

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
AND THE WESTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. IX. No. 1.

Purdy, Missouri, January, 1937.

50 cents per year.

Page 1936 is full: Page 1937 is Before Us

By the Editor

WHETHER WE REALIZE it or not, we are making a record of our lives, written as in a book, and from this record we shall be judged—every life is a book of judgment.

The year of our Lord 1936, considered as a page of human history under Grace, is full, and a new page, 1937, is to receive the record for the next twelve months when it, too, will be full.

Each of us, when we began living, began our record on a certain page of this book of record, and our record is written on all its pages since we entered until now, and, if we live another year, the record of our year's living will be found on page 1937; O, what shall the record be!

This idea of the record of our lives being recorded may be a little vague to some of you who read these lines, some may even say, "There is nothing to it." Judging from what some people say and do, "they think that what they say and do doesn't matter much, anyway it will soon be forgotten."

Well, man may know but little of this record, and pay little or no heed to it: but there is One who knows the record of every life; and every one of us must face the record we make at the Judgment: the life we live here will determine our state of being in Eternity, whether we believe it or not.

Our habits and our doings are all registered in our lives, and some of them affect the body: the countenance and the lines of the face tell of the things we have in abundance. Yes, men can read much of the record of a human life from the appearance and bearing of the individual; then God who is so far above man, will know just where to place him, just what place his record in life fits him for.

We may be able to deceive men: but we cannot deceive God, even in the least (Gal. 6:7), for He can read the record we have made; neither can we escape the penalties' nature imposes for violation of her laws: we

see proof of this every day.

Man was created in the image and likeness of God and placed in the garden of Eden, with a perfect environment, to obey God and enjoy His fellowship: but Satan deceived our foreparents; and they and their descendants became the enemies of God, yet God still loved man, and in due time paid the supreme price for man's return to friendship and fellowship with his Maker. The record of fallen man is one that displeases God; and the wicked shall be eternally separated from God because of the record they have made during their life time here on the earth.

All men without God walk in darkness; they are accounted wicked, and light is cut off from the wicked. Men find themselves endowed with physical or natural life; and think they can live their little lives according to their own reason and wisdom, not realizing that they walk in darkness and separation from God (dead in sin), and the record they make seals their doom.

God, at a very great price, has provided light and life for all men: "and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19). These rejecters of Christ the

light of the world are making their record, not for eternal bliss, but for eternal woe. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (Jn. 8:12). This light of life is not known, nor even seen, in the lives of sinful men: for, as David said (Psa. 36:9), "For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light." Then, dear ones, let us come to the Fountain of Life, that we may be in His light, and see light. Let us all remember as, from day to day and from year to year we compile our record, that we shall meet that record at the Judgment:

*"Shall the record be found Wanting,
Or shall it be found trusting?"*

In the year of our Lord 1929, at the very beginning of the year, the Free Will Baptist Gem entered upon its career, and began to make its record. Its record begins, then, on page 1929 in this great record book, and continues page by page to the end of page 1936 and the beginning of page 1937. By the untiring efforts and co-operation of its supporters, it has filled a place in the work of our denomination, and has satisfied our needs to the full extent of its support—The more our Gem is supported, the more of our need it will satisfy.

The support of the Gem is the charge of every Free Will Baptist, especially all those who belong to the Missouri State Association. What we do and what we fail to do for the support of the Gem enters into our record. If we could read clearly, and with understanding, the last eight pages of this book of record, as God will read them, I wonder if we'd all be satisfied with our record relative to the Gem.

That part of our record which is already written must stand as it is, it cannot be changed. But let us do our very best with the present and as much of the future as the Lord our God shall spare us to see and use.

AT THE PORTAL

"Lo, I am with you alway."

Standing at the portal
Of the opening year,
Words of comfort meet us,
Hushing every fear;
Spoken through the silence
By our Father's voice,
Tender, strong, and faithful,
Making us rejoice.
He will never fail us,
He will not forsake;
His eternal covenant
He will never break;
Resting on His promises,
What have we to fear?
God is all-sufficient
For the coming year.

—Selected.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Published monthly at Purdy, Missouri


ELD. B. F. BROWN, EDITOR.

Entered as Second Class Matter, June 4, 1930, at the
Post Office at Purdy, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

TERMS

50 cents per year, cash in advance. Paper will be dis-
continued when subscription expires.

We will be glad to change your address for the Gem, if
you notify us. Please give the old address with the new.

Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

We are always glad to receive articles, letters, reports,
etc. from our readers for publication in the Gem, along
any line that will help the cause.

MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

Moderator,	Eld. Jas. F. Miller,	Flat River, Mo.
Ass't Mod.,	Eld. O. T. Allred,	Monett, Mo.
Clerk-Treas.,	Eld. Winford Davis,	Monett, Mo.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.,	Mt. Grove, Mo.
Eld. C. M. Dauber,	Greentop, Mo.
Dea. M. H. White,	Plattsburg, Mo.
Eld. O. T. Allred,	Monett, Mo.
Eld. B. F. Brown,	Purdy, Mo.

WESTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

Moderator,	Eld. Jas. F. Miller,	Flat River, Mo.
Ass't Mod.,	Eld. W. E. Dearmore,	Wanette, Okla.
Clerk,	Eld. John B. Rollins,	Purdy, Mo.
Ass't Clerk,	Eld. Harry Staires,	Drumright, Okla.
Treasurer,	Eld. Melvin Bingham,	833 N. Utica, Tulsa
Statistician,	Eld. E. A. O'Donnel,	McLoud, Okla.
Evangelist,	Eld. John Bean,	Oklahoma City, Okla.
Mission Sec'y,	Eld. Winford Davis,	Monett, Mo.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. O. T. Allred, Chairman,	Monett, Mo.
Eld. I. W. Yandell, Member	Oklahoma City, Okla.
Eld. Cecil Campbell, Member	Carterville, Mo.
Eld. W. L. Bean, Member	Cushing, Okla.
Eld. B. F. Rogers, Member,	R9, B374, Tulsa, Okla.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

Moderator,	Eld. J. L. Welch,	Nashville, Tenn.
Ass't Mod.,	Eld. Winford Davis,	Monett, Mo.
Clerk,	Eld. I. J. Blackwelder,	Ayden, N. C.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. J. W. Alford, Chairman,	B173, Kenly, N. C.
Eld. E. B. Joyner,	R2, Lake Butler, Fla.
Bro. E. F. Goen,	Bryan, Texas
Eld. D. F. Pelt,	Eufaula, Ala.
Eld. B. F. Brown, Secretary,	Purdy, Mo.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING PROGRAM

The Fifth Sunday Meeting Program of the New
Hope Association of Free Will Baptist will meet at
Friendship Church, about four miles north of Rose
Bud, Arkansas, at 2:30 p. m. Friday, January 29,
and continue to January 31, 1937.

PROGRAM

Friday Afternoon

2:30—Opening by Moderator Eld. C. E. Wilson
3:00—Talk "Who is the Prince of this World?"
Eld. Jesse E. Pratt
3:15—Talk: "Faith" Eld. Dermont Smith
3:30—Talk: "Are We Responsible for the Vows we Make
to God?" Eld. J. M. Holleman
7:00—Introductory Sermon Eld. W. B. Maddox
Eld. Dermont Smith, Alternate

Saturday Morning

9:00—Opening Moderator
9:30—Talk: "What is Heaven, and Where will it Be?"
Eld. C. E. Wilson
9:45—Talk: "What is Hell, and Where will it Be?"
Eld. J. M. Tucker
10:00— "What Do Free Will Baptist Require of a Mem-
ber to Hold Good Standing With the Church,"
Eld. R. E. Pruitt
10:15—Devotional Service Bro. W. E. McGuire
Fifteen Minutes Intermission
11:00—Sermon
12:00—Lunch

Saturday Afternoon

1:00—Opening Moderator
1:30—Talk: "The Baptism of Fire Administered by Christ"
Matt. 3:11 Eld. J. H. Hartsell
1:45—Talk "Can a Person Live Without Sin?"
Eld. W. B. Maddox
2:00—Talk "What Think Ye of Christ; Whose Son is He?"
Eld. E. C. Adkins
2:15—Business Session Moderator
7:00—Sermon

Sunday Morning

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Sermon Moderator
Every one that is interested in working for the Lord is
invited to attend this meeting. Now, don't fail to come
on Friday at 2:30 p. m.: for we will be looking for you.
Jesus said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments"
Eld. C. E. Wilson, Moderator, Greenbrier, Ark.
Herbert C. Holleman, Clerk, Rose Bud, Ark.

FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF OUR
NEXT STATE MEETING

This is to remind you of the resolution passed at
our last State Meeting, asking that each church in
the State of Missouri send in a liberal donation dur-
ing the year to help entertain the next State meeting.
The sooner you do this the better. Don't wait till the
very last. Our State Association has grown to such
an extent that one church cannot bear the expense.
We all must help, and too, this money should be
sent in ahead of time, so the host church will know
what to depend on. So I am writing this as a re-
minder. I feel that we can't start on this too soon.
Remember this donation is to be separate and
apart from your church budget.

—Winford Davis, Treas.

Original and Select Poems

The Little Gray Cottage

Contributed to the Gem by Otha Campbell

'Twas the evening of wonders, and soft through the air
Ran the chatter of children, the whisper of prayer.
Far down the broad street where the world seemed to end
Stood a little gray cottage just over the bend—
A little gray cottage forlorn in the dark,
With the beacon of hope burned away to a spark;
And most would have whimpered as little boys can,
Only Johnnie was six and therefore a man.

And men never whimper when Christmas is near,
Though cupboard lack cookies and cottage lack cheer;
Though shirt be tatters and trousers in holes,
And the tops of your shoes have deserted their soles.
No, men never whimper when Christmas is near,
It wouldn't be right, 'cause old Santa might hear,
Thus little boy John, who was almost a man,
Explained to his mother, as little boys can.

Then off with his tatters and down by his bed,
To kneel on the floor with a little bowed head;
And soon he was sleeping with eye-lids shut tight,
But alas for his mother who sobbed through the night.
'Twas the evening of wonders, when dreams should come true,

And she sobbed on her pillow as mothers will do,
For the hopes of a child are as bitter to blast
As the pleasures of childhood are sweet while they last.

While Johnnie was dreaming that Santa Claus came,
With a package of toys and a wonderful game,
There stole up a motor car bearing a friend
To the little gray cottage just over the bend;
And funny big bundles were left at the door,
All labeled, "From Santa Claus," that and nothing more.
Oh, twinkle ye stars! as ye sing o'er the earth,
And glory to Him whom the heavens gave birth.

The little gray cottage just over the bend,
Down the broad street where the world seems to end,
Was a mansion of joy, not a hovel of sorrow,
When little boy John arose on the morrow.
And it may have been you, or perhaps it was I,
Who drove that big auto softly and sly;
But don't you feel happy to know that some friend
Remembered the cottage just over the bend?

"You Don't Have To Tell It"

You don't have to tell how you live each day
You don't have to say if you work or play;
For a tried and true Barometer—right in its place . . .
However you live, my friend, it will show in your face.

The false, the deceit that you bear in your heart,
Won't stay down inside where it first got its start;
For sinew and blood are a thin veil of lace . . .
What you carry in your heart will show in your face.

If you've gambled and won in the great game of life,
If you feel you have conquered the sorrow and strife;
If you've played the game square and you stand on first base;
You won't have to tell it . . . it will show in your face.

Then, if you dissipate nights till the day is most nigh,
There is only one teller . . . and one that won't lie;
Since your facial barometer is right in its place . . .
However you live, my friend, it will show in your face.

Well, if your life is unselfish and for others you live,
For not what you can get but for what you can give;
And if you live close to God in His infinite grace . . .
You won't have to tell it . . . it will show in your face.

—Selected

A Tribute to Our "Women Preachers"

By Anna Reed, Desloge, Missouri.

God bless our women preachers,
Who have been called to go,
To sacrifice and tell the story,
That all the world may know;
Know of a Savior's love and mercy,
A Savior who sets souls free
From the bondage of old Satan,
In our land and across the sea.

God bless our women preachers,
Hand maidens of the Lord,
On whom the Spirit is out poured,
According to His Word.
In the book of Acts, 2:17 and 18,
The promise will be found,
It makes us shouting happy,
For the promised land they're bound.

Some meet with opposition,
Strength seems almost gone;
The promise of God's Word is sure,
Deliverance does come,
Equipped for service and ready,
Where the Master points the way,
North, south, east, or west,
They go without delay.

Then give us more women preachers,
Spirit-filled preachers, we pray,
Who will help many souls to get ready,
For that terrible Judgment Day.
Then when the close of life shall come,
Storms and trials all past,
May the Pearly Gates swing open wide,
"Welcome!" "Home at last."

"Those Old Song Books"

By Anna Reed, Desloge, Missouri

After using and enjoying "New Songs for Service" for several years in our church at Desloge, Mo., and having adopted another book, thoughts came to us as to what the old song books had meant to our church, so we pen the following:

Dear old song books, how we love you!
We are loathe to see you go
From the sacred hour of worship,
Surely we will miss you so;
Miss that heavenly inspiration,
By the Holy Spirit borne
To our waiting hearts so hungry,
As we meet on Sunday morn.

We must mention a few good numbers,
To us the song writers bring,
Hearts were blessed, shouts went upward,
As these blessed songs were sung.
Some have decided for Heaven and Glory,
Been sweetly borne into the Kingdom of Love,
While some were singing others were praying,
We know there was rejoicing in Heaven above.

"Bound for the Promised Land," was a favorite,
Then, how we prized No. 35!
"Sweeter Than All," and many others,
Took our thoughts beyond the blue skies.
Sweet words of the poet, No. 171,
That was to music set,
True, "Though the Wrong Seems Off So Strong,"
"God is the Ruler Yet."

The other books have been adopted,
For our use in service and song.
Let's still sing in the Spirit, all for God's glory,
For the time will not be long—
We'll all be singing in the heavenly choir
Around the throne of God,
While these perishable bodies of ours
Will be planted beneath the sod.

CHESAPEAKE, W. VIRGINIA

As requested, I will give some notes from our Kanawha County Quarterly Meeting. Our quarterly meeting is not getting along very well at present, though we have gained some in the past year. We had two new churches added to our roll, some new preachers, and some new Sunday schools. We have a church membership of B. H. Hedrick of Scott Depot, W. Va. We have a church membership of about 700, Sunday school membership about 800.

Our last Q. M. was held with Dry Branch church, in Kanawha County, W. Va. Bro. Jeff Thomas preached the introductory sermon.

Fourteen preachers were present, and about 35 delegates in all.

Our next quarterly meeting will be held with the Chesapeake church, about 13 miles from Charleston, up the river.

One of our ministers, S. F. Wills, has passed away. He was past 80.

—J. E. Cooper.

COMANCHE, TEX., Dec. 16th.

Dear Gem Family:

The time went so fast last month that I did not get in my report.

We had a real good meeting in Waco, but not what we had hoped for. The awful rains came and the flood kept many from coming. We had 18 conversions and the church was greatly blessed. After the meeting, we visited several places and solicited funds for the church, they are behind on their payments; so pray for these dear people, that God will help them save their church.

We then came out to Comanche to give these dear people a lift. Their church building burned a few years ago, two or three years ago. They have a large tabernacle which they built to worship under till they can get their church building replaced with a new one. We are now engaged in a revival, have had five conversions so far. We will pastor for them a few months, till they can get some one. Pray for us here, to have a great work for the Master.

We are glad to see the good reports from different parts of the field, and as the New Year dawns, may we all have a greater desire to win more souls and extend the work in every way; so that when the Master comes, He can say, "Well done."

A Happy New Year to the Gem family.

H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

MATLOCK, WASH., Dec. 12th

Dear Brother Brown:

After filling out the blank to renew my subscription to the "Gem," I felt impressed to write a few lines to the Gem, as I have never written before.

On the tenth of this month I was sixty years old. I was born and reared in Madison County, N. C. My mother was an old time Free Will Baptist, and I also was brought up in that church, for which I thank God: for it is the old time way. I was ordained in that church, at White Rock, N. C. August 29, 1904, in the French Broad Association. I labored in that Association, in the Master's service until I came west in 1920.

Finding no Free Will Baptist in the Northwest, I got my letter and went to another church. Of course, you know I am not satisfied. I have been praying much about the matter, and have been thinking of going back to Southwest Texas, and see if I could build up a Free Will Baptist Mission, as that seems to be my calling, that is, Pioneer and Mission work.

If any one reads this note in that part of Texas, and wishes to, you may write to me. I used to publish the *Mountain Free Will Baptist* at Black Mountain, N. C. I can give good reference.

May God bless all who read this and the Gem.

—Eld. Jonah L. Shelton.

MATEWAN, W. VA.

Dear Editor of the Gem:

I beg to submit a report of our Quarterly Meeting, which was held with Poplar Grove church, at Micco, address: Switzer, W. Va. The 26th Regular Session of Tug River Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting met on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in November, 1936.

The Introductory sermon was delivered by Eld. A. H. Langdon. His text was, "Behold!" Eld. J. B. Wheeler followed, using the same subject. Eld. J. S. Sexton sang a special song. We had a good meeting and an old fashioned hand shake. Then Elder W. L. Tomlan called a dismissal.

Saturday morning session met at 10:15, called together by singing. Bro. Simp Thompson led us in prayer, then turned the service into a testimony meeting in which several took part.

Eld. Sexton sang a special song, "I put off the Old Coat, and put on the New." Then the clerk took charge and called the conference to order for business. Eld. Millard Vanhooose was

elected moderator. After reading a Scripture lesson from Col. 3:1-8, the clerk called the moderator to the chair.

Moderator took charge and called for the examining and ordaining committee. Elders J. B. Cox and J. T. Weaver being absent, he appointed Elders W. L. Tomlan and J. S. Sexton to fill their place, the same to act as business committee, also as financial committee.

Supply of pulpit. Com.—Deacons Geo. Hanners, Smith Hanners and Simp Thomason.

Cemetery Com.—Sisters L. E. Pennington, Minnie Spry, Susie Hanners. Adjourned until 2:00 p. m.

Met back at 2:00 p. m., called together by singing, Moderator in charge. Scripture lesson from Rom. 12, then a song and an old fashioned hand-shake. Prayer by Elder Sexton.

Moderator called the conference to order for business, and called Elder Allen Dials as his assistant.

Corresponding messengers and visiting brethren invited to seats with us as advisory members.

Minutes of last session read and approved, and unfinished business called for. Bro. Sammens, a licentiate, was to be examined, but was not present, so his time has expired.

Letters from the different churches were read as they came in:

Poplar Grove church represented with letter and delegates and \$2.00.

Glenhays represented with letter and \$2.00 in letter, no delegates.

Buskirk represented with letter and \$2.00 in letter, no delegates.

Roberson Chapel responded with letter and \$2.00 in letter, no delegate.

Sprigg responded with letter and delegates and \$2.00 in letter.

Corresponding letters from other religious bodies called for.

Islen Creek Conference corresponded by letter and a messenger, Eld. Allen Dials, who was given right hand of fellowship.

Mingo Co. Conference corresponded by letter and messenger, Eld. J. S. Sexton.

Verbal report of Johnson Co. Con. was given by Eld. W. L. Tomlan.

A verbal report of Gyan Valley Con. was given by Eld. Jesse Blankenship.

A verbal report of Lawrence Co. Conference was given by Moderator.

A letter of recommendation was given to the Roberson church, and the request to organize a conference was turned over to the business committee.

The request of Sprigg church, asking that Bro. J. B. Wheeler go before the examining committee was granted.

Brothers C. S. Pennington, L. E. Hatfield and Chas. Burchet were appointed corresponding messengers to the Johnson Co. Conference, which will convene at Paintsville, Ky. on January 22, 23, 24, 1937.

Deacons George and Smith Hanners were appointed corresponding messengers to the Lawrence Co. Conference convening with Charley church, Charley, Ky. Friday night before the second Sunday in January.

Deacon Simp Tomson was appointed Cor. messenger to Mingo Co. Conference convening with Chauncy church, Chauncy, W. Va. on Friday night before the first Sunday in February.

Bro. Jess Tomlin was appointed Cor. messenger to Islen Creek Con. convening with Switzer church, at Switzer, W. Va. Friday night before the second Sunday in February, 1937.

Eld. J. B. Wheeler was appointed Cor. messenger to Gyan Valley Con. convening with Greenville church on Friday night before the third Sunday in January, 1937.

The supply committee chose Elder Millard Vanhooze to preach tonight and Eld. Jesse Blankenship to follow.

Met Saturday night at 6:30, and after Scripture reading and prayer, the examining committee reported, recommending Bro. J. B. Wheeler as eligible for ordination.

Business committee recommended to send a committee to North Carolina to Pine Creek church, to organize a new conference. Elders Jeff Tomas, J. B. Wheeler, J. T. Weaver, Ira Carr, J. M. Young, were appointed on this committee.

Clerk is to decide about the next session and notify the churches.

The report of the finance committee recommends to pay clerk \$8.00 for his services, and each church \$2.00 to pay expense of their committee to N. C.

A report from Sprigg church by Sister L. E. Pennington that Eld. Flord Mainard departed this life Oct. 16, 1936, also that Bro. Tom Hatfield departed this life Oct. 19, 1936. A solemn prayer was offered in behalf of the friends and relatives of these two brethren, led by Eld. C. S. Pennington.

A collection was taken for the expenses amounting to \$5.32.

Preaching at eleven o'clock by Eld. Millard Vanhooze. Text, "This do in remembrance of me" (1 Cor. 11:24). He preached a wonderful sermon, and Eld. Jessie Blankenship followed on Feet Washing, and Eld. C. S. Pennington set the Lord's Supper and feet washing in order, in which about 50

took part. Had a wonderful meeting.

Met Sunday morning at 10:00 o'clock.

Elder Langdon sang a special song, then offered prayer. Another song was sung and a collection was taken to pay Eld. Millard Vanhooze's expenses, \$4.54 being received.

Eld. Ed. McCormick introduced the service and called Eld. Millard Vanhooze to the stand. Text, "Put on the whole armour of God" (Eph. 6:11). He preached a good sermon, followed by a song and handshake; then the moderator called the conference to ordain Bro. Wheeler, which was done by prayer and laying on of hands by the presbytery, the Bible was presented, and the right hand of fellowship was given.

The clerk thanked the people of Mico for their courtesy in caring for the conference.

Had a wonderfully good conference all the way through.

Eld. Millard Vanhooze, Moderator, Paintsville, Ky.
Eld. C. S. Pennington, Clerk, Matewan, W. Va.

CHETOPA, KANSAS, R2

Dear Readers of the Gem:

This is to report the wonderful meeting held with the South Picher Free Will Baptist church on the 29th November, 1936.

There were about forty visitors in attendance besides the Picher folks. They came from Welch, Miami, and Bluejacket, Oklahoma, and from Treece, Galena, Baxter and Chetopa, Kansas.

Eld. Lester Judd brought the morning message, and after a bountiful dinner, we were called together by singing. There were a number of ministers present and each of them gave us a short message. These ministers were Sister McKee, Sister Freeman, Sister Elda Crain, Bro. Crain, Bro. Sexton and Bro. Curry.

The next fifth Sunday meeting will meet at the Fairview school house in Oklahoma, west of Commerce.

After a testimony meeting and an old fashioned handshake we were dismissed by Bro. Capron.

Geneva Lamb, Clerk.

DOS PALOS, CALIF., Dec 16th

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

Oh, how I enjoy the many good letters and reports in the Gem.

We look forward each month to the coming of the Gem, that we may learn of and hear from our many good friends so far away.

We are so glad to hear of the good revivals, for it always makes us happy to learn of souls being saved, and a revival in the community.

There are not many Free Will Baptist churches here, but we have learned to love the good people here at a Methodist church that we have attended.

In looking through the Gem, we find there are other Free Will Baptist in our state, which helps us not to be so lonesome, although they are some distance from us; perhaps, if it is God's will, we will be able to get in touch with some of them.

We find people here in general are far away from God. They don't seem to realize that there is an Almighty God. They are only striving for the things that are perishable, such as money, gaily, something new and exciting—people are going at such a fast rate now-a-days. Oh, if they could only realize they are punishing their physical bodies by drinking, being up until late hours, playing cards and dancing! We that know about God and His goodness, let us not falter by the wayside, but keep striving for His love, guidance, and protection.

As I think of how helpless a creature man is, in accordance with God, and as intelligent as people seem to be, one would think they would realize their inability and depend upon God. It must be, as I have already mentioned, they want something new and exciting in a worldly way and don't stop to consider that we only live here for a short time, then it is after death, what then?

Christian people, let us be up and doing something for our Christ the One that has done so much for us. Let us ask ourselves the question, What are we doing for the Master, to repay Him for His love, mercy and kindness? Should we not always speak a word of consolation and kindness to every one, that we may be a comfort to our fellow-men?

I want to live a life, that people may see by my daily walk, that I am living for the Master. I feel that we should live daily, not just on Sunday, but read our Bible, pray, and meditate each day, that we may stay in close touch with our Lord.

The year 1936 is almost at a close, and another new year approaches; now let us think again, Have we been thankful enough for the blessings we have received the past year? At the beginning of each year, we usually

make resolutions, and while we are thinking over the past year, may we also think whether we have carried out our resolutions as we should, then make stronger ones for this new year.

As I sit here writing, this beautiful sunshiny morning, hearing the birds singing, and seeing the beautiful handiwork of God, are we as grateful as we should be, that we have such a beautiful place to live?

Here is wishing God's richest blessings upon every one, and I desire such an interest in your prayers.

Yours for the Master,

Elizabeth Garner.

BOWNEMONT, W. VA., Nov. 29

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I have returned from attending the Kanawha Quarterly Meeting, which began on Friday before the fifth Sunday in November, 1936, with the Dry Branch church. I was not there until Saturday, so I cannot make any report on the Ministerial Conference.

I will begin with the opening of the conference Saturday at 9:30 a. m.

Conference was called to order by the clerk, James Cooper, by Scripture reading and prayer, then Eld. Jeff Tomas was elected moderator.

Minutes of last session were read and approved, then a business committee was appointed, also a committee on next conference.

Church letters were read and accepted. Sixteen churches reported, sixteen preachers were present. But 28 preachers were reported through the church letters; so, not much more than half of them were present.

At eleven o'clock Eld. Fayett Rins brought the message.

Called to order again at 2:00 p. m.

Committee on location reported that the next session would be held at the East Bank church.

The report of the business committee recommended that there be a Goodwill committee appointed to meet with the East Bank church and its pastor to try to straighten out some misunderstanding that is in the church. Three deacons were appointed.

It was recommended and granted that all ordained deacons be made members of the Ministers' conference.

It was recommended and granted that the brother from the new church at Wilson Hollow be ordained as a deacon, as requested.

Bro. Melvin Pennington was given license to preach for three months.

The business committee recommended that ten dollars be given to Elder Jeff Tomas, \$5.00 to Eld. Will Martin, and \$5.00 to Eld. Willis Comer.

Conference money on hand at the beginning of this conference, \$136.21.
Amount with letters, 26.50
From preachers' and deacons' 6.00

Total amount received \$168.71
Amount paid out 25.00

Balance in treasury \$143.71

Conference adjourned to meet on Friday before the fifth Sunday in January, 1937, with East Bank church.

Came together again at 7:00 p. m. After a good song service and prayer, Eld. Will Martin talked 30 minutes, then Eld. J. T. Patterson Riley took the stand and preached about thirty minutes, then administered the Sacraments and feet washing, with 59 taking part.

Sunday morning, at 9:30, Sunday school, and after the classes were through, Eld. Spurgeon Young from Brother Hood Conference gave a good talk on Sunday school work.

Then at eleven o'clock Eld. J. L. Patterson brought a wonderful message, followed by Eld. E. L. Bowman.

I can say we had a good time, and the people sure did take good care of the delegates. Wife and I had a good home with Bro. and Sister Withrow. We left there full and happy.

I will close by asking the prayers of all you Gem readers.

F. E. Nicholas.

HARTVILLE, MISSOURI

Dear Editor and Wife and Gem Readers: I am glad to say that the 24th of November, 1936 finds me still contending for the old time religion, and my mind wanders back to my childhood days, to my first recollection of ever being at church. My father had moved to the State of Illinois from the State of Tennessee. He located on a farm fifteen miles north of Mattoon, Illinois. The man that owned this farm was a man of God, and belonged to what was called Mount Zion church, his name was Phillips, and he gave my father the privilege of taking his team and wagon to take his family to church. I can remember how they got on their knees when the preacher prayed, and too, I can remember something about some women shouting, and I ran out of the house, and the little girl I was sitting by. I suppose I thought it was bad

trouble, as my poor mother had lived right where she could hear almost daily battles and the roar of cannons. Oh, it was something terrible, but I learned more about it as the years passed by, as it was my father's delight to go to church, and he had so much to be thankful for; the war was over, and he at home with his family, and a free man again, and best of all, having the privilege to meet with God's people at the house of worship. This was back in the days when folk wore their home-spun, home weaved clothes, and could kneel before God in prayer, even at home around the old fire place. When the day's work was over, father would read a portion of God's Word, then talk to the children about the wonderful love of Jesus, and tell them that they must love and obey Him, if they wanted to go to Heaven, then father would get humbly on his knees and ask for a home in Heaven for his loved ones. This all happened when folk had old time religion, and I thank God just now, that this old time religion still exists in the hearts of some people; we hear them sing and shout, and see their smiling faces.

It was our privilege a few Sundays ago to hear Rev. Letsinger preach. He talked about the lad that had five barley loaves and two small fishes. After finishing his discourse, he said, "Let's have a handshake in token that we will pray for each other." He said, "I don't feel like I had been to church when we don't do this."

The Harmony Band singers sang, "Brethren, we have met to worship." It did my poor old soul good to hear this preacher express his desire in this way.

I am thinking just now of how folks worried last summer about the hot dry weather, then when God saw fit to send rain to liven things up, they began to worry about the election, saying hard things about some of their best friends. A lady who works in one of the drug stores here in Hartville said she would be glad when the election was over, so folks would speak to each other and be friendly.

Well, it's worry, worry, about something. I suppose it has been thus ever since Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth: if Jacob take a wife of the daughters of Heth, such as these which are of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life do me?" (Gen. 27:46).

"So God created man in his own

image, in the image of God created he him: male and female created he them" Gen. 1:27). Later on He called the males sons, and the females daughters; and it seems that they have caused a great deal of weariness ever since Mother Eve gave Father Adam of the forbidden fruit.

Then that daughter, Delilah, who wearied Samson: see what she did for eleven hundred pieces of silver; his soul was vexed unto death. Read the 16th chapter of Judges.

Then there was the king's daughter, she wearied the people because she and her mother had John the Baptist beheaded. O, a number of daughters have caused people to be weary, and to worry! But there are many daughters that we are thanking God for. The Mother of Jesus, how wonderful she was!

Jesus' mother said unto the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." Mary was her name, the sweetest name on earth, and she had no equal. She gave birth to the dear Son of God, the Savior of the world. No other Son like Jesus. O, it is wonderful, blest be His name!

The writer of this article is a daughter of Isaac and Phoebe Palmer, age 76, and God knows I have no goodness to boast of, of myself, but I am so glad that I am the daughter of parents that had old time religion. Now, folks, I am weary about spiritual things, also about temporal things, I am weary about the world getting into the churches with all kinds of clubs and worldly amusements; there is nothing worse, it is abomination in the sight of God: but the church in the world is the greatest blessing that mankind can have on earth. A majority of the preachers stand up to pray: but we read where Jesus fell on His face to pray; and He said to Peter, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour!"

I was sure glad to read in the Gem that some folks are still holding onto Prayer meeting, there's nothing any greater.

I should like to speak this morning about good daughters, but you may already be weary with me; so read Acts 16:13, 14.

"And there came a certain poor widow, and threw in two mites" (Mark 12:42). She was another good daughter.

But, dear ones, what wearies me is to see old daughters, 85 and more, with short hair like men, and a permanent that cost three dollars or more; and I see poor little innocent chil-

dren running through the frost bare footed, bare headed, and their little faces show that they do not have proper food. Read the Bible and see if you are using the money that belongs to God as pleases Him. It has been said, "Aunt Lina, I would not worry about that." I say, "Ycs, but if I had not told you about that old sheep, and you had gone into the pasture and got bad hurt, you would say, 'Aunt Lina, is not what she ought to be or she would have told me.'"

There are many daughters that are weary because God gave too many eye-brows to suit them; so they spend many hours with a little pair of tweezers picking them out, after the Bible telling us that God created us in His own image; but they are not satisfied, and are wearied about how the face looks.

Isaiah said (50:4), "The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary."

Isaiah also said (40:31), "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary."

Gal. 6:9—"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

2 Thess. 3:13—"But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing."

Let us all sing with the spirit and with understanding:

"Are you weary, are you heavy laden?

Tell it to Jesus;

Are you grieving over joys departed?

Tell it to Jesus;

Are you troubled at the thought of dying?

Tell it to Jesus."

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another.

I need your prayers: if I have wearied you, forgive an unworthy servant,

Aunt Lina Claxton.

THAYER, MISSOURI, Dec. 13th

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

As this is such a beautiful morning, I feel like writing to our paper. We are so thankful for the bright sunshine on this Sabbath morning.

This, the 13th day of December, 1936, still finds me on this side of eternity, trying to read this great Book called the Bible, which is the Book of books, and this morning we find in 2 Kings 4:38, that Elisha came again to Gilgal and there was a death in the land. The sons of the prophets were sitting

before him, and he said unto his servants, "Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets." Here is a people that were starving on account of the drought or famine in the land, and Elisha was trying to devise some plan to prepare them food. How sad it is to think of the spiritual drought that is over our land today. So many churches are dead, even whole associations are dead, and the people starving to death for the true Gospel and a heart-felt, soul-thrilling salvation: this is a cold age spiritually. Some will stand up and tell us that the world is growing better and better, because there are more church members than ever before. True there are more people with their names on the church roll than ever before, because there are more people in the world, but in my mind that is one of the ways the world is growing worse and worse, because so many churches are being filled up with unregenerated people. We are fulfilling the prophecy of Paul, "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." Let me say again. There is a spiritual famine over our land; people are starving, dying for the want of food for the soul.

Elisha said, "Set on the great pot." Listen, dear ones, every church should be as a great pot set on the fire to seethe pottage for the hungry world; is your church a saving station for souls, a city set on a hill, a resting place for weary pilgrims, a cure for sin-sick souls, a place where people love to come because of the spiritual food that they receive, or is there death in the pot?

"Ye are the temple of the living God" (2 Cor. 5:15). We must set our house in order, and sweep down the cob-webs of sin and evil, and then with the light of Christ to shine within our lives, and a welcome to the holy Messenger of the covenant, He will come in to abide and live with us. Think for just an instant of the angel form of Jesus, standing waiting, watching, pleading saying, Will you clothe me with the body which I have given you? but you will be required to make ready for Him.

We have some of the best and most consecrated preachers in the world, many of them have sacrificed their all to follow the Christ and work for the salvation of souls: but we have some preachers that have fallen into the rut of don't carishness, some of them don't seem to care whether they keep their appointments or not; they will go if the weather is fair or if

the roads are good, but if not they stay at home; and I have known many instances when the people went to church, but no preacher came. When people are disappointed like that, they soon lose interest and don't go at all. Some preachers never try to hold a revival in their church, never visit the backsliders or the cold members of the church. I have heard some of our good members complain, and say, "When our folks were sick, our pastor would drive past our house and wouldn't have time to stop, and never was in the house till called in to conduct a funeral; but he had time to go hunting and fishing and other things." Brethren, these things ought not to be, for there is more to the pastor's work than just to go in and preach on Sunday at the church.

Well, as I have written a long letter, I will wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, asking you all to remember me in your prayers.

—Mrs. M. B. Cockman.

WORTHAM, MO., Dec. 1, 1936.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:
We wish to state that we are still working in God's great vineyard.

On the 16th of November, we started a meeting at Wortham, Missouri. This place is about six or seven miles west of Flat River, Missouri.

God's Spirit was manifested at every service, and a wonderful co-operation was shown by God's children, and a large crowd was also present at each evening service.

On Nov. 31st, by the leadings of God's Spirit, we decided to close the meeting. A total of seventeen (17) conversions was witnessed in this revival meeting. All of these converts testified to God's saving power. Eight of these united with the church and are to follow their Lord in Christian baptism December 6th.

Pray for us, that we might be used for God's glory.

THE LEAD BELT GOSPEL BAND

Eld. Damon Dodd,

Eld. Albert Halbrook,

Eld. Alvin Halbrook.

LEADINGTON, MO., Dec. 5th.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

By way of letting you know of the activities of the Executive Board of the Southeast Missouri League Association, we wish to give this report:

On Saturday night, November 14, 1936, this Executive Board, composed of Eld. Elmer Stegall, Bro. Ben Dees, and myself, accompanied by interested

League members from Desloge and Flat River, Mo., visited the church at Wortham, Mo.

A program of special songs and short talks was presented, after which a Young People's League was organized with only five members, but at our last visit, Nov. 30th, the membership was 32, with fine interest and excellent prospects of growing larger.

This Executive Board intends to organize leagues where needed, and visit the others.

Remember Wortham League in your prayers.

Yours for the Lord's work,

Eld. Alvin Halbrook.

THAYER, MO., R2, Nov. 30, 1936

Dear Elected Ones, All:

What joy to know we are elected to glory, if we continue in the grace of God

Our Cave Spring Fifth Sunday Meeting added a notable milestone to our spiritual fellowship, convening here at home with our Pleasant Hill church. Friday night Eld. J. E. Rolan gave a strong, building message, and Saturday morning singing, reading of 1 Thess 5:1-24, and prayer by Eld. J. H. Talley. Moderator, Harry Beatty, appointed Brothers John Hollis, Henry Young and Ben Meinders as pulpit committee.

Most of our churches gave encouraging reports.

By-Laws and minutes of last meeting read and approved.

At 11:00 o'clock Elders Nath Combs and Claud Bryan brought splendid wake-up messages on the Holy Spirit, John 3:1-8, with verse 8 as a text. May the dear Lord enable more of us to permit the Spirit to blow the smoldering coals of our faith into an intense flame of overcoming zeal in His service, starting here and now!

After dinner, singing, reading Psalms 100, and prayer by Eld. Melba White.

Verbal reports of churches not represented showed most of them were moving forward.

Ministers: W. P. Stogsdill, Claud Bryan, Harry Beatty, E. E. Simpson, H. C. Crase, Nath Combs, B. H. Woodring and J. E. Rolan.

Deacons: C. R. Romberger, Henry Young, Marvin Williams, John Pingleton, R. J. Wisheart, S. E. Coble, W. E. Crews, Geo. Moore, Com Crews.

Norman church, near Alton, Mo., was chosen as place of next meeting.

Elder Melba White had been in a stirring revival there for some time and came to us to present a Missionary message, and a collection of \$5.23

was taken for missions. She gave us a better, clearer mission outlook, and if we follow her advice and pray and work on those lines, the Lord will no doubt bless us in all ways much more abundantly, as His custom is. We hope and pray that Sister White will be enabled to carry her message to all our churches, so that the name of the Lord may be glorified.

Sunday morning, Ministers' meeting began by singing, reading of Ps. 2, and prayer by Eld. Billie Rogers.

What was in "The Book" of Revs. 5, 10 and 20, proved a very helpful one as explained by Elders Harry Beatty, J. H. Talley and E. E. Simpson.

The book sealed with seven seals was seven messages to believers, each message to be unsealed and given out at the proper time.

Now, we seem to be in the Laodicean age—lukewarm spiritual condition, but, through the persistent prevailing prayers of true believers, thousands of us all over the U. S. A. believe old time revivals will move us where we should be.

At 11:00 o'clock, Bro. Beatty preached a lifting message on Romans 5, "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," and I wonder what more any of us could desire or need!

After dinner, singing, reading Revs. 22:10-21, and prayer by Harry Beatty.

Bro. Rolan told us just how we can always receive just what we ask of God, by being born again, obeying all His commandments, doing those things which are pleasing in His sight, abiding in Him with prayer and fasting, and without ceasing—a living message for all who wish to be alive in the Lord.

Bro. Talley gave us the history of Rev. 9, as predicting the beginning and spread of Mohammedianism, a clear, enlightening message.

Elder Melba White gave a clear, convincing list of Bible passages showing that all who love the Lord with all their heart shall be prospered and achieve real success through their unswerving allegiance to the Lord.

Altogether we were glad to go up into the house of the Lord in this kind of a meeting, and it seemed as though most of us carried away a rich load of heavenly blessings when we came away. May the wonderful truths abide with us and bring forth much and lasting good in the days to come.

Love and the full guidance of the Spirit be with us all in every way according to His will through Christ Jesus our Lord.

—Ralph T. Hoyt.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

This beautiful Christmas morning, with thoughts of my Savior, the day of His birth, and things presented to Him by the Wise men.

As I look out on the streets here this morning and see drunken men going to and fro, it makes my heart ache. They call it celebrating Christmas, but do they know what it means? Surely not. Do they care? No, I dare say they have never given it a serious thought. It is our Lord's birthday.

Last night, as the Christmas carols were repeated, the plays demonstrated, some so real, was the Spirit of our Lord there? did it please Him? I fear not. O, let us have the thought of Him who is our Creator in our hearts and lives and let it be real to us, as well as to the eye. The Sermon on the Mount means the same today as it did the day our Savior spoke it.

I walked down on the ocean front, down on the beach yesterday, and as I stood there looking out across the great waters, and watching the angry sea, the boats being tossed about by the great waves, I got a great vision of life, how typical it is of human life. As men and women are tossed about by the ocean or sea of time; as those boats strive against the awful waves, striving to make the shore, so men and women strive and fight against sin and its temptations. It is easier for the big strong boats to fight through, because they are strong. That typifies the one who prays much. On the other hand, the smaller boats fight the waves and are thrown to and fro; they are light and small and weak. That typifies one who tries to serve two masters; they can't get anywhere. Again as we look out across the great waters, we can't see the other side, neither can we see the depth of it, but we know it is very deep and wide.

Neither can we see the other side of life's sea, nor the depth of it, but so long as we are anchored in Jesus, we know we are secure, our Captain and Pilot will carry us safely home to the other side; so let us be sure we have anchored in Christ, and always be willing to say, "Lord, thy will be done, and not mine." I am glad I can say with Paul, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth. . . . For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith: as it is written" (Rom. 1).

While I am away from home and loved ones, and at times grow very lonely, and think of home, and of the prayer meeting on Thursday night, and of the Sunday school and preaching and League back at home in Aurora, Mo., I wonder if any one is praying for me. Friends, brothers and sisters, I need your prayers, and want you to pray for me; I am praying for you back there. I wonder sometimes if God is giving me a real test. Never-the-less, I am going to go through, whatever the cost, because I have started to make Heaven my home

and I have nothing to lose, but all to gain; and I can't let the frivolous things of this world come between me and my Savior. I am putting every thing I am and ever expect to be, on the altar, and am willing to be used as God sees fit to use me.

I ask an interest in the prayers of all you Gem readers, those that really know the worth of prayer.

—W. H. Riddle.

TULSA CHURCH NOTES

By Mrs. Evelyn Miller, Reporter

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 23, 1936.

As we begin to write, we are reminded that this is the last report for 1936. Our mind goes back through the preceding months of the year, and we wonder if we have worked just as hard as we should, and done every thing that we should have done for the Master. So, we are acknowledging now, with a deep regret, that during moments of weakness we became very dilatory toward this work; and would have given it up, but something comes to us and tells us to "hold on," and we can still feel the sunshine of God's love, and we must thank Him renewed strength.

Our children were spared through the Paralysis Epidemic—I do not know of a member's home where there was a case, and we are truly thankful for this, although our children were kept from the churches and schools for three or four Sundays, and our attendance dwindled to a mere handful, but the Lord is sending them back, and our record is almost normal again.

Bro. Melvin is conducting a three months' special Bible Training school. The principal object is to commit to memory all the books of the Bible, number of chapters and verses in each, give the correct definition of the words "Unction" and "Importunity," and tell where found, as well as memorize as much scripture as possible.

In the class of 25 or 30, the following members are leading this number of chapters and verses to their credit: Sister Opal Bingham, Chap. 11, vs. 169; Sister Edna Young, Chap. 6, vs. 136; Esther Miller, Chap. 5, vs. 73; Oliver Lindle, Chap. 4, vs. 63; J. H. Prock, Chap. 3 vs. 98.

This training course seems to be a great uplift to all who are taking part.

Our Christmas program was much enjoyed by a good crowd of members and visitors, and 400 bags of goodies were distributed to the children.

Bro. Melvin had another birthday on Dec. 21st, and was given a birthday supper in the church basement. Special tribute was paid the officers and Sunday S. teachers by having them stand around the table with him and enjoy the cutting of the birthday cakes—some 8 or 10 of them, one a especially beautiful one, was baked by Esther Miller. Both old and young remembered him with gifts. A beautiful tie clasp with his initials was given by the Haines family, and a large orange by a little child yet in its mother's arms.

Bro. Melvin preached at Jennings, Okla. on the afternoon of Dec. 20th, and two souls came to the altar, and we had a good service at our own church that night with several in the altar.

We close by asking an interest in all of your prayers, that we may all stay on the firing line for God, and not give an inch to the Devil.

WESTERN GENERAL ASS'N MINUTE FUND

By Eld. J. B. Rollins, Clerk, Purdy, Mo.

We wish to report the progress of the incoming collections for printing the minutes of our Western Association. We have used 90 cents for postage stamps, envelopes, writing paper and postal cards, in making contacts with the individual church clerks. We did this thru the organization, that is, through State clerks, associational and Q. M. clerks. This plan has fully succeeded in Missouri, whose nine local associations gave me a contact with 125 churches.

Oklahoma is responding rather slowly. The State clerk, Earleen Paris, of Okla. City, is endeavoring to give full co-operation. At this writing she is unable to supply me with any information at all involving five local associations in Okla. The clerks of the remaining eight associations in Okla. were mailed cards requesting a complete line-up of the names and addresses of their church clerks. Thus far only three of them have responded, namely: First Mission, Gaines Creek and Dibble Associations. This gives me contact with 38 churches in Oklahoma.

I wrote letters to eight of the ten Q. M. clerks in West Virginia and have received answers from only two of them (Clay County and Raleigh), giving me a contact with eleven 11 churches. I am unable to secure any information concerning two of their quarterly meetings.

I wrote a letter to Bro. Vanhooose of Paintsville, Ky., asking for inside information about the organization of the Tri State Association (Ohio, Ky. and W. Va.) who still hold their membership in the Western Association. So far I have received no reply.

On Dec. 10th, I bought 150 postal cards and paid 80 cents to have them printed, then mailed them to 117 churches in Mo., 31 churches in Okla. and two churches in W. Va. Fifteen churches had paid prior to the above date.

We are waiting for the response of 165 churches. Seven contacts from Okla. came in today, making us a total of 172 churches contacted, with an expense of \$3.20.

The returns of 25 cents from each church is coming in very nicely. We are thankful for this. Keep it coming! We are expecting the co-operation of the brethren of the Western General Association; if all co-operate, we'll go over with this work in a big way. Come on, brethren, let's go! Purdy, Missouri, December 26, 1936

ARCADIA, KANS., Dec. 24, 1936

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Family:

I shall try to make a brief report of a three weeks' meeting at our Fairview church, near Chetopa, Kansas. Bro. Richard Talbott and I were the evangelists.

There were four souls reclaimed for God, for which we are very thankful. Of course this was not the results we desired, but we feel that it was far from being a failure. The church is in better spiritual condition to go on with the Lord's work.

I am pastor of this church and am concerned about the work there. They are a wonderful people to work with. We shall never forget Bro. and Sister Mead where we stayed most of the time, and, of course, many others of them.

On the night before we closed the church presented Bro. Richard with a nice pair of gloves for a Christmas present, and presented me with a Friendship quilt, with many names embroidered on it. May God bless them all. —Eld. Boyd Thornton.

STAHL, MO., Dec. 22, 1936.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

We feel impressed to write a few lines at this time, and report the good meeting we had at Hazel Creek Union church. Bro. Jas. F. Miller of Flat River, Mo. arrived on Monday, Nov. 16th, and preached every night and at all our day services until the meeting closed, Friday night, Dec. 4th. Three precious souls were saved and the church greatly revived.

On Sunday following the meeting, we went from the morning service to the water, where it was necessary to cut the ice, while the mercury registered near zero, to baptize the three precious souls.

We thank God for the good messages Bro. Miller brought to us during the meeting, and for other ministers who attended and assisted, together with all the servants of God who helped to make the meeting possible.

With the closing of another year, our members will go back over the year and recall the opportunities that have passed, and passed forever.

The New Year should awaken us to our new responsibilities.

As Free Will Baptist, we have one of the greatest opportunities to really do something which will cause us to look back, a year from now, and see the accomplishment of a great work, if we will take hold of these opportunities. We should see the opening of a Free Will Baptist College for those who wish to better equip themselves for the carrying of the message.

We should also see the opening of a mission field, with several missionaries to help carry the message to them that sit in darkness.

We should also see the completion of the plans relating to our Gem publishing house.

All of this can be accomplished in

the year of 1937, if every Free Will Baptist minister has the vision of the possibilities within our reach, and will help every member to see that through a united effort we can accomplish great things for the Lord.

Your brother in Christ,
Eld. C. M. Dauber.

THE REVIVAL AT HANNON

Have just closed a very successful revival with our church at Hannon, Mo., in which eighteen souls were saved, and the church was greatly strengthened. We continued four and one-half weeks. All who were saved had real genuine experiences, some were church members who just found out they were not right, and came to the Lord and received a real experience. All of them were grown people, and elderly people, except one little girl, Mildred Hoover; but she too, was brightly saved.

The Hannon church received much spiritual strength, and also the other churches which co-operated with us, which were the Baptist of Liberal, Mo., the Church of God, and the Christian church of Arcadia, Kans. This was the fifth revival I have held with our dear Hannon people. I had been their pastor for the past three years. This revival marked the close of my work with the church, as I had taken other work and felt obliged to resign this church. But, O, how I regretted to have to leave them. I never worked with a church that was more agreeable. I love those people dearly, and I believe I have some as good friends in that community as I have anywhere in the world. I was never treated nicer by people anywhere. The fathers, the mothers, the young people, the children, and even the unsaved have treated me wonderfully. It means more to me than I can find words to express. I can certainly recommend the Hannon church to any minister. The new pastor has not yet been elected; but my prayers and well wishes will be with him, whoever he may be.

You will recall that our next State meeting is to be held with this church. I am sure they will take care of it in splendid shape. Already they are making preparation.

I am writing this Nov. 30, 1936; by the time you read it, I expect to be far advanced in a revival with our Aurora church, the Lord being willing. The Lord has given me splendid health the last few months especially, and I am very thankful to Him.

In closing, let me remind you of the resolution passed at our last State meeting, asking that each church in the state of Missouri send in a donation during the year to help entertain the next State meeting. The sooner you do this the better. Let's start now. Let me urge you too, that we remember our missionary, Bro. Willey. I am expecting your donation for him.

May the Lord bless all, and our work throughout, is my prayer.

Remember me at the throne of grace.
—Winford Davis.

**ANDERSON, MISSOURI
PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH**

Dear Brother Brown:

We wish to announce through the Gem that we had a very profitable meeting here at our regular appointment in December. We had an all day meeting on Sunday, with Sunday school and a good sermon in the forenoon, basket dinner and hot coffee at noon.

Splendid fellowship prevailed throughout the day. In the afternoon Bro. Black preached an appropriate sermon, after which the Lord's Supper and feet washing were administered. A general handshaking and a little shouting followed, all who participated seemed to feel the Lord's presence.

The usual service was held at night, preceded by the League meeting and song service. We were favored with some special selections during the day and at night by Mrs. R. E. Shaver, her two sons and little daughter, which added greatly to the inspiration of the meetings.

Bro. Black seems to be well liked by the church people and has the respect of the community. He is planning to hold a meeting in the near future, and we sincerely ask your prayers for the little church here. We are few in number, and some of us older ones will not be able to go much at night or in cold weather. "But there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few" (1 Sam. 14:6)

—Mrs. John L. Wilson.

GRANBY, MO., Dec. 14, 1936.

Dear Gem Family:

How we do love to talk about the goodness of our dear Lord through the Gem, and read reports from others about their work for God. I cannot help feeling that God is smiling upon our little paper, as Bro. Brown and his good companion work so faithfully to get it in print each month and sent out to our homes. I feel that when one picks up the Gem to read, it is something that is not condemned of God. There are other publications that are good material to read, but our home paper really has a place in my heart.

The last time I wrote to the folks through the Gem, we were in a meeting in Northwest Missouri, at our Union Third Fork Free Will Baptist church, with Bro. Sam Marcum as evangelist. We continued there for three weeks, beginning Nov. 9th, and closing Nov. 29th. If ever a preacher preached the Word of God, Bro. Marcum did; and the power of God was manifested in the service at different times. During the three weeks, there ten (10) souls were saved, and much other good accomplished, for which we are thankful.

On Sunday afternoon before closing that night, we all went to the water, about ten miles south at a small place called Starfield, and had a wonderful baptizing. There were four that felt their need of going down into the

watery grave as their Lord did.

The meeting closed that night, with good interest and four conversions, and a shouting service. We hated to close, but felt led to do so, as plans were arranged for us to be in N. E. Missouri, at Sublette church Dec. 8th, for a meeting, where we are now. The meeting is just getting under way. We find a lot of good folk here.

How we do want to be used of God in way that the glory He expects of us will be His. There are so many souls out in sin, that need you and me to pray for them and work for their salvation! Are we doing it? Are we improving the time that God gives us? Think, we only live this life once, and here is where we make the preparation for the hereafter! Are we trying to do all we can to lead poor lost souls to Christ? If you study your Bible, you probably will agree with me, that Christ is coming after His own. As a bridegroom comes for the one he loves, so Christ is coming for His bride, the church, which is prepared to meet Him, all dressed and ready for the wedding. Let us praise the Lord, and labor while we wait for His coming, that we may be in that number that will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:16-17).

I humbly ask the prayers of you all.
—Eld. Kenneth Turner.

STATE SANATORIUM

Booneville, Ark., Sept. 8, 1935.

The Lord said to His disciples, "Ye

are the light of the world; a city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."

To be a Christian is to be Christ-like. This means to be a Christian every day, not just on Sunday.

There are several reasons why we should be Christians. One reason is, because God gave His Son for us. Another reason is, to keep from going to hell. Another is, that God needs you and me in His service.

The Lord doesn't want us to sit and do nothing, He wants us to work and to be of help to some one.

Jesus compares Christian folks to a city that is set on a hill.

The unsaved know just how Christians are living. Why? Because we are the light of the world; our light shines forth by our daily walk, talk, and actions. God gets the glory if our light shines. There are many ways we can dim our light. The Devil wants our light to become dim. We can dim our light by the way we conduct ourselves, by the way we dress, by breaking the Sabbath day and by the company we keep.

Some of the unsaved will say they want to have a good time while they are young; and when they get old, they want to be a Christian.

There is far more pleasure in a young life that is spent to glorify God than in one that is spent in sin.

May God help us Christians to let our light shine out brightly.

—Mrs. Cecil Garrison.

OBITUARIES

DEARMORE—Mrs. Ada Baze, nee Dearmore, was born in Montague Co., Texas, May 13, 1884. She was united in marriage to Eld. W. E. Dearmore December 28, 1900. To this union were born eight children: Henry, James, Frankie, and Mildred, all of which preceded her to the Glory world.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, Eld. W. E. Dearmore, Mrs. Ethel Simmons of Tribbey, Okla., Mrs. Grace Bailey of Wanette, Okla., Mrs. Floydette Works of Wanette, and Joy Dearmore, all of which were present when she passed away.

She professed a hope in Christ when only a child and has been a lifelong member of the Free Will Baptist church. Her family and friends knew her as a devoted and devout wife and mother.

*While not a giant in mortal strength,
Or known in world affairs,
She held the highest mortal rank,
In what she left to bless her heirs.*

*'Twas not the coffers filled with gold,
Nor lands of royal estate;
But Mother's love that fills a soul.
Her prayers to keep them straight.*

This was a sad but glorious hour for us who knew Sister Dearmore. She had been in poor health for years and now, when we behold her in her flower laden casket, so calm and composed in her eternal rest; we cannot help sending a hearty praise heaven-

ward for this little soldier who fought side by side with her husband, a minister for almost thirty-six years.

Funeral was conducted by Elder E. A. O'Donnell of McCloud, Okla.

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

We, the Ministers' Meeting of the Kanawha Quarterly Meeting in session at Ruth Free Will Baptist church, at Ruth, W. Va., Mar. 27, 1936, Resolved,

That whereas God in His great wisdom, has seen fit to call from our midst our esteemed and dearly beloved Brother, Rev. S. F. Wills..

Resolved, That we record our loss, but bow to the divine will of God, knowing that our our loss is his great gain. He set an example of great service that was inspiring to all.

*Peacefully in his silent slumber,
Peacefully in his grave so low.
Thou no more will join our number,
Here below.*

*Thou no more our songs will sing,
Nor the precious Word will bring.*

Resolved, That we extend to his bereaved family our deep sorrow and sympathy, in this their great loss.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be filed in our Conference ledger and a copy be sent to the family.

W. C. COMER,
MCKINLEY TRAIL,
JAMES E. COOPER.

BENNETT—Perry F. Bennett was born February 16, 1875, and died November 25, 1936, at the age of 60 years, nine months and nine days.

He was converted at the age of 19 years. On September 9, 1906, three years later, he was ordained to the Ministry of the Antioch Baptist church.

He was married in 1902 to Frankie Poundon. His second marriage was to Mrs. Bessie Warren, Jan. 24, 1923.

During his ministry, besides the churches in this country that he pastored, are Fremont, Mo.; Lesterville, Mo.; Black, Mo.; Pilot Knob, Mo.; Elgin, Letitia and Apache, Oklahoma.

During his ministry he has had something near 1,500 conversions. We do not have the exact number of funerals he has preached, but in the last 13 years, he has preached 126 funerals and married 76 couples.

Rev. Bennett had been in ill health for several years and taking treatment, improving at times and then relapsing; when he got better, he would resume preaching and work and would soon have to retire. This disposition showed that he wanted to do something good while traveling the rough roads of life. We sometimes hear the expression with reference to a certain man, usually when he passes over the river of life, that he was a good man or a useful man. We can apply both of these praiseworthy sayings to Mr. Bennett. He stood for what he believed to be right, but was not offensive to those he opposed or those who held different views.

Besides his wife, he is survived by four brothers, John and Willie of McAlister, Okla., Litt of Fletcher, Okla. and Henry of Alton, Mo.; also three sisters, Mrs. Nora Bridges and Mrs. Linnie Bailey of Patche, Okla. and Mrs. Cora Lewis of Alton. He was preceded in death by six brothers and sisters, his father and mother.

Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Hunt of Alton at the Baptist church. Burial at Bailey cemetery.

CORRECT DOCTRINE— RIGHT LIVING

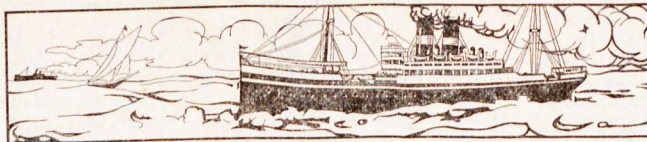
Contributed by Aunt Lina Claxton

"When I linger at life's cross-roads,
Wond'ring how to choose my way,
Clear above the world's confusion,
I could hear the Master say:
'Follow me in pathway lowly,
Where the needy wait for thee,
He who gives his life in service,
Finds abundant life in me.'
Oft I claim the precious promise,
When the road seems long and drear,
When temptations come to lure me,
When beset by doubt and fear:
For the voice of Jesus cheers me,
Whatsoever my need may be,
He who walks the road of service,
Walks in fellowship with me."

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT



ELD. T. H. WILLEY,
OUR MISSIONARY TO
SOUTH AMERICA,
CRISTOBAL, PANAMA, C. Z.



The Regions Beyond



ELD. WINFORD DAVIS,
SEC. FOREIGN MISSIONS,
WESTERN ASSOCIATION,
MONETT, MISSOURI.

Our Missionary Program

By Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

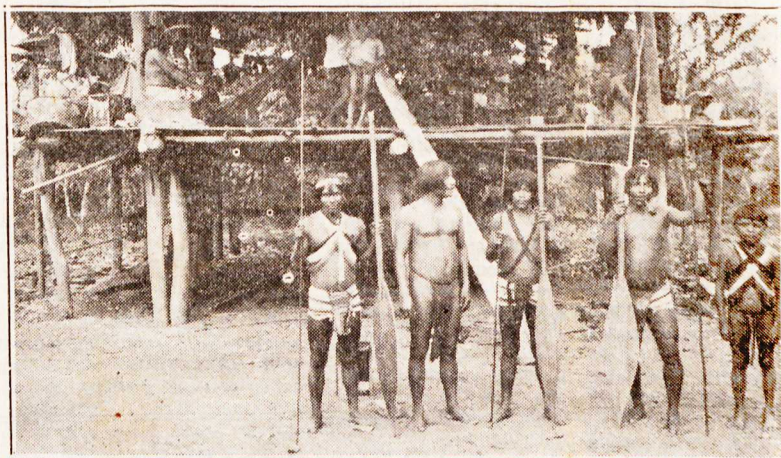
This picture was sent in by Bro. Willey, that our people might get an idea of the people to whom he plans to take the Gospel. These Indians have never heard the Gospel, simply because it has not been taken to them. "How shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent?" They will hear if they but have an opportunity. Many of our people in the home land have ears to hear, but hear not. These natives of San Blass will hear. It is virgin soil, so to speak. Their faith will be a simple, grasping, unmixt faith. They are not like a lot of our Gospel hardened sceptics of the home land. Though they are savages, yet their spiritual nature and instinct will respond to the preaching and teaching of Christ. That peculiar trait is found in all mankind, regardless of race or color. You can have a vital part in getting the Gospel to them. Though you may not be called to go, you can pray and give of your means to help send them who are called, and are ready to give their all to this great service. Surely if there are those who are willing to go, and contact these, and encounter the dangers and unpleasant things which are so numerous on the mission fields; I say, if they are willing to go, then surely we should be willing to stand behind them. As we have heard Bro. Willey express it: "If I will go down, then will you hold the ropes?"

Following are some paragraphs from a letter recently received from Sister Willey, which news she asked us to impart to the Gem readers. The letter was received a little too late for the December issue:

"Mr. Willey started Dec. 1st for his trip into Colombia, S. A., he is on the way now. During the third week of this month he returns to Panama. Going down into the Sambu Country of southern Panama, he will be going

right into the jungle, traveling a great deal by canoe. But there are many tribes of Indians untouched by the Gospel there; so Christmas will find him witnessing to those who have never heard of Christmas, and have not known there was a Savior born among men and for all people. He said in one letter that the joy of this made the separation from his family much easier. Yes, it is truly a privilege. He will complete that trip about the middle of January, then head homeward.—He is completing the work sooner than expected, but the Lord has so gone ahead and opened the doors with such real success that he is able to return sooner. He wants us to be back on the field by July. He preached last Sunday night at a church in Balboa, and when he gave the altar call, forty of the church members went up for prayer. He said it was a precious time. God has given him real friends who will be a great help in establishing a work. He does need definite prayer during this month, its a call for prayer.

"You can be getting in mind a tour for Mr. Willey in the West. I'm afraid



he wont have long to stay anywhere, but you may write Bro. Blackwelder and get some line up. Bro Phinney is going to plan one for Texas. Mr. Willey has a moving picture camera, so I'm sure the messages will be doubly interesting. If I can be of further help, let me know."

I have just had word from our National Secretary, stating that money is coming in splendidly now for our Foreign Mission work. Our people are waking up; we hope and pray how soon many more will wake up.

I will make my report again as I did last month. But before I give the report, I wish to make a little explanation. You see I received considerable amount of money for the missionary program back during the late summer of 1936, which was before I was elected Secretary. So I didn't report that as I didn't receive it officially. Folks just sent it in to me for convenience, I suppose, and I took it and sent it in just to help the cause. In all it amounted to \$111.50. But the reports I am giving in the Gem are of the amounts received since I was elected Secretary at the State

meeting at Macedonia in October.
 Now for the report, taking up where I left off last month, which was Nov. 12th, down to the present date:
 Noel Turner, Greentop, Mo. \$2.50
 Paul Adams, Arcadia, Ks. 1.00
 Olan Lincoln, Sec. Mission Board,
 Southeast Mo. 24.00
 R. C. Talbott, Liberal, Mo. 1.00
 Tulsa First Ch., Tulsa, Okla. ... 5.10
 Esther Apple, Aurora, Mo. 4.00
 Lena Hamby, Aurora, Mo. 2.00

Albertis Riddle, Aurora, Mo. ... 2.00
 Merl's Chapel Sunday School, paid
 by Myrtle Black 1.10
 Northeast Mo. churches, paid by
 Cassie Kelsey, Greentop, Mo. ... 15.00
 Virginia Wilks, Aurora, Mo. ... 1.50
 Catherine Apple, Aurora, Mo. ... 2.00
 Clarence Pierce, Aurora, Mo. ... 1.00
 Aurora S. S., Aurora, Mo. 2.10
 Jones Chapel Ch., Stella, Mo. ... 2.00
 Union Third Fork Church,
 Stewartsville, Mo. 8.00
 Gail Andrews, Liberal, Mo. 1.00
 Violet Andrews, Liberal, Mo. ... 1.00

Free Will Baptist League Reports

STATE LEAGUE OFFICERS

President, Eld. Winford Davis,
 Monett, Mo.
 Vice Pres. Eld. Noel Turner
 Granby, Mo.
 Sec'y-Treasurer, Eld. O. T. Allred,
 Monett, Mo.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ethel Newcomer, Greentop, Mo., 1936
 Damon Dodd, Elvins, Mo., 1937
 Eld. Cecil Campbell, Stella, Mo., 1933

FIELD WORKERS

For N. E. Missouri Association
 Eld. Archie Cooper Stahl, Mo.
 For Cave Springs Association
 Eld. E. E. Winfree Hoxie, Ark.
 For Union Association
 Homer Vandivort, Cabool, Mo. R2
 For Indian Creek Association
 Eld. W. K. Weston Monett, Mo.
 For N. W. Missouri Association
 Chloe Lewis Pattonsburg, Mo.
 For S. E. Missouri Yearly Meeting
 Elmer Stegall, Desloge, Mo.
 Field Worker at Large
 Eld. Richard Talbott, Liberal, Mo., R2

DESLOGE LEAGUE REPORT

By Sylvia Wood, Reporter.

Desloge, Mo., Nov. 30, 1936.

Dear Leaguers:

Another month of League work has gone into history. Our leaguers are still on the firing line—working and studying as we are commanded to do in 2 Timothy 2:15.

We have had six new workers added to our League this month, for which we are thankful.

The reports of the various leagues over the state are enjoyed very much.

We ask an interest in each of your prayers, that we may ever press onward in the battle for the Master.

REPORT OF UNION ASSOCIATION LEAGUE RALLY

Again we all went home rejoicing and thanking God for the wonderful day's services, which were held with Brushy Knob League, Sunday, December 12, 1936.

The services were called to order by singing, followed by prayer by Katy Conrow, after which the Vice President, Rolla Allen, called for the Introductory sermon, which was de-

livered by Eld. O. L. Allen. Scripture reading was Psalms 19th chapter. Text, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," (Prov. 1:7). Bro. Allen delivered a wonderful message, associating his text with the League Motto.

The afternoon service was called to order by the Vice President. Singing followed by Scripture reading, Matt. 2:1-15. Prayer by Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.

A short business session was held. The letters from the different leagues were read and approved. The following delegates and officers were present: Benjamin Scott, O. L. Allen, Bob Smart, Curtis Redding, Leona and Violet Ellis, William Lee Arthur, Glenn Sell, Agnes Scott, Herschel Halliburton, Homer Vandivort, Clifford Cain, Valen Johns, Katy Conrow, Anna Weatherman, Nora and Vera Parker, Mrs. Dudley, Freda Sell, Jack Canada, Effie Barker, Wynona Cain, Geo. Scott, Jr., Ruel Parker, George Cox and L. J. Gearing.

Oak Grove No. 2 requested and was

granted the next rally.

Eld. Herbert Vandivort was elected as president of the next meeting.

Homer Vandivort was elected as vice president.

Eld. Geo. Cox was elected to preach for the morning services, Vearl Tate alternate.

After the business session, one of the best programs ever given at our rallies, was enjoyed by all. All four leagues were well represented and contributed much to the making of the day an enjoyable one in the service of God.

After short talks were given by some of the ministers, we were dismissed by Adam Scott.

With greater determination to work more earnestly in our League work, we are looking forward to the second Sunday in March, when we will meet at Oak Grove.

Rolla Allen, Chairman,
 Mary Scott, Secretary.

MONETT LEAGUE REPORT

By Mrs. Bertha Hunt, President

Our league is doing a wonderful work. Have extra large attendance for our church.

The league is divided into three groups:

The Junior, sponsored by Mrs. Mahue, has around 30 members.

The Intermediate, sponsored by Mrs. Timmons, has ten members.

The Seniors has about 40 members, with about 35 active.

Our aim is for each to tell their parts and not read them.

On the last Sunday in November, there were 71 present in our leagues.

Pray that we may accomplish a great work in our league, and train real church workers through the league work.

Bearing the Marks of the Master

By Eld. Myrtle Black, Cassville, Mo.

Text: "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13).

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, and all who read our wonderful little Gem Paper: While I was writing out this text this morning, I just wondered how many of you, who read this month's issue of the Gem, are living the Christ-type of life, that the world will know that you have "been with Jesus." And I am curious to know, also, if there are any who read this article that do not believe in the old-time heart-felt salvation. If so, I want to call your attention to this fact, or ask you this question: Do you bear the type-mark of the Master enough, that the world can see that you have been with Jesus? Are you filled with the Holy Ghost, as Peter and John were, that you can speak with the boldness, that is, the

freedom of thought and freedom of speech which was the distinguishing mark of these two men, and of the Master with whom they had been for three years?

Ah, I am afraid not! For if you haven't got the heart-felt kind of salvation, you haven't any connection with that "Spirit which searcheth all things; yea, the deep things of God" (1 Cor. 2:10).

In the chapter where our text is found, we find Peter and John in the hands of some who didn't seem to approve of their (Peter and John's) teaching through Jesus. Verse 2 says, "Being grieved, that they taught the people," etc. Verse 7—"And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?"

Here we see these two men in the same predicament we find ourselves sometimes. But oh, what if we did not have the promise of the Holy Spirit in such times of need!

Luke 12:11—"And when they bring

you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say."

Verse 12—"For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say."

Now read Acts 4:8-12.

Now Peter and John surely must have had the old time salvation: for they had received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; for they knew the things that are freely given to us of God (1 Cor. 2:12). Verse 13—"Which things also they spake, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth."

Now, when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled—they didn't have that Spirit which is of God, and didn't know anything about the "deep things of God," which the Holy Ghost teacheth.

Peter and John were unlearned and ignorant men; that is, uneducated, or they were not men of letters. Their accusers were lettered or educated men. Now, what we mean by letters is what other men have thought and put into letters. Letters simply preserve thought. So these apostles were thinkers and not scholars. Jesus was not a scholar. He was a thinker.

So, on this occasion they bore the characteristic marks of their loving Master, by their pureness of thought and expression, or liberty of speech.

There is another mark of the Master that came out in the disciples; that is, their *sympathy*. Jesus had "compassion" on the multitudes.

Heb. 4:15—"For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities." The remarkable thing about Christ is, that He helped men. Therefore, the type-mark of His disciples is "Christian help." Peter said to the lame man sitting at the gate called Beautiful, asking alms: "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee" (Acts 3:6).

Another mark of the Lord Jesus that we notice in the lives of these two men is, that of *prayer*. They had come from a place of prayer when they helped the lame man, and they were going to a place of prayer.

Acts 4:23, 24—"And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord..."

Prayer is the mark of Christianity; no man can be a Christian and not pray. The Master was a man of prayer.

Some one has said, "Prayer is knowing God." Then if you would be a free thinker, *pray*. God is the author of thought. He is the giver of speech. And He is the author of sympathy. So if you would sympathize correctly, you must know God.

Do we bear all these and more characteristic marks of Him whom we profess to know? When men see you, do they think of your Master?

Does the world take knowledge of you, that you have been with Jesus? Can you, like Paul, say, "I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus?"

Dear Gem friends, this is all I am going to say on this subject, but I do want you to know how I enjoy all the wonderful articles submitted by each and every one of you who have written, especially do I want to mention the many wonderful articles in the December issue. I am truly thankful to God for the dear young folks who wrote such beautiful Christmas articles. It proves that we have some leaguers bearing the marks of the Master; being free thinkers or deep thinkers.

GREENTOP, MO., Dec. 22, 1936.

Dear Gem Family, Greetings in Jesus Dear Name:

It has been months since I have written to you, but I sure have been enjoying the good letters from the brothers and sisters, which are scattered abroad.

When at our State Association, we meet many whom we enjoy visiting with, then just when we begin to get acquainted, the Association is over and we start in all directions to our homes; then just here is where the Gem comes in so well, and should be in every F. W. Baptist home. Perhaps we don't appreciate our *good, big Gem paper* as we should. I think it is fine to broadcast over the radio, or to talk over the telephone, and we, too, enjoy a letter occasionally, but, listen brethren, none of these is like a good sermon or friendly chat thru the Gem. Here we are in Northeast Missouri, and in one day's mail we receive letters from brothers and sisters in Kentucky, Virginia, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, yes, and from South America, and perhaps from other places; and I can sit down and read all these letters. Where? At home. Why, you are quite a busy man, are you not? Yes, but you know I have about eight hundred brothers and sisters who receive copies of these letters, as you do. Say, but that is a big family! Yes, but it is still increasing. But you say, "Well, well, I just can't understand how you all can receive letters alike and about the same time, and from the same people." Oh, you don't? Well, that is easy. How? Through the Gem.

Come on, brothers and sisters, let us start the New Year by sending in our renewals and new subscriptions and keep the Gem family growing. Well, so much for the Gem and its good editor and wife.

Just here we want to try and tell you all how much we enjoyed the revival meeting. We tried to assist Bro. Kenneth Turner last month at his church in Northwest Mo. Ten souls professed faith in Christ. It was a pleasure for wife and I to work with Bro. Turner and his good people.

Then on Dec. 8th, Bro. Kenneth arrived here at Sublette and began a meeting with us, as had been previously arranged, and for thirteen services Bro. Turner preached the Word in its

fulness, which brought about a revival in the church, two week day services the last week.

Eld. Noel Turner and Evangelist, F. C. Zinn, now in a meeting at Stahl, came to be with us on Tuesday for a four hour prayer, praise and preaching service. Elder Zinn brought a soul-stirring message at 11:30, from Gen. 26:18, then Bro. Dauber conducted a praise service in which most all took part.

At 1:30 p. m. Bro. Kenneth Turner brought a very deep and inspiring message, and explained so thoroughly, using a large chart of his own design based on 2 Peter 3:8.

Then on Wednesday, we went to Stahl and a similar service was conducted. Eld. Noel Turner, pastor, was in charge of the song and praise service, then Eld. Kenneth Turner brought a very inspiring message from his chart on Daniel and Rev. Then another song and praise service, after which the writer tried to bring a message from James 1:5. These day services were of much value to our churches.

Wife and I will go to Santa Rosa, Mo. Sunday, Dec. 27th, to begin a meeting at Center Point church near Santa Rosa. We ask that all the Gem family remember us in prayer.

Your humble servant,
Sam H. Marcum.

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Editor, Wife and Gem Readers:

While scanning the pages of the Tulsa Tribune, I chanced upon the following item:

ONE DAY A YEAR

"Editor, The Tribune:

"In east and west and all about men wrangle and fight and curse and shout to satisfy their fleshly lust, forgetting the One who was just; forgetting the lesson of love that He gave and that He came to earth their sinful souls to save; forgetting that in Gethsemane He prayed until morning and bore the Cross amid jeers and scorn. On His brow He wore the crown of thorns and was nailed to the cross on Calvary's hill that He might the prophecy fulfill.

"For man He gave His whole life's span, yet not one day throughout the year is wholly given Him by man.

"Oh, that men might lay arms aside and in His peace and love abide on that one glad day, the day of His birth, and worship Him throughout the earth; not with feasting but with fasting and with humble hearts on bended knee repeat, 'Father, for Thy Son we thank Thee.'"

Miami. OPAL BAKER.

I read it, and liked it. I am glad to know that there are others that feel the same way I do about the way our Lord's birthday is being abused.

So, I am passing this little sermon on to you in the hope that other readers of our Gem may read and perhaps derive some good therefrom. I am also enclosing a little poem which I wrote some ten years ago. The only

remarkable thing about this poem is the fact that I, myself, was steeped in sin at that time, and just a few nights before the thoughts that are in the poem came to me; the good wife and I had attended a card and beer party at a friend's house, and I got to thinking, How much better it would have been if that party had been a prayer meeting or a religious gathering of some kind.

So, some few years later we (the wife and I) did change our parties to religious gatherings. Since that we have seen our little daughter give her life to God. All in all we have been wonderfully blessed, and are a happy family secure in the knowledge that our Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth (Job 19:25).

I am young in the ministry and have much to learn, and need, and desire the prayers of those who know its worth. I am a member of the First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa, and proud of it.

Pray for our church.

Eld. J. H. Prock.

THEME SONG OF THE WICKED

By J. H. Prock, Tulsa, Okla.

We have so many modern dances,
And new Jazz songs galore,
And so much worldly entertainment,
That there's no time for religion any more.

On Monday we must rehearse
That play with all our might,
That we are going to give
At our club banquet Tuesday night.

On Wednesday night the pitch club
meets,
To play for a silver cup,
Which will be awarded the couple,
That keeps the best score up.

On Thursday night our bridge club
plays,
Just think of the cash it takes;
But it isn't really gaming,
For silver is the stakes.

On Friday night is lodge night,
We can't miss that you know,
(When we give that fellow his first
degree,
It will be a regular show.

On Saturday night it's the opera,
We will hear some classy stuff,
But when people say they like it,
We know it is just a bluff.

But on Sunday we sleep late,
And catch up on our sleep,
For we do get tired and worn out,
When we are so busy thru the week.

On Sunday evening it's lonesome,
And the air is fine outside,
And everything is just right
For a nice long joy ride.

So, you see we are so busy
Getting all there is in life,
That we give not a thought
To the finer thing, or to poverty and
strife.

And we are so busy having our fun
And enjoying the worldly side,
That we have forgotten the important
thing,
For us our Savior died.

FROZEN ASSETS

By Eld. O. T. Alfred, Monett, Mo.

When assets in the business world become of no tangible value, or in a state that they cannot be used as a source of income, they are said to be frozen. If allowed to remain in this state, they soon become a liability, instead of an asset. For illustration, many farms that have been rented out as a means of income for their owners the last few years, because of the drought, they have produced no income. But taxes must be paid, insurance and repair bills must be met; and instead of being a source of income, they are an expense.

I am thinking of those in the church who were once a source from which God received glory and honor, but today they are frozen, Christian in name only. Their names may still be on the church roll, but instead of being a help, they are a drag, a dead weight, a burden, some even a disgrace and a reproach to the cause for which Christ shed His life blood; they are living monuments of failure, not failure on God's part, but on the human side. Because man throws up his hands and says, "I can't," doesn't say God's grace is not sufficient, but it does say, that the individual who gives up is a weakling, a lover of his own ways more than of God's ways.

Here are some questions that will help us to locate ourselves:

How many members are there in the church to which you belong?

How many attend the morning services?

How many attend the evening service?

How many attend the mid-week prayer meeting?

How many in the church carry the financial obligations of the church?

How many can really be counted on to do their part when called upon, at home or abroad?

Dear reader, where are you classified? Are you an asset to your church? or are you a dead weight; a frozen asset?

CHRIST IS THE DOOR

By Eld. Cecil Garrison, La Rue, Ark.

"I am the door; by me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture."

Jesus, when He spoke these words, must have been talking to people who knew something about sheep.

Dear brothers and sisters, there is a strait and narrow way that leads to heaven. We find in Luke 13:24 where Jesus said, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate, for many I say unto you shall seek to enter and shall not be able." We find in St. John 10:11 where Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth

his life for the sheep."

Dear friends, Jesus has paid the debt for you and me, He has suffered bled and died on the Cross, that whosoever will might be redeemed back to God.

Now, my friends, are we willing to lay down our lives for Him? We should be, for He said in St. John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend."

Christian people, if Christ is the door, are we then helping lost souls to find the way to Heaven? Ezekiel 18:4 tells us that the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

If the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts, aren't we willing to help some poor lost soul to find the door, that they may be able to enter in at the strait gate, and find pasture for their souls?

There are many ways that we, as Christians, can help the unsaved. We find in Matt. 5:16 that Christ called His disciples the salt of the earth. One of the purposes of salt is to produce thirst. Then, dear people, there should be something about our every day lives that would cause people to thirst for God, and long for our blessed Savior who has done so much for us.

If we will heed the Savior's call, and do His blessed will, there are in store for us many blessings.

In Psalm 1, we find, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season."

May the Lord help us to be a blessing to some one each day as we try to do His blessed will.

MY PLEDGE

Contributed by the Editor

I will not eat a meal where liquor is sold.

I will not purchase soft drinks or ice cream where beer, wine, or any intoxicating drink is sold.

I will not buy groceries at any store where liquor of any kind is sold.

I have always believed that the liquor business is a disreputable, filthy, slimy business. I still believe it is.

I have always felt that the saloon is the most disgraceful place out of hell. I still think it is.

I do not think the saloon is any more respectable because it is operated in drug stores, restaurants, grocery stores, cold drink stands, or in any other place of business.

I do not want my wife and children, nor my friends, to go into saloons to buy ice cream, drugs, groceries, meals, or any other kind of merchandise.

I will not do this either, for if a saloon is not fit for my family to enter, it is no place for me.

I make this pledge because I think it is right to make such a pledge, then keep it.

BOOKS - BOOKLETS

F. W. B. TREATISE

The Treatise of the Faith and Practice, and the Usages of the Free Will Baptist, may be ordered from the Gem office. Every Free Will Baptist should have a copy of our Treatise.

Prices as follows, postpaid: 1 to 4 at..... 25c each
5 to 11 at..... 20c each
12 or more at \$2.00 per doz.
A full hundred for \$15.00

EARTH'S PROPHETIC WEEK

By B. F. Brown

A 50 page book covering the dispensations of the Bible.

If you are interested in knowing your Bible, this book will help you, and you will find it interesting.

1 to 4 books at.... 10c each
5 or more books at 5c each

BLANKS

Ministers' Ordination .. 10c
Ministers' License 10c
Deacons' Ordination 10c

These blanks are 8½x11 inches, suitable for framing.

We also furnish letter forms for letter from a church to a Quarterly Meeting, Association or Yearly Meeting, also from an Association or Yearly Meeting to the State or Western Gen. Association. Prices: 6 for 25c, 12 for 40c.

A BIBLICAL ANALYSIS ON HELL—A Hand Book

treating on the subject in a three-fold way, as a Commentary, a Lexicon, and a Concordance; embracing the cardinal doctrine of an Intermediate State between Death and the Resurrection; and Eternal Torment, with distinctions between Hell and the Grave. Just the book every preacher and Christian worker needs.

Compiled by John B. Rollins
Price, postpaid, ..15c each

THE LIFE STORY

of Eld. EMMET T. VESTAL

One of the best personal testimonies you ever read.

This is the story of a young man from a Christian home, who went out into the world to make his way. He had experience with dishonest men and tricksters; and became a crook, a gambler, a dope fiend, and finally a murderer. He was sent to prison and sentenced to hang; but was pronounced insane and sent to the Insane Asylum. During this time in custody, he was seeking the Lord, and was soundly converted. He was finally fully pardoned by "Ma" Ferguson, and went out preaching the Gospel.

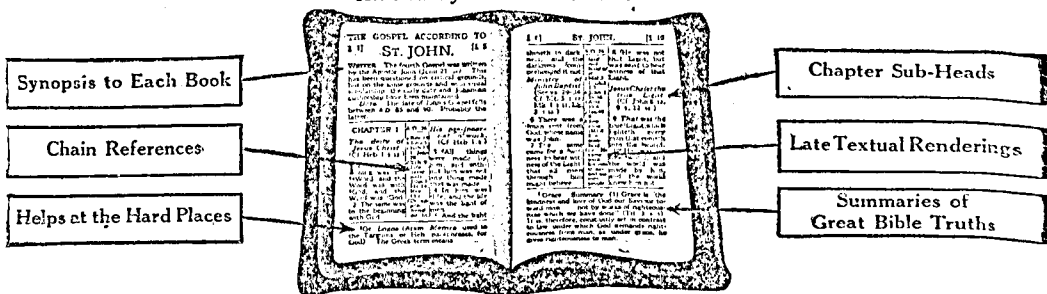
This book has 38 pages, printed on

Helps On the Pages Where Needed

The Scofield Reference Bible

Edited by Rev. C. I. SCOFIELD, D.D.

Assisted by Eminent Scholars



Made in Two Sizes, identically the same,
Page for Page, except for Size of Type.

A BIBLE AND A COMMENTARY COMBINED

HANDY SIZE EDITION 7 x 4½ inches Specimen of type	LARGER SIZE EDITION 8 x 5½ inches Specimen of type
14 And the Word was flesh, and dwelt among us, (1) beheld his glory, the glory as	14 And the Word was flesh, and dwelt among us, beheld his glory, the glory as

	Handy Size No.	Price	Larger Size No.	Price
Cloth	40	\$1.95	90	\$2.75
Superior Cloth	50	2.50	70	3.25
French Morocco, limp	51	5.00	71	6.00
Persian Morocco	53	5.50	73	6.50
Persian Morocco, leather lined to edge, silk sewed	59	7.00	79	8.50
On Oxford India Paper				
French Morocco	53x	7.00	73x	9.00
French Morocco, leather lined to edge, silk sewed	55x	8.00	75x	10.00
Alaska Seal, limp leather lined	58x	8.50	78x	11.00
Antique Calf, basket weave grain, button clasp	56x	9.00		
Persian Morocco, leather lined to edge, silk sewed	59x	9.50	79x	11.50
Real Morocco, calf lined to edge, silk sewed	65x	10.50	85x	12.50
Sealskin, calf lined to edge, silk sewed	68x	13.00	88x	16.50

With Dictionary of Scriptural Proper Names, Oxford Index, Concordance, and Maps				
French Morocco (White Paper)	153	6.50	173	7.50
French Morocco	153x	8.50	173x	10.50
French Morocco, leather lined to edge, silk sewed	155x	9.50	175x	11.50
Antique Calf, basket weave grain, button clasp	156x	10.50		
Persian Morocco, leather lined to edge, silk sewed	159x	11.00	179x	13.00
Morocco, rutland grain, half circuit, Blue or Brown	149x	12.00	189x	14.00
Real Morocco, calf lined to edge, silk sewed	165x	12.00	185x	14.00
Morocco, pebbled grain, half circuit, Blue or Brown	169x	13.00	199x	15.00
Sealskin, calf lined	168x	14.50	188x	18.00
With Cyclopedic Concordance				
French Morocco on White Paper	353	7.00	473	8.00
On Oxford India Paper				
Persian Morocco, leather lined to edge, silk sewed	359x	11.50	479x	13.50
With Helps by Dr. R. A. Torrey	50T	2.75	70T	3.50
On Oxford India Paper				
Real Morocco, calf lined to edge, silk sewed			85xT	13.50

All with overlapping cover, round corners and red under gold edges unless otherwise noted

SEND ORDERS FOR BIBLES TO ELDER B. F. BROWN, PURDY, MO.

good paper, with attractive cover.
Price, postpaid, only 25c per book.
Send orders for any of the above to
B. F. Brown, Purdy, Missouri.

BUTLER - DUNN THEOLOGY

The Butler-Dunn Systematic Theology, the standard book on Free Will Baptist faith and doctrine, is now reprinted, and every minister and Christian worker should have a copy. This is an important book in the SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE, conducted

by Eld. John H. Wolfe. Ministers and Christian workers, wishing to better prepare themselves for Christian work, should have this book, and should take the correspondence course offered by the "School of the Bible."

The book has 476 pages, and is well bound. Price, postpaid, \$2.00

Send orders for the book to
Eld. B. F. Brown, Purdy, Mo.
or to
Eld. John H. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Neb.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Chain references of great Bible doctrines.

Summaries of great Bible truths.

Synopsis to each book of the Bible.

Prophecies harmonized.

Apparent contradictions reconciled.

Revised marginal references.

Bible types explained.

The greater covenants analyzed.

HELPS ON THE PAGES
WHERE NEEDED

"Of inestimable value to the diligent Bible student."

—Moody Monthly.

"A very profitable help in my ministry and I truly believe it contains more useful material than any Bible I have ever had."

Rev. K. E. C.

"Packed with the concentrated results of the world's reverent scholarship, and all of it athrill with spiritual power and with the presence of a living and coming Lord."

—Sunday School Times.

—Sunday School Times.