

# CONTACT

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

August 1969

Youth and the Word

Full Speed Ahead for Free Will Baptist Youths

What's So Wonderful about Being Young?







# **CONTACT ANNOUNCES MAJOR CHANGES!**

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# Personally

## A SALUTE TO C T S

### Keeping Pace with Changing Times

■ Revolution is a frightening word. It usually signifies violence and destruction. There is, however, a different kind of revolution taking place in our denomination. It is a constructive change that deserves our attention and support. It is spelled y-o-u-t-h.

While a few over-publicized persons are rioting, burning draft cards, taking LSD and fermenting revolt, it is thrilling to know Free Will Baptist youth are being offered an alternative. A wholesome action program designed to arouse their interest is gaining momentum.

Behind this effective effort is our Church Training Service. We commend this department and Director Samuel Johnson for a successful venture in providing a national program that is proving tremendously rewarding. Obviously it will take time to feel the full impact of this developing youth movement, but the progress already achieved is worthy of special recognition.

If you have not taken advantage of the materials available to help reach our youth for tomorrow's church, you are missing a real opportunity. It is time more churches provide these helps designed to capture youth involvement and enthusiasm for Christ.

■ Let's face it—times change! So do people, institutions, customs, styles, and methods. In this constantly fluctuating world, what should be the Christian's position? Do we ignore change, resist it or drift with it?

Learning to cope with change is not easy. Too often we are unprepared to make adjustments when confronted with shifting circumstances. We fear the new and fight the different. We throw up our hands in bewilderment or speak resentfully of things we do not understand.

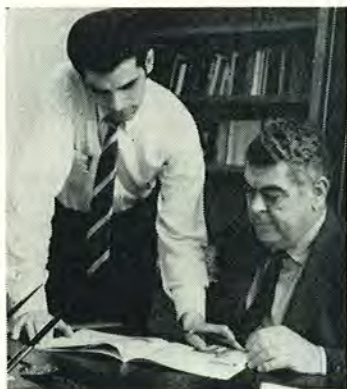
The key to adjusting to change is our mental attitude. While change involves a risk and may upset us momentarily, we should keep in mind that failure to change can be more dangerous than changing. If water does not flow, it stagnates. So in life—change is the onward movement that brings progress. God brought the children of Israel out of bondage in order to bring them into the Promised Land. The uprooting was not a pleasant experience. But God had to bring the Israelites out of the old before He could plant them in a new place of His choice.

Sometimes we are so tied to *tradition* that we close our minds to the advantages which *transition* brings. When gospel music was first introduced many were horrified by such supposedly irreverence. The radio was rejected as a tool of Satan. Television has been repeatedly denounced. Yet God is using these media as a means for communicating the gospel to a space-minded generation.

Change is not always good nor always bad. Sometimes it may mean deterioration of cherished values, but it may also produce new ideas and opportunities. The American Revolution brought about political change. Martin Luther brought about religious change through his protest. Courageous men who willingly bore the stigma of changing the status quo left their mark in the footprints of time.

Changes will surely come, but how we meet change depends upon our faith in the *Changeless One* and in the *Changeless Book*. If we keep our eyes focused on the unchanging, we may alter our course, but not our goals. We may change our methods, but never our message. Procedures may vary, but not our principles. Irresponsible, erratic change will not move us from absolute truth or shake our unchanging foundation.

With Christ as our tetherpoint, with the Bible as our anchor, with the Holy Spirit as our guide, we can face a changing world with confidence and courage. Time does not stand still. Success belongs to those who keep pace with the future.



Executive Secretary  
Rufus Coffey  
(on right)  
discusses the new  
Contact with  
Jim Owen Jones



## OUR PROPITIATION

by Robert Picirilli

The words that describe the meaning of the death of Christ are obviously quite important. They are also interesting, especially in the original language.

One word of special interest is *hilastmos*, the word translated "propitiation." It is used only twice in the New Testament, namely in First John 2:2 and 4:10. In both verses, Jesus is spoken of as "the propitiation" for our sins.

One often hears the explanation given that propitiation means a "covering," and that it suggests our sins have been covered. But this is not really accurate, and results from the fact that the Old Testament Hebrew word for *atonement* means a *covering*.

Propitiation, however, literally means an *appeasing*. It always includes the idea of a wrath that has been appeased. The picture is no less than that of a God whose anger has been against us because of our sins, but who has now been appeased, satisfied, by the death of His Son. And we will not fully appreciate the death of Christ unless we are aware that God's wrath was holy and right and could be satisfied only by being fully poured out on the sinner. That is why Jesus took the sinner's place and endured the wrath of God until He was satisfied.

The Greeks actually had a word *hilastes*, built on the same root word, which meant the "propitiator," the *one* who propitiates. Isn't it interesting that the New Testament does not call Jesus the "propitiator"! It would have been alright to do so, of course, but Jesus is more than just the *one* who propitiates, He is the *propitiation* Himself!

There is another word built on this same stem in the Greek New Testament, *hilasterion*. This is also translated "propitiation" in Romans 3:25, even though the meaning is slightly different. This is actually a neuter word that means "the propitiatory thing" and thus seems to refer to the death of Christ as the *sacrifice* that propitiates God's wrath. Thus the first word is the broader one, referring to the whole propitiation involved. This second word refers to the sacrifice as the *means* of propitiation, while the broader word refers to the act of propitiation as an accomplished *result*. Jesus is both.

RUFUS COFFEY *editor*  
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# CONTACT

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## ARTICLES

- 4 Our Propitiation / Robert E. Picirilli
- 5 Youth and the Word / Lawrence B. Richards
- 6 What's So Wonderful about Being Young? / Mary Wisheart
- 9 The Convention in Capsule / Jim Owen Jones
- 10 Full Speed ahead for Free Will Baptist Youths / Samuel E. Johnson
- 12 The Story of Billy Norton's Conversion / R. Eugene Waddell
- 13 From a Gypsy Life to a Gospel Preacher
- 17 Cincinnati Hosts NSSA Seminar

## FEATURES

- 3 Personally / Rufus Coffey
- 14 Glancing around the States / Assistant Editor
- 16 Woman to Woman / Cleo Pursell
- 17 Cooperative Plan of Support

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# youth ...and the word



IT'S HARD for us who are older to understand the reaction of youth to our attempts to "teach them the Bible." In the main the reaction is one of rejection, of indifference, even of ridicule. You go a long way to find a teenager today who is *enthusiastic* about Sunday school! And you don't have to go far to find many who simply can't stand it.

Too often we adults view these reactions as primarily a "spiritual problem." To some extent this may be a correct evaluation. But at the same time, the roots of this "spiritual problem" are not within the youth, but with us. *For we are failing to present the Word of God in such a way that we communicate with youth.* Most often what the young people reject is not the Word, but the way we attempt to communicate it!

Adults, because of the way our generation tends to think and to organize experience, teach the Bible in a pattern which is authoritarian, which stresses content, which insists on giving "the answer," and which seldom permits exploration of options.

Youth think in an entirely different pattern. Young people reject the authoritarian stance as unreal, as phony. They can't help but see that we haven't solved the world's problems, the church's problems or our own. And they resent it if we pretend to have arrived when we so clearly have so far to go. The authoritarian may not *be* a phony. But youth will read him this way.

Young people today don't feel as we do about the role of content in learning, or about the possibility of finding "the answer" for various life-problems. To begin a teaching-learning situation with a block of Bible content, and then to discuss its relationship to experience, simply turns them off. They don't start from absolutes in thinking about life. They start thinking about life from the existential point of view of personal experience. Of questions, not of answers. To structure a teaching situation and conduct it in a way which is "logical" to adults, which "covers all the points," actually *blocks* communication with youth.

Finally, youth today are trained in public education to question rather than accept pat answers. And they demand of us the right to explore options. They simply will not accept a teacher's assertion that a particular biblical teaching presents "the answer" unless they are granted the right to explore options and to come to the biblical position for themselves.

To *communicate* the Word of God as meaningful to youth today, our methodology and approach must be in harmony with the life-style and with the psychology of the young people, and not the life-style and psychology of the older generation.

THERE ARE at least three possible patterns of structuring a learning experience with youth. (A good extended discussion can be found in pages 49-55 of Zuck and Irving's book,

*(Continued on Page 18)*





# What's so Wonderful about being Young?

by Mary R. Wisheart



**S**UDDENLY, I've decided that I need to say thank you. I need to say thank you to the youth. And you know why? Because someone assigned me to write an article on what is right with our youth. What is right with them? I asked myself rather sourly. What's so wonderful about being young?

Think about all the bad things we read and hear and write and say about young people. Lazy, rebellious, foolish, purposeless, cruel, irresponsible, selfish, spoiled brats!

Then, I thought about how those of us past thirty try to hang on to youth. We make up our faces, dye, tint, bleach, or something for our hair, pay special attention to weight, diet, lines, bulges, exercises, clothes and even language. Keep young, we say.

And after all, there is Ecclesiastes 12:1, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, . . . ."

Something must be right and wonderful about youth.

And now I'd like to say thank you to our youth and to all youths everywhere, for they all share in some of the lovely wonder of being young.

For the bright music of your high, and sometimes shrill, voices in chatter, laughter, or even the silly giggles. For that inviting gaiety, which can change so swiftly to serious, grave thoughts.

For that impulsiveness which makes you turn quickly from tears to laughter, from laughter to tears, like rain and sunshine on an April day. That impulsiveness which makes you express your feelings in a wild and winsome way without inhibitions.

For your boundless energy which seems to be missing when dishes are dirty or lawns shaggy, but which is evident in your ability to participate in an endless round of activities you enjoy. That

energy which is a manifestation of the life God has given.

For that open, frank manner, making you ask questions and demand answers which we have long since learned to avoid. That honesty which forces you to accept answers even though they seem to conflict with traditions and customs we've taught you and you'd like to hang on to.

For questioning, for that curious inquiring mind which pries and searches in the dark, neglected corners where we have buried some unsolved conflicts, problems we'd like to pretend don't exist. Thank you for forcing us to look and, with you, to bring light and even solutions for some of these conflicts.

For that vibrant faith which makes you act as though the principles and promises of God's Word really work in every day experiences. That faith which makes you take God at His Word and expect Him to answer prayer.

For that optimism which makes you believe it is possible to help people, to improve, to make a better world.

Thank you for the bubbling enthusiasm which keeps you planning and plotting and executing ideas which we have grown too tired to believe possible. For that effervescence which makes you a brilliant light, even though the flame may burn out quickly.

For the courage of your example in saying no and standing firm, pure and clean—sometimes to our surprise—because, like Daniel, you have purposed in your heart. For the courage you show in a thousand situations we never had to face and tremble as you face them.

For those moments of sudden insight and understanding which you sometimes reveal to us. That insight which lets us know that you are growing, maturing and gaining wisdom.

For that spirit of rebellion, too, which

though it hurts sometimes, makes you finally our strong sons and daughters, for in separating yourselves from us you become capable of thinking your thoughts, standing on your own feet and doing your own thing, wisely and well.

Thank you to our own young people who learn many Bible verses, answers to complex questions, to think fast on their feet in order to participate in competition. For taking the responsibility of working, studying, planning, and helping in our own youth work.

Thank you to you young people who enroll in our Bible College because you have a God-given dream, an abiding conviction that you must fill a place of service for Him. For that determination that keeps you going in spite of the inadequacies of our provision so that you are able to take your places in the United States, Japan, Brazil, Africa, and do exploits in God's name because you have committed the strength and energies of youth to Him.

For that hope you give to us. The hope that you will somehow take the pieces of our own shattered dreams and rebuild them more shining and wonderful than we had imagined. That you will learn from our mistakes and not keep falling into the same traps. That you will take the new inventions, discoveries, and developments and do a far greater job of carrying the message of salvation, that you will reach more people faster with a clearer message. That you will be better men and women and build a better Church. Thank you for that bright promise.

Thank you for just being you—our terrifying, frustrating, mystifying, wonderful children, teenagers, youth. ■

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

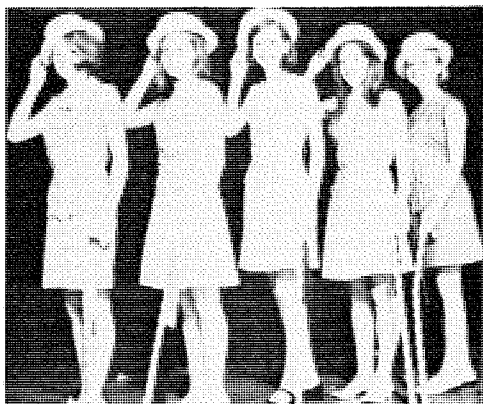
MISS WISEHART is a member of the faculty at Free Will Baptist Bible College where she teaches English and Speech. She teaches junior highs at Cofers Chapel Church.



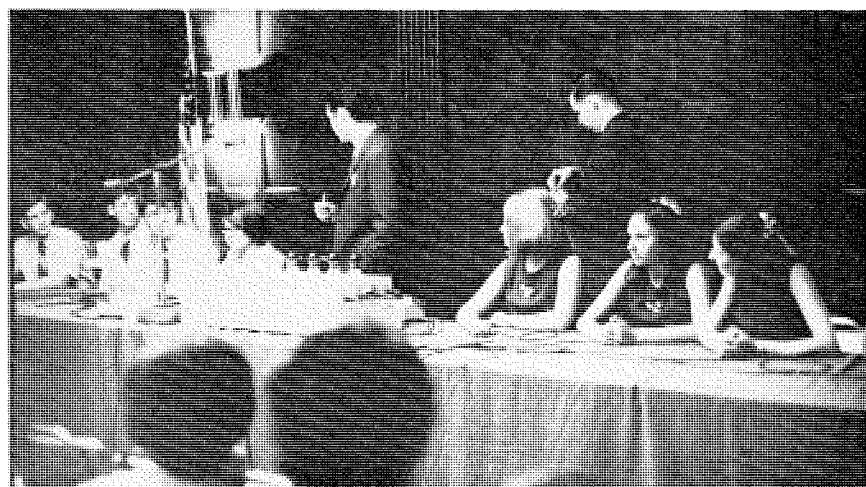
Youth registration at this year's NYC reached the 960 mark.



Hillmont Engineers, featured nightly at Town Square



The lively five are keeping right in step with "the turn of the century" at this year's youth conference.



Bible Bowl competitors are set for action.



Homer E. Willis introduces Laymen of the Year Trymon Messer, of Salina, Kansas.

An estimated 1300 Free Will Baptist teenagers and their leaders attended the 1969 National Youth Conference. The movement has experienced unparalleled growth since its inception four years ago under the CTS department. Theme for the St. Louis conference was, "Where There's Christ, There's Life."



# THE CONVENTION IN CAPSULE

Approval of changes in the Free Will Baptist *Treatise* and establishment of a retirement and insurance program for ministers and Christian workers came out of the 33rd annual meeting of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in St. Louis, July 14-17.

More than 2,600 delegates, ministers, and visitors representing 29 states and seven foreign countries registered for the four-day convention. Attendance ranged over 3000. Preliminary business got underway Saturday with the executive committee meeting and on Monday morning with the general board and woman's auxiliary executive meeting. By registration time at noon, all 34 booths of the denomination's departments and related agencies had been set up, forming an array of displays depicting the work of denominational ministries.

The National Youth Conference launched regular convention activities on Sunday night with their New Life Hour, a program of music and a message by 17-year-old Jonathan Thigpen. The youths' declamation, Bible Bowl, and Bible Tic Tac Toe contests began Monday. In competitive activities national champions were chosen for teams and individuals who had won at state levels.

The Woman's National Auxiliary Convention met Monday and Tuesday. A fellowship dinner Monday evening featured Mrs. Jill Renich, granddaughter of noted Evangelist R. A. Torrey. Mrs. Mabel Willey who, with late missionary husband Thomas H. Willey, Sr., served 40 years in Latin America, spoke at WNAC's 11:00 a.m. service Tuesday.

Under the theme taken from Christ's words, "I will build my Church," the convention was divided into worship services, workshops, and business sessions. Worship hour peakers included the Rev. Winston Sweeney, pastor in Kingsport, Tenn., the Rev. Homer Willis, general director of the denomination's Home Missions and Church Extension department, and the Rev. Dale Burden, pastor in Norfolk, Va. The Free Will Baptist Bible College program on Tuesday night included music, slides and a message by Paul Ketteman.

Business items taken up by the voting assembly included a revision of the organizational structure of the denomination, the approval of a retirement and insurance program, and the addition of an appendix to the Free Will Baptist *Treatise* statement on the doctrine of Perseverance. The addition of an appendix explaining the denomination's belief regarding a Christian's security was approved unanimously by delegates and

ministers representing more than 2,200 churches in the National Association. The text of the approved appendix is as follows:

1. We believe that salvation is a present possession by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and that a person's eternal destiny depends on whether he has this possession. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that salvation depends on human works or merit.

2. We believe that a saved individual may, in freedom of will, cease to trust in Christ for salvation and once again be lost. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that a believer may not again be lost.

3. We believe that any individual living in the practice of sin (whether he be called "backslider" or "sinner"), must be judged by that evidence to be lost should he so die in his sins. This we hold in distinction from those who suggest the pernicious doctrine that a man may live in sin as he pleases and still claim Heaven as his eternal home.

4. We believe that any regenerated person who has sinned, (again, whether he be called "backslider" or "sinner"), and in whose heart a desire arises to repent, may do so and be restored to favor and fellowship with God. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that when a Christian sins he cannot repent and be restored to favor and fellowship with God.

The retirement and insurance program called REAP (Retirement, Endowment, And Protection) that was approved by the convention consists of two plans, the Investment-Retirement Plan and a Life Insurance Plan underwritten by Life and Casualty Insurance Company of Nashville, Tennessee. Open to any licensed or ordained Free Will Baptist minister or employee of a church or denominational agency, REAP has seven trustees for its Investment-Retirement Plan and a newly-appointed director and treasurer, Rev. Herman Hersey. The Board of Retirement and Insurance replaced the denomination's Board of Superannuation.

The National Youth Conference initiated its Project LIFE on Wednesday of the convention. Twenty-eight boy-girl teams participated in the afternoon campaign after a morning training session. They gave out 45 copies of the gospel of John and enrolled 25 young people in Bible study courses. Several St. Louis teenagers confronted by Project LIFE teams stated that they trusted Christ as Savior.

More than 1000 young people regis-

tered for the National Youth Conference which had its headquarters in the Gateway Hotel. A highlight of their activity was an entertaining and educational lecture on Christian living and leadership by national known humorist-lecturer Charles E. "Tremendous" Jones. Music groups added additional attraction to their meetings, as well as fellowship activities after services.

A memorial service Tuesday afternoon commemorated the memory of Thomas H. Willey, Sr. and Miss Bessie Yeley, veteran missionaries of the denomination who died within the last year. Mrs. Willey was presented a large picture of her late husband by the Foreign Missions Department.

A Thursday morning Master's Men breakfast honored Trymon Messer of Salina, Kansas as "Layman of the Year". As a young man in trouble with the law, he was converted and began a life of soul-winning and lay preaching.

Several groups held their annual meeting concurrently with the National Association in addition to the National Youth Conference and the National Woman's Auxiliary Convention. They included Free Will Baptist Bible College Alumni, Free Will Baptist Music Fellowship, and Master's Men.

Next year's convention will be in Fresno, California, and the 1971 session will be in Nashville, Tenn. The St. Louis delegates voted to hold the 1972 convention in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Officers and standing board members elected are as follows: Moderator, Dr. Robert E. Picirilli, Assistant Moderator, Dr. J. D. O'Donnell, Clerk, Rev. Waldo Young, Assistant Clerk, Rev. Jerry Dudley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. Rufus Coffey.

Church Training Service—Dale Burden, Virginia

Foreign Missions—Bill Jones, Oklahoma Home Missions—Roy Thomas, Colorado Laymen's Board—Kenneth Lane, Oklahoma

Retirement and Insurance—Herbert Peppers, Tennessee

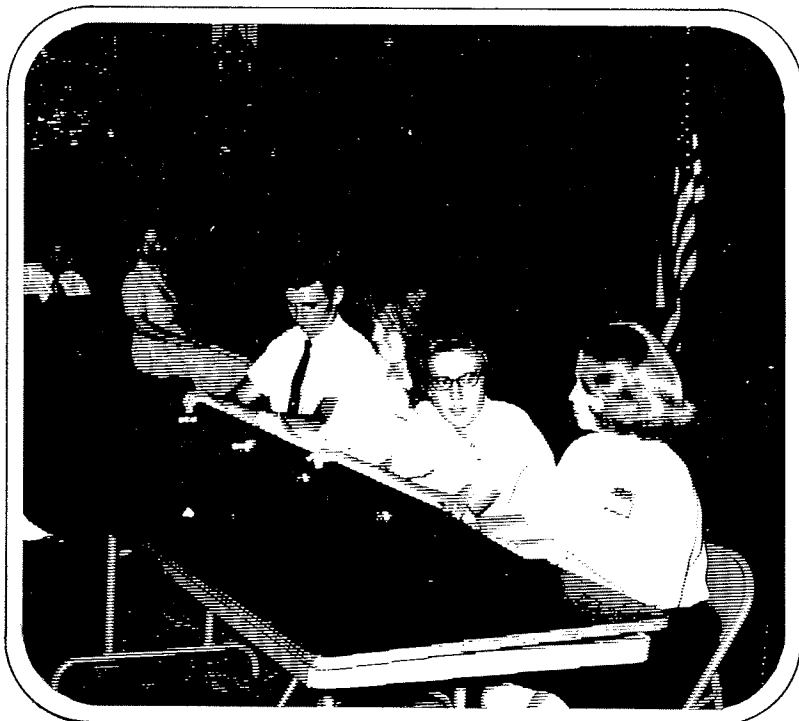
Sunday School—Billy Morris, Virginia National Office Trustees—Benny Smith, Tennessee

## HYMNBOOK PRICE RISE

1-24 copies .....	\$2.25 each
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100 copies or more ...	2.00 each



# Full Speed Ahead for Free Will Baptist Youths!



by Samuel E. Johnson





WHAT IS the single greatest need existing in our denomination today? Oh, you say, the needs are so many that it's impossible to give a capsule answer. Yet, most of us who have taken a candid look at present needs quickly admit we need desperately "to develop effective Christians capable of expressing the whole of Christian truth in a complete Christian life."\* Every facet of church life should be a means toward reaching this end. With special emphasis on youth, our Church Training Service Department is going full speed ahead in reaching and developing youths for Christ.

There's a critical shortage of Christian leaders in the local church and in many specialized Christian ministries. Very few of the existing vacancies, and even less of those which will develop later, will be filled by those now trained and involved. Leadership for the last quarter of the 20th century is right now in the youth division of our churches. Leaders for the 21st century are now in our children's division.

No greater ministry exists than that of enlisting and training our youth for Christ's service. Other ministries are equal but not greater. This ministry of reaching our youth begins while they are pre-schoolers. Wait until they are teens and the cause is lost. A church wonders why it loses so many teens. The problem begins even *before* they reach the junior department and often is unalterable.

Many services are performed by the National Church Training Service Department for Free Will Baptist churches and denominational agencies. Undoubtedly, the most important service is its outreach to our youth. The Church Training Service provides a National Youth Department for Free Will Baptists. Most of the youth services provided are designed to help the local church meet its responsibility for *enlistment* and *training*. Some services, however, are provided on a nation-wide basis, and others begin in the local church and extend through all levels to the national.

Basic to the total youth ministry, and in reality the core of the program, is our literature. Several publications are produced quarterly for three youth departments of CTS and their leaders. The quarterly literature provides information to our youth about our doctrine, missions, church ministries, church history, personal development, how to pray and study the Bible, and the list goes on and on. The value of a thorough presentation and discussion of each unit theme is of great importance to the spiritual nurture of our youth.

Other publications of a specialized nature are either produced by the National CTS Department or secured from other publishers. A variety of publications dealing with dating, marriage, daily devotions, etc. are available.

Extra achievement outlines are available for each youth department. The manner in which this material is presented is different in each department. The most highly developed series is for junior age, or Adventurers as they are called in CTS. Merit badges and other awards may be earned for successfully completing the requirements. Through participation in the achievement program, a child learns more about missions, Bible study, and many other areas of Christian development.

Youth leaders are provided with a considerable amount of help in various areas of youth work. Suggestions for having interesting weekly and monthly meetings are given in the quarterly leader's guide. Helps with planning fellowship activities and other social functions are included. Leaders will often find ideas for projects in the church and in the community. Tips on planning seasonal activities are also included at the appropriate time. It is the *leader* in the local church who really gets the job done, and the National CTS Department functions to help the leader.

ONE OF THE services provided by the National CTS Department is shared by local, district, and state levels—the program of competitive activities. There are three types of activities for the three youth departments. Each of the competitive activities is instructional, inspirational, and can be enjoyed immensely.

Skill in using the Bible is taught to Adventurers (grades 4, 5, and 6) through the Sword Drill. A study booklet is published each year by CTS for the Adventurer to use in learning a particular set of Bible references. The Adventurer leader is responsible for drilling members throughout the year. Each child can be awarded a merit badge or other award for participation. Medals may be given to the first, second, and third place winners in a final contest at the *local* church level. The winner from the local church may participate in a *district* level drill. The district winner proceeds to the *state*, and the state winner may enter the *national* contest. The amount of skill an Adventurer develops in using the Bible is remarkable.

Bible drill activities for Heralds (grades 7, 8, and 9) and Crusaders (grades 10, 11, and 12) are Bible Tic Tac Toe and Bible Bowl, respectively. The two quiz programs are quite different in presentation, but study and preparation are similar. Study materials have been designed so that, beginning with the 1969-70 materials, those who enter the Heralds this year and participate in Bible Tic Tac Toe and Bible Bowl will study the *entire* Bible in six years. The Bible has been divided into six sections for quizzing purposes—three sections will be used with Bible Tic Tac Toe and three with Bible Bowl. A set of study questions is prepared for use in the local church. Additional questions are provided for competition finals at district, state, and national levels. Participants must study several books in the Bible along with the starter list of questions and answers which are published.

Testimonies of teens who have taken an active part in the Bible quiz programs indicate the worthiness of such study. Students now attending our colleges who participated in Bible Bowl have remarked that such participation was extremely helpful in preparing them for Bible survey courses. The intensive study helps an individual learn hundreds of Bible facts thoroughly. By capitalizing on a natural competitive spirit teenagers regard Bible study as a thrilling experience. One who knows Bible facts can more easily be taught its truths.

Declamation contests accomplish two basic objectives. Since the theme of all declamations is missions, this vital ministry is given a significant thrust. The second objective is to help our youth develop the ability to speak effectively. Each department in the youth division conducts an annual declamation contest beginning in the local church and continuing through the district, state, and national levels. Members of each department compete according to the grade level designated for each group. Medals are available for winners at the local, district, and state levels. Other awards are also available from the National CTS Department.

Writing is an important skill needed by those who serve as leaders at any level of church activity. An essay contest is sponsored by the National CTS department each year to encourage our youth to express themselves through the written word. An annual theme is provided for each youth department. Every member of the department is encouraged to enter his essay. All essays are mailed directly to the National CTS Office for grading and evaluation. Often the winning essays are published in one or more of the CTS publications. Trained editors look for indications of writing ability which may be trained to write for Free Will Baptists. Our denomination has a pressing need for writers, and this need continues to increase. Our present youth will be called upon to fill that need. CTS guides our talented youth in the direction of helping to meet the increasing need we have for writers.

\* Purpose of Church Training Service

(Continued on Page 18)



WHAT IS the single greatest need existing in our denomination today? Oh, you say, the needs are so many that it's impossible to give a capsule answer. Yet, most of us who have taken a candid look at present needs quickly admit we need desperately "to develop effective Christians capable of expressing the whole of Christian truth in a complete Christian life."\* Every facet of church life should be a means toward reaching this end. With special emphasis on youth, our Church Training Service Department is going full speed ahead in reaching and developing youths for Christ.

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Other publications of a specialized nature are either produced by the National CTS Department or secured from other publishers. A variety of publications dealing with dating, marriage, daily devotions, etc. are available.

Extra achievement outlines are available for each youth department. The manner in which this material is presented is different in each department. The most highly developed series is for junior age, or Adventurers as they are called in CTS. Merit badges and other awards may be earned for successfully completing the requirements. Through participation in the achievement program, a child learns more about missions, Bible study, and many other areas of Christian development.

Youth leaders are provided with a considerable amount of help in various areas of youth work. Suggestions for having interesting weekly and monthly meetings are given in the quarterly leader's guide. Helps with planning fellowship activities and other social functions are included. Leaders will often find ideas for projects in the church and in the community. Tips on planning seasonal activities are also included at the appropriate time. It is the *leader* in the local church who really gets the job done, and the National CTS Department functions to help the leader.

ONE OF THE services provided by the National CTS Department is shared by local, district, and state levels—the program of competitive activities. There are three types of activities for the three youth departments. Each of the competitive activities is instructional, inspirational, and can be enjoyed immensely.

Skill in using the Bible is taught to Adventurers (grades 4, 5, and 6) through the Sword Drill. A study booklet is published each year by CTS for the Adventurer to use in learning a particular set of Bible references. The Adventurer leader is responsible for drilling members throughout the year. Each child can be awarded a merit badge or other award for participation. Medals may be given to the first, second, and third place winners in a final contest at the *local* church level. The winner from the local church may participate in a *district* level drill. The district winner proceeds to the *state*, and the state winner may enter the *national* contest. The amount of skill an Adventurer develops in using the Bible is remarkable.

Bible drill activities for Heralds (grades 7, 8, and 9) and Crusaders (grades 10, 11, and 12) are Bible Tic Tac Toe and Bible Bowl, respectively. The two quiz programs are quite different in presentation, but study and preparation are similar. Study materials have been designed so that, beginning with the 1969-70 materials, those who enter the Heralds this year and participate in Bible Tic Tac Toe and Bible Bowl will study the *entire* Bible in six years. The Bible has been divided into six sections for quizzing purposes—three sections will be used with Bible Tic Tac Toe and three with Bible Bowl. A set of study questions is prepared for use in the local church. Additional questions are provided for competition finals at district, state, and national levels. Participants must study several books in the Bible along with the starter list of questions and answers which are published.

Testimonies of teens who have taken an active part in the Bible quiz programs indicate the worthiness of such study. Students now attending our colleges who participated in Bible Bowl have remarked that such participation was extremely helpful in preparing them for Bible survey courses. The intensive study helps an individual learn hundreds of Bible facts thoroughly. By capitalizing on a natural competitive spirit teenagers regard Bible study as a thrilling experience. One who knows Bible facts can more easily be taught its truths.

Declamation contests accomplish two basic objectives. Since the theme of all declamations is missions, this vital ministry is given a significant thrust. The second objective is to help our youth develop the ability to speak effectively. Each department in the youth division conducts an annual declamation contest beginning in the local church and continuing through the district, state, and national levels. Members of each department compete according to the grade level designated for each group. Medals are available for winners at the local, district, and state levels. Other awards are also available from the National CTS Department.

Writing is an important skill needed by those who serve as leaders at any level of church activity. An essay contest is sponsored by the National CTS department each year to encourage our youth to express themselves through the written word. An annual theme is provided for each youth department. Every member of the department is encouraged to enter his essay. All essays are mailed directly to the National CTS Office for grading and evaluation. Often the winning essays are published in one or more of the CTS publications. Trained editors look for indications of writing ability which may be trained to write for Free Will Baptists. Our denomination has a pressing need for writers, and this need continues to increase. Our present youth will be called upon to fill that need. CTS guides our talented youth in the direction of helping to meet the increasing need we have for writers.

\* Purpose of Church Training Service

(Continued on Page 18)





Grover Inman (l) and Billy Norton

# The Story of Billy Norton's Conversion

by R. Eugene Waddell

I CALLED HER a 'Bible fiend.' She came in talking about the Bible and left talking about the Bible. I guess that's the way the devil wanted me to feel because I was unsaved at that time. But, she never talked about anything except the Bible. It was like she was trying to *drive* me to the Lord, while I was getting further away."

This was how Billy Norton described a Christian neighbor in Columbia, South Carolina.

"Well, here is the way she would do," continued Billy. "She would stay up all night long, watching the clock to see what time I came in. I guess she thought she was protecting the community! Then, she would write to my mama. This woman was sincere but she was going about it wrong."

That was in 1964. Billy and his wife, Earline, loved to go dancing and partying. Billy had been brought up in church. He had gone to Sunday school and church regularly until he was 15. Then, he thought he was too big and refused to attend services. He started skipping church. While he was in the Army, he drifted still further.

While stationed at Fort Jackson, Billy Norton frequently spent the weekends with some unsaved cousins in nearby Columbia. "They got me started to drinking parties and dances," recalls Billy. "We would go to the Grasshopper Club one night and the Skyline the next. It was a different one every night."

In 1964, a man named Grover Inman entered the circle of Billy Norton's friends. From the first time they met, at Coble Dairies where they both worked, Billy sensed something different about Grover. He seemed to enjoy life and Billy soon learned that Grover was a dedicated Christian.

"Come visit our church Sunday," suggested Inman. "Let me come by and pick you up."

Billy gave excuses. He turned Grover down many, many times over the next two years.

Eventually, Billy and Earline decided to buy a home. When they moved in, they were surprised to learn that they had moved only four blocks from Grover's church, First Free Will Baptist. This seemed to be the opportunity that Grover had been waiting for. On Thursday night, he and Pastor Carroll Alexander visited the Nortons. This was the first of dozens of visits the two men made over a period of two years. The only encouragement they received was when Billy and Earline would visit the church services once in a while. But Billy kept insisting, "I'm not ready to be saved. I don't want to be a hypocrite."

All the while, the Lord was convicting the Nortons. Billy

was especially troubled because he knew how badly Earline wanted to become a Christian, and he felt he was standing in her way. Finally, in the summer of 1968, while Rev. Rufus Coffey was conducting revival services, Earline gave her life to Christ.

"In a way I was relieved," Billy reflects. "But I felt alone. 'Who's going to go dancing with me now?' I got more and more miserable after Earline was saved."

One day when they were ready to leave the plant, Grover Inman said, "Billy, you're a great burden on me. I want to see you get saved so bad!" This bothered Billy to think that while Grover was home praying for him, he was out somewhere at a party and not paying the Lord any attention. When Inman or Pastor Alexander would let a few weeks go by without visiting him, Billy became concerned.

"I wondered if they'd given up on me," Billy recalls.

IN JANUARY of this year, Billy received the disturbing news from his doctor: "You've got to have an operation." This really scared Billy. When he was a child he had a tonsillectomy and almost choked to death. Ever since then, he has been afraid of being put to sleep.

"I'm afraid I might not wake up," thought Billy, and I know I will go to hell.' But the doctor did not give Billy a real choice.

Early on the morning of his surgery, February 4, Pastor Alexander went to see Billy. "Somehow I felt like things were going to be all right because Brother Carroll was there. He prayed. And I prayed in my mind, 'Lord, help me! Lord, help me!' This brought a little relief, but my burden was still there," Billy recollects.

After he returned from the recovery room, Billy had a visitor, Grover Inman. He wrote down some scripture references and left his own Bible for Billy to read. He also left a tract and said, "Read it and if you agree, sign it."

As soon as Grover left, Earline read the tract. She gave it back to Billy and went to the coffee shop. Billy read it through three or four times. He said to himself, "I agree with this. I want to be saved. I believe in Jesus." Then he prayed, "Lord,

CONTACT



come into my heart and forgive my sins." Then Billy took his pen and signed the decision blank. When Earline returned he showed it to her. She was overjoyed!

A few days later Grover came back to the hospital. The first thing Billy did was give him the tract. Grover looked at the decision blank and asked "Do you mean it?" Billy answered "I signed it, didn't I?"

Victory! After four years of witnessing, praying and visiting, Grover finally experienced victory and Billy Norton experienced a victory that was even greater—his is a victory over sin.

After his discharge from the hospital, Billy joined the church. He is participating in all the church's activities: Sunday school, Church Training Service, Master's Men and even helping in cottage prayer meetings. In addition to visitation on Thursday nights, Billy witnesses when he gets an opportunity on his job. He is making a special effort to lead his cousins in Columbia to Christ. Every night Billy and Earline have their family devotions together. He says, "I thank God over and over again for saving my soul. It seems like I cannot tell enough people what God did for me!"

The wonderful truth of the matter is that God will do the same for any person who will turn from sin and trust Christ this moment. He will save you now if you will receive Him into your life.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

MR. WADDELL is pastor of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church, Nashville, Tennessee and a member of the Board of Foreign Missions.

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AUGUST, 1969

## FROM A GYPSY LIFE TO A GOSPEL PREACHER

*The testimony of Pastor Lonnie Graves and the remarkable way  
God is using him in the ministry*



GRAVES



ADAMS



DAIL



AVIS

I WILL never forget my first day in Sunday school," recalls the former gypsy lad. "When I entered the front door, a lady came up, took my little girl, and said, 'What a precious little girl! I'll take you.' I thought, 'Oh, my! I'm in a mess now. They have taken my little girl.' But the people were very friendly. About fourteen people came up and shook hands with me, smiled, and greeted me warmly."

Graves recalls that the teacher had very tender eyes. "They were kind and pleasing, and she spoke with a very soft voice." She began to tell of a God who loved the world and of a Christ who died on the cross, willingly, to save sinners. She spoke of a God who would save whosoever would come to Him. This was indeed strange language to me. I was twenty-six years old and in Sunday school for the first time in my life."

Several months later Lonnie Graves came under the convicting power of the Holy Spirit during a revival in Sherron Acres FWB Church in Durham, North Carolina and gave his heart to Christ. Following his conversion, the twenty-six-year-old former gypsy set out to learn how to read and write so he could effectively serve his Lord. He became an enthusiastic soulwinner and conducted cottage prayer meetings.

"Probably the most sacred moment of my life was when the Lord called me into the ministry," Graves contends. Two years after his conversion, the Lord charged him with the responsibility of proclaiming His message.

In November, 1955, Reverend Lonnie Graves spoke to eight people in a one-room building, 30' by 35', near Durham. In March, 1956, the mission was organized as Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church with 47 charter members. Church membership grew to 96 in 1957. A new auditorium was completed in April, 1961. Ten years later Fellowship Church averaged more than 600 in Sunday school and completed a renovation program.

Sunday school attendance this year has averaged 797, morning services, 872, evening services, 550, and Wednesday services, 452.

The church maintains a radio program and a bus ministry. Graves' major emphases in his ministry are *soulwinning* and *missions*. In addition to the pastor, Fellowship Church's staff includes: Ann McFarland, secretary; Patricia Glasgow, secretary; Norman Adams, associate pastor; Ronnie Dail, assistant pastor; and Dave Avis, visitation pastor.

Fellowship FWB Church  
Durham, N. C.





# GLANCING around the STATES

## Homecoming At Cramerton

*Cramerton, N. C.*—Cramerton FWB Church observed its 24th annual homecoming May 18. The Reverend Roy Rikard, pastor, began his ministry at the Cramerton church with a membership of 18, in 1948. Sunday school attendance of 456 at this year's homecoming set a new record. Previous high attendance was 384. "This was accomplished," Pastor Rikard observed, "by all the church putting forth extra effort for this occasion—which proves God . . . can and will work through His people when they put their all into His work."

## Concord Reports Revival

*Concord, Calif.*—Concord FWB Church reports seven decisions were made during their recent revival, with the Reverend Charles Harris as evangelist. The church has completed a renovation program. Mike Ashford, first place state sword drill winner, represented California at the National Youth Conference in St. Louis.

## Evangelism Conference Slated

*Fort Smith, Ark.*—First FWB Church will host the second Conference on Evangelism September 15-17, according to an announcement by Promotional Secretary Robert Shockey.

"This conference will provide a fresh depth to our understanding of evangelism," states Mr. Shockey. "Not only are we to win men to Christ, but we must give sufficient attention to helping new converts and other Christians to follow Christ faithfully everyday."

"New vitality is needed for a forward thrust in soulwinning and faithful witnessing," Shockey continued. "It is true that 95% of the church never wins anyone to Christ; however; it is also true that many preachers never win anyone to Christ except those who come forward in the services or someone who requests his services at the hospital or elsewhere."

*Cramerton Church observes annual homecoming*



"We need to develop new methods in reaching people for Christ," Shockey observed. "Perhaps these times must mean a revolutionary change in methods. This does not mean we would discard the tested and effective methods, but it does mean we are willing to use other methods that will help us reach souls for Christ and take the gospel unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Pastors and laymen are encouraged to attend the Fort Smith Conference on Church Evangelism in September.

## Alcohol Legislation Pending

*Washington, D. C.*—Legislation is pending before the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee which, if passed, will ban the advertising of all alcoholic beverages on radio and television. The number of the bill is H.R. 8388. Congressman Harley Staggers, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, will hold hearings on this matter shortly.

Christians ought to write asking for favorable consideration by the Committee and the Congress. If this legislation is passed, the use of alcohol can, in large measure, be deglamorized and the pressure to drink will certainly be lessened.

## WNAC EMPHASIS MONTH

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Free program kits have been prepared for auxiliaries to use during August. Offerings received at the conclusion of the program for WNAC will enable the national office to continue providing leadership and materials for expanding our women's work. WNAC is dependent upon this offering since it receives no allocation from the cooperative funds as do other departments of the national office.

## Missions Giving Soars

*Toronto, Canada*—The Peoples Church concluded its World Missions Conference with a Faith Promise Offering of \$390,958.00. This amount will come in during the next twelve months and will enable the church to substantially support more than four hundred missionaries working in sixty-seven countries and colonies. The church contributes a minimum of \$1,200.00 per year to each missionary couple and invests heavily in the publication of foreign literature. This goal exceeds every other year by \$50,000.00.

## September: CTS Emphasis

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Churches throughout our denomination will emphasize the ministries of Church Training Service during

*First FWB Church, Glasgow, Kentucky, observed dedication services June 6, reports Pastor A. M. Crisp. New building was financed through Executive Church Bonds, Inc.*







Youth choir of First FWB Church, Pocahontas, Arkansas, sang at National Youth Conference last month. Reverend Ernest M. Kennedy (front row, left) is pastor.

September as pastors and CTS directors stress the purpose and objectives of CTS. (See current issue of *Digest of Reports* released in St. Louis last month.) If your church has failed to send a regular gift of \$5.00 per month to our CTS Department, set a goal of \$45.00 next month. The department continues to rapidly expand its many ministries to our denomination.

### Fall Enlargement Campaign

*Nashville, Tenn.*—"WINNING WITH THE WORD" is the theme for the Fall Enlargement Campaign this year, according to H. D. Harrison, Promotional Secretary. This annual event sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department.

A free copy of Rev. William Hill's new book, *Organizing and Developing a Free Will Baptist Sunday School*, will be awarded the first one hundred persons who get their orders in for the Fall Enlargement materials.

Two new divisions have been created for Sunday schools whose average attendance exceeds five hundred and those between four and five hundred.

- Division A—over 500 average
- Division B—400-500 average
- Division C—300-399 average
- Division D—200-299 average
- Division E—150-199 average
- Division F—100-149 average
- Division G—50-99 average
- Division H—49 and under

The Enlargement Campaign begins September 28 and continues through October 26. Sunday schools in *each division*

*The Archie Mayhew family arrived in Nashville from Ivory Coast, Africa, June 6. Reverend Kenneth Stephens (1), pastor of West Nashville FWB Church (where Mayhew previously pastored), was among the 50 friends from the West Nashville Church and national office to greet the furloughing missionaries.*



who experience the greatest *percentage* of gain over the thirteen weeks attendance for April-May-June this year will be declared winners and awarded appropriate plaques denoting first or second place. The present size of your Sunday school does not hinder you from being eligible to win in your division.

Campaign materials are available from the Sunday School Department.

### OBC Graduates 10

*Moore, Okla.*—Ten students were awarded Associate of Arts degrees from Oklahoma Bible College in Commencement exercises May 30. The graduating sophomores are the third class to be granted degrees since the College was authorized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to operate as a junior college and to offer appropriate Associate of Arts degrees.

Graduates heard Dr. Douglas J. Simpson, a member of the faculty at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, paint a verbal picture of the world in which they are entering.

Mr. Thomas Marberry, Bryan, Texas, was the recipient of the Outstanding Student award which is presented annually by the faculty to the individual who, because of his "academic ability, leadership ability, attitude, and general achievement," merits such distinction. Mr. Marberry and Miss Pat Beck, Ninnekah, Oklahoma were recognized for their service as co-editors of the 1969 *Harvester* yearbook.

Miss Gloria Followwill, Arlington, Texas, and Mr. Richard Terry, Lee's Summit, Missouri, received the Best All-Around Student awards. Members of the Student Body annually select by ballot the boy and girl whom they feel deserves this award because of their excellence in all phases of campus life.

The Key Award, annually presented to the student who has maintained the highest grade point average for the year, went to Clyde Gillentine, Dallas, Texas. Mr. Gillentine, father of four children, achieved this honor while still maintaining a full-time job during his two years at OBC.

The graduating class heard the Reverend J. B. Chism, pastor of New Home Free Will Baptist Church in Tulsa, deliver the annual Baccalaureate sermon Sunday night, May 25.

### Mrs. Mary Welch, 79, Passes

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Services for Mrs. Mary Ann Welch, wife of the Reverend John L. Welch, retired pastor of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, were held July 4. The Reverend Eugene Waddell, pastor, and Dr. Robert Picirilli, registrar at Free Will Baptist Bible College, officiated. Mrs. Welch, affectionately called "Mrs. Mary" by hundreds of students, was receptionist at Free Will Baptist Bible College from 1944-1960. Many alumnae of the College are bearing strong testimonies for Christ today because of the intercessory prayer ministry of Mrs. Welch.



# woman to woman



by CLEO PURSELL

## Remember the Good Old Days?

Remember when HIPPIE meant big in the hips!  
And TRIP involved travel in cars, planes and ships.  
When POT was a vessel for cooking things in?  
And HOOKED was what Grandmother's rug might have been.  
When FIX was a verb that meant mend or repair?  
And BE-IN meant simply existing somewhere.  
And NEAT meant well-organized, tidy and clean.  
When GRASS was a ground cover, normally green?  
When lights and not people were TURNED ON and OFF?  
And the PILL might have been what you took for a cough.  
When CAMP meant to quarter outdoors in a tent?  
And POP was what the weasel went.  
When GROOVY meant burrowed with channels and hollow?  
And BIRDS were winged creatures, like robins and swallows.  
When FUZZ was a substance that's fluffy like lint.  
And BREAD came from bakeries, not from the mint.  
When SQUARE meant a 90-degree angle.  
And COOL was a temperature not quite warm.  
When ROLL meant a bun, and ROCK was a stone.  
And HANG-UP was something you did to a phone.  
When CHICKEN meant poultry, and BAG was a sack?  
And JUNK trashy cast-offs and old bric-a-brac.  
When JAM was preserves that you spread on your bread?  
And CRAZY meant balmy, not right in the head.  
When CAT was a feline, a kitten grown up?  
And TEA was a liquid you drank from a cup.  
When a SWINGER was someone who swung in a swing?  
A PAD was a soft sort of cushiony thing.  
And a man couldn't sue you for calling him GAY.  
When WAY-OUT meant distant, and far away?  
And PUT-ON was what you would do with a shirt.  
When TOUGH described meat too unyielding to chew?  
And MAKING A SCENE was a rude thing to do.  
Words once sensible, sober, and serious  
Are making the FREAK SCENE like PSYCHO-DELIRIOUS  
Methinks that the language has gone straight to pot.

Author Unknown

Contributed by Mrs. Mabel Willey

## Answer to Mrs. O'Hair

"Evil triumphs when good men (women) do nothing."

Two people decided they should do something about Mrs. Madalyn Murray O'Hair's protest of the Apollo 8 astronauts reading from the Bible during their lunar orbit last December.

Mrs. Loretta Fry, who has a religious program on a Detroit radio station, and the Reverend Fred Taylor, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio, presented petitions bearing more than a half million signatures of people who

support public prayer and Bible reading in space to Paul Haney, former Space Agency public relations chief.

"I don't know when I've heard a more straightforward and touching tribute," Haney said in accepting the petitions. "I think this will go on now that you've sown the seeds."

## Operation Bridesmaid

Operation Bridesmaid is the theme for WNAC Emphasis month programs this year. Annually the month of August (or any month convenient to your church

program) is set aside in Free Will Baptist churches to emphasize the purpose and work of the Woman's Auxiliary.

The offering received at the conclusion of the program for WNAC will enable the national office to continue providing leadership and materials for expanding our women's work. WNAC is dependent upon this offering since it receives no allocation from the cooperative funds as do other departments of the national office.

Free program kits have been mailed to all auxiliaries on the mailing list. If you failed to receive yours, please write: WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

## On the Practical Side

■ If you are going only a short way for a picnic, put hot dogs into a wide-mouthed thermos and fill with boiling water. By the time you reach the picnic spot, the franks are ready.

■ Before using your camp stove, spray it with one of the oven protecting liquids. This will make cleaning easy and will also inhibit rust.

■ When making jams and jellies, melt your paraffin in a discarded coffee pot for easy pouring. Extra wax can be stored in the pot and remelted as needed.

■ On camping trips a comfortable bed can be made in a station wagon. But with all those windows, privacy is a problem. If you detest curtains or make-shift shades, try spreading a sudsy glass cleaner over the windows. It will give plenty of privacy that night, and the next day a quick wipe with paper towels will leave your windows sparkling.

## A Salad for Outdoors

The following recipe is a good complement for a meal cooked outdoors and is easy to prepare.

Prepare torn lettuce, peeled and chopped avocados (sprinkled with small amount of lemon juice to prevent discoloring), diced celery, and hard-cooked chopped eggs. (Amount of each ingredient will depend on the number you are serving.) Toss with Thousand Island or similar dressing.



## COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT JUNE 1969

### RECEIPTS

STATE	June 1969	June 1968	Yr. to Date	Designated
Alabama	—	\$ 75.47	\$ 1,667.67	\$
Arizona	—	923.05	1,308.03	
Arkansas	653.12	703.00	4,087.31	
California	822.02	—	3,496.19	
Florida	105.98	710.77	598.47	
Georgia	—	—	1,867.95	
Idaho	—	16.48	54.64	
Illinois	653.89	947.43	4,780.38	
Indiana	—	—	123.66	
Kansas	177.00	256.00	698.10	
Kentucky	137.77	—	1,532.19	
Louisiana	—	—	11.34	
Michigan	181.00	—	2,242.31	
Missouri	2,005.98	23.75	11,952.25	
New Mexico	—	41.44	181.32	
North Carolina	124.18	196.83	835.19	
Ohio	310.00	320.00	1,272.69	
Oklahoma	2,250.60	2,030.73	10,361.78	18.57
Tennessee	76.86	860.10	671.03	
Texas	221.78	—	904.22	
Virginia	26.54	225.20	1,442.77	
Washington & Oregon	40.77	138.90	320.05	
Wisconsin	—	10.00	50.00	
West Virginia	—	—	75.00	

### Disbursements

Executive Department	3,285.89	2,558.55	19,063.10	18.57
Foreign Missions	1,440.28	1,357.70	10,033.12	
Bible College	1,352.77	1,110.75	9,408.52	
Home Missions	853.23	908.41	6,077.44	
Church Training Service	450.16	536.80	3,296.11	
Superannuation Board	225.08	215.20	1,614.23	
Master's Men	135.05	96.54	910.75	
Commission on Theological Liberalism	45.03	—	45.03	

## Cincinnati Hosts NSSA Seminar

"Implications for Church Education in the 70's" will be the theme for a working seminar to be held at the Sheraton-Gibson Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 21-24, 1969. This seminar will replace the previously announced NSSA convention scheduled for Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The purposes for such a seminar are listed by the Reverend Wayne Buchanan, Jr., Executive Director for NSSA as:

- (1) To provide a framework for communication between various interest groups in church education.
- (2) To bring church educators together to plan, prepare and anticipate their unusual opportunities for ministries in the 70's.
- (3) To provide opportunity to closely scrutinize various aspects of church education with the intent to improving, changing and/or solidifying present programs.

Participants from these areas are invited to attend: All those actively engaged in a ministry of church education or directly contributing to church education, i.e., denominational Christian Education executives and district Sunday School and Christian Educational personnel, writers and editors of curriculum materials, publishing executives, Christian Education materials sales personnel, professors of Christian Education, Directors of Christian education, youth workers, pastors, etc.

Registration fee for participation will be \$50.00 if pre-registered by October 1. This fee will include three luncheons and the Friday night banquet.

The program will be a working seminar, not just a listening seminar. All those in attendance will be involved in interaction and sharing. Each morning will begin with a "resource stimulator," someone from outside the field of Christian Education, but well versed and experienced in his own field. We are inviting people from such areas as communications, public education, youth work, management, etc., to speak at this time. They are being instructed to project their own field into the 70's—what we may expect by way of change and innovation. They likewise are being instructed that it is not their task to present their views on Christian Education, although these will be reflected in the question time which follows.



# Youth and the Word

(Continued from Page 5)

*Youth and the Church*; Moody Press; \$5.95.)

**Content dominated.** This is the pattern evangelicals tend to use. The teacher has studied a particular block of biblical content, begins with an exposition of this content, and at the end of the "hour" presents the meaning of the content. This is the pattern which evangelical teens so vigorously reject!

**Experience dominated.** At the other extreme is an approach which seeks to find meanings *wholly* within the experiences of the youth. The session starts with discussion of the way the kids feel and think, and ends on the same note. Biblical content is not introduced, and the group only shares ignorance and confusion.

**Experience initiated.** The mediating position, which I believe must be taken by those of us working with youth, has as its starting point the questions, the experience and the feelings of our particular group of youth. These are focused on issues

which are important to them. The session atmosphere is one of freedom, and options are openly explored. At this point, with questions expressed, biblical content is introduced. The Bible is studied, for a knowledge of the Word of God is essential to finding Christian solutions. (This is a proposition which our evangelical youth do *not* reject!) Biblical content *thus introduced* will be understood and accepted by today's Christian youth.

THE ONE factor which makes or breaks communications has not yet been explored. That is the stance and style of adult leadership. For the adult leadership is *the* crucial factor in communicating the Word to the new generation.

Recently the High School Department superintendent of a large Wheaton church, Mr. Henry Jacobsen, sent out a letter to his teaching staff. In it he pinpointed reasons why we have failed to communicate with youth, and he gives guidelines which *must* be followed if we are to have a chance to reach and to guide them. Here, with his permission, is just part of what Mr. Jacobsen wrote.

"Another reason [for the serious situation among young people] which is more relevant to an evangelical church, has to do with *the inability of some parents, teachers and sponsors to tolerate disagreement on the part of young people*. We often do not give our kids an opportunity, in a climate of acceptance and understanding, *to say what they really think* and to ask the questions that really trouble them.

"It is essential that we grant young people, without reservation, *the right to reach their own conclusions*—even when those conclusions are wrong. When young people don't accept our views, we must *encourage them to talk about their differences of opinion*. You don't change a person's mind by closing his mouth. No matter how much we want to, we *CANNOT think for our young people*, nor can we compel them to accept our convictions. Only God can do that—and the sooner we accept this fact, the better. What we can do is to encourage them and to *provide a climate that will be conducive to right conclusions*."

He's right. This is about all we can do. And we'd better do it fast! ■

## Full Speed Ahead

(Continued from Page 11)

**Exciting, thrilling, tremendous** describe one of the outstanding highlights of the year for Free Will Baptist youth—the National Youth Conference. Hundreds of Free Will Baptist children and teens come from all areas of the country to share in a balanced program of inspiration, instruction, and fellowship. Features include outstanding speakers, workshops, field trips, finals in all competitive activities, and unique social functions.

Plans for the National Youth Conference begin more than a year in advance. Dozens of youth leaders become involved as the plans unfold and preparation is made. The National CTS Department carries the financial load and serves to initiate and coordinate the many activities provided to meet the interests of all age levels. It is a ministry and service made possible through total involvement in CTS.

Leadership is necessary for the accomplishment of any goal. We must remember that God uses men in the broadest usage to do His will. Programs are the procedures which we use to reach a specific objective. No program operates of itself. Men called of God to specific tasks use programs as a means to that end. We should be concerned with reaching our objective in the most efficient manner possible. The whole of creation is

an object of perfect efficiency, and we need to strive toward such goals.

Recognizing the need for challenging our youth to develop leadership skills, the National Church Training Service Department initiated a *program of development*. The first thrust was made to our young men in the summer of 1968, and a program for girls was added this summer. The basic training site is Hillmont, located west of Nashville, Tennessee. As training procedures are developed at the leadership training center, they will be conducted in other areas as well as Hillmont.

Leaders in the local church will be given opportunity to participate in seminars and workshops at Hillmont. The first session for adults is being held the first two weeks of this month. Emphasis for this session is **drama** in the church. Training programs are being planned to help youth leaders become thoroughly familiar with the services provided by CTS and the procedures for conducting a youth and training program in the local church.

Many activities are initiated by CTS and carried out through the local church. Many services are available and youth leaders are encouraged to use them. However, there is no substitute for individual initiative and creativity.

The tools needed in developing youths for Christ are available. Are you using them? Are you willing to involve yourself in one of the most strategic ministries in the Free Will Baptist denomination—developing effective Christian youths capable of expressing the whole of Christian truth in a complete Christian life? Let's go full speed ahead in this gigantic operation for the glory of Christ. ■

CONTACT



# SEPTEMBER: CTS EMPHASIS

*Church Training Service Develops Effective Christians Capable of*

*Expressing the Whole of Christian Truth in A Complete Christian Life*

Our thanks to each local CTS that sends a gift of \$5.00 each month! If your CTS is behind in its monthly giving, why not set a goal of \$45.00 in September and share in the ministry of the department that is making disciples of our Christian youths—and, then, send \$5.00 to the department monthly?



## **Hillmont — National Leadership Training Center**

Ten Indian braves and seven Indian princesses had an exciting week at Hillmont during Arrowhead Camp. A tremendous amount of personal attention was given to each camper—thus making the experience a very meaningful one to each brave and princess.

Nineteen Engineers from eleven states converged on Hillmont the day Arrowhead Camp ended. A larger staff greeted this year's Engineers to provide Free Will Baptist young men with one of the finest leadership training programs in the nation.

Additional training sessions this summer include a leadership program for girls, a special outdoor camping program for boys, and a training program in church drama for teens and adults.

***Church Training Service offers week-end retreats  
for groups interested in a planned program of  
inspiration and recreation. Food, lodging and  
program are included in the total cost.***

**If you are interested, write . . . CTS**

**P. O. Box 1088**

**Nashville, Tennessee 37202**




**CONTACT**

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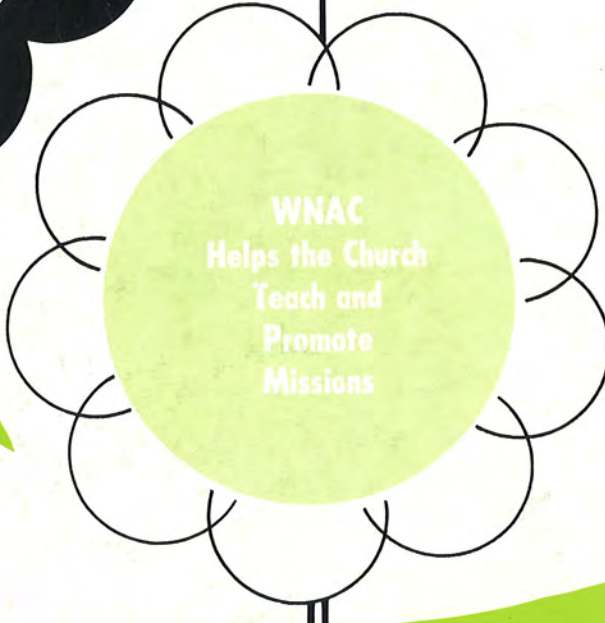
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**AUGUST: WNAC EMPHASIS**