

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

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50 cents per year.

"The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want."

By the Editor

These are the words of David who not only knew about shepherds, but was himself a shepherd, and David knew what it meant to be a shepherd, and what a shepherd must do, if he would continue in favor with God who appointed shepherds.

God appointed or set up shepherds to act for Him: "And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord" (Jer. 23:4).

Yes, all those who had power and authority as leaders and rulers in Israel, were called and anointed of God to rule for Him. These were shepherds (under shepherds), serving under God as the Great Master Shepherd.

David must have known how miserably many of these shepherds had failed, and the effect of their failure; and he also knew that God never fails, and how pleasant and gratifying it is to be a true shepherd, truly serving as God directs.

But David was a prophet, and the expression, "The Lord is my shepherd," must mean something for us: The Good Shepherd, giving His life for the sheep; the Great Shepherd, raised again from the dead, caring for the sheep; the Chief Shepherd, who shall appear as King of glory to reward the sheep.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Our Lord gave a wonderful discourse on the Good Shepherd, as recorded in the tenth chapter of John, and He said plainly (v. 11), "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." John 3:16 and many other Scriptures show that Christ had to be crucified before the Gentiles could be benefitted for He had to die for the sins of the world. The Jews could have accepted Him as son of David, and been benefitted, for He was their Messiah.

Isaiah, chapter 53, and all the Gospels tell how the Good Shepherd gave His life for the sheep; and Psalm 22 describes the crucifixion and His suffering on the Cross. It was necessary that the Good Shepherd should thus give His life for the sheep: "for all (men) have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Then, if Christ died for all, all were dead (2 Cor. 5:14).

If we would be blessed with life

and immortality, we must be crucified with Him, then be raised up to walk in newness of life. We must be crucified with Christ in this life, if we are to glorify God on earth, then live with Him amid the glories of Heaven (Gal. 2:20). Then let us depart from all that is worldly, and go with Him, bearing His reproach (Heb. 13:13).

THE GREAT SHEPHERD

Now let us consider our Great Shepherd, who has been brought from the dead by the power of God, and is caring for His sheep. David, by the eye of prophecy, saw the Good Shepherd crucified (giving His life for the sheep), as described in Psalm 22. But he saw also the Great Shepherd, raised from the dead and caring for the sheep, as described in Psalm 23. It is this Great Shepherd that David is talking about in Psalm 23; and it is this Great Shepherd that cares for His sheep now, even us: "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters." The same Great Shepherd who now cares for those born of the Spirit, said to John on the Isle of Patmos, "I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore" (Rev. 1:17, 18).

Savior, Like A Shepherd

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.*

*We are Thine: do Thou defend us,
Be the Guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, oh hear us when we pray.*

*Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse and power to free;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
We will early turn to Thee.*

*Early let us seek Thy favor,
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With Thy love our bosoms fill;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.*

Our Lord said (John 8:12), "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

We, who believe in Christ, have a Guide, and the Light to go before, which we must follow. The Great Shepherd gives life to the sheep, so that they also have light that comes through Him. This light does not come to them that trust in scientific or historical knowledge, but to them that trust in the Word of God.

Jesus said (Matt. 28:18), "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." So He bade His disciples to go and "teach all nations," and He promised, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." This promise is unto us, and to whosoever will surrender to Him, willing to go for Him wherever He may lead or direct. In His light we shall see light, and in His power we shall have power for every task He would have us perform.

THE CHIEF SHEPHERD

"And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (1 Peter 5:4). Just how wonderful and glorious this crown of glory will be, we are not now able to say, but it will be so glorious that we must be glorified to behold it. We can all have this crown of glory which the Chief Shepherd shall give to His faithful ones. But we must be faithful, walk and work as the Lord leads, and keep ourselves unspotted from the world, if we are to receive this glorious crown.

We should let the words of the Apostle Paul encourage us to faithful earnest endeavor as we wait for the coming of our Chief Shepherd: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Tim. 4:7, 8).

Isaiah, looking beyond the captivities, and even beyond this Dispensation of Grace, beheld this Chief Shepherd, and said, "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead them that are with young" (Isaiah 40:11).

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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.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST
SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS

By Leonard Earl Harris, B. A., M. Mu.

It just occurred to me, I have never taken the opportunity to express the pleasure and privilege it has been working with the Free Will Baptist Scholarship Students. Truthfully, they are the most deliberately assiduous, scrupulous, and reliable students one could find anywhere, dependable at all times to come in with a good assignment. Most of them are located in the same apartment house: Each has a new piano in his own apartment affording practice periods at their own convenience. My vocabulary would seem entirely inadequate if I attempted to describe how much they are enjoying their stay in the city of Chicago. Those who have attended college elsewhere say there is no comparison and that they never realized going to college could be such a pleasure. To be instrumental in helping worthy students whom I believe will prove so beneficial to our denomination is indeed a real joy. I say this chiefly because our form of Christian worship is so extremely handicapped due to the inability of our members to lead in the church song and praise service, that I feel sure your cogitation of this fact will bear me up in saying that our musical activity programs in general will antagonize even the most magnanimous efforts in that direction. Music as you know is a direct parallel to preaching and in my estimation is co-equal in every respect. If we ever hope to counteract this great insufficiency both musically and educationally a national Free Will Baptist curricula is absolutely imperative. Most of the students are attending services at the Moody Memorial Church, a place of great power and firm religious environment, under the pastorate of Dr. H. A. Ironside.

Each student is in school from five to six days per week, and inasmuch as they are working toward a degree in music most of their subjects have to do with music in some form or other. However, there are required courses in education, such as educational psychology, English grammar, literature, composition, and languages. The Appreciation and Student's Repertoire Classes are always exceedingly and overwhelmingly enjoyed by all. They work hard from one week to the next and look forward to the next class with great impetuous and enthusiastic anticipation.

I am taking three of the students on a concert tour during the month of July through Tennessee, Ohio, Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, and the Carolinas. If there is a church, or churches, particularly interested in having the group visit them and give a sacred concert we would be glad to hear from you soon, and if it is not too far out of our reach from the trip we intend to make we will be happy to oblige you in stopping over for a day to visit your community and to meet and acquaint ourselves with as many of the good Free Will Baptist people as we can. Remember, there is no charge for our program.

Aside from Miss Faye Barnett of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who was accepted and for reasons never expressed to me had to decline the students are as follows: Margaret Pike, Kenly, N. C.; Audrey Lepon, Cincinnati, Ohio; Manning Bishop, Durham, N. C.; Alice Haulman, Pennall, Missouri; Mamie Howard, Dukes, Florida.

The Chicago Conservatory of Music as you probably know is the largest school of its kind in the United States of America and has one of the finest faculty of instructors in the world for its official staff. My friends might be interested in knowing that I am the youngest member of the college faculty and have just recently been placed on the college examining board, the youngest ever to serve that office. The Conservatory's beautiful and spacious studios, reception rooms, lounges, etc. cannot be described. They must be seen to be appreciated.

Only a few of the college instructors are allowed to give or induce free scholarships. Just recently I was informed by the finance department that I could give in scholarship awards any amount up to \$1500. for the coming school year of 1937-38. With this amount at my disposal I have

decided first of all to give some extensions. Unknowingly to the students I am giving each of the following a \$250. extension for next year: Miss Margaret Pike; Miss Mamie Howard; and Mr. Manning Bishop. For the balance I intend to announce in this paper soon the scholarship plan for this year. Please watch for same and be one among the first to write me in response to this very **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

To the many friends who have said and done so many kind and lovely things for me in behalf of the scholarship students, I wish to express my deep and most sincere appreciation. I say this aware of the fact that some very dear friends of the students have been so kind as to send me delicious fruit cakes, homemade candies, etc. for which I am so extremely thankful that words are entirely insufficient to describe a just valuation of my gratitude.

Yours for better music in the House of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
306 South Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill

SOPER, OKLAHOMA

Dear Editor, Wife and Gem Readers:

I still enjoy reading the Gem, and hearing from the field of service everywhere,

It has been some time since I wrote, not because I didn't want to, but many times we are so busy that we don't think we have any time to write. Of course it keeps a person real busy if they have full time pastoral work. Believe me, it keeps me studying to take care of my church work. We have a number of Bible scholars in each of my churches, and we can appreciate what Paul said: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Some say, that if we are called of God to preach, all we have to do is to get up and God will fill our mouth with words to speak; but I find it much different. When it comes to real Bible preaching, a person needs to study to rightly divide the word of truth. I am still doing full time pastoral work, and planning my revival work for the summer months. I helped in seven revivals last year. The revival work was not so great as it has been in the past years, people seem to be harder to reach with the Gospel than ever before in my experience. I am praying that God will give us this year a world wide revival of old time religion in the old time way. The churches where I am pastoring are getting along nicely; they have the vision of obedience and service, believe in building up and not in tearing down what we have. I had a three weeks' vacation just before Christmas, and went to Phoenix and several other places in Arizona, also to Hatch, N. M., and a few other towns. I enjoyed the trip fine, but the majority of the people I met were studying to advance the natural things of life, instead of studying about spiritual things, and the need of getting ready

for the life which is to come or the more abundant life. It is true that we need the natural things of life, but we need to make preparation for the life which is to come. Let us not be weary in well doing. I hope, that since the new year has arrived, we will get a greater vision of the work of God and put forth a greater effort in the field of service for the One that has done so much for us.

I enjoyed the Association work this year, and the great move forward that the Free Will Baptist have begun. I am proud of the great work some of our people are doing, and the many young ministers that are falling into line; God bless all of them. I realize that in just a few more years and my part will be over. I am glad that others are coming on to carry the work on when we older ones will have to leave the field of service.

May the Lord bless the Gem family.

Yours for the cause,

Eld. M. M. McKee.

ARCADIA, KANS.. Jan. 31, 1937

Dear Editor, Wife and Gem Readers:

The roads are so bad today that I couldn't go to church, but that didn't keep me from studying the Word of God, and thinking of the sins in the world of today, with road houses on nearly every road in the country to snare our boys and girls. Some say the world is getting better every day, people are better educated. Well, maybe they are better educated, but they are better educated in sin too. We think of shell-torn Spain; what is the cause of it? Sin! sin on every hand. Why have we had all these droughts and floods? The answer is, SIN! People will come to church, and say they believe in forgiveness, but those same people will go home, back to their offices and places of business with a heavy heart, and forget all about God until the next Sunday; that is, if they don't go to Sunday school the next Sunday. "Oh yes," they say, "the world is getting better." Did we have Sunday shows a few years ago? did we have girls selling beer a few years ago? As we think of the terrible flood, we think of many poor souls having everything swept away, their homes, their stock, some of them even having their loved ones taken. We think of the droughts of the last few years. Well, what can we expect when we plow under crops and destroy the things God has given us? Didn't Jesus tell His disciples to gather up every crumb when He fed the five thousand? I don't want to run this into politics, but if we had given our surplus to the poor and needy, instead of destroying it, I believe God would have blessed us, and we would not have had all these floods and droughts. Some say, "Well, things are different now, we have to forget those old foggy ideas." Yes, things are different, we are forgetting the family altar, forgetting God, but has God forgotten us? No, we are living under the same God, our fathers and grandfathers lived under. Some people say God would

not send anybody to hell. No, He went, but we can send ourselves there.

As long as we go on having Sunday shows and allowing road houses to continue in business, and putting everything else before God, we need not expect anything but hardships. There is a time coming when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess; there shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. Why not give God our hearts now? God is always ready to forgive, yes, 70x7, and that don't mean just 490 times, but He is always ready and willing to forgive us our sins, if we repent.

I will close for this time, asking an interest in your prayers.

—Eld. Boyd Thornton.

BRISTOW, OKLA., Jan. 29, 1937

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

As I sit at the radio listening to the word picture of the terrible flood that is raging in the Ohio valley, my heart goes out to the sufferers there. But friends, our being sorry for them will not help them unless we give them something. (James 2:15)

This great flood should teach each one of us that this world's good is very perishable, and will not do to trust in. No doubt many have lost all their savings, which we all regret, but all of it is not worth the price of one soul. God has told us to lay up treasures in Heaven, where there will be no floods, storms, pestilences, disappointments or tears. When the way grows rough, this is a great consolation to me. Many people perished because there was no one to rescue them. I wonder if there is any one in sin today that's going to perish because of no one to rescue them. As I listened to the radio announcer directing the boats, it reminded me of God as He directs His people and leads them by the great Holy Spirit. No doubt the men driving the boats listened very carefully for directions. I wonder if we too, shouldn't listen and be directed by the Holy Spirit.

Friends, if we do this, we will not make any mistakes. Many people are floundering around on the sea of sin and despair, waiting for some one to speak a kind word and tell them about the refuge which is provided in Christ.

In the time of Noah there was but one boat, it was that one or perish. Today there is but one refuge for our souls, and that is Christ.

We can rescue the lost by the lives we live. Friends, we, as Christians, know that the time is growing short, the fields are white to harvest; let's not sit idly by and let precious souls perish; let's live such godly lives that people will want to be Christians. Let's rescue the perishing.

We are still fighting the Devil here at Tuskegee. The bad weather has cut our crowds some, as we are a long way out in the country.

God has said, "He that endureth to the end, shall be saved."

Pray for us.

Eld. John H. West.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Jan. 19th.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Family:

This is my first attempt at writing to our little paper; so, if I misspell or make some blunders in my English, I hope you will charge it up to the next writer and excuse me.

Now, as I believe I am among the oldest Free Will Baptist ministers in our ranks, I am thinking that perhaps a little of my history might be of interest to some of you dear readers. I was converted and became a member of the Church of God at the Blackjack school house in Stone Co., near the present little town of Crane Mo. It was then Hickory Grove. I was baptized by Eld. John Thomas of Jenkins, Mo., and licensed to preach in February, 1886. I preached in my first revival with Eld. Tempest Bell, at McDowell, Mo. in August, 1887, just 50 years ago this year. McDowell was just a small country village located at the crossing of the Wire road across Flat creek, and I am persuaded that that little village must be some where near the Macedonia church, as there were Free Will Baptist who attended our meeting from a church near by, and they were the first Free Will Baptist I ever saw. However soon after this meeting, together with my young wife, who by-the-way was Miss Eva Woodruff of Galena, Mo., I made temporary residence in Ark. then in Kansas, and finally landed at Alvarado, Texas in 1899. I soon found the Free Will Baptist church, became a member, and was ordained to the Gospel ministry under the charge of Eld. R. A. Roberts. And barring the many hard knocks and heart aches we must endure if we stand true to God, I can look back over it all, and say, "I know in whom I have trusted, and that He is able to keep that which I have committed to Him."

Now, if I am permitted to stay here this year it will be my 74th milestone. And I am planning to make a trip (perhaps my last one) through parts of Oklahoma, Arkansas and Southwest Missouri, and visit all the churches I can get to. The last two years the railroads have given me a free pass and I am planning to travel over the Frisco this year.

Now, I am not a firebrand evangelist, just an old fashioned country preacher; and if any of the brethren who read this are curious enough to invite me to your church for one service, or for ten days, you may write me. I preach by sample, and after you hear the first, you may have as

much as you care to order. In the meantime I would be more than pleased to have a letter from any one who might care to write to me.

When you see my name, if you happen to remember some instance in those early days, just write me about it, and I will answer.

May God's richest blessing be over all the household of faith.

—J. W. Handy.

7940 Sherman Ave., Houston, Texas

LIBERAL, MO., Jan. 17, 1937.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

As I have never written to the Gem before, by the help of the Lord, I wish to say a few things that are on my heart.

Five years ago the Lord saved my soul. From that time on I have tried the best I know how to serve Him.

On February 2, 1936, we answered the call to the ministry. Since that time we have been busy in His service a great deal of the time, and have found it to be a wonderful work. Many times burdensome, many times joyful, nevertheless we love it and know that the Lord has blessed our efforts. We have traveled about a good deal and have met many wonderful people whom we love to work with, because they have old time religion. They believe in the old fashioned altar, old fashioned repentance, old fashioned singing, praying, shouting, crying, preaching, and all these things that make the Christian life worth living.

But we find a sad side of the question; we find sin in the churches. As we think of this, we are made to think of Isaac, over in Gen. 26th chapter, how he digged again the wells of his father Abraham.

Gen. 26:15—"For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father; the Philistians had stopped them and filled them with earth."

Now in this case the Philistians were the enemies, or we might say, Played the Devil's part.

Now let us compare our hearts to those wells. We find that these wells one time were flowing with pure water. But, after being stopped with earth, they became worthless until they were cleaned out, then they became wells of plenty again.

In the latter part of the 18th verse of Gen. 26, "And he called their names by which his father had called them." Why? Because they had become clean and gave pure water again.

Just for a while we might let our hearts be these wells. You know that many hearts at one time have been running full with salvation and the love of God. Then the Devil came along and threw something into that heart, and it became stopped up; and therefore many have lost their joys.

"Oh," we say, "what could it be?" It could be a lot of things. Perhaps if we were to dig right hard we might find some neglect. Many have lost their joy because they have failed to do their duty; some have even backslidden over it.

Perhaps deep down in the well we might find some hatred for our brother or sister. Did you know that in some of our churches the members are so bitter against one another that they wont even shake hands during altar service or speak on week days? Could this one be you? Let's not let it be.

Jesus said in John 15:12, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you." If we would try more of that our neighbors would look lots better to us.

Here are other things that might stop the well. When we dig a little deeper we might find a moving picture theatre or a dance hall. Some, no doubt, could find a beer joint or card table. These are the so called little (no harm) sins, that doom a lot of souls to hell.

Some one may say, "Well, what can a person look to for a good time?" I would say, "Look to Jesus."

On the day of Pentecost people had a wonderful time, but they didn't have it by doing these little (no harm) sins, but they were all of one accord and praying to God in earnest.

Now there is something more that want to mention that might stop the well sometimes, right in the very bottom of our well we find a plug of chewing tobacco or an old cob pipe

"Oh," some one says, "There's no sin in that," or "If I were condemned, I'd sure quit."

Why, even church deacons use it some even spit on the floor while services are going on. More than that, some preachers use it, and the world points a finger of scorn at them, and say, "I'm as good as they are."

Now, we don't say you can't be a Christian and use tobacco, but we do say you could be a far better one if you didn't use it.

Paul said (2 Cor. 7:1), "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, per-

fecting holiness in the fear of God."

Now, dear ones, if we have these in our hearts, let's dig them out; then we can call what we have in our hearts salvation instead of sin, then the joy and love of God will flow free. I believe we would find this a much better world to live in.

We've never read where Christ did any of these things we have mentioned, or did He teach His disciples to do them?

We often hear the expression, that some old people have one foot in the grave: so it is with a lot of church members; they have one and sometimes both feet in the world.

If there is any place where sin should not be, it is in the church.

Now, some who read this, may take me to be an old foggy, as they sometimes say it, but I'm not. I'm just young in age, and young in the Lord, but have found the old time religion is as good for the young as it is for the old, if they live it right.

We are proud of the Free Will Baptist and of all who love the Lord, but we can all, no doubt, do better; so let us try to make our churches bigger and better during the coming year.

Pray for me, for I need your prayers very much.

—Eld. Richard Talbott.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

I am not taking up much space, I only have a request, it is this:

I want every one who reads this, to read Psalm 24. Maybe you have read it many times, but try it again; for you can't overdo the Bible anyway.

Pray for me.

—Lloyd N. Weese.

1049 S. Herbert St., Los Angeles, Calif.

PLATTSBURG, MO., Jan. 8th.

Dear Co-workers in Christ:

We have been working in the Cave Spring Association for over a month. We visited nine churches in the interest of Mission work organization.

We organized a mission at Pleasant Hill church where the Q. M. convened. They gave us time in one of the services of the Q. M. to give a talk on Home and Foreign mission work and the need in our own churches as an organization. An offering was given at the Q. M. for Home mission work.

We also organized a Mission circle at the Myrtle church, with a nice membership.

When we reported last we were

helping in a revival at the Norman church. There were twenty conversions. The Lord blessed in a wonderful way. We stayed in many nice homes and met many fine Christians.

Bro. Harry Beatty and his good wife took us to our appointments and we certainly appreciate their kindness. They are real servants of the Lord. We pray that the Lord will continue to bestow His blessings upon them and their little child.

We had many wonderful services in the different churches while there, and the power of God was felt. Space does not permit us to tell of every service or church visited, but we intend to go back and hold some meetings for those good people, if the Lord is willing.

We came home to spend Christmas and New Year with our parents and sister.

When we got home we heard the good report of souls that were saved at Union Third Fork under Bro. Sam Marcum's preaching. Isn't it wonderful how the Lord can save at different places at the same time?

I'm happy to serve such a God, who does all things "well."

The New Year is here again, and time is fast fleeting away never to be recalled or relived.

Mission workers, work fast, think fast, of how to make the most of your opportunity in winning souls for our Christ.

Pray for us.

Your sister in Christ,

Melba White.

HARTVILLE, MISSOURI

Dear Editor, Wife and Gem Readers:

I am truly glad to say, that I am glad that I am still among the living, and this day, Dec. 15, 1936, is a very beautiful sunny day, with the love of God beaming in my heart for the Christ, the Savior of the world.

It is only nine more days until our Lord's birthday; and what a wonderful day all over the world! There is so much said at this time of the year about giving, and we hear different ones say, "What do you want me to give you?" This is what the dear Lord asks you to give Him, "My son, give me thy heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways" (Prov. 23:26, 27).

"Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart, they also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways" (Ps. 119:2-3).

Well, how many of us really do appreciate the gift that God gave, the most precious gift that could be given?

How was His birthday celebrated? Those that gave Jesus what He asked them to give, their hearts, they talked about the birth of Jesus, they talked about the wise men, and the Mother of Jesus, and sang about Him, they spake about the heavenly choir, that sang, "Peace on earth, good will toward men," they prayed for their enemies, they went to homes that were sad because death had taken their loved ones; they visited the sick, and administered to their needs; they knew of some little children, that were hungry and cold; and they visited them with their supplies, and told them about Jesus, and what a beautiful mansion He is preparing for all them that will give Him their hearts; they went about doing good on His birthday; they haven't forgotten that He said He would come back and gather up His jewels; they know they will see Him, because He said every eye should see Him. I am not able to tell of all the joy that awaits them that give their whole heart to Him. Who gave His life, that they might have life, and have it more abundantly; this is the people that chose Jesus for their Savior.

Then He said, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Then there is another class of folk who said, "Give us Barabbas."

Pilate said unto them, "What shall I do then with Jesus, which is called Christ?"

They all said unto him, "Let him be crucified!"

Oh, how folks took Barabbas in their embrace and held him so close that they lost sight of all that was good in the year 1935!

Very few church houses let their light shine through the windows. Oh, it is so sad to think about folks being out all night, protecting Barabbas, some so drunk they didn't know it was Christmas, some gambling, some at the show, some dancing, some out all night walking in lasciviousness, lust, excess of wine, revellings, banquetting, and abominable idolatries with which Barabbas is well pleased. A large number of them have their names on the church book somewhere: oh, what will be the report of Christmas day, 1936! will it be any better? I fear not. Some mothers and fathers, even grandmothers and grandfathers are holding on to Barabbas.

Jer. 2:19—"Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know, therefore, and see thou hast forsaken the

Lord thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord God of hosts." Now, just think for a moment, if I were to give you a gift at Christmas, or at any time, and paid all I had for it, and you just threw it down and trampled it under foot, showing that you didn't care for it; neither did you regard my feelings; this would bring tears and I would weep, it would be so sad. Does God care how we treat His word and His only begotten Son whom He gave to redeem us from sin? Yes, He cares.

Psa. 55:22—"Cast thy burdens upon the Lord . . . he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

1 Peter 5:7—"Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you."

John 1:1—"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

Paul said, "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Oh, what wonderful gifts He has left us, if we only obey His commandments! Parents often tell their little children, "If you don't be good, and mind what I say, old Santa Claus will not come to see you." A little girl a few days ago said she knew a little boy that old Santa would not go to see. "Why do you think that?" "Because he said bad things, and swore."

Well, after all is said, we should have the spirit of giving and trying to make others happy 365 days in the year.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know my sheep, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand" (John 10:27, 28).

Oh, what a gift: glory to God in the highest!

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and doeth a lie" (Rev. 22:14, 15).

This kind of company would not suit me, here nor elsewhere. You say, "No, no, it would not suit me either."

"My son, give me thy heart." If we will do this, John said, "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

Paul said to Timothy, "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in

them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

I do enjoy reading the Gem paper, it is like getting letters from dear ones. We love especially those who have been in our home. Sister Melba White, I wish I could have been with you at Thayer; I have a very dear daughter living there, also Sister Daisy Raney, I wish the Gem family could hear her sing the "Royal Telephone." There are many others I would like to speak of, but will just say I wish all those who do not take the Gem would send Bro. and Sister Brown 50 cents for the Gem, and then perhaps he could add more pages.

God bless all who read this unworthy servant's letter, and ask God, when you talk to Him, to give me more grace to help in time of need, give me more strength, give me the right exercise of mind, give me clean hands, give me a pure heart, give us all a home in Heaven. As ever,

Aunt Lina Claxton.

KETCHUM, OKLA., Jan. 20, 1937

Dear Gem Readers:

We have closed the books of the old year; let us open the New Year with rejoicing over our success, forget our failures, set our goals high and endeavor by the help of God to reach them. Let's all work to make it a banner year for Christ.

We, the Church of Antioch, Claremore, Oklahoma, have the walls of our church building completed and hope to raise money for the roof and windows soon, then we will have a new church building, of which we will be justly proud. We have no debts, we build as we raise the money to buy materials, which makes us slow, for finances are not so good. But our little group is faithful and loyal.

Our minister, Kelly Mathis, is holding a revival in an adjoining school district, Osage. We are hoping to win new souls for the cause of Christ and thus strengthen the church.

Christ is our example for living a Christian life. Let us lay aside all differences and unite together in our Christian work. Christ prayed that we might all be one. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

Yours in Christ till we meet again,
Miss Ethel McIntosh, Church Clerk,
Eld. Kelley Mathis, Pastor.

PURDY, MO., Jan. 11, 1937.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

If you will allow me space, I will write a few lines hoping to help some one along life's journey.

Dear lost souls, as you drift along the tide of life, do you ever stop to think that Jesus saves?

Did you ever hear Him calling you?

Did you ever have that deep feeling that you are lost and Christ is your only hope?

Life is uncertain and death is sure. Let me warn you that the only way to escape that burning hell is through Jesus; He will save any one that will call upon Him: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matt. 7:7).

Dear reader, do you not know that if prayer was ever needed, it is needed now? So, let us put on the whole armour of faith and walk in that shining path of righteousness, set apart from all evil. Let us all pray that God will lead us safely to the glory land. The Scripture says, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape the things that are to come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." So, let's all pray and let our wants be known unto God. My earnest and sincere desire is that we may all be faithful to Jesus, and walk while we have the light. Pray for me.

A sister in Christ,

Mrs. Delmer Cochran.

HANSEN, IDAHO, Jan. 12, 1937

Dear Brother and Sister Brown and All Readers of the Gem: I will endeavor to write a few lines, as I have intended to do for so long, but neglected it.

I receive the Gem each month and sure enjoy reading the contents of its pages.

Well, as I lie here in bed writing. I am just thanking God, that things are as well with us as they are. I am still striving hard to fight this lingering disease, and am improving, and I give God the glory for it all.

I am in a small T. B. hospital, seven miles from my home, myself and two other lady patients. I have been here a little over two months, and have made a wonderful gain in weight and general improvement. I dislike very much to be away from my little family and our nice little home we built in Hansen last summer, but I know it is best, and they visit me often, and

I am just praying for the day when I can be with them again and be a mother to my dear little children and assist my precious companion in raising them. I have spent almost two years resting; there have been dark hours when it seemed I had just as well give up the fight, but when I'd go to God in prayer, He would brighten up the way and show me I had much to get well for. So I'm still trusting Him for my recovery.

I enjoy so much to read the good letters from our brothers and sisters in the Free Will Baptist family, and to read of the good that is being done, and that our denomination is on the up-build.

We just ask that God's blessings may rest upon all the churches, and especially on our home church, Macedonia, which is pastored by my brother, Rev. Winford Davis.

We have never attended church out here, having never been able physically, but we have a radio here in the hospital, and we hear some good religious services over it. But I have found one don't have to attend church to live a Christian life, although it is grand to be privileged to attend, it just puts us a little nearer to God, but I read my Bible each day and pray and have no desire whatever to turn from God.

Well, we have been having some cold weather, it got to 20 degrees below zero, but the weather has moderated considerably the last two days. We do not have so much snow but guess what we have is here for awhile if the weather remains cold. But we had a beautiful fall and winter up until after Christmas, so we cannot expect summer all winter.

Oh yes, I forgot to tell you our radio here was donated to us by the ladies of the Presbyterian church in Twin Falls, Idaho, for which we are very grateful.

May God bless Brother and Sister Brown and all the Gem readers.

Pray for me and my family.

—Mrs. Opal Frazier.

LIBERAL, MO., Jan. 14, 1937.

Dear Editor:

In reading the Gem, I see where the Free Will Baptist have gone on record for total abstinence. I see by the Gem, that you are still fighting for the cause of abstinence. I heartily endorse this stand.

With so many saloons everywhere one goes, our boys and girls are in danger. And of all things, to legalize the sale of intoxicating liquors

for revenue makes me furious, and our Verdella Free Will Baptist church feels the same way about it.

We have for years made a special day of our Temperance lesson in S. S. and none of our members drink nor use tobacco.

—Mrs. O. T. Fast.

TULSA CHURCH NOTES

Mrs. Evelyn Miller, Reporter

Dear Brother Brown:

Well, here we are again with another report for Tulsa church, even if old Satan did tell us we didn't need to write anything this month, since our pastor is at Monett, Mo. in a great revival—whipping the Devil on all sides, judging from his report just received, of already having 18 conversions in his first week there; we know he must be doing a good job of it. We trust that all you good Missouri and Arkansas people, that live in driving distance of Monett, will go and hear him, especially back him up with your prayers.

So, after looking through my note book, I find that even though our pastor is away in a new field, and the whole congregation here misses his great work and good advice at all times, yet we had a soul-stirring service on Sunday night following his departure, when Sister Pruett preached on "The Promises of God," and 15 young boys and girls came forward and 14 prayed through to victory.

At the eleven o'clock service before Bro. Melvin left for Monett, he was given a love offering of \$21.60. We were so glad that the Lord made it possible for him to get on the air last Tuesday for a 15 minute broadcast, as well as Bro. Rogers and Bro. Alfred. Their message in song and prayer was much enjoyed by all of us here in Tulsa.

Mid-week services have been discontinued here the last two weeks to allow our people to attend the Raymond T. Richie revival, where God is being glorified at every service with great crowds, much power and many coming to the altar and being healed, both in soul and body.

There are many of our members sick, so our Sunday school attendance took another tumble, and with the big snow last week, that has covered Tulsa and surrounding vicinity, making driving dangerous, but those of us that did wade through received a great blessing at both services when we heard messages brought by three of our boy preachers, several young people came to the altar.

The sick committee made ten sick calls and held prayer in five homes, and food was sent to a destitute family since our last report.

Another good service worthy of mention, a few Sunday nights ago, nine or ten men came forward for prayer for the tobacco habit, my dear companion being one of the number, and we earnestly ask an interest in your prayers in their behalf.

HUNTSVILLE, TEX., Jan. 28th.

Dear Gem Readers:

How are you this fine morning? The sun is shining here today and we are so thankful.

Since we last wrote, we have conducted a week's meeting at North Zulch, Texas. Had six conversions and six additions to the church. We were appointed field worker for our Mission work in Texas, and we are working it along with our revival work. But the roads here have been so very bad, that we haven't been able to get to some places.

We are now with our loved ones in Huntsville for a few days; and we want to thank every one that has helped us pray for our dear brother, he was gloriously saved at home about two weeks ago. We have requested prayers for three years for him, far and near; and we thank God that our prayers have been answered.

As soon as the weather permits, we want to visit a number of our churches here in the interest of missions and the young people's work, also Sunday schools.

We are asking every one that reads this to join us in prayer at ten o'clock every morning, for a revival to come to our work in Texas, and not only in Texas, but everywhere throughout our ranks, and if you can't pray at that hour, pray at least once a day, for a real revival to come, that's what it is going to take to get our people to working and lined up on missions, education, Sunday schools and the young people's work.

H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

HANNON CHURCH NOTES

The Hannon Sunday School had the annual meeting for the election of its officers and teachers at the regular Sunday School hour last Sunday.

The personnel of the officials and teachers remains about the same with some changes of teachers of the younger classes.

We are now ready to begin our new year's work with perfect peace and harmony and clear of all indebtedness in all departments of our church work, as is our custom. In the thirty years of our church organization we have always started our new year's work clear of all debts.

Our Sunday School work the past year has been very successful and we are looking forward to better things the coming year.

Every department of our church work is very spiritual and harmonious. We have two Mission circles. The Senior circle is very active looking after the material needs of the church and community. The Junior circle which has been organized recently is working much as a Gospel team, ministers and workers going out into needy fields preaching the Gospel. Each mission holds regular meetings.

The prayer meetings are well attended and are very spiritual.

Our revival conducted by our former pastor, Eld. Winford Davis, was a wonderful success. It was the hard-

est fought battle for the Lord we ever witnessed, as the Satanic power was not only present in spirit; but in the embodiment of men. The church has not only been greatly strengthened by the new workers, but the older members are greatly encouraged and have a greater zeal for the work of the church.

During the past year, as in former years, we have enjoyed the fellowship and hearty co-operation of churches of other denominations which has been a great blessing to us.

With all of our peace and happiness we have had sorrows and disappointments. Death entered our ranks and removed two of our brethren: Brother O. E. Thomas, who had been a member of the church for many years, and Brother Chas. Trotter who was a faithful worker in the Sunday school, especially as teacher of the Intermediates. There was no sacrifice too great for him to make for the boys and girls.

We as a church were greatly disappointed and grieved when Bro. Davis resigned as pastor of the church. He was our pastor for three years and has conducted five revivals for us. He was re-elected at our annual meeting without a dissenting voice of the church. He is a man so universally loved, not only by the people of his own denomination, but by all churches and all who know him. He was grieved to give up the work here, as perfect love always existed between him and the church. He saw the work of a more needy field. While the church was sorry to give him up we know he will be used of God wherever he labors.

At present we are without a pastor but are praying that God will send the right man to labor with us as we are looking forward to a very busy year. Besides our usual activities we will entertain the Mo. State Association of Free Will Baptist next October, which has grown to be a big undertaking. Bro. Davis has had much experience in this work and has promised to come some time next summer and meet in conference with our pastor and the church and help make all necessary plans for the Association.

An invitation is always extended to every one to attend all departments of our church work.

Frankie D. Wade, Church Clerk.

BERKELEY, CALIF., Jan. 21st.
2913 Shattuck Avenue

Dear Gem Readers:

This, 21st day of January, finds me still trusting in my blessed Master, and still enjoying reading the Gem. We missed three copies, but when my family arrived here in Berkeley, they brought the copies I had missed and I have been enjoying reading them very much, it is just like hearing a real message, it is somewhat like being back there, at Aurora.

I haven't found any church here yet, I am sorry to say, that worships in the old fashioned way, there's too much formality, I am afraid, to give real spiritual food. We sure do miss the little church at Aurora, Mo. But I believe the Lord has a reason for

bringing me here. He has blessed me in many ways and I am thankful for that. My wife and family had a safe journey out here to join me. They are here and like it very well, only we are all at a loss as to where to attend church, as yet. We hope the Lord will open the way for a Free Will Baptist church here for us.

We sure miss our friends back in Missouri.

We want you Gem readers to remember us in prayer.

W. H. Riddle and Family.

A SPLENDID REVIVAL AT AURORA, MO.

On Sunday night, January 10th, I closed a five weeks' revival with our church in Aurora, Mo. Twenty-one souls were saved, and the church was wonderfully strengthened. We certainly had some great services. We left the little church in high spirits. I think our church there is now better established than it has ever been.

The following ministers co-operated with us in a wonderful way:

Rev. Efton Blades, Rev. Mrs. Efton Blades, Rev. Will Calton and Rev. Frank Carter. May God bless them for their efforts. The Moark quartet of Blue Eye, Mo. drove the distance of 65 miles to sing for us in two or three different services. They certainly brought the Lord with them. Some of our best services were experienced when they were there.

Our church at Aurora is now out of debt with some money on hand to complete finishing the work on the inside, which work was to be started immediately following the revival. We have always tried to follow the "pay as you build" plan with our work there.

Yours for a greater work in honor of our Christ. —Winford Davis.

YUKON, MO., Jan. 9, 1937.

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

Just a few lines for Jesus.

I have just returned from our Ministers' Conference, and as we decided to put an account of the meeting in the Gem, I will proceed to do my best.

The Ministers' conference of Union Association of Free Will Baptist met with Oak Grove church on Monday night, Jan. 4, 1937, and continued in session until Thursday night, Jan. 7, 1937. The conference was greatly enjoyed by all present and the Spirit of God blessed every service.

Problems that we preachers meet were the order of the day, and many needed, helpful, and lasting thoughts were introduced.

The purpose of this conference is to bring together the ministers of the

Free Will Baptist of Union Association in one great annual meeting, that they may get better acquainted with each other and for the upbuilding of the Free Will Baptist churches, and for the salvation of souls.

We will meet with Mountain Grove church on Monday night after the first Sunday in January, 1938.

We extend a hearty welcome to all ordained and licensed ministers, and especially those that belong to Union Association. Begin now to make arrangements to come. As you preacher brethren read this, I trust and pray that God will permit you to see just how much better this conference would be with your presence, and may you know just how badly we miss you, also what you are missing by not coming.

Let us look together at the condition of our churches and act accordingly.

In conclusion I will ask that you prayerfully read Section 2, entitled Ministers Conferences on pages 46 and 47 in new Treatise

Yours for best interests of Zion,
Eld. L.J. Gearing, Mod., Mt. Grove, Mo.
Eld. Henry Higby, Clerk, Yukon, Mo.

BERKELEY, CALIF., Jan. 21st,

Dear Editor, Wife and Gem Readers:

This is my first attempt to write to our little paper, so I hardly know what to say, nor how to say it; I am just going to let the Lord have His way.

Well, we have been here just five days, but it seems like a life time since I have been to a Free Will Baptist church, though it has only been ten days since I attended church at Aurora, Mo. I went to church at the First Baptist church over in Albany Sunday, and enjoyed the service fine. Rev. Smith, a Missionary from India, was there and made a wonderful talk. Their pastor and his wife seem to be mighty fine people. They have just organized the church and have a nice new stucco church building. Every one was so friendly, like they are back in Missouri. Thank God there is one church that I know of out here that has an altar in the church. They only use it during a certain time of the year or when they have special services, but that is more than most of the churches out here do. They certainly don't believe in this card signing and handshaking any way.

We miss the church and all our friends very much, but we are trusting in God, that He might see fit to send a Free Will Baptist preacher out here to establish a church at Berkeley. Although we had to leave our church and all our dear friends in Missouri to come here; I just thank God that we didn't have to leave God there, but He will be with us anywhere we go, if we will obey Him.

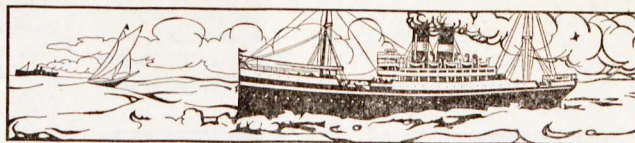
We ask the prayers of all of you, and we will pray for you.

Albertus Riddle.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT



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



The Regions Beyond



E. L. WINFORD DAVIS,
SEC. FOREIGN MISSIONS,
WESTERN ASSOCIATION,
MONETT, MISSOURI.

FOREIGN MISSION EFFORTS

By I. J. Blackwelder, 1115 E. Douglas
Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.

Yes, I confess that I have been rather careless about sending reports of our foreign mission work to our papers, but for two reasons primarily I have not written on this topic recently. In the first place, I have been unusually busy for the last three months, and, in the second place, others have been giving occasional foreign mission articles to our papers, which have supplied our people with most all the important foreign mission information except the financial status of this work. For these articles which others have written I am truly thankful, for they have been interesting and helpful and they also have relieved me of this responsibility, to a great extent, during a very busy time. Finally, however, I am submitting another article concerning our foreign mission work, which is to me, and I trust will be to all who read this report, very gratifying.

Since October the first until today (Jan. 15th), I have received \$1,021.13 for foreign mission work. Though this would seem to be a very small amount to some of those of the larger denominations, it nevertheless represents rapidly increasing interest in foreign missions among Free Will Baptists. As I have said several times before, so I say again, even with greater assurance than ever before, that interest in this great work of giving the Gospel to all the world is increasing more rapidly among our people in general than is their interest in any other one phase of our denominational work. This fact is proven by the efforts that are being put forth by our people in obedience to the Great Commission. As one writer has said, "Money is the acid

test," in foreign mission work as well as in every other phase of the work of the church.

And not only are our people giving of their substance for the support of foreign missions, but they are also encouraging this work by talking it, praying for it, and some are giving and offering their physical lives for it. Miss Barnard, as you know, is laboring among the natives of far-away India; and Bro. Willey who has just returned from a survey tour in Panama, hopes to establish an independent work for our church in a needy field. Moreover, Bro. and Sister Sterl Phinney are offering themselves for work in some foreign field (preferably the field in which Bro. Willey establishes a work). Besides these I understand that there are several others among our young folk who are planning to go to foreign fields as soon as opportunity presents itself. For all of these courageous and sacrificing servants of the Lord we thank Him whose they are and whom they serve, and to them we should pledge our support, material and spiritual, that they may be able to accomplish the tasks to which their Master has called them.

As I indicate above, by the time you receive this message Bro. Willey will have returned to the states and been united with his family in Bryan, Texas, from the field where he has been doing survey work since the first of October, 1936. Between now and the time he hopes to return to the foreign field for the purpose of establishing the mission post toward which we are looking Bro. Willey hopes to contact many of our people in different sections of the country in the interest of this proposed undertaking. He will speak on foreign mission work, particularly on his findings on the field he has surveyed recently, and show screen pictures of the people and of the conditions he found there. In this way Bro. Willey hopes to acquaint us with the needs of the people among whom he expects to work, and

thereby win more of our people to the support of this work.

But for the Free Will Baptist church to establish a mission work of its own in the foreign field will require liberal support from us of the home land. However, if interest in the work and funds increase as rapidly for the next six months as they have during the last six months, the necessary funds will be in hand when the time for the work to begin arrives. At present I have in the Foreign Missions Treasury a balance of \$499.85. Besides this, Bro. Moretz has approximately \$100.00 in the bank on savings which I can obtain at any time by asking for it. Moreover, contributions to this work are coming in splendidly from various sections of the country. And may I urge our people everywhere to continue their contributions, making them as liberal and as often as the Lord would have you make them. And to them who have not been giving to this cause may I say that your help is most earnestly solicited. Your help is needed and you need the blessings that belong to those who support the work of giving the Gospel to the whole world.

Remember that we as a denomination are facing a great opportunity—that of establishing the first independent foreign mission work to be established by Southern Free Will Baptists. Bro. Willey and his family and Bro. and Sister Phinney are longing to reach the foreign field for service there. What are we going to do with this opportunity? I speak what I believe to be the sentiment of many of our people when I say that we are going to send these waiting missionaries to the work for which they have been called, not later than next summer. Moreover, we are going to send others from time to time as the Lord calls them and they become prepared for their work.

.. "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

P. S. Just before this article was ready to be mailed to the press I received a very interesting letter from Miss Barnard. All her letters are very interesting, but this one was more interesting than usual. You are guessing why, and I am going to tell

you: In this letter was a check for \$20.00 (the total amount of our allowance to her for one month) for foreign mission work. Miss Barnard asks that this gift be given to the Willey fund to help promote the work he is undertaking. If a foreign missionary whose allowance is as limited as Miss Barnard's is, can make such a liberal contribution to this work in

another field, what should you and I do? With this gracious gift Miss Barnard has set an unique precedent for Free Will Baptists through our entire denomination. May His sustaining grace keep Miss Barnard in perfect peace while she does His will in India, and may He help us in the home land to imitate this beautiful example of giving.

Report of Mission Secretary

Following is my report of Mission funds received since last report:

Churches of Northeast Mo. Ass'n,	
paid by Cassie Kelsey	\$15.00
Merl's Chapel Sunday School,	
paid by Myrtle Black	1.10
Happy Circle Class of Hazel Creek	
Union Ch., by Ethel Newcomer	2.00
St. Francois Co. Quarterly Meeting,	
paid by Eld. J. F. Miller	18.32
Bro. Willey is now back in the States	
and we are beginning to plan his	

itinerary for the State of Missouri, as he plans to visit the churches again this spring. All the churches in this state that want him for a visit, please let me know at once. But don't slack your giving for this worthy work just because Bro. Willey is back home. He plans to soon return to the mission field, so let's have an ample sum ready for his support when he gets ready to go again.

Yours in Jesus' love,
Winford Davis, Sec'y.

Report of Our Foreign Missionary

Rev. T. H. Willey

American Bible Society, Cristobal, Panama Canal Zone

I just arrived back from the trip into the interior yesterday morning at three o'clock. I left Panama City on a freight boat headed for La Palma at the head of the San Maguel Bay along the west coast of Panama. We arrived in La Palma at about noon the following day, and all that afternoon we sought to find paddlers for the trip down to the mouth of the Sambu river. Finally we found two fellows with a large canoe who were headed for the point of Garachine, which is some distance below the mouth of the river. Leaving La Palma in the afternoon we fought the dangerous undertows of the bay all that night, over fifteen hours paddling in rough water, until we were completely exhausted, and many times we thought we would be carried out to sea. From Garachine, with two fresh men, we started up the Sambu making about 25 miles to the first Indian settlement where we spent the night. The next morning with the leading Indian, a fine looking fellow all decked out with a girdle of beautiful beads and with silver earrings, silver bracelets and face painted beyond recognition, we headed up the river.

The Ghaco Indian is a very picturesque fellow with fine features, and very well developed body. They are unusually friendly. As we paddled along we began to collect a vocabulary and found that this pleased them greatly, and sometimes they went into gales of laughter as we sought to pronounce their language. We found that some expressions carried many meanings. One word will serve to illustrate, "be-ya-boo-ca" means how are you? I am your friend, a good man, thank you. When we greeted them, they would answer, "Be-ya-boo." My companion and I, after living among

them for a week, decided that with a working knowledge of three hundred words one could win their lasting friendship. These people are a noble race. Of all people, the Indian unconquered and untainted by the other races is without a peer.

Kenneth Geubb, the man with whom I corresponded so long, paid a wonderful tribute to the Indian of the interior: "This race refused to lend himself to the purpose of the other races. Indeed when he was sought, he could not be found. The patrons could use his body, the body of a laborer on a vast estate, of which no acre belonged to the Indian, but his soul, his real self was undiscovered. The Indian, at the conquest, retired into the substratum of his being, and there survived. The Mestizo, called out of his racial defence, sold himself for a mess of white man's 'pottage, and profaned his birthright. But not so with the Indian; his retirement among his hills and valleys was the parable of a deeper spiritual retirement, whereby he showed no faith in the conqueror. He gave his tribute but withheld his soul, he gave his labor, but withheld his affection."

We were received among them with every courtesy and, as we gave them small gifts as tokens of our good will, they came with eggs and fruit. The object I had in mind was to reach those who were living more toward the head waters of that river, also to find the most healthful climate beyond the malaria line. As we went further up, the rapids increased so that at times we were compelled to wade and forage the cuerentados. Thus we reached the higher and cooler climate the third day, and as we went we met larger Indians, some of them almost six feet, and with marvelously pro-

portioned bodies, straight and muscular, some with noble faces.

The trip back was quite rapid, taking but a day and a half, not stopping for food: We had to content ourselves with a light breakfast and a good supper. One day our dinner was cooked in a pouring rain; the Indians holding large leaves over the fire to keep it from going out, while I prepared the food. The food we prepared was all new to them, especially dried apples and peaches. The river was the habitat of a large duck which the Indians said they never eat. When I asked them why, they said, "No vale nada." "Pero porque?" "Come pes." They eat fish and are of no value. I proceeded to prove they were very good by shooting two weighing about two pounds each and dressing them. They constituted our Sunday morning breakfast, served in a wash basin, the floor being used for a table, with four of us squatted around eating from the same dish. With a spoon the Indians ate with amazement and pleasure. Before we left they cleaned their guns and carried them with them, saying, "When we return, we shall kill some and eat them."

Arriving at our Indian friend's again, we arranged to stay over night; then before going to bed, having arranged our mosquito nets, we were both possessed with a desire to leave at once. When I voiced my desire, Mr. Cogg my companion said he was thinking of the same; so we called the Indians and outlined our plans, and they were in accord to leave as darkness fell. So we packed and all four paddling through the isles of the jungle, we headed for the dreaded bay. Again we suffered a repetition of the trip down, sometimes fearful that we would be overturned by the force of the waves in that narrow dugout canoe. We would work till we fell exhausted upon the baggage, and sometimes it seemed we were standing absolutely still. Thus we went for hours until the tide in the bay changed and we could see we were making headway. Truly we were led to experience what Paul, the greatest missionary of the early church, went through many times, and we thought of him as we prayed that our God would deliver us from the terror of the waves and give to us strength for the task.

We arrived at La Palma at about noon, and as I tried to walk straight, for I am sure I walked as one drunken after two days without sleep; and the people of the village looked upon us with curiosity. Indeed we must have been a sight with beards grown and we wearied. Both of our lips were covered with sores from sun and wind burn, and we were burned a bright red. Getting food for the Indians first, we waited as they ate, and while we were waiting, we heard a whistle and a boat came around the bend. Asking the name of it, we were informed that it was the Pirira, the boat which we were expecting to come a day later. What greater sample could one expect of Divine solicitude for His own! Here was the answer to our leading to leave Sambu, for had

we stayed another day, we would have missed the boat. Boarding, we went on an island to a jungle town called Real on the Turia Rio, then on to Ya Visa, another day's journey, just as evening was coming on. I sat talking to the Captain, and said to him, "Captain when shall we be in Panama City?" He said, "Wednesday." My answer was, "Captain that will be too late for me to make my boat home for the States, as it leaves the 29th." He said, "We must make the trip up the Rio Congo this time; this is why we came early." While we were yet speaking, another boat blew a blast and around the bend came a launch. I said, "What is this?" He said, "The Sambu, a banana boat, which will be loaded by these who are waiting." Dozens of long dugout canoes were waiting along the banks with cargoes of bananas. The Captain said, "She sails for Panama City tonight." I secured a canoe and called to the Captain of the Sambu, asking if he had room for two passengers. His answer was, "Yes." So we again saw the hand of God leading us. We had but to stand still and see the Lord God at work for us. The trip took two days to return, and we were landed at Balboa at the early morning hour of three o'clock, and on to the Y M C A and a good bed, the first we had slept on in ten days.

What we shall do for these great people remains to be seen. If we shall tap the little used sources of Faith and Sacrifice, they shall have a share in the Glorious Gospel message as we ourselves have. There are naturally many adversaries and difficulties, but just as God sent the two boats in the nick of time, so surely will He give to us an open door to the needy field so near at home, yes at our back door.

BRISTOW, OKLA., Jan. 9, 1937.

Dear Brother Brown:

Mission Circle No. 1 wishes to send in their report. We are still working for the Lord, but we failed to send in our report for some time. They are so large that I just keep putting it off and then it is too late for the press.

We met at Silver City Jan. 1, 1937. We started out the New Year with a good crowd, there being six missions present. We have just one mission that failed to meet with us.

There were many good talks and suggestions for the New Year. After the noon hour Sister Baker led the devotional service, after which Bro. John Bean brought the message, reading the second chapter of James. Text, "Work."

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Kasey until the 7:00 o'clock service.

Our next rally will meet with Olive church the first Friday in February.

Our evening service was opened by singing, and prayer by Bro. Staires.

Sister Fincher gave a reading: "Mission Anniversary."

The following ministers took the stand for short discourses:

Bro. Marchant Matt. 27
Bro. Hall No text announced
Sister Newman Num. 13:30
Solo Izetta Payne
Bro. Tucker St. John 15:5
Quartette Moore Sisters
Reading, "Tithing," Bro. Bean
Bro. Eaton Matt. 22:5
Bro. Staires "Hear ye Him."
Bro. Bean, "Who will roll away the stone?"

Sister Fincher Jer. 21:8
Had special prayer for two who gave their hand for prayer.

Dismissed by song, and prayer by Bro. Hall.

Willa Hallman, Sec.-Treas.

REV. FAYE GEORGE DIES SUDDENLY

Funeral Services for Niangua Minister Held Sunday Afternoon

Death from a heart attack while he was repairing a fence came suddenly Saturday morning to Rev. Faye George,



Rev. Faye George

popular 32-year-old Free Will Baptist minister of Niangua. He collapsed shortly after nine o'clock on the fence line across the road from his home, having a few minutes before borrowed a post maul from his neighbors, the Neals, and begun his work. Rev. and Mrs. Frank Calame, from whom he had borrowed the tool at the Neal home, found him on their way into Niangua a few minutes later, and

carried him to his home.

Funeral services were held at the Free Will Baptist church in Niangua at 2:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon, with the Rev. John Russell of Phillipsburg officiating, assisted by Rev. Selph Jones of Mansfield. Interment took place in the Niangua cemetery under direction of Rainey Funeral Home. Pallbearers were John Mace, Barney Chandler, Gilbert Thomas, E. E. Vestal, Rev. Robert W. Estus and Rev. A. L. Pitchford. The floral offerings were arranged by Glenn Sell Wm. (Pete) Arthur, Hazel Mace, Ima June Williams, Lois Dodson and Ora Thomas. Over a thousand persons attended the funeral, it was estimated.

Herbert Faye George was born June 4, 1904, and died Dec. 26, 1936, at the age of 32 years, six months and 22 days. He was a native of the Amity neighborhood. He attended school in Marsfield and high school in Hartville as well as business college in Springfield. He taught several terms of school.

On Dec. 23, 1927, he married Ora Keesling of his own community. He was converted at Happy Home church in November, 1925, under the ministry of Rev. Russell and united with the church at Amity. He expressed a desire to preach many times; was licensed at Cuba church Dec. 29, 1933, and was ordained a minister at Amity church Dec. 28, 1934. His present circuit consisted of Amity, Black Oak, Macedonia and Niangua, which were growing under his leadership.

Members of the family could assign no reason for the fatal attack. They said he appeared healthy. Weekly sermons and the farm tasks had kept him working continually, however. He had just completed eight full weeks of revival services.

He is survived by his wife, Ora; one daughter, Donna Fay; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert George; two brothers, Hubert Claire and Lavaghan; a sister, Mrs. Winona Cain, and many other relatives.

OBITUARY

Faye George was loved, honored and respected by all who knew him and his friends were many. He felt the urge to preach and remarked on one occasion at Black Oak that he often was "homesick for Heaven," and that he had a desire to depart and be with Christ, but yet his heart's desire was to do the Master's bidding and point "men to the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

In his passing the church has lost a beloved pastor; his fellowman, a true friend; his family, a loving husband and father; and his parents, a dutiful and loving son.

*"Fast as the rolling seasons bring
The hour of fate to those we love.
Each pearl that leaves the broken
string,*

Is set in friendship's crown above.

*As narrow grows the earthly chain,
The circle widens in the sky.
These are our treasures that remain,
But those are stars that beam on
high."*

OBITUARIES

Two of our faithful charter members of our Non church at Non, Okla. have passed on to their reward:

HUDDESTON— Sister Barbery Genetta Huddleston was born Oct. 23, 1845, and departed this life Sept. 23, 1936, age 90 years and eleven months.

She was converted at the age of 17 and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Holicreek, Arkansas. She was baptized by Eld. W. M. Cogins.

Bro. Joe Silas Huddleston was born November 27, 1848, in Howard County, Arkansas, and departed this life Oct. 16, 1936, age 87 years, ten months and 21 days.

He was converted in 1879 and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Holicreek, Arkansas, and was ordained as deacon in the church the same year, at the age of 31 years.

He was married to Miss Barbery Genetta Whisinhunt on Oct. 13, 1869, in Howard County, Arkansas. To this union were born three sons: Rev. Bill Huddleston of Ada, Okla. R5; Sid Huddleston of Ratoon, N. Mex.; Jonce H. Passed away several years ago; five daughters, three of whom preceded him in death: Mary, Fannie and Eller. Those surviving are Mrs. George Ann Dallarhide of Non, Okla. and Mrs. Laura Dodson of Non, Okla.

They have 35 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and 11 great great grandchildren.

Bro. and Sister Huddleston moved to Okla. in 1888 and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Moss, near Ada, Okla., later moving to Non, and uniting with the Non church as charter members. They were faithful Christians until death. They are sadly missed in our church at Non, also in the community. Two of our faithful soldiers have gone home to Heaven—they have laid off the armor and put on the crown. Besides their children they leave a great host of relatives and friends to mourn their passing.

Bro. Huddleston was also a member of the Masonic lodge at Calvin, Okla. and will be sadly missed by his Bro. Masons. The Masons assisted at the funeral service of Bro. Huddleston.

Funeral services were conducted by Eld. M. M. McKee, pastor, in our new church building at Non, Okla.

Funeral services for Sister Huddleston were on Sept. 24, 1936, and for Bro. Huddleston Oct. 17, 1936.

They will be missed by all who knew them, but our loss is Heaven's gain.

Eld. M. M. McKee, Pastor, Soper, Okla.

Motion carried to recognize Mrs. B. F. Brown as Associate Editor of the Free Will Baptist Gem.

Motion carried that the requirements of the law be met relative to increasing the Treasurer's bond.

Motion carried that the entire amount of the proposed \$5,000.00 which shall be raised be used exclusively for the purpose of buying or building and equipping a publishing house. The field superintendent's expenses, cost of receipts, etc. to be raised from others sources.

Motion carried that we endeavor by earnest effort to raise the \$2,500.00 or 50% of the \$5,000.00 by the end of October, 1937, and that the end of October, 1938 be the final date for raising this said amount.

Adjourn at 3:00 o'clock p. m.

	J. F. Miller, Chair.
	B. F. Brown,
	Boyd Thornton,
Joint	Richard Talbott,
	F. C. Zinn.
Committee	John B. Rollins,
	Melba White,
	Tommie Franklin,
	Eunice Miller,
	Winford Davis, Sec.

Following this meeting the State Mission Committee was called in session. This committee was elected at the State Association at Macedonia last fall to compile a Mission Manual for our State Mission work. This said Manual was duly compiled, which includes Constitution and By-Laws, together with all other information that we think will be necessary for the organizing and maintaining our Mission work in the State of Missouri.

Soon as Bro. Brown gets them printed they will be ready for sale.

All members of the Mission Committee were present except Sister Mary Wellbaum. We were very sorry Sister Wellbaum could not be with us. Sister Belva Zinn was chosen to sit in her place. This committee finished its work and adjourned at 1:00 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, Jan. 19th.

	Tommie Franklin,
	Eunice Miller,
Mission	Melba White,
	Belva Zinn,
Committee	Winford Davis,
	B. F. Brown, Sec.

Now, brethren, let's get to pushing our \$5,000.00 campaign at once. Don't say "It can't be done." Let's co-operate with our field superintendent, Bro. Rollins, in this work. You see by the minutes that he was elected to superintend the raising of this money. But let's not wait nor depend altogether on Bro. Rollins, but let's help him by each one of us making ourselves a pusher in the campaign.

Yours for a greater publishing house and a greater Free Will Baptist Gem.
Winford Davis.

Report of the Joint Committee Meeting

Well, our Joint Session of the Publication Committee, the Executive Board and the State Mission Committee was surely a success. Several of the members were not present, but some sent proxies and others were supplied; so we got along fine anyway. I am very sorry that all the members could not be present, but we sincerely hope that the steps taken will meet with your hearty approval.

Eld. John B. Rollins preached at the Flat River church on Monday night, Jan. 18th, and on Tuesday morning the joint committee met for business, and the proceedings are as follows:

On Tuesday morning, Jan. 19, 1937, the State Executive Board and the State Publication Committee met in joint session at the Flat River church, Flat River Missouri.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Eld. Jas. F. Miller. Scripture lesson, Psalm 69, read by Bro. Miller.

Prayer by Eld. Winford Davis.

Eld. Richard Talbott was seated as proxy for Eld. E. T. House; Eld. John B. Rollins was seated as proxy for Eld. O. T. Allred; Eld. Tommie Franklin was seated as proxy for Bro. John Peterson; Eld. Melba White was seated as proxy for Bro. M. H. White; Sister Eunice Miller was seated as proxy for Bro. Frank Mikel; and Eld. F. C. Zinn was seated as proxy for Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.

An explanation as to why we can not reasonably and consistently incorporate as was contemplated, and as

was found by the inner committee of three, composed of Elders B. F. Brown, Winford Davis and O. T. Allred, was given by Eld. B. F. Brown.

Motion carried to accept the explanation or report of the inner committee of three.

Motion carried that we proceed to raise \$5,000.00 for the purpose of buying the equipment, providing a building, and more perfectly equipping our publishing house, the donors' money to become the property of the Missouri State Association when 50% of the said amount is raised. Until then the donors' hold a claim on their donations by a sufficiently worded receipt which they are to be given.

Motion carried that Eld. B. F. Brown proceed to print necessary receipts.

Motion carried to elect a field superintendent to superintend the raising of the above stated amount.

Eld. John B. Rollins was elected. Recessed until afternoon.

Meeting called to order again at 1:20 p. m. by the chairman.

Prayer by Eld. Boyd Thornton.

Scripture lesson, 4th chapter of St. John, read by chairman.

Motion carried to appoint Eld. John B. Rollins as Associate Editor of the Free Will Baptist Gem.

Sowing and Reaping

By A. L. Sapp, Branch, Mo.

"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Mark 4:9).

Jesus had gone out of the city of Capernaum, and was walking on the

shore of the Sea of Galilee. He would escape from the hindrances of enemies and the narrow limits of the city. But multitudes followed Him, and crowded so closely to hear Him, that He stepped into a fishing boat, while the multitudes stood upon the shore. Here Jesus began His new method of teaching by parables, and spoke the first of His recorded parables, that of the sower. Jesus from His boat pulpit saw every kind of hearer upon that tableland, as described in the parable, and, with a clear voice that rang out through the air, called the people to "Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow." Jesus Christ came down from Heaven to sow, and He sowed enough good seed in His sermon on the mount to convert the entire world, if they would hear and obey. Some people's hearts are waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing.

Wayside hearers are those who hear with the outward ear only; and the fowls come immediately and devour the seed—the Word of God, it is all gone in a moment of time. Evil habits have long trampled over sensitive nature, stupefying the intellect, demoralizing the mind and searing the conscience, so that nothing good can take root. Wherever there is a preacher in the pulpit, there are black birds in the pews. The wicked one cannot devour the good seed unless we let him.

Stony ground hearers immediately receive the Word with joy, very little preaching touches their emotions, and they are moved by the tide of worked up enthusiasm, but there is no new life,—no change of character. They put a restraining order on themselves, make a "fair shew in the flesh," and think their old nature is as good as new. It would be very difficult to say how far a man can go in religion, and yet be a child of the Devil. We would all do well to make our calling and election sure. We may all sing the same songs, pray the same prayers, eat at the same table, two be in one bed, one be taken and the other left—"Ye must be born again." The Word of God, received by faith, is the agency by which this new birth from above is wrought—"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God which liveth and abideth forever" (1 Peter 1:23). Simply believing God's word touches the current of power and brings down the blessing of sins forgiven. Stony ground hearers endure but for a time, having a very thin layer of religion, like thin soil, only skin deep; and when the sun of trials and persecutions arise, they shed their profession as quickly as they made it, "immediately."

"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me" (Matt. 15:8).

Thorny ground hearers make a profession of religion and exhibit the outward form of spiritual life; they hear the Word, shake hands with the preacher, join the church upon a profession of faith that Jesus is the Christ, hardly enough to make them tremble

as the devils do. They buy a new Bible, sign a pledge card and talk sweet when at Sunday school. But the soil was infested with thorns which choked the Word, and it bore no fruit—"But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again, and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire" (2 Pet. 2:22).—"No more going to church now; I just have so many cares: my wife and kids want to go fishing on Sunday and stop to see the ball game on our way home, and you know that we have so many cows to milk that we just can't get around in time for church Sunday night. We all like to read the funny paper better than we do the Bible anyway, and we have about concluded that it makes no difference what a fellow believes, just so he does the best he can." A ragged, heartless formalism is all the religion such persons never had—never believed God to the saving of the soul—never born again.

Fruitful hearers—Seed sown on good soil—in good and honest hearts. The apostle wrote to the Thessalonians who had "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God. For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not of the word of men, but as it is in truth the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe" (1 Thess. 2:13).

Not only does the word of God make the believer a new creature in Christ Jesus, but its effects will be made manifest in its fruit—love, joy, peace, etc. every day in the year. The greatest blessing that ever came to man in this world is that of sins forgiven, to be at peace with God, in sweet accord with heaven. Then we should be very careful as to the kind of seed we sow: for like produces like, and the harvest will be manifold more than the seed; sow cards, and reap a gambler; sow little by-words, and reap a curser; sow a drink, and reap a drunkard, and be barred from heaven's gate; sow idle words, and meet them at the Judgment. Oh, how solemn, how true these thoughts are: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Be wise, make sure that you are in the kingdom. Make sure now.

SACRIFICE

He smoked cigars three times a day,
Ten-centers, too, at that;
Then gave a nickel to the church
When the deacon passed the hat.

She gave one cent for mission work,
Then spent ten cents for gum;
Then bowed her head and prayed;
"O Lord, Thy Kingdom come."

They sat at home and wondered why
The church did not succeed;
She chewed her gum and couldn't tell
He, puzzled, smoked his weed.

—Life and Work.

Heaven or Hell, Which?

By Anna Reed, Desloge, Mo.

While meditating on God's Eternal Word,

These questions came to me:
Really, will only few people be saved?
Where will the millions spend Eternity?

Today you're about your vocation of life,

Tomorrow you may never see,
It will pay to consider our destination,
Heaven or Hell, which shall it be?

The narrow way is the safe way,
The broad way is crowded, we plainly see,

Take warning, my friend, "Prepare to meet thy God,"
Heaven or Hell, which shall it be?

Church membership does not mean salvation,

But to God and His will we must bow the knee.

Act quickly, while time is yours, my friend,

Heaven or Hell, which shall it be?

This step must be taken, dear unsaved one,

Before you cross death's turbid sea,
He saves to the uttermost, all who come unto Him,

Heaven or Hell, which shall it be?

We are engaged in a warfare, Eternal life is the issue,

The harder the battle the greater the victory.

Awake to righteousness, put on the Christian Armor,

Heaven or Hell, which shall it be?

Surely Heaven and Hell will be real places,

The duration of both will be equal, you see,

Act wisely, call upon God and be saved,
Heaven and not Hell, may your choice be.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

"Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).

"Today, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts" (Heb. 3:15).

Heaven or Hell, which shall it be?

F. W. B. 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

REPORT OF BLUE EYE LEAGUE

By Mrs. Alice Taylor

I am glad to say that we are still trying to work for the Lord, although it has been some time since we have sent in a report of our work to the Gem.

We do not have so many young people in our church as we once had, some have moved away, others are married and do not come.

We still have three groups in our league.

We feel very fortunate in having our pastor, Bro. Zinn, and his wife move to Blue Eye.

Pray for us, that God will give us an old time revival here at our church.

May God bless and prosper the work.

FLAT RIVER LEAGUE REPORT

By Ruth La Brot, Reporter

We want to say to the rest of the leaguers that we are still in the work trying to press forward. We learn from God's precious word that we are moving forward or backward, that we do not stand still in His great army very long at a time. I could see that we were moving forward for quite a while and did not want to report that we were going backward, so we just didn't report. But I truly believe that we are gaining a little now, the attendance has increased and so has the interest. We have had Brother Richard Talbott with us and he gave a splendid talk to our league last Sunday night.

We now have with us Bro. Winford Davis in a revival meeting and we are praying and trusting that all the services will be a great help to our leaguers. I have been kept at home with the flu for more than a week and have not been able to be in the meeting, but a few nights. I have

been so sorry to miss those wonderful messages that Bro. Davis has been preaching.

May God bless all of our boy preachers, and may we encourage them as we should.

I trust that every Christian and every true leaguer will put forth a strong effort in the work this year, beginning now. May we do our best while we have time and opportunity, realizing that the night will soon come.

We desire an interest in the prayers of every Christian.

REPORT OF AURORA LEAGUE..

By Miss Margaret Apple

While we may have missed sending in a report for last month, we are glad to report our interest is not lagging. We elected new officers for the coming six months as follows:

Miss Lucille Conn President
Miss Esther Apple Vice Pres
Miss Margaret Apple Secretary
Miss Roberta Wilks, Group Captain
Miss Sylvia Conn Quizz Leader
Miss Margaret Apple, Junior Sponsor

As we face the coming months, with all the opportunities which shall be presented, we feel so much our own insufficiency, and feel so dependent on God for power and spiritual force to carry on and meet the perplexing problems which are constantly arising. Pray for us, that God will sustain and bless.

REPORT OF SOUTHEAST MISSOURI LEAGUE ASSOCIATION

By Eld. Damon Dodd, Sec.-Treas.

The Southeast Missouri League Association met with the Desloge league, Desloge, Mo., Jan. 20, at 7:00 p. m. in its 7th annual meeting and its 30th business session.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Sylvia Wood, and the program opened with Reba Jean Speer and Iona Forshee of Desloge league, playing a piano duet. In keeping with our church missionary program, the general theme of our League program was "The Leaguers' Duty to Foreign Missions," and so whole heartedly was the co-operation of those on the program that every number expressed some thought on missions or missionary activities.

We were very happy to have with us in our League convention several of our ministers from other parts of the state and each one present was given an opportunity to speak. Our State president, Bro. Davis, responded with an excellent talk on Leaguers and League Work, especially impressing upon our minds that the training which we, as young people, were receiving now is going to fit us to be the church of tomorrow. Since the league is a training station, we owe it our support.

Bro. Richard Talbott our State Field worker, was invited to speak and he gave one of the most inspiring and interesting talks on our debt to our fathers and mothers, as well as the

older people of our church, who have borne in patience with us younger folk and have set before us examples of good and righteousness, and have so thoughtfully given us opportunities to take active part in all phases of our church work. Bro. Brown, Bro. Zinn and Bro. Thornton also made very helpful and much appreciated remarks for which we thank them.

Four of our leagues: Flat River, Desloge, Leadington and Wortham were represented, and each rendered a number on the program, and the Desloge leaguers presented two plays, viz.: "Things That We Can Do," visualizing the things that children may do for missions, and "The Gift of Life." The latter play showed how a young lady turned down opportunities to enter the business world, political field, educational enterprises and many other alluring vocations and accepted instead the Cross of Jesus, and gave her services as a missionary.

After recitations by Reba Jean Speer and Pauline Dunn an offering was taken for Foreign Missions which amounted to \$3.87.

Numbers by the "Lead Belt Gospel Band" and a missionary reading by Eld. Albert Halbrook completed the program. Bro. John B. Rollins pronounced the benediction and every one went away feeling within their hearts that it was good to have been there.

PAINTSVILLE, KY., Jan. 23rd.

Dear Editor and the Gem Family:

I am always glad to get the Gem and to hear from our good brothers and sisters that give so many good reports from their churches.

I will try to give a little report of my labor for the Lord. I have been preaching almost every night since Dec. 1, 1936. Had a wonderful time in the Lord.

I began a revival at one of my churches, the Rock House church, on Monday night, preached nine days, and had eighteen conversions. Thank the good Lord for ever. I want to thank my good brothers and sisters for their support: Bro. Ervin Rice, Bro. Scott Daniels and Bro. Scott Castle. The Lord did sure hear the prayers of His children, and a mighty power of conviction came upon the people, and men and women went their way to God and He wonderfully blessed their souls. There were eight baptized and 16 addition to the church. We want to thank the good Lord for this church. We have preached for these people for fifteen years and they are always looking for us back. May God bless them and keep them. May God bless all of our preachers everywhere, and give them great power for service.

May God bless our people everywhere. Think of me when you pray.

Eld. Millard F. Vanhooose

Thank you, Bro. Vanhooose for the nice list of subscriptions. —Editor.

A Vivid Description of the Great Flood

By Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

I have had today one of my saddest experiences. Being in a revival at Flat River, Mo., Rev. Miller, his children and I decided to visit the flood district today. It is 130 miles from Flat River. We crossed the Mississippi at Cape Girardeau, Mo., went down to Cairo on the Illinois side.

We saw much flooded land through there. The refugees are housed in box cars. Household goods and stock stationed out on the levee. We got to the edge of Cairo and there the guards stopped us, saying if we went into Cairo we could not get back out as all men were being kept to help work, so we turned back. We were only about a quarter of a mile from the mighty Ohio river.

We went back to Cape Girardeau and went down to Charleston, Mo., on the west side of the river. Let me say here, that the Mississippi at Cape Girardeau was just about ready to go out of its banks. An island in the river just below Cape, of some 600 to 1,000 acres was almost covered.

We went south then to Benton, Mo., then east to Charleston and still farther east to Wyatt, Mo. And here we saw the flood in reality.

It is most pitiful to see the men standing on the levee and showing one their homes away out in the water, just the tops of them appearing above the water, buildings going down, crashing and breaking, people crying for boats to go to their homes to gather what they can of the remaining fragments. One boat left while we were there for a distant place away out in the water to rescue three people standing on a log.

We talked personally with different ones who had homes in the flooded area. One man said his home was lodged against a timber line miles out in the water. We could see the timber line over in Kentucky, about seven miles distant, and water every foot of the way between us and the timber line, of course.

The governor of Missouri flew over in a plane just as we were arriving. The patrolman there got him on his car radio from the plane. We were about six miles southwest of the mouth of the Ohio. The towns of Charleston and Sikeston are literally working with refugees, just having to live in the most terrible conditions—in barns, tents and out buildings of all kinds, box cars, etc. Sickness is increasing fast. The colored folks are killing rabbits and quail by the sack full up and down the levee, which are driven in droves out of the flooded area. A colored boy was coming down by the side of a cotton field, near the levee with a sack of game. The patrolman said, "I bet he has some quail in that sack. If I should start toward him, I bet he would run for dear life. But we sure won't bother them about the quail killing now, if it is out of season." This patrolman was there from northwest Missouri,

another was there from northeast Missouri, and I from southeast Missouri, met them, and we joked about all meeting in southeast Missouri.

About all one can see is refugee trucks, food trucks, ambulances, patrol cars, police guards, etc.

We got just as far toward the Cairo bridge as the law would allow us. Roads are blocked and strictly patrolled. Hurried preparedness was being made to sandbag the levee all along east of Wyatt in case of emergency. A greater rise was expected within 18 hours after we left this afternoon.

One man said he had a wife and five children; said they escaped with a few clothes and bedclothes. One man had 13,000 bushels of corn for which he was recently offered \$1.00 per bushel. He was holding it for \$1.25, and now it is all washed away. One man had managed to go back in a boat and get two coops of his chickens. He had the balance stationed on top of the buildings and was doing his best to get a boat to get them. I noticed that his face was red and feverish, and I said, "Aren't you about sick?" He said, "Yes, I am chilled through." He said he escaped with some of his children, wife, mother and sister.

If one has a heart at all, it will certainly be moved when coming into personal contact with this pitiful situation. Please don't slack your giving in this great emergency.

AURORA MISSION CIRCLE REPORT

Miss Nola Apple, Reporter

It is with thankful hearts that we submit this report of our mission circle to the Gem readers.

We are only a small band of workers with a membership of 30, but God is with us in our efforts to advance the good cause. We realize that, if He the mighty God be with us, the battle tho long and desperate and exhausting as it may be, cannot fail or be lost.

Our officers are as follows:

Miss Virginia Wilks President
Miss Lena Hamby Vice Pres.
Miss Sylvia Conn Sec'y-Treas.
Mrs. Lon Carter Chaplain

Our mission circle has certainly been a great help to each of us. Since our vision has been broadened, "What More Can I Do?" oftentimes many people say, "What can I do? I have no money, I haven't any talents and the things I do are so small that they amount to but little." There is a story we shall relate which may be a help to those who may feel they are incapable of doing anything worth while:

Once a little tallow candle lay in an old drawer with many other candles of the same kind and size. The farmer's wife had made them and they were not well done; so she had given them to a peddler for some thread, and the peddler had sold them to a lighthouse keeper.

One day the owner of the candles

went to the drawer, took out one and started to climb a winding stair into the tower. When the keeper of the lighthouse reached the top of the stair, he lighted the candle, and with it, he lighted the big lantern of the lighthouse. As he blew out the small candle, he said, "The little light made the big one possible. Little things can do great things when they are willing to help."

A candle is a little thing, but very useful. Even though our talents are small, opportunities are about each of us. May we as the little candle be willing to be used, thus making great things possible.

MOUNT VERNON, ILLINOIS 1911 Cherry Avenue

Dear Readers of the Gem:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend to you these able preachers of the Gospel and of the doctrine of the Free Will Baptist, T. E. and Gertrude McCord, who for several years did evangelistic work, and now after pastoring for several years, feel the pull to go back into the open field of labor. They are ready to receive calls for spring and summer at this address.

Lefton Harpool, Pastor of the
First Free Will Baptist Church of
Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

WATCH AND PRAY

Contributed by Mildred Wilkerson

WATCH and pray, the Master saith,

For we do not know the hour
When the Son of Man shall come,
In great glory and all power,
But we do know He is coming,
As a thief in the night.
So be ready, watching, praying,
With your lamps all burning bright.

We do know the earth is groaning
Underneath its load of sin.
The redeemed ones are longing,
For that abundant entrance in.
Oh, the joy when we shall gather
To that wedding in the air;
No more sorrow then, forever,
In that land so bright and fair.

If you have no wedding garments,
You will have nothing to say;
You'll be speechless in that moment,
And you'll long for one more day.
He has left us all a warning,
So that we may ready be;
When at noon or night or morning,
He shall call for you and me.

Oh, dear friend, will you not listen,
As the Spirit speaks to thee;
Telling you it's time to hasten?
Prepare for eternity.
Come, just now, He longs to save you,
Give you joy, and peace untold,
Fill your heart with holy rapture,
And bring you safe within the fold.

BOOKS - BOOKLETS

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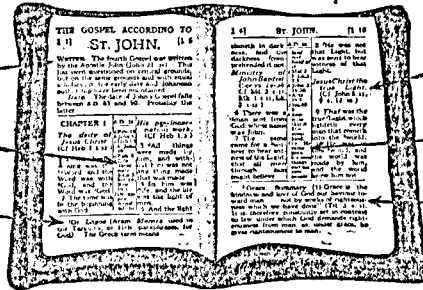
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