must prevail. This conviction helped the unity of the convention.

Then there was the matter of explosive situations in certain parts of the world that directly affected two of our mission fields—Cuba and Africa. This, coupled with the political situation in our own country where a Roman Catholic is a candidate for the Presidency of the United States, injected a sober note into the proceedings. It appeared that all in attendance felt that this was a time for serious work and whole-hearted dedication.

Finally, we must remember the prayers of God's people in behalf of the convention. No doubt, this played the larger part in the success of this National Association. I know for a fact that many of our people everywhere had been praying faithfully that God would breath upon the convention a spirit of brotherly love and unity. God was faithful and answered our prayers!

Let us be grateful to God for the blessings of this convention which will mean so much to the work of our denomination in this next year.

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