



O Lord
Revive Thy Work

contact

Of The National Association Of Free Will Baptist

JULY 1971

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PRESENTS

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VIEWPOINT



by the
Executive Secretary
Rufus Coffey

REKINDLING THE FIRES OF PATRIOTISM

On July 4, we celebrate the 195th birthday of our nation. Proudly we hail our beloved country and pay tribute to her for affording us the privilege of life, liberty, justice, and the pursuit of happiness. Humbly we bow in reverential thanksgiving for "One nation under God," where we are permitted to worship God according to the dictates of our consciences. Loudly we sing, "My Country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty." Gladly we pledge anew our allegiance to "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

While the news media plays up the misguided radicals whose disloyalty and anarchy border on treason, it is time for responsible patriots to stand up for America. Too long, our citizenry has been indifferent and complacent to the insidious forces working from within to change the character of our free society and the establishment which we call the American way of life. "If this nation is ever destroyed," Lincoln once said, "it will be from within, not from without." General Douglas MacArthur pointed out that "these forces seek through covert manipulation of the civil powers and the media of public information and education to pervert the truth, impair respect for moral values, suppress human freedom and representative government, and, in the end, destroy our faith and our religious teachings."

Even though scoffers mock patriotism, desecrate the flag and resort to means that serve the ends of foreign forces, we honor our nation and reaffirm our faith in the principles and institutions that have made us the envy of the whole world.

A rebirth of patriotism is needed to combat the discontented and dissident element which is sowing discord and division in America. Devotion to one's country manifests itself in constructive rather than destructive action. The country's welfare is placed above self-interest, and the authority and institutions of the country are upheld.

Love of country must be accompanied by a willingness and eagerness to serve. Patriotism demands that citizens inform themselves on current issues and vote their convictions in every election. When possible, patriotic citizens

will accept community responsibilities and participate in governmental affairs in order to exert a Christian influence by decisions based upon principles and moral integrity. They will beware of extremists who exploit the fears of people for selfish gains. Samuel Johnson referred to these unscrupulous demagogues, whose exaggerations imperil world order and peace, when he remarked, "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

Not all will agree with Stephen Decatur, who declared with patriotic zeal, "Our country right or wrong." But surely we all recognize this is our country. As Sir Walter Scott, the English poet wrote:

Breathes there the man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said,
"This is my own, my native land!"

When our country is right it is our solemn duty to uphold it. If, however, it is wrong, we are to work to correct the defects and failures.

Christians have a special obligation to be exemplary patriots. Although we have a heavenly citizenship, we are not exempt from our responsibility to the earthly government under which we live. The Bible teaches us (Romans 13:1-7) that believers are to "obey the civil authorities." Governments are constituted by God; therefore, defiance, such as civil disobedience, of this divine institution is in reality resisting God. Such opposition incurs His judgment.

Law enforcement officials are to be feared only by those who break the law. They are God's appointed agents to punish those who do not submit to law and order. The conscientious Christian on the other hand, obeys the law, pays his taxes, and gives honor and respect to those who are in authority. (1 Peter 2:17). He upholds those in authority with prayer (1 Timothy 2:2) and when necessary he does not refuse to serve in the defense of his country.

War is abhorrent to Christians. Yet, it becomes necessary to bear arms at times in order to protect our fellow citizens and safeguard our own liberties from the enemies without. Cornelius served God while a soldier and officer in the Roman army; so can we.

The Christian patriot will be particularly concerned about the spiritual condition of the nation. He remembers that the Scriptures teach, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." "Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people." "The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God." Christians recognize the truth of Thomas Jefferson's statement. "The Bible is our cornerstone of liberty."

The decline of patriotism is becoming more and more evident; therefore, patriotic fervor and spiritual devotion were never more impelling. They are essential if we maintain the moral courage to resist the forces of evil that would destroy our country and our Christian faith.

It is not too late to rally behind "Old Glory;" to strengthen the moral fibre of our nation; and to rekindle the fires of patriotism. Only then can unfulfilled dreams become a reality and our glorious heritage be transmitted to the succeeding generations.





contact

Official publication of the National Association
of Free Will Baptists

As CONTACT goes to press, thousands of Free Will Baptists are making final preparations for the National Association. Pictured above are three of the many in Nashville who are busy seeking to make your stay in Nashville an enjoyable time. They are Rev. Rufus Coffey, Executive Secretary of the National Association, Rev. Milton Crowson, Administrative Assistant, Rev. Harvey Hill, Convention Coordinator for the state of Tennessee.

Every church is urged to send a delegate to the Convention. Each delegate from a local church should bring a fee of \$10. Delegate forms have been printed in earlier editions of CONTACT and HEARTBEAT.

This issue of CONTACT, although it emphasizes the National Association, also reminds us of our duty to country. Christians should always be good citizens. It is not unchristian to be patriotic.

We trust that each of you will have a safe trip to the National Convention. If you have not planned on attending it is still not too late to do so. Whether or not you attend the Convention, will you remember to faithfully pray that God will bless the meeting?



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America's Future

by James Walden



WHAT SHOULD be the attitude of a Christian as he looks at the condition of our country today? As I watch on TV the so-called anti-war demonstrators trying to shut down the government, I ask the question, "Is there anything to be optimistic about?" There is a real danger facing America regardless of what people prefer to think.

In Lamentations four is recorded one of the blackest pictures that could be found anywhere. The word picture is one of Jerusalem. The temple is destroyed, handsome young men have become walking skeletons, children beg for bread, and there is no bread. Women cook their own children for food and men die of hunger. Verse 12 gives a little insight into the reason for their being in this condition. *The kings of the earth and all the inhabitants of the world have not believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem.*" They failed to be realistic.

Perhaps the nicest thing we could say about a person who says there is no danger to America from Communism is that he is unrealistic. Look at what has happened to other nations, such as Russia, China, Czechoslovakia, and Cuba. The article in June 1971 of *Reader's Digest*, "How Chile Chose Marxism," should have made the blood run cold for every person who loves liberty. In one generation Communists have conquered more people than the church has reached with the gospel in nearly 2000 years. Look at their goal. Many people are saying that the communists are mellowing, but they have not changed their goal, which is a Communists' controlled world. They said that they would bury us. They have never retracted that statement nor apologized for making it. Coexistence with the Reds means non-existence to anyone who opposes communism. Peace is a word Communists use often. They are telling the truth when they say, "We sincerely desire peace." However, their definition of peace is a world with no opposition to Communism. Aggression, to them, is any action taken to prevent or defeat their aim or objectives. Thus, we are always the aggressor when opposing Communism.

A few weeks ago I noticed an article in a daily newspaper which says: "The nation and state are wasting millions of tax dollars in education to study facts that will be forgotten in one year and out of date the next." My first thought was, "How foolish." But after thinking about it there seems to be no way to remedy this. Tremendous changes are constantly taking place. By the time high school students reach their junior year in college, many things learned in high school are obsolete and some things will have been proven to be wrong. That is why education is never complete. We must continue to learn as long as we live. This constant progress is true not only in education, but in all phases of life. The airforce spends millions of dollars developing a new plane but almost by the time they get it in the air, it is outdated. The same is true of the navy with its ships; the army with its weapons, the architect with his building; the merchant with his mer-



chandise. As I view this transition, I view it with mixed emotions. I am glad that people do not have to come out of fields at noon to draw water with a windlass and rope, pour the water into a tub, set it in the sun for the water to get warm, and then take it to the woodshed to bathe.

As a director of a mental health center spoke to a group of ministers recently, I noticed that he used phrases such as, "We're getting away from this, or that." He meant that things change for the better. Someone has speculated that our age will go down in history not as the space age, but rather as the age of learning. It is wonderful that we have jet planes, air-conditioned cars, air conditioned homes, and comfortable church buildings.

However, with all these good changes, there also come some bad ones. Because things have shifted so rapidly during our lifetime, many have accepted the philosophy that there are no absolutes, that all things are relative, and there is nothing you can nail down and say, "This is it." There is nothing we can use for an anchor in a fast moving society. Could this not be one reason for the great immorality of our day? Could this attitude contribute to the breakdown of the homes of America? The alarming rise in the divorce rate as well as social disease among teenagers? The increase in emotional problems? Frustration that grips the hearts of so many in our society? Driving them to drugs and drink, and many even to suicide?

For one to change just for the sake of change, is to join the society that says that the establishment must go, the church must go, the standards must change, the government must be destroyed. It is to rebel against anything that restrains us. This idea says nothing is immutable, not even God or His Word. This is a real danger. We need to stop today and examine these changes in the light of God's Word. James tells us that in God there is no variability neither shadow of turning. Malachi 3:6 says, "I am the Lord, I change not." Psalm 119, "Forever, O God, thy word is settled in heaven." God's Word is as unchangeable as God Himself.

Let us look at the background for our verse in Lamentations, and see what brought about the situation. I believe if we look back in the book of Jeremiah we will find a parallel to many things in our nation. In fact if we listen to the newscast or read our newspapers, we might think that we are living in the days of Jeremiah. What are some similar conditions we have that existed in Judah? The people had forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living water, and were drinking polluted water from a broken, man-made cistern (Jeremiah 2:13). We have a broken cistern in our lax law-enforcement and lack of respect for authority. As I rode through the streets of Nashville recently, I noticed a large sign of a newly opened house for adults only, which said, "U.S. Supreme Court rules nudity no longer obscene." The idols of millions of young people are ungodly Hollywood stars who brag about their drunkenness and their adultery. The dress and

language of most Americans today reveal a character like that of Jeremiah 6:10 which says, "When they committed abominations they were not ashamed, neither could they blush." The scenes shown and the language used on TV today would have only been found in a back alley a few years ago. While we have many laws that are not good and need to be changed, we find that a forsaking of God brings about a disrespect for all law and authority. A nation of people with no law is a nation of chaos and will soon fall. If we live, work and play together, there must be some order. To have order we must have law. To have order and laws we must have authority. Each person cannot do what is right in his own eyes without bringing disorder, confusion. God desires that we live in peace and harmony in this life and tells us how. Man's nature is to rebel. God's way is to submit—submitting yourselves unto to your own husband, children obeying your parents, submitting yourselves to every ordinance of man. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. Man's way is "give me." God's way is "I give to you." Not only did they forsake God, but the Word of God was a reproach (Jeremiah 6:10). This is only natural. *When man forsakes God, God's Word is a reproach unto man.* The Word of God is a reproach in America today.

When the Word of God is a reproach the next step is opposition to it. We find in Jeremiah 36, that God gave Jeremiah a message for the people, as Jehudi stood before King Jehoiakim and read it, the king with his pen knife cut the leaves and burned them in the fire. If we are realistic we must admit there is much opposition To God's Word today, even in schools, businesses, homes and many churches.

As we continue our study we see another parallel—the persecution of God's man. In Chapters 19 and 20 is the record of Jeremiah's first persecution and his temporary resigning from the ministry. Jeremiah 20:8 and 9. "*Because the word of God was made a reproach unto me, and a derision daily, then I said I will not make mention of Him, or speak anymore in His name. But His word was in my heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones. And I was weary with forbearing and I could not stay.*" Aren't you glad that fire burned in his bones and he could not quit? Perhaps our prayer should be today, "More fire, Lord." Later on when the priest, the prophets, the princes, and all the people were crying for his blood, we hear him say, "*Do with me as seemeth good and meet unto you. If you kill me you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves.*"

The man of God will suffer persecution today, frequently from religious leaders. There is a similarity in the message of the false prophets then and today. They preached altogether on the positive side. They had an optimistic message. "No judgment, but peace," they told the people. The false prophets said in Jeremiah 14, 15, "Swords and famine shall not be in this land." Then in Jeremiah 23:17, "They say unto everyone that walketh in the

imagination of his own heart, no evil shall come upon you." It sounds like some of the liberals today who say that there is no danger in Communism. No wonder that the people lived in wickedness. The false prophets encouraged them in it. Jermai 23:14 says about the prophets, "They committed adultery and walked in lies, they strengthened also the hands of evil doers that none doth return from his wickedness." Are there not religious leaders today who encourage lawlessness? "If you don't believe a law is right, break it," they say, and call it "civil disobedience." They protect the criminal and ridicule those who stand for law, order and justice. Can we be realistic and say that Communists are not using many preachers across America today to promote their cause? We can see how liberal politicians, Communists, and the National Council of Churches have brought pressure on our president until he has changed his stand about admitting Red China to the United Nations, as well as other things. I have a clipping from a religious publication in which a church leader said, "Homosexuality may be a socially and morally desirable answer to the population explosion." I agree that it may be an answer, but not a desirable one. We know that because of this awful sin God, by raining fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrha, took care of their population probelm so that have not had one since. Will God, who does not change, who did this to Sodom and Gomorrha and who let wicked people overrun Jerusalem, permit us to be immune to punishment?

Let us face the danger that faces America, both from without and from within so that it cannot be said of us as it was of Jerusalem, "The kings of the earth and all of the inhabitants of the world would not have believed that the adversary or the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem." There is a ray of hope. The most realistic thing in the world is the fact that there is a God. Yes, it is a dark hour in America today. It was a dark hour when Daniel said, "There is a God in heaven." Daniel 2:28 not only is there a God in heaven, but this God in heaven still has some people in America. Almost anywhere we go we can find someone who has not bowed his knee to Baal. As long as there is a God in heaven, and some real Christians in this country, we have a real hope. None of us know when Christ will come, but if He tarries, God still could give a revival in America and save her. The key is in the hands of God's people. Second Chronicles 7:14, "If my people which are called by name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sins, and heal their land." Will we as God's people pay the price for revival and the saving of our nation?

Rev. James Walden is pastor of Guin Free Will Baptist Church, Guin, Alabama.



MINI MESSAGE & Outlines

I. J. Blackwelder

THE WAY TO HEAVEN (Mat. 7:14)

- I. THE WAY TO HEAVEN IS STRAIT
 - A. That is, it is a hard and difficult way. It is hard to find (Jer. 29:13), and difficult to enter (Luke 13:23, 24).
 - B. It is too strait for insincere, frivolous, big-time, easy-way church people.
 - C. This way demands more of its travelers than the lovers of money and pleasure are willing to pay (Mat. 19:16-22).
 - D. This way is too hard and difficult for all except those who are willing to deny themselves, and take up their crosses and follow Christ (Luke 9:23).
- II. THE WAY TO HEAVEN IS NARROW
 - A. It is too narrow to be popular with the masses, even with most professed disciples (John 6:65,66).
 - B. It is too narrow to accomodate the ways and sins of world-loving people (I John 2:15-17).
 - C. It is too narrow and secluded to be discovered by intellectual investigation (John 3:1-5).
 - D. It is too narrow to be entered through moral rectitude and personal good works (Eph. 2:8-10).
- III. THIS STRAIT AND NARROW WAY LEADS TO LIFE
 - A. Life in heaven will be painless (Rev. 21:1-4).
 - B. Life in heaven will be endless (Rev. 22:1-5).
 - C. Life in heaven will be glorious (Rev. 21:23-27).
 - D. Life in heaven will be corporal. That is, we shall be real people with glorified bodies of tangible flesh and bones (Luke 24:36-40).



Being honored in 1967 with other senior ministers by son, Billy, who was then Executive Secretary of the National Association.

PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD AND CARRY ON

by June R. Critcher

HENRY MELVIN'S enthusiasm was contagious. His discernment was unequalled among fellow ministers. His towering faith was sturdy. Whether he was leading the congregation in nine hymns and choruses uninterrupted or setting his creative programing wheels in motion during a League Board session, Henry Melvin consistently put his best foot forward and carried on. He was not easily discouraged. Rather, men have praised him for being a great encourager. He rarely suffered defeat. This spiritual giant undertook exploits for God with the assurance that only a man after God's own heart would dare tackle. Known throughout our denomination affectionately as "Pop," he was indeed a father to no less than 26 sons in the ministry, and only eternity will reveal the far-reaching effects of his glorious ministry.

Saved in a Methodist revival in Kynessville, Florida, at the age of 17, Brother Melvin later surrendered to God's call to the ministry. He was ordained October 3, 1925 in Kynessville. During the early years of Melvin's ministry, he pastored in Florida and Georgia.

Prior to the formation of our National Association in 1935, we had two broad denominational organizations. Free Will Baptists in the east were affiliated with the General Conference while our western brethren formed the Co-operative General Association.

Brother Melvin must have attended the General Conference for the first time in 1927. (The conference dates from 1920.) His influence was felt keenly and men quickly recognized his ability and willingness to make a significant contribution to the denominational work. Melvin preached the opening sermon the very next year, 1928. He was a frequent program personality thereafter, including messages in 1920 and 1932.

A man of many interests, Brother Melvin gave expression to his missions concern in serving on the annual Missions Committee of the convention in 1927 and 1932. Our 1931 denominational minutes list him as one of several who subscribed \$5 each to foreign missions—one of the first such offerings in modern denominational history. The 1932 minutes show that his sermon on "The Church" strongly emphasized the church's mission is to bring the world to Christ.

In the mid-thirties Brother Melvin pastored Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina. Mom Willey remembers Edgemont Church as "one of the most thriving evangelistic churches in the Free Will Baptist Denomination." Several members of the Edgemont Church attended

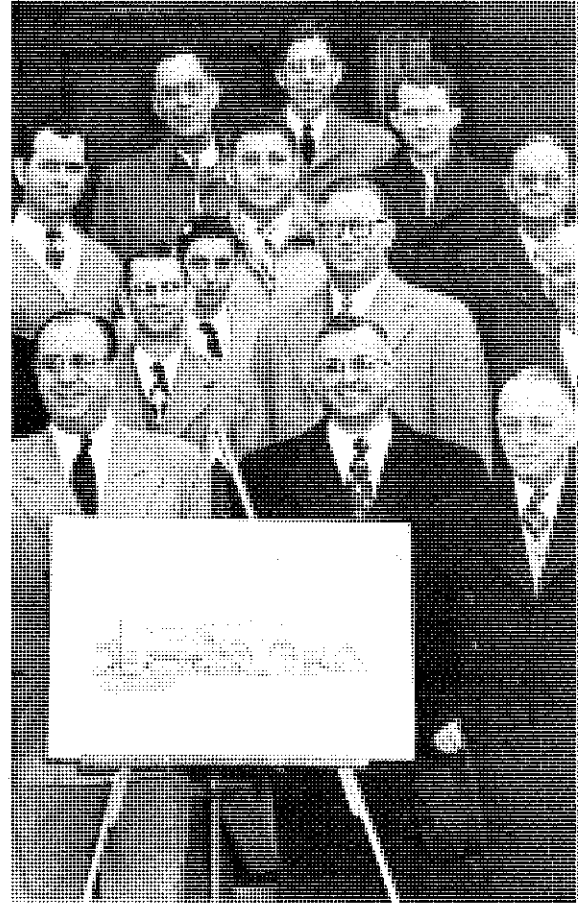
the Bible classes Mom Willey taught at Washington Duke Hotel while other members came to love and appreciate Pop Willey through his Christian radio program in Durham. Strong friendship ties between the Melvins and Willeys were formed during these months. Brother Melvin invited Pop Willey to speak on missions at League rallies throughout Eastern North Carolina. "My people are like a great sleeping giant in respect to missions," Melvin lamented to Willey, "and I believe God can use you to open their eyes."

"The Holy Spirit led us to take our places beside Henry Melvin," Mom Willey remembers, "and help open eyes to missions. Brother Melvin gave us strength and encouragement. We brought our tangles to him and he so wisely and graciously untangled the threads and encouraged us to go on. In every sense of the word, Brother Melvin was a friend and brother. Earthly speaking, his passing is our loss, but heaven has become very rich," Mom Willey said the night of his homegoing.

At the seventh annual session of the National Association in Nashville, Tennessee in 1943, the Board of Foreign Missions commended Brother Melvin for his involvement in our missions program: "During the month of February, 1943, your Board of Foreign Missions sponsored Reverend Henry Melvin in a tour of our work in Cuba during which time he assisted Reverend and Mrs. Willey in the organization of the word. On February 14, the first Free Will Baptist association was organized on the island of Cuba. It is known as the Free Will Baptist Association of Pinar del Rio. Brother Melvin's visit proved of great value to the work for which we are grateful." *He put his best foot forward in missions.*

Brother Melvin's interest in Christian Education is illustrated by his service on the annual Education Committee in 1929 and 1931. This concern included both higher education for the denomination, as revealed in reports presented by the committee, and education at the local church level. More than once he "addressed the conference on the subject of the Sunday schools."

In 1946 Brother Melvin was elected to the Bible College Board of Trustees. He was appointed College Business Manager the following year. College alumni still remember that first chapel service in September, 1950, when Brother Melvin challenged the student body to pray for an auditorium by graduation of that school year. "He hit the road," Ray Turnage reminisces, "to raise funds for the auditorium. Pop knew when to pull the net. He never did it the same way two nights in a row. He waited until the congregation was



Groundbreaking ceremony for Bible College Auditorium, January, 1951.

Recognizing Miss Alice Lupton for her faithful service with denomination's youth.





*With fellow ministers
at General Board meeting.*



*College Business
Manager in 1951.*

receptive," the former quarter member continued. "I have more appreciation for him than any man in our denomination," continued Turnage.

"Brother Henry Melvin had an optimistic faith that was contagious," remembers Paul Kettelman, Public Relations Director for FWBBC. "In the early days of FWBBC, Pop did much to challenge the youth of our denomination to give themselves to the Lord. The vision of Christian Education was quite dim in those days. Through his tireless efforts and undaunted spirit, Mr. Melvin broke down many barriers and began building the vision of the harvest our people are enjoying today." *He put his best foot forward in Christian Education.*

A man of evangelistic fervor, Brother Melvin's love for souls was clearly demonstrated, particularly in his pastorates. His preaching gripped unsaved hearts with a force that shattered

the fabric of men's souls. "In 1932 I went to Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church to hear their young pastor," recalls Fred Rivenbark, pastor of Virginia Beach FWB Church in Virginia. "I decided Brother Melvin knew God and from the way he preached he knew me and my needs. Conviction gripped my soul and I could reject Christ no longer. I received Him as my personal Saviour. Later, Brother Melvin pleaded, 'Give your all to God.' Late one night I accepted his plea, with Brother Melvin and a deacon kneeling by me at the altar, and said yes to God and the ministry. For 36 years I have tried to follow Brother Melvin's charge given at my ordination to preach the Word," Rivenbark said with a note of gratitude ringing in his voice.

Evangelist Jack Paramore recalls Brother Melvin's coming to his community in Eastern North Carolina to pastor in the early fifties: "Brother

Melvin's life was different. His preaching was different. His preaching made me think. On a typical Sunday night, two days after my 18th birthday, Pop gave the invitation and he was praying for me. I left the rear of the auditorium and walked down the aisle. God had touched me and in a moment the matter was settled. Pop was different in his discernment. With his hand on my shoulder, his voice of strength discerned, 'Son, no one would be surprised if you began to preach.' Through the years Pop has known the mind of God better than any man I have ever known. To me and the 26 other preachers who answered the call under his ministry, his fruit remains and will continue to multiply," Paramore said confidently. *He put his best foot forward in evangelism.*

Brother Melvin was always interested in denominational unity. Undoubtedly one of his most important activities was

to serve on the General Conference committee to explore and arrange the merger with the western Cooperative General Association. From the committee's inception in 1932 until the work was successfully completed in 1935, Melvin's confidence in the formation of a National Association eased anxieties and produced an atmosphere of certainty. The committee's report in 1933 was especially optimistic, with western and eastern brethren meeting together. Following the report, Brother Melvin suggested that all sing "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" and shake hands as a token of the reality of the coming tie.

"I remember well Brother Melvin's cordial and congenial, yet dignified, manner in molding diversified Free Will Baptist people into a National Association," recalls Raymond Riggs, pastor of Central Free Will Baptist Church, Royal Oaks, Michigan. "His vision and versatility were a tremendous blessing during the early days of our National Association. He served on various boards and committees and was always considerate of the opinions of others, yet without compromise of principle. While the denomination was still in its formative stages, Brother Melvin was a tremendous stabilizer. This impartial man of God understood the north, south, east, and west," Riggs said quietly. *He put his best foot forward in developing national unity.*

No doubt Brother Melvin's most significant contribution to his denomination was his ministry to the youth—first with the League Board and later the Church Training Service Board. In 1929 Melvin was elected General Secretary of Young people's Word for the General Conference. He continued in this post until the dissolution of the General Conference several years later. During his tenure as General Secretary of the Free Will Baptist Leagues, the work grew by leaps and bounds, and certainly this phenomenal growth was largely attributable to Brother Melvin's untiring and ill-remunerated work. During most of this period Brother Melvin edited the League quarterlies.

In his annual reports, Brother Melvin expressed his burden and love for the youth of our denomination and his undimmed optimism for the future of the work. "The work of our Free Will Baptist League . . . has the zeal of youth, stability of years and the fervor of some 20,000 leaguers to give it momentum for an even greater stride in the future. The work of the League within the bounds of this association has gained materially by more than 200

organizations within the last year," voiced the optimistic Melvin in 1937. Two years later in Bryan, Texas, the energetic youth leader said, "I am proud of the marshalled forces of the Free Will Baptist Church known as Free Will Baptist Leaguers. Truly they are 'a mighty army, marching as to war.' We have an army of youth, 25,000 strong."

"Mr. Melvin was a man who believed in praying specifically," observed Sam Johnson, National CTS Director, "and expecting God to answer specifically. My last request of Pop was that he pray specifically for this year's National Youth Conference. One of his qualities that reflected Pop's philosophy was that no matter what the circumstance he followed through on any assignment he accepted. Pop often said, *'Put your best foot forward and carry on,'*" mused Johnson recently.

During the 39 years Brother Melvin served on the League and CTS Board, he did exactly that—he put his best foot forward. As chairman of the board for many years, his energetic and visionary leadership kept the youth board moving ahead for Christ.

Brother Melvin was approaching 60 years of age when he joined other men in our ranks to revamp and revitalize our youth program. He had absolute confidence in our people and our future ministry and outreach. His unwavering faith kept Brother Melvin constantly looking forward to the bigger and the better.

Last month Brother Melvin's soul was released from a pain-wracked body and ushered into the presence of his Lord. On Saturday, June 12, his own East Nashville FWB Church was filled with friends paying respect to their friend and brother. The officiating ministers reviewed the life of one who had poured his very life into reproducing it in the lives of young men—men of courage, faith, optimism, strength, and commitment. "The richness of his ministry," Dr. L. C. Johnson said quietly, "had to come out of the richness of his heart."

During the last days of Brother Melvin's life, Mrs. Melvin was with him every moment physically possible. She shared his pain just as she had shared so many victories with him. With a note of triumph shortly before his homegoing, Brother Melvin said joyfully, "Cancer is not the victor; it's a victory for grace."

In every area of his ministry, Brother Melvin put his best foot forward. Now we are left to carry on the work he began.



Moving day from old headquarters to new location.

PROGRAM

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

35th Annual Convention Municipal Auditorium, Nashville, Tennessee, July 12 - 15

THEME: O Lord, Revive Thy Work

CONVENTION HYMN: "A Mighty Revival"

MUSIC DIRECTOR: David Randlett

ORGANIST: Teddy Wilbanks

PIANIST: Janie Sitton

NURSERY: Auditorium Room M-28

CONVENTION OFFICE: Auditorium Room A-31

PRESS ROOM: Auditorium Room A-31

SUNDAY NIGHT / July 11

7:30 NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE
War Memorial Auditorium**

Volunteers Chorus

Keynote Speaker: Dave Wilkerson

MONDAY MORNING / July 12

7:00 WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast
Tennessee Room—Hermitage Hotel*

8:00 General Board Meeting
Iris Room—Hermitage Hotel

12:00 WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon
Tennessee Room—Hermitage Hotel

AFTERNOON

1:00 Registration: National Association, WNAC,
and Youth Municipal Auditorium

Bible Bowl and Tic Tac Toe Contests
Sheraton Hotel

WNAC State Presidents, Field Workers, and
Executive Committee
Capitol Room—Hermitage Hotel

1:30 General Board Meeting
Iris Room—Hermitage Hotel

2:00 Teen Talent and Singspiration
War Memorial Auditorium

5:00 WNAC Fellowship Dinner
Ball Room—Hermitage Hotel
Speaker: Frances Gardner Hunter

* All National Association group functions are in
the Hermitage Hotel and the Municipal Audi-
torium.

** All Youth Convention functions are in Sheraton
Inn, Noel Hotel, and War Memorial Auditorium.

EVENING

7:30 CONVENTION ASSEMBLY

Presiding: Delbert Akin
Theme: "Revival: Our Hope"
Scripture: "O Lord, I have heard thy speech,
and was afraid: O Lord, revive thy work in
the midst of the years, in the midst of the
years make known; in wrath remember
mercy. Habakkuk 3:2

Worship through song and prayer.

7:40 Association called into official session:
Waldo Young, Clerk
Introduce Moderator: Dr. Robert Picirilli

7:45 Report of Committee on Committees
Appointment of WNAC Committees: Mrs.
Robert C. Hill

7:50 Welcome to Nashville, Tennessee

8:00 Get Acquainted Time

8:10 Convention Offering
Special Music: Jane Randlett

8:20 Message: "The Possibility of Revival"
Messenger: Fred Warner

9:00 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)

9:30 Teen Fellowship—Sheraton Hotel
Children's Activities—Noel Hotel

TUESDAY MORNING / July 13

7:30 Teen Prayer Meeting

8:30 Competitive Activities (Heralds & Crusaders)
Sheraton Hotel

8:30 Registration
Municipal Auditorium

Adventurers Competition
Noel Hotel

9:00 Pastors' and Laymen's Special Session
Ball Room—Hermitage Hotel
"Revival and Stewardship"
Speaker: Edward Hales
WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION
MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

11:00 WNAC Historical Pageant
Director: Mrs. Genevieve Waddell

12:30 State Promotional Men's Luncheon
Capitol Room—Hermitage Hotel

AFTERNOON

1:30 Competitive Finals (All Youth)
War Memorial Auditorium

2:00 Annual Meeting Investment Retirement Plan,
Inc.
Walnut Room: Capitol Park Inn
Herman Hersey, Manager

5:00 Pastors' Dinner
Free Will Baptist Bible College Dining Hall
Speaker: Dr. Laverne Miley

EVENING

7:30 *CONVENTION ASSEMBLY*

Presiding: Gene Rogers
Theme: "Revival: Its Transforming Effects"
Scripture: "Turn us, O God of our salvation,
and cause thine anger toward us to cease.
Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy
people may rejoice in thee? Psalm 85:4, 6

Worship in Song and Prayer

7:40 Special Music: Choir

7:45 Presentation of Awards: National Youth Con-
test Winners

8:00 Convention Offering
Special Music: Blaine Hughes

8:10 Message: "The Product of Revival"
Messenger: Herman Hersey

8:50 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)

9:30 Youth Banquet
Sheraton Hotel
Speaker: Don Lonie

9:30 Children's Activities—Noel Hotel

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 14

7:00 Breakfast: Wholesale Tours International
Ball Room, Hermitage Hotel
Raymond Riggs, Area Advisor

7:00 Breakfast: Music Fellowship
Iris Room, Hermitage Hotel
Teddy Wilbanks

8:30 Convention Prayer Service
Municipal Auditorium
Leader: Bobby Jackson

9:00 *CONVENTION ASSEMBLY*

Worship through song
Scripture Reading and Prayer: Jack Forlines

9:10 Moderator's Message

9:25 Report of Credentials Committee
Seating of Delegates

9:30 *PROGRESS REPORTS OF NATIONAL
DEPARTMENTS*

Church Training Service: Samuel Johnson
Executive Church Bonds, Inc.: Francis Boyle
Executive Office: Rufus Coffey
Foreign Missions: Reford Wilson
Free Will Baptist Bible College: Dr. L.C. Johnson
Home Missions and Church Extension: Homer E. Willis
Laymen's Board:
Retirement and Insurance: Herman Hersey
Sunday School Department: Roger Reeds

12:00 Recess

12:30 Alumni Luncheon
Free Will Baptist Bible College Dining Hall

AFTERNOON

2:00 *CONVENTION ASSEMBLY*

Worship through Song
Scripture Reading and Prayer: Allen W. Baxley

"Teenspiration '71" The Conquerors
War Memorial Auditorium



- 2:15 General Board Report
- 2:20 Business
- 3:30 Adoption of Budgets
- 4:00 Partial Report of Nominating Committee
Election of all Board Members
- 4:30 Session Recessed
- 4:30 Children's Party--Noel Hotel
- 5:00 Home Mission and Church Extension Dinner
Capitol Park Inn (By Invitation)

EVENING

7:30 *CONVENTION ASSEMBLY*

Presiding: Eugene Waddell
 Theme: "Revival: PRELUDE TO WORLD
 EVANGELISM"
 Scripture: "But ye shall receive power, after
 that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and
 ye shall be witnesses unto me both in
 Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria,
 and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
 Acts 1:8

Worship through song and prayer

- 7:40 Convention Offering
Special Music:
- 7:50 Introduction of Missionaries
- 8:00 Congregational Song
- 8:05 Message: "The Power of Revival"
Messenger: Larry Powell
- 8:45 Missionary Offering: John Edwards
- 9:00 Session Recessed
- 9:30 Singspiration Rally
Patio Municipal Auditorium

THURSDAY MORNING / July 15

9:00 *CONVENTION ASSEMBLY*

Worship through Song
 Scripture reading and Prayer: Kenneth Cades

- 9:15 Report of Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
- 9:20 Historical Commission Report
- 9:30 Report of National Youth Conference
- 9:40 Budget Committee Report
- 9:45 Report of National Association of Evangelicals
--Dr. Billy Melvin
- 9:55 Miscellaneous Business--Report of Com-
mittees
- 10:30 Intermission

10:40 *CONVENTION ASSEMBLY*

Presiding: Jakie Creech
 Theme: "Revival: Now!"
 Scripture: "If my people, which are called by
 my name, shall humble themselves, and
 pray, and seek my face, and turn from their
 wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven,
 and will forgive their sin, and will forgive
 their sin, and will heal their land." II
 Chronicles 7:14

Worship through song and prayer
 Convention Offering
 Special Music: Malcolm Fry
 Message: "The Prescription for Revival"
 Messenger: Richard Cordell

- 11:40 Concluding Business:
Placement Committee Report for 1974 Con-
vention
Nominating Committee Report and Election
of General Officers
- 12:00 Adjournment

Do not miss visiting each booth. Get acquainted with
 the various ministries of our denomination by direct-
 ing questions to the personnel of these departments
 at their respective booths.

Get your banquet and meal tickets early.

Anniversary Program of the 36th Annual Session of the
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
Municipal Auditorium, Nashville, Tennessee

Theme: In the Power of the Spirit
Watchword: "I can do all things through Christ . . ." (Philippians 4:13)
Theme Song: "Seal Us, O Holy Spirit"

MONDAY / July 12, 1971

- 7:30 WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast
Tennessee Room, Hermitage Hotel
1:00-3:00 State Presidents, Field Workers, Executive Committee
Capitol Room, Hermitage Hotel

MONDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:00 Registration
Lobby Nashville Municipal Auditorium
5:00 WNAC Fellowship Dinner
Ball Room, Hermitage Hotel
Frances Gardner Hunter, Speaker

TUESDAY / July 13

- 9:00 Presiding—Georgia Hill
Singspiration
Song Director—Ken Riggs
Pianist—Carolyn Riggs
Organist—Winona Riggs
9:10 Devotions—Geneva Poole, Brazil
Special Music—Carolyn Adams
9:30 Welcome—Jane Greenway
Business Session
9:50 Missions Hour
The Power of the Spirit on the Fields
10:40 Recess (exhibit area open)
10:55 Worship Through Song
Special Music
Historical Pageant—"Laborer's Together"
directed by Genevieve Waddell
Offertory
12:00 Recessed for Lunch
1:30 Worship through song
Devotions—Brenda Sanders
1:45 Ministering Unto the Handicapped through Christ
Sharon Berry
2:00 Business Session
Reports of Committees
Installation of officers—Genevieve Waddell
3:30 Final adjournment



words for women

Mrs. Martha Crowson is the wife of Milton Crowson, teacher at Free Will Baptist Bible College and Editorial Assistant of Contact.

The presence of God is something very wonderful. Each Christian has the presence of God at all times, but at times one may become preoccupied with making a living, being a wife and mother, until one does not stop and think about God's wonderful presence.

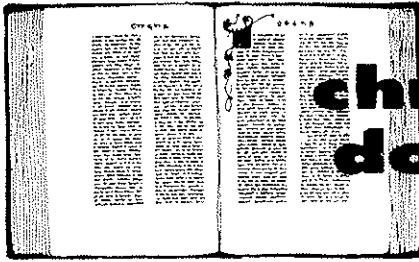
Have you ever stopped and asked, "Do I really feel the presence of God? Is His presence something that I take for granted?" Jesus promised, "Lo, I am with you always." This promise is precious to Christians because they sometimes are led down paths that they do not understand. They frequently do not understand problems, temptations, illnesses, or a host of other things. However, God did not promise that a Christian would not experience difficulty. God is ever present in the person of the Holy Spirit regardless of the physical circumstances.

God promised Moses, "My presence shall go with thee." David had this assurance: "Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

In this life we may experience trouble, sickness, or death, but this does not take away the presence of God or the joy He brings. Even in time of trouble He gives us confidence. David said, "Thou art my God. My times are in thy hand." Nothing should discourage a person who realizes that God holds all things in His hands.

Recently I experienced a very serious illness which helped me to realize more than ever before the very real presence of God in my life. Even in a semi-conscious state I still knew that God was with me. As I passed through the valley of the shadow of death, God calmed my fears and took away the uncertainties. Although my body was in pain, He gave me peace of heart.

Although the bridges we have to cross in this life are not always pleasant, God is our eternal refuge, a very present help in time of trouble. Many times we cross troubled streams, but God has provided safe passage over them. He has promised to never leave nor forsake us. Although God is with us today through the Holy Spirit, what a glorious and joyous time that will be when we are in the very presence of God.



christian doctrine

by Leroy Forlines

E. Church

The word "church" is used in various ways, but in its most common usage it refers to a local church. A local church when properly constituted is an organized body of baptized believers who profess a common faith in Jesus Christ, recognize the Bible as an infallible authority, observe the ordinances, meet together for worship and edification, and give themselves to the carrying out of the Great Commission.

The word church is also used with reference to the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23). In this sense it refers to all believers. All believers have been baptized into Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13). As a result of this they make up the body of Christ.

Sometimes we hear reference made to the visible church and the invisible church. The visible church is made up of all, saved or unsaved who are members of local churches. The invisible church is limited in its reference to those who are saved. To be a member of a local church means that one has made a profession. The invisible church would embrace all those members of local churches who are members of the body of Christ.

A denomination should not be referred to as a church. It is a group of local churches that are organized together because of distinctive beliefs and practices. Any reference to the visible church should be either to a church (or churches), or to the universal church which would consist of all local churches. A denomination consists of many local churches, but makes up only a part of the universal church.

F. Congregational Church Government

Free Will Baptists believe in that kind of church government that is called Congregational or Baptist. The stress is upon the fact that each local congregation is a self-governing body and is in control of the deed to its property. Membership in an Association does not interfere with self-government of the Congregation. Membership in the Association could be terminated by a majority vote of the congregation. Such a decision could not be reversed by the Association. The Association has the authority to set conditions for membership, and to revoke that membership, and to revoke that membership from a local church if the conditions should fail to be met. Beyond this, the Association has no authority over the local church.

Associations are considered valuable because they provide an opportunity for people who share a common faith and common distinctives to fellowship and work together. The combination of resources makes possible the promotion of common causes such as schools, missionary programs, and children's homes.

Congregational church government stresses not only that the congregation is not ruled by a higher authority in the denomination, but also that the governing authority within the church rests with the congregation. Pastors and boards may offer leadership, but the authority rests with the congregation. It may delegate a limited amount of authority for certain purposes to the pastor or board, but the major voices of authority for transacting business remains with the congregation.

Some denominations believe in other forms of church government. These forms vary, but the chief difference is with regard to the seat of authority. The local church has only limited authority; it is subject to higher bodies. The higher bodies control the property, and in some denominations choose the pastor. In many cases, whatever limited authority a local church may have is almost or altogether exercised by a small official group in the church.

Free Will Baptists are strongly opposed to any encroachment upon the authority of the local church. We advocate the independence of the local church so far as government is concerned, but we do not believe in an independent spirit. We find great advantage in working together with others in our associational type of denominational organization.



gems

from the
Greek New Testament

by Robert Picirilli

A word often misunderstood by us, as we read it in the Bible, is *adoption*. In Galatians 4:5, for example, we read that God sent his son "that we might receive the *adoption* of sons."

Our English word "adoption" has to do with an act whereby someone not a true child of a certain person can legally become that person's child. Because of this English usage, many of us think of "adoption" in the Scriptures as being a name for the fact that we who were once not in God's family have been legally adopted into that family.

But the Greek word translated "adoption" does not mean this. And besides, we are not merely adopted—in our modern sense—into God's family; we actually become His children by means of the new birth! Regeneration, as taught in John 1:12, is more wonderful than English legal adoption.

But the Greek "adoption of sons" is an equally wonderful truth. The Greek word is *uiothesia*, which means, literally, the "positioning of a son." You see, "adoption" was something done for one who was *really* your son, not someone outside your family.

The action of "adoption" was taken when one's male child became of age. Formerly, as a small child, the little boy was treated just as a child should be: not trusted to take care of himself, but put in the care of servants who would take care of him. As a little child, the boy had none of the responsibilities or privileges of an adult member of the family.

But when the little boy became of age (usually at about 12 or 14), the father would have a special ceremony in which his boy received the *son-positioning* (the "adoption"), meaning that from that time henceforth the boy was now an adult son, not just a little boy. And as such, the son was regarded as being a full-fledged member of the family, with all the rights and responsibilities that followed. For example, he was now co-owner of all his family's possessions.

Now read Galatians 4:1-7 in this light, and you'll see how wonderful it is that we have become, in our position in God's family, not just little children without privileges, but adult sons with all rights of members and heirs of the royal family of heaven.

The History Corner

by Mary Wisehart and Robert Picirilli

The Morning Star was a weekly Free Will Baptist paper published in the old northern connection. Quite a few of these old papers are in our historical collection.

The issue for November 18, 1897, describes a visit made by H. M. Ford, from the north, to the Cumberland Association in Middle Tennessee. Here are some quotes from that interesting report.

"The session was held in a romantic spot three miles south of Dickson, in a neat log church. As we approached it, riding in a lumber wagon, we wondered who would compose the congregation. Imagine our surprise to find quite 400 present. Where did all this crowd come from, I cannot answer.

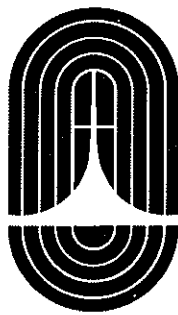
"The deacon had twenty-three of us to keep that night. There were three beds down stairs and six beds upstairs, and a 'Free Will Baptist pallet' fifteen feet wide which would hold nine.

"But the meeting! Brethren of the cold and conventional north, how can I describe one of these meetings? Heaven can as well be described. These people have not only 'got religion', they enjoy it. When these poor people, rich in praise, first reach heaven there will be no embarrassment to them when asked to join in the hallelujahs of the saved. I suppose, as these people get what is called culture and refinement, they will get religion just the same as ever, but will know better than to enjoy it so much as they do now.

"Brother Rodgers gave one of his exhortations. He is an interesting figure; standing six feet three inches, a magnificent voice, powerful in delivery, apt and original in illustration, he powerfully moves an audience.

"We were most heartily received. They are favorable to a movement looking to final union."

That union, of course, never came. It would be helpful to know more about this "Brother Rodgers." And all this reminds us that we are in need of *all old Free Will Baptist papers*.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

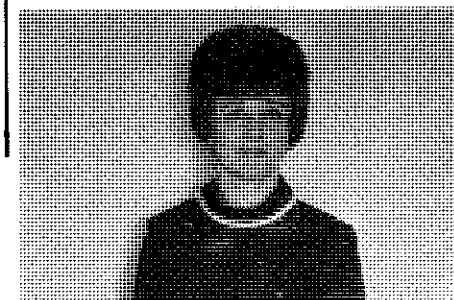
Pictured above is Mr. E. B. McDonald, Treasurer of Free Will Baptist Bible College, as he presents this year's Leah Waddell Scholarship of \$100.00 to Clint Morgan, Jr. Clint, a junior at FWBBC, is from Roxboro, North Carolina.

CORRECTION

May and June issues of CONTACT stated that Rev. Fred Warner, one of the principal speakers at the National Association, is pastor of the Conway, Arkansas, church and is Promotional Secretary for Arkansas Free Will Baptists. Brother Warner serves only as Promotional Secretary. Rev. Zane Kirkland is pastor of the First Church in Conway.

MRS. CRITCHER HONORED

Mrs. June (Rivenbark) Critcher was recently graduated by Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, with the Master of Education Degree in Psychology: Guidance and Counseling. The Free Will Baptist Bible College alumna graduated from the Tennessee University Summa Cum Laude. She is married to Harold Critcher, Director of Finance in the Department of Foreign Missions. She formerly was Assistant Editor of *Contact*. She also edited Woman's Auxiliary materials and CTS materials. She still writes for the CTS Department.



RECENT MISSIONARY CONFERENCES

The First Free Will Baptist Church in Florence, South Carolina, recently completed a highly successful missionary conference with Rev. Rufus Coffey, a former pastor of the church, as one of the principal speakers. Rev. Guy Owens is pastor of the church. The church had its first missionary conference when Brother Coffey was the pastor over a decade ago. The conference support has steadily risen so that the church was able to pledge in faith promises this time a sum in excess of \$11,000.00.

Rev. Henry Van Kluyve reports the conclusion of a record-breaking missionary conference with Peace Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina. Rev. Gordon Sebastian is the pastor of the church. The church had been supporting the Bobby Aycocks with a budgetary allotment of \$100.00 per month. The church set a goal of \$500.00 per month in faith promises in addition to the \$100.00 per month from the church budget. This would make a yearly total of \$7200.00.

Brother Aycock spoke at the church on May 2 and Brother Van Kluyve spoke for three services on May 9. Bro. Aycock's parents were present at the services. The church responded in a marvelous way to the appeal for the Aycocks. Adding the faith promises to the monthly budget, the church has pledged to give the Aycocks a yearly total of \$7404.00.

This was the first time the church had ventured out in this manner for foreign missions. Pastor Sebastian is to be commended for his leadership and for allowing his people to be challenged to greater heights.

NEW CHURCH ORGANIZED

The Brotherhood Free Will Baptist was organized in May in Glasgow, Kentucky. The pastor, Rev. George Crisp, reports an average attendance of 45. The congregation is meeting at 215 Industrial Drive, Glasgow.



THE BIBLE COLLEGE'S NEW \$900,000 DORMITORY-CAFETERIA WILL BE COMPLETED AND OPEN TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VISITORS IN JULY.

GIFTS TO BIBLE COLLEGE BUILDING FUND APPROACH \$1,000,000

In a recent report, Jack Paramore, Director of Development for Free Will Baptist Bible College, reported that as of the end of May the denomination lacks only \$25,000 having given a total of one million dollars to the current campus building program. Free Will Baptists have given more than \$200,000 in cash and new commitments during the past fiscal year (June 1, 1970-May 31, 1971).

He also noted that the \$35,000 alumni project to buy two pieces of property for the school has been completed. The Alumni Association will consider a new project relating to the school's proposed Physical Education building when they meet during the National Association in July.

Plans are being laid to construct simultaneously the Physical Education building and an addition to the Welch Library. Paramore anticipates that construction will begin within the next year.

The new Women's Dormitory and Cumberland Cafeteria is due to be completed by the last of June and open for viewing during the National Association. Families desiring to stay in the new dormitory during the National may contact the Business Manager, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205. When the new cafeteria is completed, the present dining hall will be renovated into a new student center.

NEW FREE WILL BAPTIST BOOK RELEASES

The Sunday School Department will release six new publications by July 15, 1971, it was announced by H. D. Harrison, Editorial Manager.

Two of these releases will complete the Sunday School Workers' Training Course consisting of five volumes. Volume three was written by Reverend Roger C. Reeds, the General Director of the Sunday School Department. It is entitled PUPIL PROFILES. This book contains a treatment of the various age group characteristics. It is a good study in basic psychology from a Christian perspective. Extensive coverage is given to adolescents.

Volume four entitled, DISCIPLING AND DEVELOPING, was written by the Reverend Malcolm C. Fry. This book contains a study of evangelism and follow-up. The previous volumes have been received enthusiastically and used extensively.

A new series of ELECTIVE studies has been initiated. It will be known as, "The Way of Life Series." The first of these is a workbook type study especially designed for new converts. It will not only ground the new Christian in the great doctrines of the Scriptures but will lend itself well for use in Christian growth for more mature Christians.

It is arranged in thirteen chapters so as to be readily adaptable to a quarter's study during the Sunday School or Church Training Service hour. A separate Teacher's Guide has been written and prepared for the instructor's use.

The second elective in the series is a study of *Missions, Missionaries* and their *Message*. It is authored by the Reverend Bill Jones, editor of *Heartbeat* and former missionary to Ivory Coast, Africa. It too has a specially prepared Teacher's Guide and is set up for a quarter's study with thirteen lessons.

All of these books will be available through the Sunday School Department or Randall Book Store.

Dr. Joe Ange and Dr. Bob Jones



CAROLINA PASTOR RECEIVES DOCTORATE

GREENVILLE, S. C. . . . Rev. Joseph C. Ange, pastor of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church of Durham, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Bob Jones University at convocation exercises on Wednesday (June 2).

Dr. Ange has pastored the Liberty Church for the past 4½ years during which time the attendance has increased from about 300 to an average of more than 800. The highest attendance was 1,154 on April 25. The church property is valued at more than a half million dollars. The Durham minister conducts a daily radio ministry as well as a Sunday telecast.

He has previously pastored the Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church in Durham and the Central Free Will Baptist Church in Royal Oak, Michigan.

Dr. Ange has held numerous offices in the Free Will Baptist denomination. For more than 10 years he has been a member of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Association and since 1963 has served as chairman. He is a past assistant moderator of the denomination and presently serves on the executive committee of the State organization. He is a past president of the Conservative Ministers Association of Durham.

While in Michigan, Dr. Ange was elected Pastor of the Year by the Greater Detroit Sunday School Association.

The Durham minister has spoken from coast to coast in evangelistic crusades, pastors' conferences, youth retreats, soulwinning conferences, and other religious meetings.

Dr. Ange was salutatorian of the 1940 class of Jamesville High School and attended the Norfolk Business College, Free Will Baptist Bible College, and Detroit Bible College.

He is the son of Mrs. Snoad John Ange and the late Mr. Ange of 1301 Clinton Road, Durham. He is married to the former Hazel Pearl Heymen, whose mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Barnett reside at Route 2, Pantego, N.C.



NEW CHURCH DEDICATED

Pictured is First Free Will Baptist Church, China Grove, North Carolina. The building was erected at a cost of approximately \$50,000. First services were held in the new building on the first Sunday in April. On that day 157 attended Sunday School, eight persons made first time decisions for Christ, and 15 joined the church. More than 200 people were present for the night services.

This growing church was organized on six years ago. Rev. Weldon Key established a small mission in a building formerly used as a shoe shop in 1965. Since that time the church has experienced continued growth. The church supports all phases of the denominational work. CONTACT hopes that the group will continue to experience such marvelous growth.

SUCCESSFUL REVIVAL

Rev. Max Courtney, pastor of Salem Free Will Baptist, Salem, Missouri, reports that Rev. Johnnie Land of St. Louis has concluded a successful revival with the Salem church. Brother Courtney highly commends Brother Land as an evangelist.

RETIREMENT PLAN REPORT

Rev. Herman Hersey, manager, has announced that the Group Life Insurance Program for Pastors, Missionaries and all Christian workers has been approved. He reports that over \$600,000.00 is now in force. This Group Policy is being underwritten by National Home Life Insurance Company of St. Louis, Missouri. Pastors may purchase \$10,000.00 at a reduced rate; with at least \$2,000.00 Permanent Insurance with the remainder as one year renewable term.

A Company representative will be available at the Board of Retirement and Insurance booth at the National Convention in Nashville in July.

Meanwhile, if information is desired about this plan, please contact Rev. Hersey at P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.



religious newscope

BJU INSTALLS NEW PRESIDENT

GREENVILLE, S.C., June 2, 1971... A new milestone in educational history was reached today when Dr. Bob Jones, III, became the third successive generation to head Bob Jones University, the world's largest fundamental Christian school.

He succeeds his father, Dr. Bob Jones, who was appointed to the newly created position of chancellor of the university.

The installation took place during the forty-fourth annual convocation held in the Rodeheaver Auditorium on the university campus. Overflow audiences filled several smaller auditoriums. Nearly 5,000 were present for the occasion.

The late Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., internationally known fundamental evangelist, in 1927 founded the school which bears his name and served as the first president. His son was named acting president in 1931 at the age of 21 and became president in 1947.

The second generation Dr. Jones served as president for the past 24 years for a total of 40 years of administrative responsibility. He became chairman of the Board of Trustees in 1964 and will continue in this capacity in addition to being chancellor.

Dr. Jones, III, served as assistant to the president for two years before being named vice president of the university in 1963.

At the installation service today, retiring President Jones said: "I am not retiring from the ministry of Bob Jones University, the preaching of the Gospel, or the defense of the Faith. I expect to continue, as long as the Lord spares me, in vigorous activity in all of these fields. I am simply retiring from the responsibilities of the presidency and placing these on the shoulders of a younger man."

HAMMOND FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TO BUILD COLLEGE

HAMMOND, Ind. (EP)—First Baptist Church here plans to develop a Calumet Region college at a cost of \$2.5 million and to enlarge its present school system.

The pastor, Rev. Jack Hyles, said a new elementary school and a four-divisional college are planned. The schools will open in the fall of 1972.

The initial facilities will be for approximately 300 students from all parts of the country. The college will include divisions in liberal arts, Christian education, theology and church transportation.

Admission will be open to all enrollees regardless of religious preference, the Rev. Mr. Hyles said.

The principal at Hammond Baptist High School, Dr. Robert Billings, will be elevated to superintendent of schools and placed in overall charge of the multi-million dollar system.

BRING BACK LORD'S DAY, MINISTER URGES

ATLANTA (EP)—The executive director of the Lord's Day Alliance sees a return to the day of rest each week as an urgent need in America.

"We are living in troublesome times," said the Rev. Marion G. Bradwell. "We need to return Sunday to its original concept. It is the one immediate way to regain peace and sanity in our day."

During a speaking tour the Presbyterian pastor said that we are told "on the highest authority that 'the Sabbath was made for man.' Man needs it. It blesses his life. It is not an invention of man, but a creation of God. Therefore, the sooner we return to the respect it commands, the sooner problems of family, community, city, nation and the world will be solved."

GOSPEL BROADCAST TO RED CHINA

WHITTIER CALIF. (EP)—The Far East Broadcasting Company announces that it is building facilities in Korea to broadcast the Gospel to Red China. The Company plans to saturate Red China with the broadcasts.

PAROCHIAID KILLED IN 10 STATES

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—As of mid-May, Parochiaid has been definitely defeated in 10 states and can be considered dead for this year, according to a report by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

These states are Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Michigan.

The assistance scheme for parochial schools has been approved in three: Maryland, Vermont, and Georgia.

Listed on the "critical" list by Americans United were eight others: Minnesota, Illinois, New York, Texas, Wisconsin, Delaware, California and Oklahoma.

"It is distressing to see any state set aside our American tradition in church-state matters by initiating tax support for church institutions," Glenn L. Archer said. The executive director of Americans United warned voters to "take note of what their political leaders have done. We pledge to bring these dubious laws under constitutional challenge as soon as feasible."

PSYCHIATRIST DEFENDS PORNOGRAPHY LAWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—"The Supreme Court in its attempt to lift bans on censorship has opened a veritable Pandora's box of sexual perversions and depravity upon the American public," a psychiatrist testified here.

Dr. Armand DiFrancesco of Buffalo, N.Y., told a House Postal Subcommittee that "those who view pornography are, in a sense, psychological peeping Toms."

He said he has witnessed many causes of marital problems and breakups involving pornography. Dr. DiFrancesco charged that the Presidential Commission on Obscenity & Pornography "ignored the reports of 254 psychiatrists and psychologists who saw or found direct links between pornography and a sex crime."



The Board of Trustees, President,
Administration, Faculty, and Students
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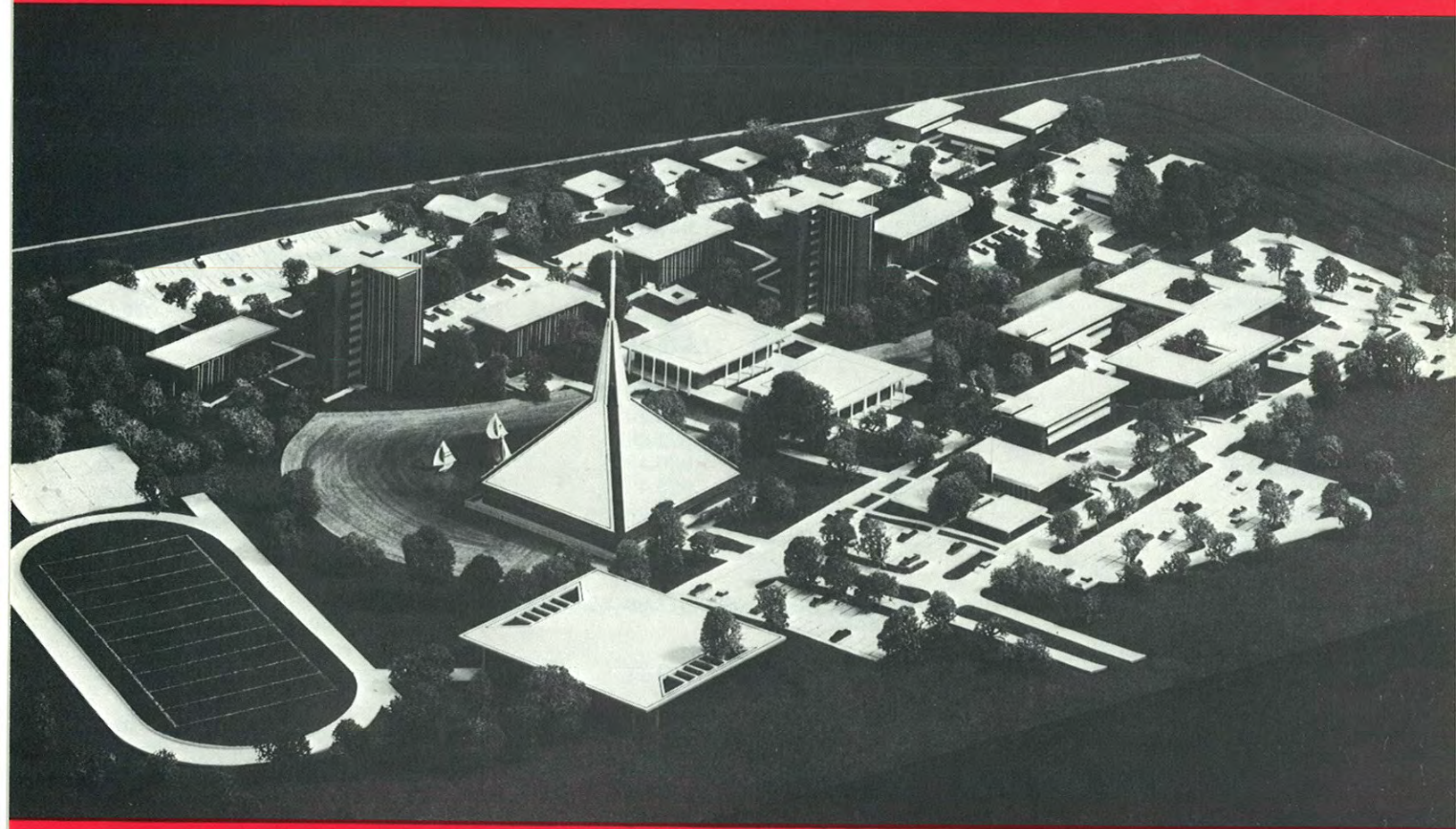
Moore, Oklahoma

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OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

April the twenty-seventh,
nineteen hundred and seventy-one



Model of Proposed Campus

*On July 1, 1971, the name of the College officially will become

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

P. O. Box 343, Moore, Oklahoma 73060

The Ministry of Contact

Do we really need CONTACT magazine? That question has perhaps been asked many times. You may have asked that yourself.

Is there a need for such a denominational magazine when many of our denominational departments and agencies publish and distribute free of charge magazines, newsletters, and

various other publications? Could they not do the work of CONTACT? These other publications have the task of informing Free Will Baptist about one particular phase of our denominational work. CONTACT has the responsibility of keeping our people informed about *all* phases of our work.

Many people question why CONTACT should charge a subscription fee when the other denominational papers are distributed free. One should keep in mind that there is nothing that is totally "free." Someone must pay for everything that our denomination publishes; someone must pay for every piece of mail that goes out. These and other costs are provided for in the various departmental budgets. These costs are met by the gifts received by the different departments.

On the other hand, most of the cost of CONTACT is paid by those who subscribe to the magazine. As the number of subscriptions grow, CONTACT becomes more financially independent. Every Free Will Baptist can help CONTACT financially by being a subscriber and by getting others to do the same.

CONTACT seeks to keep Free Will Baptists informed about the religious news and trends of the day. Our most popular section is devoted to Free Will Baptist news. This magazine also seeks to present articles that are thought-provoking as well as informative. The promotion of the National Convention is one of the major duties of CONTACT. No other denominational paper has that responsibility.

CONTACT wants to be a better magazine. The staff recognizes that there are several areas in which improvement could be made. We are seeking to make them as rapidly as possible. One pressing need is for a larger magazine. This issue has four pages more than the past several issues. It is hoped that this size can be increased even more. This can be done as another need is met—*more subscriptions*.

The staff solicits any suggestions for improvement. Every suggestion will be prayerfully considered. You can also help by encouraging others to subscribe. In that way you will be making possible a larger and better CONTACT.

Thank You for Your Gifts to the . . .

COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT

May 1971

RECEIPTS:

State	May 1971	May 1970	Yr. to date	Design.
Alabama			\$ 2,168.57	
Arizona			1,165.36	
Arkansas	1,352.70	1,012.72	4,454.30	
California	641.72	548.77	3,639.11	174.27
Colorado	17.00		17.00	
Florida	817.45	327.62	2,678.99	
Georgia	651.01	438.76	2,520.47	
Idaho	38.34	21.08	393.40	
Illinois	944.45	999.84	3,917.48	
Kansas	370.00		871.55	
Kentucky	283.82	266.94	1,037.01	
Maryland		45.00		
Michigan	32.31	552.92	1,254.18	
Minnesota	44.64	22.66	212.82	
Mississippi	34.83		34.83	
Missouri	2,514.96	2,418.37	11,625.08	2,514.96
New Mexico		68.71		
North Carolina			455.66	
Ohio	20.00	6.00	1,285.20	
Oklahoma	2,022.65	2,205.63	10,823.06	
Tennessee	239.53	249.47	1,030.48	
Texas	195.43		620.49	
Virginia	31.38	25.54	183.05	
Washington		49.86		
West Virginia		25.00	125.00	
Totals	\$10,252.22	9,284.89	\$50,513.09	\$2,689.23

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Dept.	3,424.82	3,398.99	16,577.15	546.73
Foreign Missions	2,169.96	1,915.07	10,762.33	770.68
Bible College	1,918.84	1,718.07	9,919.11	594.32
Home Missions	1,286.17	1,144.09	6,167.42	449.46
Church Training Service	632.52	582.92	3,125.19	164.02
Retirement & Insurance	456.80	285.72	2,224.33	82.01
Layman's Board	288.92	171.43	1,384.81	54.67
Comm. on Theological Liberalism	74.19	57.15	352.75	27.34
Misc.		11.45		
Totals	\$10,252.22	\$9,284.89	\$50,513.09	\$2,689.23

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I LOVE AMERICA



Why should I love America? Is there not much that is wrong with my country? Does not one see injustice on every hand? Is not our land filled with strife, bigotry, hatred, and prejudice? If so, why should I care for this land?

True, the United States of America is not a perfect nation, but neither was any other nation that ever existed. The face of a nation simply reflects the individuals of that nation. When Christians view the faults of America they should be concerned enough to seek to remedy those imperfections. A turning to Christ is the only solution to the problems facing this or any other nation. A change in the form of government will not solve spiritual problems. Only a change in heart will do that.

I love America because I can freely serve Christ here. In many nations one cannot actively work for Christ without fear of oppression. America is said to be the land of opportunity. May Christians let America be the land of spiritual opportunity by manifesting Christian love in every aspect of their lives.

May we demonstrate our love for America by seeking to give the message of Christ to the unchurched millions in our land. Only as the revival fires of true Christianity sweep our land will we see the wrongs disappear.

I LOVE AMERICA. DO YOU?