

MAY 1962

CONTACT

of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

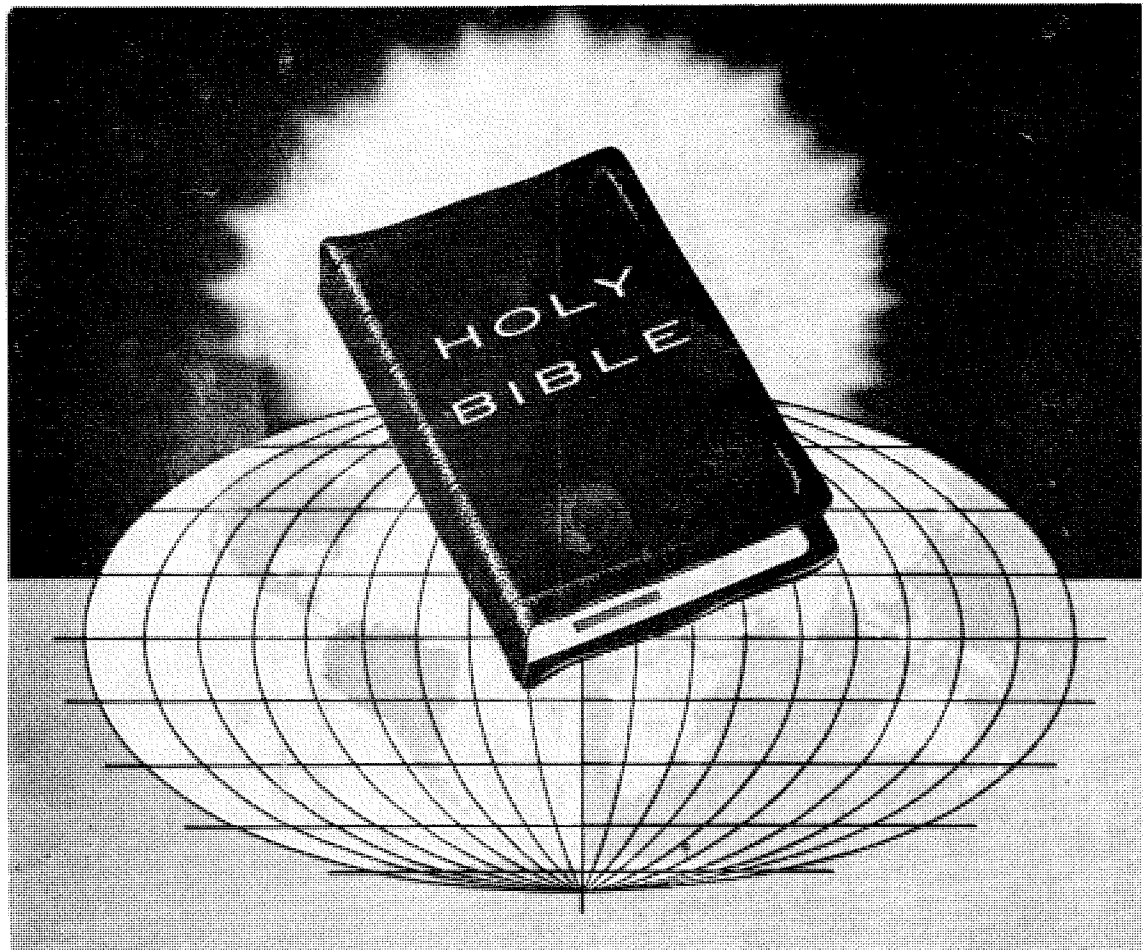
Attend the

National Association
of Free Will Baptists

War Memorial
Auditorium

Nashville, Tennessee
July 10-12

Theme:



God's Word ... *key to spiritual awakening*

CONTACT

Official Publication of the
National Association of Free Will Baptists

Vol. 9 May 1962 No. 7

Member of Evangelical Press Association

Editor Billy A. Melvin
Editorial Assistants Harold Critcher
Bob Hill
Circulation Joyce Jackson

ARTICLES

- 3 Destroyer Minister
- 4 Evangelicals Face Today's Issues
- 6 Statement by Executive Committee
- 8 Operation CERF
- 14 National Youth Rally
- 15 Statement by Foreign Mission Board

FEATURES

- 7 Share Program
- 10 What's Your Problem?
- 11 Know Your Bible Series
- 12 Glancing Around the States
- 15 In the Vineyard
- 16 The Family Bookshelf

State Reporters

ALABAMA, Charles O. Hollingshead; ARIZONA, Lynn Wood; ARKANSAS, Willard C. Day; CALIFORNIA, Jerry Dudley; FLORIDA, C. A. Huckaby; GEORGIA, Manse R. Cason; ILLINOIS, George Waggoner; KENTUCKY, Bob Shockey; MICHIGAN, William Hill; MISSISSIPPI, L. E. Duncan; MISSOURI, Harvey Hill; NORTH CAROLINA, Henry Melvin; NEW MEXICO, B. W. Hutchison; OHIO, Richard D. Howard; NEW HAMPSHIRE, Mack Owens; OKLAHOMA, E. M. Kennedy; SOUTH CAROLINA, Rufus Coffey; TENNESSEE, Dale Burden; TEXAS, H. Z. Cox; VIRGINIA, Harold Critcher; WASHINGTON, Johnny Postlewaite; WEST VIRGINIA, Carl Vallance.

Every effort is made to keep our subscription records accurate. If at any time you should fail to receive your copy of CONTACT, please notify this office. In case of a change in address, please send old address and new address allowing at least 30 days for correction.

CONTACT is published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Board. Members are Ralph Staten, W. Stanley Mooneyham, Bobby Picirilli, Lonnie Devault, J. B. Chism, Rufus Coffey, Othel T. Dixon.

Single subscriptions, \$1.25 per year. Family Plan subscriptions, \$1.00 per year. Club subscriptions of 100 or more, 6 cents per copy. Single copy, 15 cents. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Billy A. Melvin, Editor, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee. Entered as second-class matter at Nashville, Tennessee.

personally . . .

A Word of Caution

Since the North Carolina State Convention voted to withdraw from the National Association, (See statement by our Executive Committee, page 6), there have been numerous statements made and articles written which have grossly misrepresented the standing and financial position of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. This is to be regretted.

The National Association is not in financial difficulty in any area of its work and it does not appear that it will be. God has raised up many new friends since the first of the year and we are trusting God to give us the greatest year in our history. If every Free Will Baptist will follow the reports which come regularly through our publications, the true financial condition of our work will be seen. Also, I am sure that the proper person would be happy to respond to any inquiry if there are those who might have some particular question about some area of our work.

We are of the opinion that to continue in needless bickering is but a waste of valuable time that can be more profitably spent in the advancement of the cause of Christ. It is sincerely hoped that the National Association will be permitted to continue unhindered in the fulfillment of those responsibilities which God has given.

Choice Building Site Available

Many of our people have been kind enough to inquire about the progress we have been making toward securing land for our new headquarters building. The picture is this. The Executive Committee, during a recent meeting in Nashville, viewed several possible locations. After due consideration, it was decided that we should try to secure a corner lot on West End Avenue. This lot is one block from Free Will Baptist Bible College and is a choice location.

Before making an offer on this property, however, it was agreed that we should have at least \$25,000 in hand. To raise this amount of money should not be too difficult if every Free Will Baptist member and church will seek to do something about this matter now. I recognize that each of you are pressed with many appeals, but I would urge that you prayerfully consider the need of this building.

How can I best convey this need? For most, only through words, since many of you will probably never see the need we have for yourself. But, imagine if you will, the difficulties under which we labor and the problems we face in the immediate future, if we do not soon provide additional facilities for our expanding ministry.

For example, there is not a private office in our entire building. Two offices have as many as four desks in space that was formerly a dining room and an attic. A garage, which is grossly inadequate, has been serving as our mail room and it is staggering to imagine the volume of mail that flows through our mail room within a thirty-day period. Storage space has long been at a premium and now has become a serious problem. There are other acute matters which make the need of a new building imperative.

Ask God what He would have you to do, and write us today. Your gift and promise of prayer support will help make this needed building a reality and will be a source of encouragement to us.

Attend the National Association of Free Will Baptists

One outstanding highlight in our joint efforts as Free Will Baptists is the annual meeting of our National Association. At this time we have the opportunity to fellowship, worship, note the progress of last year, and plan for the future.

This year's session will be held in the War Memorial Auditorium here in Nashville, Tennessee, July 10-12. The Hermitage Hotel has been designated as our headquarters hotel. You will find their facilities to be both convenient and reasonable in price.

The selected theme is "God's Word—Key to Spiritual Awakening." It is our prayer that this theme will become a glorious reality in our midst.

Keynote speaker on Tuesday evening will be Executive Secretary Billy A. Melvin who will speak on the subject "God's Word—Our Rule of Faith and Practice." On Wednesday morning, Free Will Baptist Bible College will celebrate its 20th anniversary around the theme "God's Word—Declared by Dedicated Men." Speaker for the Wednesday evening missionary service will be the Reverend W. Stanley Mooneyham speaking on the subject "God's Word—The Hope of the World." Final speaker for this year's session will be the Reverend Winford Floyd who will speak Thursday morning on the subject "God's Word—Sure Guide for the Future."

Other features will be the pastor's dinner at which time Dr. George Ford, Executive Director of NAE, will speak on the subject "Evangelicals and the Ecumenical Movement;" the annual Laymen's breakfast, an early morning prayer meeting, and visits to Free Will Baptist Bible College and the Headquarters Building.

Make your plans to be with us! Your presence will help to make this session a success.

DESTROYER MINISTER

By Chaplain William E. Kennard

Remember our chaplains and servicemen in special prayer on Sunday, May 27, 1962

NOW HEAR THIS: Protestant Divine Services are being held in the mess decks; the smoking lamp is out, knock off all card games, knock off all unnecessary work, maintain silence about the decks and in the vicinity of Divine Services."—These words resound throughout the ship over the ship's loudspeakers. A triangular white pennant with a blue cross upon it is raised above the National Ensign, the only flag or pennant allowed to be so displayed on a ship belonging to the United States. Church services have begun aboard a destroyer in the Pacific.

The church service may not always be in the mess decks, or where the men eat. It might be on the main decks if the weather permits. Colorful signal flags will probably be hung around the area, printed bulletins of the type used at home and taped music all combine to make the area more of a place of worship and help prevent the attitude of commonplace shipboard existence.

About what does the minister, or chaplain, preach? For an evangelical chaplain, the answer is that he preaches from the Bible as he would at home. However, he

would adapt the Gospel message to a congregation predominantly, if not entirely, composed of men. At sea the congregation will be men only, whereas in port, families may well attend. Is the chaplain told to dilute the evangelical message in any way, or are pressures brought upon him to induce such dilution? It has not been so in the experience of this chaplain, nor has he ever heard of same. In fact, nothing but encouragement to continue and gratitude for the message has been given to me.

The chaplain cannot be on his several destroyers all at the same time for church services, obviously. Therefore, if possible, he is high lined, or pulled across from one ship to the other by means of a special chair, pulley, and rope while the ships are underway. He may be involved in "Holy Helo" operations if an aircraft carrier is nearby. By this means a helicopter will transfer the chaplain from one ship to another. If the chaplain cannot be transferred, each ship has a selected lay leader who will conduct a service. Such lay leader is either an officer or an enlisted man who volunteers his services or will consent to serve when appointed.

Floyd Robertson (right), executive secretary of the Chaplain's Commission, NAE, shows the new servicemen's handbook "Opportunity of a Lifetime" to two NAE chaplains at the recent NAE convention in Denver. This booklet is an excellent gift to any young man entering the service and may be secured from our own Chaplain's Commission, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.



The captain of the ship will appoint the lay leader after consulting usually with the chaplain, if the latter is available. The lay leader then works with the chaplain in carrying out the religious program aboard.

In our evangelical churches, we recognize Bible study as a necessity for the growth of the believers. Aboard destroyers we also have Bible study. Bible study may be held in a variety of places—supply office, mess decks, radar room—since available space is at a premium. A destroyer is a compact man-of-war and no chapel space as such is provided. However, the same blessed Holy Spirit Who inspires and feeds souls in the home church, also rides and works in believers' hearts on a destroyer. Souls are saved and nominal Christians become soul winners. Bible studies on three of our ships have become self sustaining even without the presence of the chaplain. The men are partial to a discussion type of study taken from the Bible.

Visitation, in many respects, is easier for a destroyer minister than a civilian minister. Men aboard ship live in a community restricted in area. An entire destroyer, from bow to stern and all decks, can be efficiently visited in from two to three hours. This will take in somewhat over two hundred men. Such visitation is welcomed by the men, because their work sometimes becomes monotonous and lonely. Sometimes situations may be bothering them which they keep within themselves. The chaplain becomes readily recognized, and the men tend to relax in his presence if the love of Christ is evident in his life. Just a smile or a few words may pay great dividends, because the Holy Spirit may use that to begin working in the heart of someone. Many opportunities thereby arise to witness for Christ. Fruit may or may not be born at that time, but it may be later—perhaps days, perhaps years. One chaplain can often build upon the work of another.

Since a destroyer chaplain lives under constant open scrutiny every day, all day, the influence of his personal life is probably more vivid than that of a civilian minister. His testimony thereby is a constant witness.

When a chaplain gets up for the midnight to four in the morning watch, or the four to eight in the morning, he will invariably be asked such questions as, "What are you doing up at this hour, Chaplain?" Try as one might, that question can never be answered to the satisfaction of the ones who ask it. However, the man will never finish talking about a chaplain who will visit his men at night. During those lonely night hours, many men are ready to talk about personal problems and feelings, and many are ready to hear about the One Who drives away loneliness and problems—Jesus Christ.

When the chaplain shows personal interest in the men, they become more willing to come to him when they encounter situations with which they want assistance.

(Continued on Page 14)

evangelicals face today's



Dr. Billy Graham, at closing banquet, pointed out that too much preaching today is filled with catchy, intellectual-sounding phraseology, with not enough simple, clear gospel. He said there needs to be more preaching on hell and the wrath of God.



Dr. Bob Pierce, who spoke at the 1960 session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, said, "I am frightened at the magnitude of forces at work in the world and at the sight of millions who have not been reached with the gospel of Christ."

WORLD WIDE EVANGELISM and ecumenism dominated discussion at the twentieth annual session of the National Association of Evangelicals held in Denver, Colo., April 10-12.

More than 1,500 evangelical protestant leaders heard Dr. Billy Graham, Dr. Bob Pierce, Dr. Clyde Taylor, Dr. Herbert S. Mekeel, Dr. Robert Cook, and others speak out regarding present day issues confronting evangelical Christinity.

Dr. Cook, newly elected president of NAE, 2nd president of King's College in Briarcliff Manor, New York, called on all Americans and Christians in particular to quit "deploring, decrying and departing" as they survey the present world crisis. He said, "It is time to take and hold the initiative, God will walk with us." Dr. Cook charged, "Too many of us wait around until we get run over by history."

Dr. Cook called on delegates to take the Bible seriously. "Many people revere the Bible, he told his audience of church leaders, "but too many of them never have a personal involvement with it as the Word of God." He said that the Bible needs to be made relevant to daily life by both preachers

and teachers. "We have not been called to fight various isms," he told the delegates. "God has called us to preach Jesus Christ, and social reform will come with the conversion of individuals through faith in Christ. We need to formulate a missionary program that is big enough to cope with today's population explosion."

Dr. Mekeel, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Schenectady, New York, charged that the World Council of Churches' ecumenical direction will inevitably lead to Roman Catholic domination.

"New Delhi, to be consistent, must lead to Rome" he said referring to the World Council meeting in New Delhi. The leaders were told that the emphasis on one church must eventually include the Roman church. Mekeel cited trends toward ecclesiastical hierarches within the WCC and asserted that these trends are paving the way for compatibility with Rome. He pointed out a basic difference between evangelicals and ecumenists (exponeⁿts of one world church) in that ecumenists are accepting tradition as a standard along with the Bible, whereas evangelicals accept the Word of God as the only authority.

Dr. Mekeel pointed to the increasing attitude of cooperation with protestants on the part of the Roman church, but he warned, "Rome is always the same. Despite overtures of peace, they believe true ecumenism means eventual return to Rome." He called on evangelicals to absolve differences and bring all evangelicals into a union of fellowship. He urged leaders to become alerted to the crisis facing Christianity, to become concerned about the Word of God and to pray as never before.

Church leaders were told that action in New Delhi will ultimately bring controls and possibly abolition of evangelical missionary activity in certain parts of the world. Dr. Mekeel said that 6 per cent of all Christian missionaries are not connected with the World Council. He pointed out that merger has always hurt world missions, citing the merger of Canadian churches which resulted in the reduction of their combined missionary force. More than half of the world's missionaries are connected with NAE.

Dr. Taylor, executive secretary of Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, told



Representing Free Will Baptists at this year's session was (seated, l. to r.) Jerry Ballard, Othel T. Dixon, Homer E. Willis, (standing) Billy A. Melvin, Reford Wilson, and W. Stanley Mooneyham.



Newly elected officers of the National Association of Evangelicals are pictured above. They are (l. to r.) Dr. C. C. Burnett, Secretary; Dr. Bob Cook, President; Mr. Carl Gunderson, Treasurer; Dr. F. C. Gerig, 1st Vice-president; Dr. Rufus Jones, 2nd Vice-president.

foreign missions executives in closed session that the ecumenical movement poses a real threat to evangelical world missions. He surveyed the problems of ecumenicity and explained the fallacies of the movement to unite all churches under the world council of churches.

"Ecumenicity is a problem because it is impossible to draw lines along denominational or organizational boundaries," Dr. Taylor pointed out. He noted the fact that many who are members of so-called ecumenical denominations are actually sincere evangelicals and should not be categorized merely because their leaders are taking them in an ecumenical direction.

Dr. Taylor, an extensive traveler abroad who has just returned from a two month's tour of Africa, said that world council leaders are working through local councils in various countries in an attempt to indoctrinate national churchmen along the lines of ecumenism. He noted that the council strategy is to rule national pastors and church leaders. This is often being done, he added, without the knowledge of missionaries and evangelical mission leaders on the field.

Dr. Graham, during the association's closing banquet session, urged leaders in attendance to get their theology from the Bible and not from the so-called theologians of our day and to rediscover the dynamic power of prayer. The noted evangelist said that there is indication that the recent symbance of Christian revival may have passed its peak and be heading down hill. However, he also gave reasons for believing that the opposite may be true, that the nation may be on the verge of a real spiritual awakening. He urged the leaders present to pray as never before and not to be afraid to preach the simple gospel of Jesus Christ.

Dr. Graham pointed out that too much preaching today is filled with catchy, intellectual-sounding phraseology, with not enough simple, clear gospel. He said there needs to be more preaching on hell and the wrath of God. The evangelist pointed out that everywhere he has been in the world he has found people to be the same, hungry for the gospel.

Dr. Pierce, noted missionary statesman and president of World Vision, Inc., told NAE that he is "frightened at the magni-

tude of forces that work in the world and that the sight of millions who have not been reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ." He hastened to add, "However, the fact that Jesus is who He says He is and He will do for the human heart what He says He will do is sufficient to accomplish the task of reaching the unreached."

Dr. Pierce told the group that ordinarily that he and his associates would not have traveled the expanse of the world (he came to Denver from India) for a single conference. "We come," he said, "because we want all the world to know that you are our people. We belong to you, and you belong to us." He added that it matters where a man is and where he stands. "I'm an evangelical. I'm no longer afraid to be called a fundamentalist. I'm sick and tired of things that are not clear and certain."

In an observation of present world missionary activity, Dr. Pierce concluded, "People are still being saved." He pointed to the response of thousands to the gospel all over the world and urged evangelicals to center activity in a definite emphasis on getting the gospel to the ends of the earth. ■ ■

A Statement By the Executive Committee of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

SOME MONTHS AGO the Western Conference within the state of North Carolina sought through its executive committee to reinstate several individuals to membership in a local Free Will Baptist Church who had been expelled from membership by a majority vote of the congregation. Soon after, when the majority of the congregation proved unwilling to yield to the decision of the Western Conference, the conference along with the minority of the congregation filed suit in the courts to take the property of the church from the majority.

In support of the action of the Western Conference, various ministers and leaders within the state of North Carolina filed a legal affidavit with the court indicating their belief in the practice of "connectional" church government. It was claimed that the practice of "connectional" church government granted a conference the right to overrule the majority vote of a local congregation.

As a result of this action, which subsequently came to the attention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in official session at Norfolk, Virginia, July, 1961, the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists was requested by an overwhelming vote of the National Association to repudiate "connectional" church government and to reaffirm belief in congregational church government as traditionally followed in the established customs, practices, and usages of Free Will Baptists. In addition, several National Association officers from the state of North Carolina, who had affirmed by affidavit their belief in a "connectional" form of church government, were removed from office.

When the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists met in September, 1961, following the July session of the National Association, the body clearly indicated that there would be no response to the request of the National Association to repudiate "connectional" church government and reaffirm their belief in congregational church government. The North Carolina State Convention, therefore, indicated its support of the Western Conference which had invaded the internal affairs of a local church and through its leaders proceeded to place all its influence behind the attempt of the Western Conference to lift the property of the local church from the majority.

In failing to honor the request of the National Association and in supporting the "connectional" form of church government, the North Carolina State Convention broke the spirit of its own action of 1948 when it

officially adopted the National Association's *Treatise of Faith and Practice* and provided that its own *Treatise* would not conflict in any form with that of the National Association.

In response to the failure of the North Carolina State Convention to stand behind the principles of congregational church government, the Executive Committee of the National Association issued a statement in November 1961 which challenged the conclusion that "connectional" church government was believed by most of the people of North Carolina. Also, rather than withdraw fellowship from the North Carolina State Convention at that time, the Executive Committee of the National Association called upon the people of North Carolina to reconsider the request of the National Association, offering to meet with the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention, if that committee would present suggestions toward bringing about such a reconsideration by the North Carolina State Convention.

The exhortation of the National Association's Executive Committee and its offer were unfortunately to no avail. It is now, therefore, our responsibility to report to the constituency of the National Association that the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists in a special called meeting at Wilson, North Carolina, on March 29, 1962, voted to withdraw from the National Association of Free Will Baptists and to institute an entirely new denominational framework.

Regardless of our personal regrets, this action of the North Carolina State Convention is recognized by us as one that is well within the rights of the convention. We are willing to grant that there are those within the framework of the North Carolina State Convention who now sincerely believe in this new "connectional" form of church government, just as they have freely admitted that those within the National Association of Free Will Baptists believe in the governmental autonomy of each local church as taught in the *Treatise* of the National Association.

It would appear, then, since there is this basic disagreement on the form of church government, that those who hold to "connectional" church government within the state of North Carolina have probably chosen wisely in their decision to organize a new denomination, although we all desired that the North Carolina State Convention would continue in harmony with the Free Will Baptist denomination.

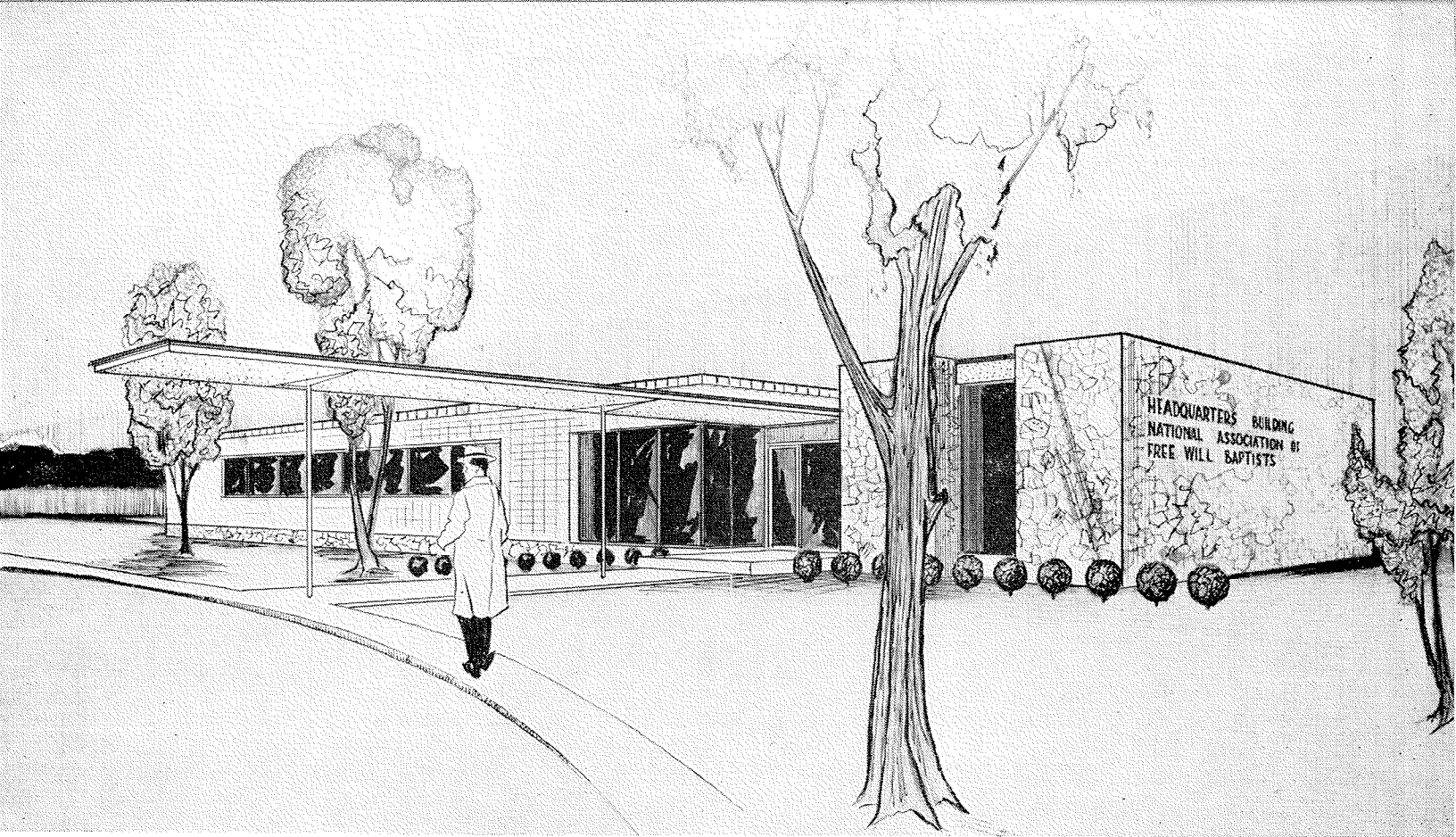
We do not have any ill will toward these brethren and it is not our intention to oppose them or their new denomination. We sincerely appreciate the fact that they have indicated to us where they stand and the direction of their intentions. At the same time, however, we trust that the North Carolina State Convention will recognize that every local church within the state has full right to determine for itself whether it will continue under a congregational form of church government or embrace a "connectional" form of church government; and, therefore, whether it will retain its identity with the National Association of Free Will Baptists or choose to become a part of the new denomination established by the North Carolina State Convention.

In fact, one of the specific purposes of this statement by the Executive Committee of the National Association is to make it clear to Free Will Baptists within all the churches of the state that we do not recognize the action of the special session of the North Carolina State Convention as determining finally which form of church government will be embraced by each local church. Each local church within the state is free to decide for itself whether to maintain fellowship with the National Association of Free Will Baptists or to leave the denomination with the North Carolina State Convention.

Because of the above-mentioned right, we do hereby pledge the support of the National Association of Free Will Baptists to every Free Will Baptist church within the state of North Carolina which wishes to uphold the principle of congregational church government and continue in fellowship with us in our world-wide program for the spread of the gospel.

Because God has blessed and honored the ministry of our National Association, we are confident that a great number of our Free Will Baptist churches and pastors within the state of North Carolina will represent at our next session of the National Association in Nashville, Tennessee, July 10-12, 1962. We wish to assure these churches and pastors that in keeping with our Constitution and By-laws, all delegates and ministers will be seated.

We call on Free Will Baptists everywhere to join with us in prayer that the ministry of the National Association will not be hindered by these developments. Frankly, we are not afraid of the future. Our trust is in God, and we know that He will honor our sincere efforts to glorify Christ and make Him known to all men everywhere. ■ ■



TOGETHER WE WILL

SHARE

HOW DO WE PROPOSE to raise the \$125,000.00 needed for this new building? We invite you to share in the Free Will Baptist future. You may do this through the purchase of a share.

The plan is this. We are praying for 1,500 individuals and 500 churches that will buy one or more shares in our future. All shares are in the amount of \$50.00. When payment for a share is received, the church or individual will receive an attractive 8½ x 5½ share. (Your share is actually a gift, but this is our permanent record to you of your share in our future.)

Churches or individuals that buy five or more shares will be "Advancement Contributors." These churches and individuals will be listed on a bronze plaque to be placed in the entrance hall of the new building.

Your indication now, on the opposite form, of your desire to share in our future will be a great inspiration to us. We dare not fail to meet the challenge which is ours as Free Will Baptists. Thank you for your consideration of this need and may God bless you.

MAY, 1962

Choice Building Site Available . . .

Your Gift Is Needed Now

Shares

- 5 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Benninghoff—New Bern, N. C.
- 2 *First Church—Mountain Grove, Mo.
- 1 *Mrs. Mell Horne—Smithville, Miss.
- 1 Mrs. C. F. Heath—Cove City, N. C.

Total in gifts and pledges
3,548.42

*Indicates paid share.

— Clip and mail today —

Here Is A Share In The Free Will Baptist Future

God being my Helper, you can count on me for _____ shares (\$50.00 each) in 1962. I will pay as indicated.

\$ _____ per month Name _____

\$ _____ now, \$ _____ Address _____

by _____ Date _____

\$ _____ by _____ Date _____

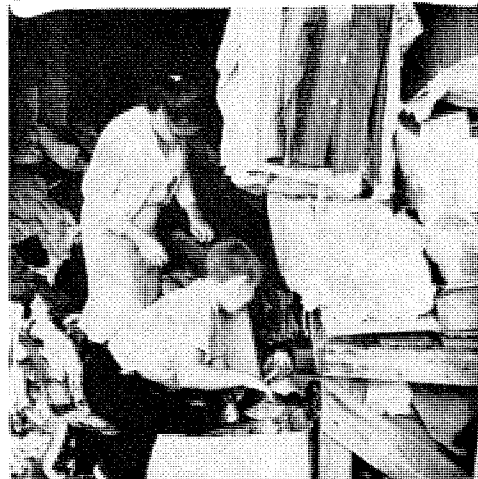
\$ _____ enclosed Church _____

(This may be pasted to a post card)

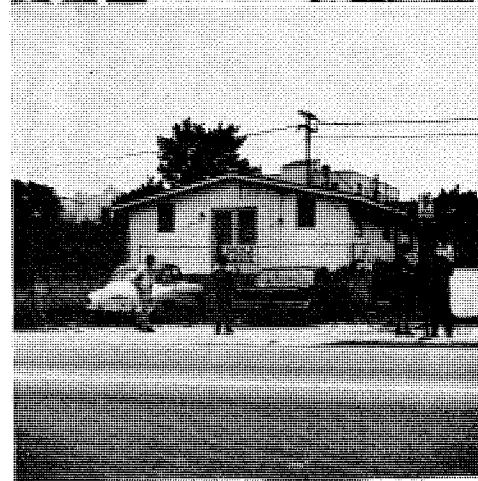
The Rev. Mario Perez stands in front of an old garage which was used temporarily as a base for the Free Will Baptist refugee operation in Miami. Perez is working with CERF reaching Cuban refugees for Christ.



Volunteer workers sift through used clothing sent to CERF by Free Will Baptists across the country and arrange it for dispensing to refugees.



This building has been purchased by the Home Mission Board for eventual use as a church for Spanish-speaking people in Miami. It is presently being used as headquarters for CERF.



Mabel Willey, left, veteran Latin American missionary, and Jerry Ballard, right, director of publications for the Foreign Mission Board, discuss the refugee problem and the work of the Cuban Refugee Emergency Center, the governmental screening agency for refugees in Miami, with Miss Renee Masvidal, interpreter furnished by the center.



OP

THE HANDSOME young man settled back into his seat on the Pan American flight from Havana to Miami. At his side was his lovely wife, two-year old son, and six-month old daughter.

He could glance out of the window and see the island of Cuba disappearing in the horizon. He was safe at last.

For days before he had lived in constant fear of arrest and imprisonment, or worse, harm to his family. Constant threats had been made on him. Loud speakers had been placed in his front yard to blast away eight hours a day with insulting words and condemning tones. His large rice plantation had been taken from him.

Then, in the nick of time, he made his break. In fact, as he went through the back door of his \$28,000 home the malitia came in the front. He left behind a beautiful residence, his money, a late model Chrysler, a beautiful yacht, in fact, all that he possessed.

But now, he was safe—and free.

This was one year ago. Today the young man is in Miami. I spent almost an entire afternoon in his home. It is simply furnished, nothing like what he had in Cuba. Yet, he and his family radiate with contentment.

I asked him how he could have such an attitude after losing everything he had spent his life to gain. He answered, "Those things mean nothing to us, now. We are alive and free. These are the important things in life. We had rather be here with nothing and be

by Jerry Ballard

ERATION CERF

free than to be in Cuba with all that we had and live in fear."

There are thousands in Miami today just like this young man. They have nothing materially. But they have an appreciation for life and freedom that few Americans possess. And, they are open to the Lord Jesus.

A keen awareness of the true value of life places one in the perfect environment to receive the abundant life that can be found only in Jesus Christ. Cubans in Miami today realize the vanity of material possessions, of prestige, and of earthly values. They are ready to hear that there is hope both here and in eternity for one who knows the Lord Jesus.

While in Miami recently, I spoke to a Cuban congregation. Their interest and desire to hear more of the Word of God was evident. I found myself desiring inwardly to never again preach to an American congregation when here there were those who were not taking the gospel for granted but were hungry, anxious to hear.

This is Miami today . . . thousands of Cubans looking to America for help. They need food. They need clothes. They need necessary household utensils. They need medical help. But more important than all of these, they need the Lord Jesus, and they are receptive to the message of redemption.

A major part of Miami today is a Spanish speaking mission field. Everywhere one

turns he hears Spanish freely spoken. Sitting in a restaurant, walking down the street, shopping in a department store, stopping for gas at a filling station, wherever one goes he gets the feeling that he is in another country. And for all practical purposes he is.

Miami today is Cuba transplanted on foreign soil. It would be hypocrisy for Free Will Baptists who have spent thousands of dollars to reach Cubans for Christ in Cuba to sit idle when they have been brought to the doorstep of the church.

This is a day of golden opportunity in Miami for Free Will Baptists. Missionaries on the scene say that there is no greater need or challenge among Latin Americans in the entire southern hemisphere. But, we must act now. The emergency situation in Miami caught both the foreign and home mission boards unprepared. No appropriations for an emergency refugee operation was made in the 1962 budgets. Yet, the need is urgent. Both boards are appealing for funds above and beyond regular missions support to provide necessary space and supplies to meet the challenge of Miami.

CERF (Cuban Emergency Relief Fund) has been set up as a joint undertaking of the foreign and home mission boards to meet the challenge refugees in Miami present to Free Will Baptists today. The Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Willey, veteran missionaries to Cuba, will direct the emergency relief operation.

A refugee center is being established where refugees will receive needed food and clothing and be pointed to the Lord Jesus. Your help is needed.

Firstly, you can seek God's face in behalf of those working in an attempt to reach Cuban refugees for Christ and pray for yourself that God will clearly show you what He would have you to do about this tremendous opportunity.

Secondly, you can give sacrificially so that necessary operational funds will be available to maintain CERF. This is an emergency situation which demands emergency support. Contributions should be clearly earmarked and sent to the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board or the Free Will Baptist Home Mission Board, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.

Thirdly, you can send good, used clothing and small household utensils and furnishings to CERF, care Melitino Martinez, 441 S. W. Sixth Street, Miami, Florida.

And, fourthly, you can sponsor a Cuban family by bringing them into your community, helping them find a home and a job. By doing so, you will have the golden opportunity to win them to the Lord Jesus. There is also the need for families who will sponsor Cuban children who are in America without their parents. If you are interested, write CERF.

You can do something. And whatever you do, do it today! ■ ■

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

by Louis H. Moulton



I have betrayed my wife by committing adultery and I am in deep distress about it. Can you help me?

You need first of all to genuinely and sincerely repent of your sin. I John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." This promise is for you if you are really sincere in your confession and repentance. May I also remind you of the words of Jesus to the woman in John 8 who ". . . was taken in adultery, in the very act." The same admonition applies to you: ". . . go, and sin no more." (John 8:11).

I received a gift of money recently. Is it a sin if I do not pay a tithe of it?

If there is a question in your mind, then why not pay the tithe and relieve your conscience. You can't outgive God and it will come back to you many times over. "Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that you mete withal it shall be measured to you again. (Luke 6:38).

What is your opinion of a person who says he believes in God, and yet does not attend church or take part in Christian service?

I think his actions belie his profession. I John 2:4 says: "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." We are clearly told in Hebrews 10:25 that we are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. One who deliberately refuses to attend church is disobeying this very plain teaching or command of the New Testament.

I am a young woman active in my Sunday School and League and I know that I am saved. My girl friends say that I am a "square" because I say that I can't go to school prom. Please tell me what's wrong with dancing.

Dancing permits a familiarity of contact between the sexes that is nowhere else allowed in decent society. If a woman allowed any man to handle her elsewhere as he does on the dance floor, she would be regarded as immodest, unwomanly and questionable. Her influence for Christ among those she desires to win would be lost. II Corinthians 6:17 tells us in no uncertain terms to ". . . come out from among them, and be ye separate . . . and touch not the unclean thing. . ." The modern dance is unquestionably an unclean thing. It is immodest, impure, unwholesome. No Christian can frequent the dance hall without suffering for it beyond description, and without bringing reproach upon the cause of Christ.

Is there any scripture which would warrant a belief in a probation or "second chance" after death?

There is not! Hebrews 9:27 says, ". . . It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement." Watch out for this old lie of the devil which is still being propagated by many across the nation.

Cooperative Receipts Are Below Par in March

Support of the Cooperative Plan continues to be good although the total receipts for March fell below the \$5,000 level. It is hoped that each church will do something for the support of our Cooperative Plan each month to help keep our average up.

Several new churches have responded to this plan of support in recent weeks and we are grateful for the opportunity to add them to our growing list of churches. If you would like to share in each phase of our denominational work through the Cooperative Plan, then send 10% or more of your monthly offerings to Cooperative Plan, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.

MARCH COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS Undesignated

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|--------|------------|
| ALABAMA | | | |
| Good Water Church, | | | |
| Slocumb | | \$ | 5.00 |
| ARKANSAS | | | |
| State association | \$ | 222.27 | |
| Woman's Auxillary, | | | |
| Clark Ridge | | 5.00 | 227.27 |
| CALIFORNIA | | | |
| State association | | | 511.07 |
| GEORGIA | | | |
| State association | | | 126.65 |
| ILLINOIS | | | |
| State association | | | 361.01 |
| INDIANA | | | |
| Wabash Valley | | | |
| association | | | 92.10 |
| KANSAS | | | |
| Free Will Baptist church, | | | |
| Ulysses | | 69.40 | |
| First association | | 173.79 | 243.19 |
| NEW MEXICO | | | |
| First association | | | 18.05 |
| NORTH CAROLINA | | | |
| Fellowship Chapel, | | | |
| New Bern | | 72.65 | |
| Faith church, Kinston | | 10.00 | |
| Swannanoa church, | | | |
| Swannanoa | | 90.85 | 173.50 |
| OHIO | | | |
| Limecrest church, | | | |
| Springfield | | | 15.03 |
| OKLAHOMA | | | |
| State association | | | 796.60 |
| TENNESSEE | | | |
| Horton Heights church, | | | |
| Nashville | | 99.61 | |
| Olivet church, | | | |
| Clarksville | | 215.00 | |
| Wooddale church, | | | |
| Knoxville | | 27.75 | 342.36 |
| TEXAS | | | |
| State association | | | 334.04 |
| VIRGINIA | | | |
| Fairmount church, | | | |
| Norfolk | | 975.72 | |
| Bethany church, | | | |
| Norfolk | | 102.00 | 1,077.22 |
| | | | \$4,323.59 |
| DESIGNATED FUNDS | | | |
| Tennessee | | | 123.56 |
| | | | \$4,447.15 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Foreign Missions | \$1,282.71 | |
| Executive Department | 1,056.56 | |
| Bible College | 871.71 | |
| Home Missions | 620.70 | |
| Sunday School | 221.18 | |
| League | 219.93 | |
| Superannuation Board | 130.77 | |
| Stewardship Commission | 43.59 | \$4,447.15 |

Sample Keynote Speaker

STOCKTON, GA.—Rev. Richard Sample delivered the convention message for the Sunday School Convention of the Little River Association on May 5th. This convention, meeting with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Valdosta, Ga., had as its theme, "The Place of the Sunday School in Evangelism."

Ulyssis Mission Organized

ULYSSIS, KAN.—The Ulyssis Mission was organized April 20 into a Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Wade Jernigan was present to deliver the organizational message. They have purchased the First Baptist building and are now holding services in it. Rev. Robert Sharry is the pastor.

New Work Sighted

MONROE, LA.—Rev. Willard C. Day will hold revival services here during the month of June with the hopes of establishing a new work. All interested parties may contact Mr. Day at P.O. Box 441, Russellville, Arkansas.

Attendance Awards Presented

TUPELO, MISS.—Sixty-nine persons recently received awards for perfect Sunday School attendance from the Free Will Baptist Church in Tupelo, Mississippi. Those receiving awards ranged in ages from one to sixty-five. Rev. Luther D. Gibson is pastor.



WITCHITA, KAN.—Pictured above are the officers of the newly organized First Kansas Association. They are (1. to r.) Rev. Jack Ledbetter, board member; Lois Teague, board member; Rev. Bill Turnbough, Asst. Moderator; Rev. Wayne Bookout, Moderator; Rev. Clyde Campbell, Treasurer; and Christine Leichner, Clerk.

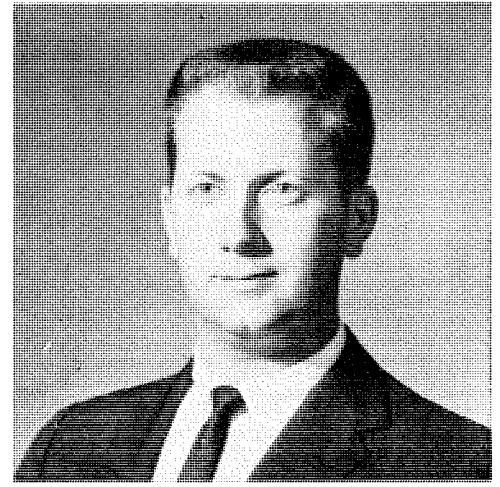
The association was visited on April 14 by Executive Secretary Billy A. Melvin, and Reford Wilson and Jerry Ballard of the foreign missions department.



ROGER C. REEDS

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Roger C. Reeds, Missouri pastor and editor of the *Free Will Baptist Gem*, has been employed as General Director of the Sunday School department of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. He was appointed to this position by the Sunday School Board in their meeting on April 4, 1962 at Nashville. He will edit and direct the literature program of the Sunday School department and also do promotional work.

Reeds for the past five years has been pastor of the South Side Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Reeds is married to the former Myrtle Pembroke of Mt. Grove, Missouri. The Reeds family will be moving to Nashville in June.



HAROLD CRITCHER

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Harold Critcher, graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College and for the last six years educational director at Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church in Norfolk, Virginia, was named recently as an administrative assistant in the Executive Department of the National Association. He will assume the operation of Free Will Baptist Book Store, Free Will Baptist Bulletin Service, assist in the work of Executive Church Bonds, Inc., and the administrative work of the executive department.

Mr. Critcher moved to Nashville March 19. He is married to the former June Rivenbark of Durham, North Carolina. They have one child—Dale—three years of age.

Melvin Elected to NAE Executive Committee

DENVER, COLO.—The Reverend Billy Melvin, executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, was elected to the executive committee of the National Association of Evangelicals by its board of administration during the board's closing session April 12.

Other Free Will Baptists attending the twentieth annual session of NAE were: the Reverend Homer Willis, general director of Home Missions and member of the NAE commission on Evangelism and Home Missions, the Reverend Jerry Ballard, director of publications for the Foreign Mission Board who handled newspaper coverage for the NAE convention; the Reverend Reford Wilson, general director of the Foreign Mission Board; the Reverend O. T. Dixon, pastor of the Mountain Grove, Missouri, church, member of the board of administration of NAE; and the Reverend W. Stanley Mooneyham, assistant moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and director of information for NAE.

New Publications Announced

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The Free Will Baptist League Board has announced two new

publications for the third quarter of 1962. Replacing the Story Hour Coloring Cards will be the Story Hour Packet (20¢ each) and the Story Hour Leader's Guide (50¢ each). The packet contains take home activities for each child while the leader's guide contains helps and suggestions for the leader of the Story Hour League.

Another new publication is a devotional guide for Free Will Baptist families. Named *Depth*, this pocket size devotional booklet contains daily Bible readings, exposition and prayer requests.

These new publications are in keeping with the League Board's plans to have a complete literature program written and edited by Free Will Baptists by the first quarter of 1963.

Wife of Board Member Passes

GARNER, N.C.—Mrs. Leah Waddell, wife of Rev. Eugene Waddell, member of the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board and pastor of the Garner Free Will Baptists Church, died of cancer April 5.

Mrs. Waddell was active in denominational work until the last few days of her illness which has been known for several months. She is survived by her husband and four children.

National Youth Rally July 9

by Mrs. Chester Phillips

LETTERS have been coming in from all over the United States about the Youth Rally planned for July 9. Here is a quote from just one. "In scanning through the new *Co-Laborer* magazine. I saw the article about a National Youth Rally. Thanks be to God! It is the most wonderful news I have had since being an auxiliary member."

Now, there is a reason for such letters—something very special is being planned for our young people. The big event is the banquet on the evening of July 9, but other things are planned as well. New and unique plans for all auxiliaries will be introduced. Uniforms will be modeled. Con-

test winners will be announced. Teenage problems will be discussed.

These activities are being planned so they will not conflict with the WNAC in any way.

As stated before, Juniors and Seniors in high school will be given priority in room reservations at the college. The \$1.00 reservation fee should be sent in right away and in no case later than June 15. Reservation fees cannot be refunded after June 11.

Below are the forms which should be cut out and sent to Mrs. Chester Phillips, 2711 Cooper Lane, Nashville, Tennessee.

RESERVATION—DORMITORY ROOM & BANQUET

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Name | Age | Grade in school |
| Sponsor or Youth Chairman | | Address |
| Auxiliary | Pastor | |
| Church | Address | |

TOTAL COST—\$9.00 (Includes 4 nights in dorm, 4 breakfast meals, and banquet.) Reservation fee of \$1.00 attached.

Date _____

BANQUET RESERVATIONS (For Youth Chairman to Mail)

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| _____ Midgets | _____ YPA's |
| _____ GTA's | _____ Youth Chairman |
| _____ Jr. Master's Men | _____ Sponsors |
| _____ Total number planning to attend the banquet. | |

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Church | Address |
| Youth Chairman or Sponsor | Address |

Destroyer Minister

(Continued from Page 3)

Some men will not accept the chaplain as a minister and friend because of some alleged misconduct or abuse they have noted in a former chaplain. These men, however, can often be won over to put trust in a chaplain who has the genuine love of God in his heart and life. A civilian minister would probably never establish such contact because of his inaccessibility to the men, especially if they are regular Navy men. A destroyer chaplain lives with his men every day.

The opportunity to visit missionaries is indeed one of the blessed duties and privileges of a Navy chaplain. Traveling about as he does, he can visit a number of different mission fields.

Missionaries are gracious and hospitable people to say the least. They open their homes to the men and chaplain for fellowship and home away from home. Such an opportunity to learn mission work firsthand is invaluable. It can well become a deciding factor to Christian sailors to return to one of these mission fields as missionaries. It is most gratifying to hear such expressions as was recently stated by one of the men aboard a destroyer—"Now I know the Lord wants me back here in Japan, Chaplain, as a missionary." Even if such a decision isn't made, Christian men will return home to their churches better prepared to understand and support those who are on the field.

Being a destroyer chaplain is being a pastor, evangelist, and missionary-at-large all in one. In being the above, the Navy expects him to represent his own denomination. As such he supplements, not supplants or withdraws from the ministry at home. Indeed, much to the contrary. If ever a tie with his churches was needed by a pastor at home, it is more needed by a chaplain. He is supported and maintained materially in necessities by his denomination only as members of the denomination pay their taxes, for it is tax money that pays his salary. However, support in prayer by the folks at home is no less needed than for any missionary. Temptations and problems often loom great for a chaplain, and the Holy Spirit responding to prayer provides the sole power to overcome.

Encouragement and concern for the chaplain's ministry by the people at home acts as a very real incentive to him. The chaplain often literally stands alone with God. But the reward is tremendous as lives are changed by and for God, and as young men respond to the vision of the ministry and mission field under the chaplain's ministry.

"How then shall they call on Him in Whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of Whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?" (Romans 10:14, 15a).

IN THE VINEYARD

Statement By Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

FOR MORE THAN a quarter of a century God has abundantly blessed Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, and He has given to the denominational foreign mission department 42 outstanding, dedicated missionaries who are serving today in seven foreign countries. In addition to this, there are seven missionaries under appointment with several prospective candidates completing necessary training for appointment.

God has been good to the Free Will Baptist foreign missionary effort, and the Board of Foreign Missions feels very keenly its sacred responsibility for the propagation of the gospel to the ends of the earth.

In recent days, God has been leading the board in a definite program of expansion to meet today's ever increasing challenges around the globe. In view of this program of expansion, the Board of Foreign Missions sincerely requests the effectual, fervent prayers and faithful support of Free Will Baptists across the country that God will continue to use Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions in His great plan of redemption for lost mankind.

The Board of Foreign Missions regrets that a situation brought on by the connectional group of Free Will Baptist in North Carolina has made necessary the following statement:

Whereas by virtue of action taken on March 29, 1962, the North Carolina State Convention has expressed wishes to withdraw from the National Association, and

Whereas the group has stated its intentions to set up a new missionary program of its own, and

Whereas the group has expressed its intentions to "invite" missionaries now serving under the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board and prospective candidates of this board to come under their sponsorship,

The board hereby wishes to make certain factors dogmatically clear:

Firstly, the Board of Foreign Missions sees no need to alter its present program of foreign missionary endeavor but rather

proposes to expand as God continues to direct. It does not feel that the situation brought on by a segment in North Carolina will greatly affect this expansion since the primary foreign missionary supporters from North Carolina are still behind the program. A careful analysis of state by state receipts will reveal that income from North Carolina is comparable to that of a year ago. This indicates that major contributors are those churches which have remained loyal to the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Free Will Baptists are cautioned not to be misled by erroneous statements published in North Carolina regarding the board's financial situation but rather to study financial statements appearing monthly in *Heartbeat*.

Secondly, the Board of Foreign Missions will consider any solicitation of its missionaries or missionary candidates an irresponsible encroachment upon a work which God has given and approved for the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Thirdly, the Board of Foreign Missions does not consider any negotiation necessary at the present or any foreseeable time in the future with the connectional group of Free Will Baptists in North Carolina regarding release of missionaries or mission stations.

Fourthly, if the group in North Carolina which has chosen to withdraw from the National Association desires to promote missions in foreign fields, it is urged to do so apart from the missionary program of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Any missionary endeavor must have its own, unique place in God's program or otherwise has no justification for its existence.

It is the sincere desire of this agency of the National Association that no further statement by this agency regarding the situation brought about by the connectional group in North Carolina be made necessary. It is the desire of the board and of all its personnel that we get on with the job God has given us to do and not be forced to waste precious time bickering over irrevocable matters. ■ ■

■ Bible College Dean **Charles A. Thigpen** is scheduled to speak at the dedication service of the West End Church, Springfield, Tennessee, May 20. He will bring the baccalaureate message May 27 at the High School of Church Hill, Tennessee.

■ The Auxiliary workshop at the New Zion Church in Headland, Alabama, featured as a special speaker, **Mrs. Eunice Edwards**, executive secretary of the W. N. A. C., on May 4.

■ **Homer Willis**, Director of Home Missions, will bring the dedicatory message at Elkhart, Indiana on May 6. During the week of 14-19 he will be in revival services at Pound, Virginia, and June 1-3 he will be in a Missionary Conference at Springfield, Ohio.

■ The Missionary Conference in the Cumberland Association in Tennessee will have **Reford Wilson**, Director of Foreign Missions, as a speaker along with several others, May 7-13. Mr. Wilson will be visiting the Progressive Association, Oklahoma, May 23-27 in a special Missionary Conference.

■ Executive Secretary, **Billy A. Melvin**, will be in Houlton, Maine, on May 25-27 for the organizational meeting of a New England Association of Free Will Baptists. Churches in Maine and New Hampshire are expected to take part in the organization.

**Attend the
National Association
of
Free Will Baptists
War Memorial Auditorium
Nashville, Tennessee
July 10-12
Woman's National Auxiliary
Convention
July 9-10**

MISS THYLISS RIVERS
3606 WEST END AVE
NASHVILLE TENN
C



Reviewed by T. O. Terry

NOW!

Your Church Can Build

Through

A Bond Program

Created Especially For

Free Will Baptist Churches

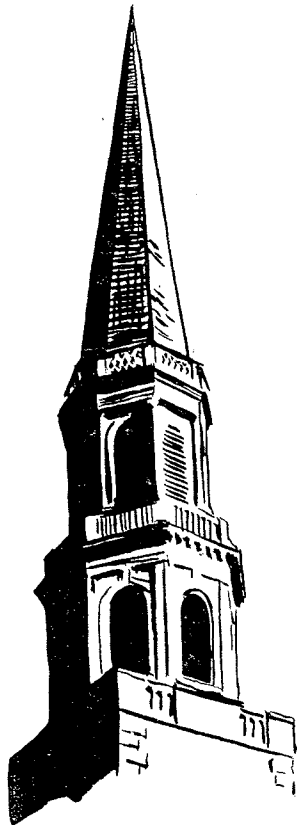
- *Most economical*
Repayment the lowest possible
- *Fastest service*
Can start building quickly
- *Simplest plan*
No long, drawn-out red tape

Programs now being scheduled for summer months. Some open dates still available. Let us know your needs early.

Investigate Today!

Write

Executive Church Bonds, Inc.
3801 Richland Avenue
Nashville 5, Tennessee



A Division of the Executive Department of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

MOSES THE LAW-GIVER by William M. Taylor, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 482 pages, Price \$2.95.

One of the best books on Moses that this reviewer has been privileged to read.

The author states, "To the study of the life of Moses, I have been drawn for years . . .," and the thoroughness with which he treats his subject reveals this fact. He deals with the great experiences of the "Law-Giver" from the outstanding circumstances surrounding his birth and early life to the unusual manner of his death and burial.

No chapter is brought to a close without a practical pointed application to us of the present day. This should create an interest among Bible students for extended study of the Biblical account of the life of Moses.

The homiletical style of the author is outstanding. It would do well for many of us to study his ability at expository preaching and attempt to profit thereby. Because of the two features mentioned, this book affords the minister with a wealth of material easily adapted to preaching.

PRAYERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 80 pages, Price \$1.95.

One of the *Minister's Handbook Series*. As the title suggests, it contains prayers for all occasions by sixty-six leaders in the evangelical branch of Protestantism in America. While it is not suggested that these prayers should be used as a substitute for one's own prayers, they do serve as a guide to effective praying on similar occasions.

MOSES GOD'S SERVANT by Dr. F. B. Meyer, Good News Publishers, Westchester, Illinois, 64 pages, Price 50¢.

A "One Evening" condensed book on the life of one of God's greatest servants. Dr. Meyer states: "I have tried to show that Moses was a man like other men; with great qualities that needed to be developed and improved; with flaws that veined the pure marble of his character; with deficiencies that had rendered him powerless but for the all-sufficient grace that he learned to appropriate; and that he wrought his life work by the simplicity of his faith, by communion with God, and by becoming a channel, through which the divine purpose could be adequately achieved." This book will furnish an impressive challenge to every Christian as the author so capably sets forth God's ability to work in the life of a true servant.