

Lucille Maberry R2

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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The Empty Tomb

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM
Organ of
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

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Eld. B. F. Brown Editor
Mrs. B. F. Brown Associate Editor
Eld. John B. Rollins Associate Editor

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TERMS

50 cents per year, cash in advance. Paper will be discontinued when subscription expires.

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

Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

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

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TO THE FREE WILL BAPTIST BROTHERHOOD:

It is the purpose of the National Board of Education to set in motion plans by which we shall be governed in raising funds with which to open and maintain, at least for a period of one year, an accredited Bible Institution centrally located for the best convenience of our people at large. All of us acknowledge the fact that this is a matter of paramount importance, and we believe that this Board was elected with a view of guaranteeing our people that they will be wisely guided in their activities in realizing that which will secure this long dreamed of Institution. As your elected Board, we are pledging, in all the earnestness of our souls, the very best that can be devised through us that you may not be disappointed. Still we acknowledge our dependence upon our people in making this possible.

With firm convictions of this long felt need of this great project, with unfaltering faith in our God and our Board, and with a challenging faith in you we launch forth with the following:

FIRST

That Reverend Selph Jones and Reverend J. R. Davidson be continued as temporary Treasurers to serve in their former positions.

That they keep bonds to secure our people well in excess of funds in hand.

That they make, at least, monthly reports of standing, through their respective church papers.

SECOND

That sub-workers be appointed in states where the Board is not represented, and that each state appointee name as many helpers as deemed advisable to effectively work his respective state.

THIRD

That we continue the appeal for the ten cents per capita for this cause among all of our people, all pastors being urged to see to it that the proposition is fairly, and urgently presented to their membership.

FOURTH

That we call upon our brethren who are in a financial position to do so, to make large donations, in order to hasten our realization. We have many who are able to give \$1,000.00, others \$500.00, while others can give \$400.00 or \$300.00, or maybe less. Give all that the Lord wants you to give and we will be satisfied, but let's be honest and serious about the matter.

FIFTH

We announce May 15 to June 30, 1939 as special campaign period, and urge all of our ministers to open the campaign with a donation of not less than \$1.00; give more if you can. Also that our membership at large be called upon to make the first week of the campaign, Monday, May 15th to Sunday, May 21st, Self-denial week. In that week all that would be spent for luxuries, such as tobaccos, candies, soft drinks, chewing gum, and all forms of pleasure, be set aside for, and added to this educational fund if you must have these things, give as much during that week as you spend foolishly.

SIXTH. As many as can, set aside \$1.00 on the 15th of May and invest for the Lord in the period through June 30th; invest in any legitimate way and as many times as possible, and turn the dollar, with what it has gained, in on the first day of July.

SEVENTH. Our goal shall be to raise not less than \$15,000.00 to be reported at the National Association, which convenes on July eleventh, 1939.

The signature of the board is affixed hereto as an expression of faith in the proposition and as a pledge to faithfulness in every duty devolving upon us.

BOARD—J. R. Davidson, J. R. Bennett, D. Selph Jones, Melvin Bingham, Geo. D. Dunbar.

"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness" (Hab. 2:15)

Temperance

"And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible" (1 Cor. 9:25).

Eph. 5:18—"Be filled with the Spirit: Abstain from all appearance of evil."—1 Thess. 5:22

Prohibition Is Coming Back

By the Editor

Since our government has promoted the liquor business and has actively engaged in said business for more than five years, we can now see the awful results; and all over the nation people are becoming both awake and aroused by this awful corruption that has been ushered in under the name of "Recovery."

Some may not believe it, but Prohibition is on the way back; and the wets admit that something must be done on their part or the drys will win and Prohibition will be back.

Every promise the wets made have failed, government control or regulation is a sham, and people now see that the old serpent is still a serpent, and a change is desired; again we say, PROHIBITION IS COMING BACK.

We want you to read what leading drys say on this subject, so we are quoting a few items from our papers:

Two Bottles Argue

From The National Voice

In the new frigidaire it was cold as ice,
The meat and butter were firm and nice;
The lettuce was crisp, the dressing was cool—
And everything ready for lunch after school.

There stood on the shelf a bottle of beer,
Contented and smiling because he was here.
He snuggled up close to the chill of the ice
And thought his environment royally nice,

When he suddenly spied a bottle of milk.
"Ah! Why are you here? I thought that your ilk
Was abandoned forever when I came along.
It's evident something is now going wrong!"

"Upon what base do you make that claim?"
Said the bottle of milk. "There's someone to blame
That you're allowed to be here at all,
Usurping my place since Adam's fall."

"Majority rules," quoth the bottle of beer;
"By the vote of the people you see me here.
There's not the least doubt that the wets wanted me—
I'm much at my ease in their company.

"But will it surprise you if I tell you this:
That church people dropped their old prejudice
And voted for me by staying at home?
(I'm getting excited—beginning to foam!)

"And thousands of farmers befriended me.
They planted and plowed with haste on the day
That the drys expected their vote
Would keep you still reigning till time remote.
They said they were sorry, but just couldn't stop—
That this was the time to put in their crop.

"I knew very well, and laughed up my sleeve,
That all those dear farmers said that to deceive;
They longed for the beer of 'the good old day'—
And now I assure you I am here to stay!"

"No, no, Mr. Beer, don't be so fast.
The day is not far, wets and drys forecast,
When they'll vote for 'a change,' as before.
The farmers admit and now deplore
Their negligence that checked the use
Of milk and crops. 'Too busy'—poor excuse!

"Next time their vote will be so strong—
E'en now I can hear your farewell song.
You'll have to resign your throne perforce.
The heartless brewers will cry themselves hoarse
When they see me climb up and take your place—
Their revenue gone in the wild-geese chase.

"As the votes are cast they'll begin to feel queer,
And then you'll be scurrying out from here.
Your innards will foam in flippity-flop,
Your label will burst, and your cork will pop.
As we leave you promptly out through the door
'Mid jubilant cries and cheers galore!"

—Ida May Dennison.

The High Cost of Low Politics

From The National Voice

The cost of "sin, shame and sorrow" cannot be computed in dollars. Only God and eternity can count that trinity of human suffering which costs the United States 24 billion dollars per year, or \$666,666,000.00 per day, with crime at the top and religion at the bottom, with nearly thirty times more spent for crime than for religion, and twenty-seven times more gambling, liquor and tobacco. Fifty times more is spent for gambling, liquor, tobacco and crime than for religion in the United States!

How can America expect recovery, under any plan devised by the brain of man, and continue that waste? How can God bestow prosperity upon a nation which spends fifty-seven dollars serving the devil to every dollar spent in serving God? There are billions more spent in the twilight zone of "entertainment," horse racing, dog racing, boxing, movies of questionable character, and the whole gamut of vice and immorality without offensive cataloging which may be covered by "sporting"—billions and billions more upon which we cannot ask the blessing of a holy heavenly Father.

And to all this criminal waste we are now called upon to raise by taxation from a sin-burdened people billions more in preparedness for "insurance against war."

—Clinton N. Howard.

The Shadow

From Christian Herald

"Perhaps Prohibition is the wrong word. We doubt that, at least for many years, we shall again have Prohibition by way of a national amendment. But the country is going dry. In the latest fall elections, twenty-three New York towns voted dry; four Illinois townships voted dry. Eight precincts in Chicago have wiped out booze; since March, 1937, nine Alabama counties have gone dry; more than 1,000 political units in Ohio have voted dry; in a state-wide New Hampshire election many precincts voted to retain their dry status and at least seven wet townships voted out liquor; Maine drys have captured 254 cities, towns and plantations out of 510; Catawba County, North Carolina, has voted against state liquor stores; 114 counties out of 254 in Texas now have local option; in one month, 100 elections were held in Pennsylvania and the drys won 89 of them; 114 counties in Georgia voted dry. 45 voted wet; 48 counties, or one-third of the state of Kentucky, is now dry.

"In an address to the liquor men at Baltimore, Captain Wilford S. Alexander warned the boozemen that there have been 7,000 local option elections in the United States since repeal, and that the drys have won 5,000 of them. Weird? No, just history repeating itself."

Absolute Prohibition In P. E. I.

Contributed by Eld. T. C. Ferguson

It is said there is only one place in the world where absolute Prohibition obtains, and that is the Canadian province of Prince Edward Island. This province refused to follow the example of the other provinces and allow liquor to return within its borders. And a truly amazing news item from Charlottetown, P. E. I., under recent date reads:

"Mr. Justice A. E. Arsenault stated at the Georgetown Assizes here that there had been no criminal case for trial during the past seventeen years."

Can there be any connection between these facts?

Alcohol As A Remover

From Christian Herald

"In response to several requests we reprint the following from a former issue:

"Some one has said that alcohol will remove stains from summer clothes.

"This may be true, but stains from summer clothes are not the only things alcohol will remove.

"Alcohol will remove the stain all right, but it will remove the summer clothes as well, and also the spring clothes, and the autumn clothes, and the winter clothes.

"Alcohol will not only do this for man who drinks it, but it will do it for all those for whom he is responsible.

"Alcohol will remove good food from the dinner table, and shoes from the baby's feet.

"It will remove happiness from the home, and then remove the possibility of its ever returning.

"It will remove smiles from the face, and laughter from the lips of innocent children.

"It will remove school books from the arms and hopes from the hearts of your boys and girls, and then the shoes from their feet, and the warm clothing from their bodies.

"Yes, alcohol is a great remover! As a remover of things, alcohol has no equal competitor.

"But removing things is not all that alcohol can do.

"It will remove stains from your summer clothes all right, but it will leave stains of a far worse character on your manhood.

"It will remove stains from your summer clothes, but it will leave pains a million times deeper in your heart.

"Yes, alcohol is a great remover.

"It will remove stains and leave pains.

"It will remove fame and leave shame.

"It will remove plenty and leave poverty.

"It will remove honor and leave humiliation.

"It will remove fine homes and leave hovels.

"In fact, alcohol will remove anything from stains on summer clothes to the greatest fortunes ever amassed by intelligent man.

"It will remove everything, great or small, that makes life worth while."

"Will They Come Back?"

The Dry Legion

"OUT from the hearthstone the children go,
Fair as the sunshine, pure as the snow;
A licensed wrong on a crowded street
Waits the coming of guileless feet;
Child of the rich and child of the poor
Pass to their wreck through the dram-shop's door.
Oh, say, will they ever come back as they go—
Fair as the sunshine, pure as the snow?
Out from the hearthstone the children fair
Pass from the breath of a mother's prayer;
Shall a father's vote on a crowded street
Consent to the snare of the thoughtless feet?"

The Tattler

Contributed by Eld. Sam H. Marcum

A tattler's wagon once had I,
Which round with me I'd pull;
As fast as I would empty it,
Someone would fill it full.
I got so busy by and by,
Much else I could not do,
But still I'd go to church and sing,
"Praise God, I'm going through."

Yes, I was surely going through,
And tattling as I went;
But those who really walk with Him,
Toward higher aims are bent.
About my neighbor I would talk,
And he would slander me;
Then both would go to church and sing,
"I'm Glad Salvation's Free."

I'd tattle everything I heard,
Broadcast it far and wide,
And when my wagon empty was,
I'd put some more inside.
I'd talk about my Christian friends,
And they would tattle too;
But when we'd meet again in church,
We'd sing, "I'm Going Through."

But in the singing of that hymn,
I think somehow we lied;
For we would load our wagon up
With tattler's junk inside;
And when we'd meet a passer-by,
We'd fence our words about,
Until we'd get a right good chance
To dump some poison out.

When someone testified in church,
Then some good sister doubts,
Another has no confidence
When a certain brother shouts.
They tattle then about the folks
Who shout and sing and pray,
And go right on to church and sing,
"I Bless the Happy Day."

Then someone hears an awful lie,
By Satan's agent told,
So he loads his tattler's wagon up
As full as it will hold;
And starts right out to pass it on—
He has no time to lose—
And on his neighbors he unloads,
Till the whole bunch has the blues.

The minister must weep and pray,
To get the matter right;
And say, a lucky man is he,
If he prevents a fight.
Oh, all should stop this tattling,
Turn all our words to praise;
The result would be amazing,
How the Lord would bless our ways.

Church Hospitality

By J. M. Doughty, Stafford, Mo.

In the exceedingly practical 12th chapter of Romans, we find Paul urging Christians to be *GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY*.

My dictionary states that hospitality is the entertainment of friends and strangers in a liberal way.

Circumstances often keep people from entertaining in their homes in a liberal way, but we can all entertain in our church home in a liberal way.

Most of us are good at entertaining. Entertaining is one of the ways in which we form and keep friendships. Meeting our friends at church brings us joy.

But we must not be satisfied by entertaining our friends in our church home. You remember the definition of hospitality includes strangers.

In the 25th chapter of Matthew we find that if our Christian life is to meet Christ's approval and we are to win a home in Heaven, that we must be considerate of strangers.

In making the acquaintance of strangers we not only bring joy to the strangers, but we find happiness for

ourselves. We read in Genesis, that Abraham entertained 'strangers and they proved to be angels. So we too, in our welcoming of strangers to our church, will occasionally have a similar experience and form some blessed friendships.

A strange family once moved into my home town. These people were not Christians and did not have a church preference, but the parents wanted their children to enjoy church associations. They attended each one of the six Protestant churches, and then chose the church that extended the most hospitality. This family became a power in the church of their choice. One of the boys became a minister and a teacher in church colleges.

So, if we love our church and want to see it grow in membership and influence, let us heed Paul's suggestion, and be given to hospitality. Let us be generous with our smiles and our hand-shakes and words of encouragement for the stranger who comes to our community and enters the doors of our church.

Him. Perhaps he told him how Satan now made the second attempt to destroy the Christ, using Herod as his tool, and how this attempt also failed.

He may have told him how Simeon and Anna knew Jesus as the Christ, "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." Maybe he told him of Jesus' boyhood days, how He grew in stature and in favor with God and man, how He grew strong in Spirit and in wisdom, and how at the age of twelve (still just a little boy, still a little "Nobody," just one of the children who came to Jerusalem with His parents when they came to the Feast of the Passover), He had sat with men of wisdom and asked them questions that surprised every one at His understanding and answers.

He probably told him too, how John the Baptist came according to the words of that same prophet he had just been reading, how he had foretold and described the Christ, preparing the people to receive Him when He should come, but never suspecting that Jesus was the Christ. Probably John and Jesus had romped and played together many a day when they were boys, for they were near of kin, their mothers being cousins; but John evidently never thought of Jesus as the one destined to do more, if as much, of God's work as he was to do. Then I think he must have told how Jesus came to John and was baptized, and how the Spirit of God descended on Him in the form of a dove, and the voice from heaven said, "Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased," and how John said he didn't know Him till he saw the Spirit descending and remaining on Him, which God had told him would be the sign of Him who should baptize with the Holy Ghost.

Then perhaps he told him how Jesus went out into the wilderness where He was "tried as gold is tried," where He fasted for forty days, and then Satan made his third and last attempt to destroy the Christ, before He could build the road from earth to heaven. Think of it, being without anything to eat for forty days, and then the Devil saying, "If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread," knowing that He had the power to do this. Later on He increased five loaves of bread and two small fishes to enough to feed over five thousand people, because He loved mankind and had compassion on them, but He never would use this God-given

PREACHING JESUS

By A. H. Camp, Osage, Ark.

If I were to write a sermon, I think I would take my text from Acts 8:35, "And preached unto him Jesus," and I would write it with apologies to Bro. Cecil Garrison and Bro. Lester Cline, either of whom could handle this subject so much better than I can; but since neither of them has sent it to the Gem, and it is such a good subject and needs to be told so badly, with God's help, I will do my feeble best.

Unless you are quite familiar with the subject, you will do well to read Acts 8:26 to 40 before you go on with this article.

In preaching to the eunuch, I think he must have told him of the Babe who was born in the manger in the little town of Bethlehem, not of wealthy parents, but of poor ones, just a little "Nobody" who was destined to change the whole course of events from then on to the end of time.

I think he must have told him how the shepherds, the poor, lowly servants of men, watching their flocks out on the quiet hill sides, saw the glory of the Lord shining round about them while the angel told them the joyous news of the birth of a "Savior, which is Christ the Lord," and how they heard the angel choir out there away from the crowds and the man-made cities (not in some fine church or king's palace), but out in the green fields nearest nature and nearest God, and how they took God at His word and went at once, and quickly, to see this little unknown babe who was born to be the King of the entire world. He must have told him how the wise men of the East (not the uneducated this time, but the highly educated), had seen the star of "Him that is born King of the Jews," and had come seeking Him, that they might worship

power to avoid His own suffering. Neither for all the kingdoms of the world and their power and glory and riches would He forsake God and serve the Devil. Neither would He tempt the Father by doing a foolish act and asking God to protect Him from injury that might come from it. He had been tried in the fire and refined as gold is refined, and was now ready to start His life's work.

He may have told him how Jesus chose His twelve apostles, some poor, ignorant fishermen, some well-to-do and some well educated, and how He kept them ever with Him and taught them to be "Fishers of men," letting them see the miracles He did, teaching the meaning of things spiritual and preparing them for their life work, teaching them to love, not only their brethren, but the souls of all mankind, having compassion upon the poor and weak of body or spirit, and to "Pray for them that despitefully use you," seeking the salvation of all from the bondage of sin, and at the same time teaching them to be humble, realizing their smallness in comparison to God, not doing alms and praying to attain glory from men, but to do all for the glory of God, teaching them to forgive and to pray ever to the Father for light and guidance and strength and power. He may have even made a point by telling him how Jesus had chosen Matthew the publican, one of the most hated and despised of all the Jews, and how He had eaten in company with publicans and sinners, because He said, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." No sinner seemed to be too small nor too mean for Jesus to call him to repent and come with Him.

Again he may have referred him back to that same prophet, Esaias, where he said, "Himself took our infirmities, and bore our sickness," and told of the many that He had healed of sickness, of leprosy, of blindness, of deformities, and of devils, and how He even raised the dead, and how He had given to His apostles the power over devils, and all kinds of sickness, and sent them out to preach the gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven and to do in His name the same miracles which He Himself did.

In explaining to him that Jesus came, not to the Jews only, but to the Gentiles as well, he may have told him of the Roman army officer who

feeling himself unworthy to even come to Him, sent to Him asking Him to but speak the word and his servant would be healed, and how he was healed on account of the faith of the centurion. Jesus made mention many times that it was through faith that they received their health, their eyesight, their hearing, their life and their eternal life. He taught them that without faith all else was useless and in vain. He may have told him how Jesus had shown Himself master of the wind and waves when they were about to wreck the ship, and He had stilled them with a word and then asked His disciples, "Where is your faith?" signifying that they could have done the same thing if they had not lacked faith.

I have no doubt that he told him how Jesus took Peter and John and James and went into a mountain to pray, and how His face changed during prayer and His clothing glistened, and they saw Moses and Elias, who appeared also in glory, and talked with Jesus about His coming death, and how the cloud came over them and the voice of God had said, "This is my beloved Son: hear Him." This was proof positive to the three apostles that Jesus was the Christ.

He no doubt told him of Jesus preaching in the temple, and how He had charged the scribes and Pharisees of being hypocrites, for they would neither enter in nor let others enter who wished to. How He had told them to search the Scriptures for they told of Him. How He got the ill will of the priests and all of the high officers of the Jews, and how they had planned to kill Him and bargained with Judas to betray Him into their hands.

He may have told him of the last supper Jesus had with His disciples, when He really bade them good bye, instituting the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet to commemorate this last intimate talks before He suffered on the Cross, that they might do these things during the years to come to keep His memory fresh till the time that He should return to claim His own.

He probably told him how Jesus went out into the garden of Gethsemane, and leaving most of His disciples, took Peter and James and John, the same ones who had seen Him in His glorious transfiguration, and there stood the last supreme test of His life as He gave all to the Father in humble submission saying, "Not my will, but

thine be done," knowing that the hour had come when He must suffer the last sacrifice, which was to end on the cruel and degrading cross, and how the angel appeared to Him there and strengthened Him, just as we receive strength today to stand the ordeals and trials of life, when we give our all to God in humble submission, and say, "Thy will, not ours, be done."

Then he would tell him how Jesus was brought before the officers of the Jewish church, and how His disciples were scattered and deserted Him; how the false witnesses testified against Him, and how He was condemned to death by His own people and taken before Pilate for sentence because the Romans would not allow the Jews to execute any one, and how He was tried before Pilate without a friend to defend Him, condemned Him to the cross because the Jews wished it.

He would tell him how Jesus was nailed to the cross and raised up between two thieves. Then he would tell of the sun being darkened for three hours during the intense suffering of Jesus, and how at His death cry the veil of the temple was rent from top to bottom, and tell him of the earthquake which even open many graves.

He must have told him how Jesus' body was buried in Joseph's new tomb, where a great stone was rolled to the door of the tomb and sealed there and a watch set by the chief priests and Pharisees to make sure that none of His friends stole the body away and claimed that Jesus had risen from the dead. Then early on the morning of the third day, how the women had come to the tomb only to find the seal broken, the stone rolled away, and Jesus gone, leaving two angels to send word to His disciples to meet Him in Galilee, and how He also showed Himself to the women and sent the same message.

I think he would tell him of some of the times that Jesus appeared to the disciples after His resurrection, and of some of His commands to them at that time, especially, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost," and how they ate and drank with Him and knew of a surety that it was the same Jesus whom they had followed throughout the land of the Jews, whom they had seen in His glory on the mount of transfiguration and in the agony of Gethsemane and on the cross, and then he would tell him of that

glorious climax when Jesus led them out as far as to Bethany and lifted up His hands and blessed them and was carried up into heaven as they watched Him.

Just what he told him, I do not know; I only know that he "preached unto him Jesus," and it had the same effect on him that it did on you and me: for the eunuch said, "See, here is water: what doth hinder me to be baptized?" He hadn't told him all about Jesus, I am sure: for John says that if all the things were written which Jesus said and did, he doesn't suppose that even the world itself could contain all the books that should be written, but he told him enough that the eunuch was baptized and went on his way rejoicing, and who wouldn't go on their way rejoicing in their new-found faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that through Him we have eternal salvation?

What is needed so badly today in this world of sinners as to "preach unto them Jesus?" How will they ever have their names written on the Lamb's Book of Life unless we "preach unto them Jesus?" How will we keep our own names on the Lamb's Book of Life unless we "preach unto them Jesus?" For Jesus says, "If a man love me, he will keep my words."

You who can stand before the public in the pulpit and deliver the message; keep preaching unto them Jesus. You who can write, keep preaching unto them Jesus. You who can do neither, but can talk to your friends and neighbors in private, keep preaching unto them Jesus. You who can do none of these things, and too poor to contribute to the work, live your lives so they will keep preaching unto them Jesus: "For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

on the radio, because they want to be at ease on their beds of ivory. They know that God's Word will condemn their idle lives. "Woe to them that chant to the sound of the viol." We have a people that say there is nothing wrong in dancing; some even dance in the basement of the church. I guess they have never read Amos 6:5.

And woe to them "that drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph." Joseph is a perfect type of Christ.

Now, do you have pleasure in the above mentioned things, and are not grieved with the way Christ and His word is being crucified? I say it is time to wake up, you that are at ease, while it is called today.

Now, on the other hand, I am thanking God for the few people that are not at ease in Zion, but are like David of old, who said, "I shall be satisfied when I wake with thy likeness" (Psa. 17:15).

We can all be like David, and labor for the Master until we reach the other shore, then we will rest from all our labors. Then we shall be at ease in the glory world, in the likeness of our Savior.

"For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off" (Psa. 37:22).

Pray for me, that I might hold up the banner of the Christ.

The Accursed One

By Eld. Frank Linton, Branch, Mo.

"Woe to them that are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1).

I am writing this article, hoping it will arouse and help some one. There seems to be too many people that are at ease in Zion, just satisfied and placably letting time go by. Just for a moment let us think what Zion really is. You might say that Zion is the church, and I don't belong to the church; so that doesn't include me. Zion is nothing less than where you live. I am glad we live in Zion, where we can hear the Gospel and preach it. If we are at ease after hearing the truth, then we are under this woe. Maybe it would be easier to say "curse" instead of "woe," they mean the same.

Psalm 37:22—"They that be cursed of him shall be cut off." To know to do good and do it not, to him it is sin. I want to mention the first six verses of Amos. If you are satisfied with conditions as they are, just look down at Gath of the Philistines (Galith sin). Do the kingdoms of this world look better to us than the kingdom of God? If so, you know you are one of the cursed ones.

If you are afraid to take your place in the church—afraid you will be expected to spend some of your money to support the cause of Christ, I would

think you are one that is at ease in Zion. I am afraid your money will perish with you unless you repent and get the work at heart.

"Woe to them that lie upon beds of ivory." We have a people here in Zion (the land of the open Bible), that have untold wealth that won't ever go to church, nor even listen to a sermon

When Do We Get The Minutes Of The National Association?

By Rev. C. E. Morris, Clerk

Have you been wondering why the minutes of the National Association have not been published? Well, here is the explanation.

A motion was made during the sitting of the Association to have \$100.00 worth of minutes printed and distributed as the Clerk deemed proper. When the minutes were ready for the press, the Clerk was informed by the Treasurer that there was only \$71.85 on hand. According to another motion which was passed, the Executive Board was to raise the necessary amount for the minute fund. One of the members of the Executive Board was informed

of the deficient fund, and he advised that the situation be published in our papers and that, if those who had not responded wanted the minutes published, they could raise their amount and send it in at once and, if the funds were not made sufficient, then the minute funds which are on hand should be returned to those who gave it.

I am sure that all will agree that it is necessary for the minutes to be published and distributed for the good of the Cause, therefore, may we hope that those who should be concerned will get busy and make it possible for the work to be done at once.

The National Superannuation Board Seeks National Co-operation

Mrs. J. E. Simpson, Chairman, 1310 Fatherland Street, Nashville, Tenn.

Since we do not want to be considered as unprofitable servants by our Heavenly Father and by the National Association of Free Will Baptist, and since the cause is a worthy one, we as a board are making this one appeal to our people this conference year.

We are asking each Free Will Baptist League to sponsor a superannuation birthday celebration, during the first week in May. Each attendant will be asked to bring a penny for each year old he or she is and the proceeds will be given to the National Superannuation fund.

The Celebration may be held in connection with the following: Social — business meeting — pep meeting — or with your regular Sunday evening program since after all, it is only a free-will offering for a good cause.

The Celebration may be held any time during the first week in May. But, we are asking that if possible, that you make it not later than May

10th. mailing in the proceeds, since we will want to publish the results as soon as possible.

I feel sure of co-operation from our Leaguers in this matter. I have had several of our League leaders to pledge their support, and I know when we place the responsibility in the hands of an enthusiastic group of young people, that have been and are being trained for Christian service, that the results will be satisfying.

Leaguers, let's form a chain, each League being a link in that chain, and if you will link up with this celebration, just drop me a card giving the name of your League and name and address of your president, that I may mail you the number indicating which link you are.

Now come on! Young People, let's see what one big co-operative effort will accomplish in this direction. We are counting on you. Don't be that missing link in the chain.

Who will be link No. 1?

First Corinthians

Mrs. I. B. Leonard, Worthington, Mo.

Corinth was one of the most celebrated cities of Greece, and was supposed to have been founded about 1504 B. C.

It was an extensive commercial city, and the capitol of a powerful state. It had both the trade of Italy on one side, and the Greek islands on the other. It was destroyed by the Romans about 146 B. C., but was afterwards rebuilt by Julius Caesar.

Corinth exceeded all the cities of the world in splendor and magnificence of its public buildings. Its temples and palaces were enriched with beautiful columns, and also its statues, and many people made pilgrimages to this ancient city to see its beauty and splendor, yet it was very corrupt, and has frequently changed masters and had various forms of government. It lies about 46 miles west of Athens, and 342 miles west of Constantinople. But little of its ancient splendor remains, but all students of Bible history love

to gaze on this once wonderful city.

When Paul was stricken down on his way to Damascus, he began to preach the Gospel of Christ. He established the church at Corinth about A. D. 52 (Acts 18:1), and addressed the church at Corinth as the Church of God.

He taught that Jesus Christ was the common Savior, and the Lord of all. It will be noticed when reading First Corinthians, that the church had written to Paul for advice; and this letter was in part an answer to their inquiries, indeed this epistle contains more local and private application than any other book in the New Testament.

He gives insight into customs and forms of speech relative to the discipline of the primitive church. The Corinthians as a people were mostly in a state of ignorance, but when once made to understand, were quick to learn.

The apostle speaks very highly of

their knowledge and their various gifts, and endowments of the church at Corinth.

The apostle takes great pains to correct the misunderstandings of the church at this place and to fill their minds with the truths of God's love to mankind.

I beg leave to call the reader's mind to the closing words of the apostle: "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be anathema" (accursed).

Interesting Bible Facts

From the Defender Magazine

THERE are 3 letters in the word "Old," and 9 letters in the word "Testament." Place the 3 in front of the 9, and you have 39. There are 39 books in the Old Testament!

There are 3 letters in the word "New," and 9 letters in the word "Testament." Multiply the 3 by 9, and you have 27. There are 27 books in the New Testament.

The 66 books written by 36 men, Divinely inspired. More than 1,600 years elapsed from the time Moses began to write Genesis until John finished the Revelation in 96 A. D.

The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 773,693 words, 31,102 verses, 1189 chapters.

The word "and" occurs 46,277 times. The word "reverend" only once. The pronoun "I" is used 13,012 times. The word "Lord" is used 1,855 times. "God" is used 4,370 times. "Heaven" 474 times. "Hell" 53 times.

The 19th chapter of Second Kings, and the 37th chapter of Isaiah are almost identical. There are four identical verses in the 107th Psalm, the 8th, 15th, 21st, and 31st!

All letters of the alphabet except "J" are found in Ezra 7:21. All letters except "K" are found in Galatians 1:14!

The longest verse is Esther 8:9. The shortest verse is John 11:35.

The longest chapter in the New Testament is the first chapter of Luke, containing 80 verses. The longest verse in the New Testament is Revelation 20:4, containing 68 words.

The word "faith" is not used in the Gospel of John, and the word "love" is not used in the Acts of the Apostles.

There are 329 questions in the Book of Job.

OBITUARIES

BELL—Martha Bell, born October 21, 1848 in Illinois, daughter of Thomas and Winnie Reeves, passed away at 2:15 o'clock Wednesday morning, February 22, 1939; age 90 years, four months and one day. She was married to J. D. Bell in January, 1866.

She was converted and baptized at the age of 13 years. After moving to this country she joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Independence.

Seven children were born, five of whom preceded her in death: Mrs. Nettie Sellers, Molly Bell, Mrs. Cora Collins, Lula Bell, Mrs. Jessie Logan. The two surviving are Mrs. Stella Long of Stockton and the only son, Clarence Bell of Nampa, Idaho. She also leaves fifteen grandchildren and sixteen great grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Serelda Stinson of Stockton and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

Funeral services were conducted by Eld. C. R. Dick at Gum Springs Thursday afternoon, February 23rd, and she was laid to rest in that cemetery.

Mrs. Bell was a good mother, kind and thoughtful neighbor of a cheerful disposition at all times.

BURLESON—The death angel has visited the home of Mr. J. W. Burleson and claimed for its victim our beloved Deacon, Bro. J. W. Burleson.

He was born on March 18, 1862, and departed this life February 27, 1939, at 4:10 a. m., being at the time of his passing 76 years, eleven months and 19 days old.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife and six children and forty-two grandchildren, his home church of 269 members, and a number of friends to mourn his going.

He was born and reared in Marion County, Alabama. He served as deacon of his home church for nearly 52 years and was faithful to the work. His going leaves a vacancy in the church and in the home.

He was also a good business man. He put shoes on bare feet and clothes on little bodies, but still God has a place for men like that and we pray that our loss is heaven's gain.

He was laid to rest in the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist cemetery in Jasper Association.

I am pleading with you who read this, let us be on the watchtower for

God as the summons is coming our way, as it did his way.

I pray God's blessings on the entire family.

Written by a friend and brother in Christ,—Rev. J. H. Potts, Guin, Ala.

HADLEY—Orla Hadley of Easton, Missouri was the son of Pierson and Synthia Ann Hadley. He was born March 8, 1878, and departed this life March 17, 1939, at the age of 60 years and nine days.

Those left of the immediate family to mourn his going are his two sisters, Bertha Hadley of the home and Mrs. John Wuerfele of Maysville, Mo.

He was converted while in young manhood and united with the Union Third Fork Free Will Baptist Church, where he was chosen and ordained as a deacon. He remained a loyal member until death. He will be sadly missed by the church and all who knew him.

Funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Eld. Kenneth Turner, and the body was laid to rest in the cemetery near the church. Lines Undertaking Company of Stewartville was in charge.

My Cousin Orla, As I Knew Him

He was a brilliant mental giant whose budding genius was locked behind closed doors by nature's malediction. He had a fathomless depth of the sound philosophies of life, and these philosophies were his guiding stars along those silent paths he trod alone; though not alone was he, for in these silent paths traveled also the man of Galilee. He never complained of the dire affliction that was his, but like Paul, accepted it with a full grace as a "thorn in my flesh."

Orla had a deep, undying love for his people, as evidenced by his devotion to Bertha, Kate, and his yet undimmed memory of his father, his sainted mother, may God rest her memory, and his beloved brother, Otha, whose untimely death left a pall upon Orla's already overburdened life. This devotion was thrown like a mantle upon all his kin, so as to far outclipse any faults he might have had.

Orla had an implicit faith in God and voluntarily ordered his life along the shining pathway of Jesus Christ.

He never hesitated to point that pathway to others who knew not the way, and all of you, who are here today, as you pass to view this dead body, view it well, for here lies the mortal remains of a prince in the kingdom of Almighty God, a child of the King. But praise be to God, who raised again our Lord Jesus from the dead, the Spirit does not lie here, but is already basking in the eternal sunlight of God, and reveling in the sweet fellowship of his loved ones over there where he waits and beckons to us all. God grant he shall not wait in vain.

These words are written by Victor, cousin, nay, brother, in a feeble effort to repay his memory for his undying devotion to me. May God bless his memory. Rev. Victor Hadley.

"A Really Rich Man"

By Edith Goreham Clarke

Taken from King's Business

Alan Brewster was the collector of taxes in the town of Charminster, England. He was a healthy young man brought up to live a clean, moral life, but he did not know the Lord Jesus as his Savior. A clever fellow, he was steadily making his way in the world, and as yet felt no need of salvation. He had married when quite young, and he was very proud of his pretty little wife and his two Bonny children. They lived in a charming old-world cottage, surrounded with one of the prettiest gardens in the neighborhood. One afternoon when Alan and his wife were sitting quietly in the garden, she asked what had made him so serious all day.

He took her hand in his, as he turned toward her earnestly, "Daphne, my dear," he said, "you and I have always lived decent lives, haven't we?" She nodded, and he continued: "Well, I met a man this morning who made me feel as if I was not as good as I had thought myself. I was on my round, collecting taxes as usual, and called at that large new house on Eaton Road. You know it has been empty so long that the owner was glad to rent it cheaply, and a minister and his family have come to live there. When I knocked at the door, he himself answered it. I told him I had called to determine the assessed valuation of his property, and he astonished me by saying: 'Well, I am a rich man, Mr. Tax Collector.' It is not many people who

want to admit that when I appear on the scene!

"Well, I sharpened my pencil, and asked, 'What do you own sir?'"

"Then he made the most amazing reply, 'I am the possessor of a Savior, who earned for me everlasting life, and who has prepared a place for me in the eternal city,' he said. I thought he was having a little joke with me, and asked with a smile: 'And what else?'"

"'Oh, I have a pious wife, a brave woman.' Then he quoted Solomon: 'Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies,' and he asked, 'Am I not a rich man? Besides that, I have healthy and obedient children!'"

"I was beginning to feel very impatient, and rapped out a sharp, 'What else?'"

"'A merry heart that enables me to pass through life joyfully,' he laughed.

"'And what else?'"

"At that the man considered for a few moments, and then said, quietly: 'Well, I think that is all.'"

"And, do you know, Wife, that was truly all he possessed.' He has no worldly goods worth speaking about, and yet I could not help feeling that here at last I had found a really rich man! You know that my ambition has always been to be rich, but as I stood beside that man, I realized that all earthly riches were of little or no value beside what he possessed. As I left him, I said, 'You are a rich man indeed, sir, and your property is not subject to taxation. I wish I could say I had your possessions.' Then, Wifey, he asked me to pay him another visit, this time one which was not official, and he would tell me how I, too, could become a really rich man. I am going tomorrow evening."

The next day, true to his word, the young tax collector paid a visit to the minister, and when he came away he, too, could say, "I am a really rich man," for he had found the Lord Jesus and had become an heir to the kingdom of heaven.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, God in His infinite wisdom deemed it necessary to call from this world the souls of the several ministers of our Association since last we met, be it therefore resolved,

First, That we humbly bow our heads in sincere submission to the

Sovereign will of Almighty God.

Second, That this Association stand in silence for one minute in respect for those who are dearest to the deceased.

Third, That a copy of this resolution be placed in the minutes of this Association, and a copy be printed in both the "Free Will Baptist," and the "Gem."

Respectfully submitted,

National
Association
Committee

{ Rev. R. C. Wiggs,
Rev. C. F. Bowen,
Rev. M. Bingham.

This Is Our Hour

Taken from "News Digest" of the Month in Christian Herald.

IN THE Church and out of it we hear men sobbing, "The Church has fallen on evil days. She stands with her back to the wall." They are right. She does. But we can't understand why they are sobbing about it. They should be glad. It takes a crisis to make a man. Out of her moments of crisis the Church has always generated her greatest strength.

Bishop Tucker, presiding prelate of the Protestant Episcopal Church, put his finger on it recently when he said that this great crisis was not produced by the Church but by conditions that play right into the Church's hands: "Pressure of slaughterous war and inspired hate have forced it. Ugly oppression has forced it. Stark want and bitter suffering have forced it. Crass materialism and bold totalitarianism have forced it." Then he goes on to say (mark this and mark it well): "There are unmistakable signs of a spiritual awakening." There you have it: the crisis has forced men back to think of God, back to the Church and reliance on the spiritual.

What are we sobbing about? Why do we moan? This is no time for that. Pounding on the very doors of Holy Church are multitudes convinced against their errant wills that the way of Christ is the only way out. It is the greatest challenge that has faced us since Calvary. This is our hour! What shall we do about it?

Bishop Tucker tells us what to do about it: "Go out to feed and nurture these spiritual sparks which flash about us, lighting up the skies." Go out! Go ye! Sit not sulking in your tent while the battle rages. This is the

hour for which the Church was made!

The world needs God as it never needed Him before—and the world realizes it. The dictators and the Godless and the materialists and the oppressors, striving furiously to convince man that he needs not God but more guns, have succeeded only in driving him back to God. And here stands the Church of Christ, guarding the Bread mankind is begging for, the only waters that will slack his awful thirst. What shall we do with it? Bury it under the bushel of base despair, or give it out to this reeling world?

Thank God for the crisis. It was made to order for the Church.

RIVER MINES, MISSOURI

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I am writing relative to the Sunday School work. As field worker for St. Francois and Madison Counties, I have been assigned fifteen Sunday schools. And brethren, I am asking an interest in your prayers, that God will guide me in this work—I want to do it right.

In regard to our Sunday schools, I am happy to report that they are doing quite well, and God is blessing them, yet there is room for improvement, so I am asking that all you Christians help to create more interest in God's work. We must get closer to God, and ask Him to help our Sunday school to grow.

But we can't create interest in our Sunday school work, if we stay at home and read Love Stories, Wild West Stories, go to the road houses and picture shows; so let's quit that. If you are in that kind of a bunch my brother, sister, go and read what Paul says in 1 Tim. 5:15, "For some are already turned aside after Satan." If you are a follower of Satan and go to places like we mentioned above, I beg you to quit, get right with God, go to Sunday school and church, be in the services, and be willing to work for the upbuilding of God's kingdom in your community.

May God bless you all, is my prayer.

Your field worker,

-Albert Tucker.

It Is Worth Remembering:

That a day of worry is more exhausting than a week of work.

That a sign on the door of opportunity reads—PUSH.

That you cannot whitewash yourself by blackening others.

The First Lord's Day

By Eld. John B. Rollins, Purdy, Mo.

UPON The first day of the week, very early, while it was yet dark, as the rays of dawn began to illuminate the Eastern sky, Jesus paused but for a moment in the fresh morning air after having descended into the lower parts of the earth for three days and three nights. In that pause, He appeared to one woman, alone. Instinctively, Mary rushed to Him as if to fall to the ground before Him, and embrace His feet in an act of high devotion and reverence. But Jesus said, "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; to my God, and your God" (John 20:17).

Why would Jesus forbid Mary to so much as touch Him? It was only a few minutes of time later that He met the other women and said, "All hail. And they came and held Him by the feet and worshipped him" (Matt. 28:9).

The reason is simple, Jesus gave it, "I am not yet ascended to my Father." By the evidence that only moments later, He permitted the women to hold Him by the feet, and only hours later, He commanded the disciples to handle Him, we find Scriptural authority to say that Jesus made a personal trip to heaven and came back in only a few minutes of time!

This was on the resurrection day and Jesus had been up from the grave no longer than a few minutes, for, as the women made their way to the tomb, "there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it" (Matt. 28:2). In the next few minutes, Jesus met Mary alone, and forbade her to touch Him; then He went to heaven and came back in only a few minutes; then He appeared to the women, and allowed them to hold him by the feet while they worshipped Him.

This steal-away trip to heaven — I say "steal-away" because so few see it in the Scriptures, and realize its significance — this momentary trip to heaven on the first Lord's Day was vitally necessary for a finished, complete atonement. We did not have a complete plan of salvation at all until this ascension was made.

When Jesus was dying upon the Cross, He said, "It is finished." He

poured out His soul as an offering for sin; it was finished as far as His humanity, His incarnation was concerned, but surely He did not mean a finished plan of salvation. He died, and a dead Christ is not the end of preaching for "if Christ be not risen then is our preaching vain" (1 Cor. 15:14). To preach a risen Christ is still insufficient, for that would mean a Christ still on the earth, and Paul said, "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things" (Eph. 4:10). All things concerning redemption were not filled until the early morning hours of the first Lord's Day when Jesus ascended to Our Father.

Jesus is our Advocate with the Father, the Mediator between God and man; He is the New Testament High Priest after the order of Melchisedec,



that is, after the "power of an endless life." Jesus could not, therefore, be such an High Priest forever until He could say, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen" (Rev. 1:18). Jesus became just such an High Priest very early on the day of His resurrection.

Now, let us consider the high priest made under the Mosaic law. He took blood from the altars of Israel and went into the Holiest Place of the tabernacle, into the presence of the mercy seat and the cloud of glory that overshadowed it. This was done once a year and was a sacrifice for his own sins and the sins of the people, and thus rolled their sins toward Calvary year by year. No one was allowed to touch the high priest while he was performing this duty. Christ fulfilled the law, and as our High

Priest, He entered into the Holy Place, into the more perfect tabernacle not made with hands—into heaven. He took not the blood of goats and calves, but His *OWN BLOOD* and appeared in the presence of God for us. (Cf. Heb. 9:10, 11,24). Jesus was on His High Priestly mission from the sacrifice to the Holy Place not made with hands for the purpose of presenting His own blood to God as an atonement for man's sins when He met Mary near the tomb on the first Lord's Day, therefore, He refused to let her touch Him until He had entered heaven and returned, after which He spent 40 days on earth for a definite purpose for man's sake.

Something else occurred on the first Lord's Day that is of great significance — the rising of the dead saints. Matthew gives a clear account. At the time of Jesus' death, the graves were opened. They remained open for three days and three nights with their putrid contents exposed, then on the Lord's Day the saints arose "and came out of their graves after his resurrection and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many." Notice, they did not rise until "after his resurrection." Christ is the first fruits of the dead. The Old Testament Scriptures promised a *plural* resurrection in the Feast of Wave-Sheaf (Lev. 23). One corn of wheat fell into the ground and died and the harvest was a sheaf or a plurality of fruits (John 12:24).

In the event of the resurrection and ascension of Christ, Jesus moved Paradise from the nether world (beneath) to heaven. Some have postulated that these risen saints were transients from "under the earth" to heaven, and that they paused to visit Jerusalem as they went to heaven. Others view these risen saints to be restored to natural life like Lazarus, and that they did not receive the resurrection body of 1 Cor. 15. This is indeed a great and interesting subject, and I will leave its discussion for a later discourse. Please be content for me to say that these saints walked out of their graves, at the heels of Jesus, and it teaches us that some day all the saints of all ages shall come forth in, perhaps, greater glory. It required no less power than Omnipotence to perform this, but greater and more glorious is that for which we hope at His coming again. The resurrection of Christ and His completed plan of salvation makes this hope possible for us, and he that hath this hope in him purifieth himself.

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT



Rev. T. H. Willey,
Foreign Missionary,
Box 861, Balboa, Canal Zone.



Mrs. T. H. Willey,
Companion Missionary
Box 861, Balboa, Canal Zone.

The Regions Beyond

Sowing The Seed

By Mabel Willey

"And a sower went forth to sow"
Dear Co-Workers:

We are being made to realize more than ever these days the power and importance of the WORD OF GOD. What is it that shall not return unto God void? His Word. What is it that shall bring light, and be as a lamp to our feet? His Word. By what, when we hear and believe, shall we be saved? By faith in the Word.

Perhaps you do not know that the Catholic church (as it is in Latin America, particularly in Panama) does not permit its people to read the Bible. It is thought to be almost a crime to have a Bible in the house, their theory is that the people are not able to interpret correctly and that only the priest has the right to present it to them. But the sad part of it is, that most of the priests do not give them the Word, and when they do it is in Latin, a language they do not understand. What is the result in a land where the Word is not read? Superstition and ignorance, adultery, drunkenness and idolatry, besides many other things I do not have space to mention. Only a couple of Sundays ago the priest came to the Valley for the first time in two and a half months. Mr. Willey was in the Darian, but the children and I were busy all day giving out Bibles. It is really a sight you can hardly imagine. Very early in the morning these hills seemed to empty themselves of Indians: for the word had been spread from mouth to mouth, "El Padre viene Comingo."—*The Father is coming Sunday.* So out from these mountain huts, dressed in their most color-

ful array, with hair decorated and with bare feet, they walked for many miles to bring the priest their babies to be baptized and "dos pecos"—one dollar. They have been told for generations, if their babies are not baptized, something awful will happen to them and they shall be forever cursed. So for a long time the father and mother work hard to earn dos pesos to bring to the priest. There are scores of those who do not have enough to fill their stomachs, and yet for fear and because of superstition, they deny themselves to observe this rite.

The priest sprinkles a little water on their heads and takes their pesos, reads a little Latin to them and within two hours rides out of the Valley and does not return for a long period again, then the same procedure is gone through. You can readily understand why, when they come to our house and we say, "Do you know the story of the MAN who died for us?" they answer "No." "Do you know the Bible?" "No." "Would you like a book that tells about Jesus," "Si, Senora." So when they read, back they come for more.

Oh that I had the ability to picture to you by written word the bondage that these people live under, perhaps then you would be able to feel the burden we live with for them. This year in the interior has been one of adjusting ourselves to the habits of living and learning the language. The rains held us back from making any very long trips, but some few weeks ago Mr. Willey announced that Tommy and I were to get ready for a trip the next morning. So after our three horses were fed and saddled, we pack-

ed Bibles and lunch and started for a visit to an interior village called La Lagoon. It was one of the most beautiful and most dangerous drives we have ever made. We rode down the main road for about four miles, then began to drop. I'll assure you that I sat very rigidly in my saddle for I just knew any moment the horse and I both would be tumbling over. The horse would often put his front feet high up over a rock or ridge, get a good hold, and then his hind legs and I would come over, or we would be riding in a gully washed out by rains, then we would have to bring our legs up and just hold on as we would slide down. Other times we had to dismount and drive the horses down ahead of us and we would slide after them, then we began to climb until it seemed we were on top of the world, just mere specks. We could look for miles and miles on a picture never to be forgotten. I kept my eyes on the views and let the horses do the guiding, for I did not dare look down some of the steep cliffs, on a trail just wide enough for the horse to pass over—just one misstep and it would have meant death. After five hours of climbing and dropping, we reached the village. Perhaps the children who read this are wondering if Tommy was afraid, or if we had to watch after him. No never, you see Tommy has a little horse named "Dynamite," and they are great friends so Tommy sang all day long. When we would ride over those dangerous places his voice would float back to me on the wind, and I can assure you as I listened to him singing Spanish hymns realizing that he saw no danger at all, but was only completely happy that he was with Daddy and Mother, taking the Gospel to men and women, boys and girls who had never heard, it brought a great amount of comfort

and joy.

They were having school in the village, but because of the excitement of seeing three white people, the teacher dismissed the school, and such excitement! They came flocking about us, giving Tommy things they had made in the school. They were soon off ahead leading us to the Lagoon. We put a Testament in almost every home. Then there was some sickness we tried to prescribe for. To show their gratitude, they brought us oranges and bananas. After spending as much time as possible with them, visiting from home to home and assuring them we would return, we started out over our hard trail homeward. From the heat of the tropical sun to the cold chill mountain winds of the night, our faithful horses plodded along. It was so dark when night fell we could not see one another. When

we could control our teeth from chattering, Tommy and I would talk of the stars, but he was almost asleep in the saddle when we arrived home. The only bad effect physically from the ride of eleven and one half hours was that I was covered with ticks and have been scratching ever since, otherwise, the next day we hardly knew we had been for a hard ride.

You are wondering what good just giving them a Testament does. This much, only two weeks past a young Indian came to our home, said he lived at the Lagoon and wanted more Bibles, also the people wanted to know if we would come and have a service for them. "The entrance of Thy Word giveth light." We, by God's grace and strength, are able to plant the seed, some day God shall give a marvelous increase, for "If we cast our bread upon the waters it shall return after

many days." Oh, that we might have a revival of the Word of God at home and abroad!

I like to think that you at home are sharing this joy of sowing the seed with us. It came to me that day as we were riding, somebody, somewhere is talking to God about us today and about these wonderful people who need the Gospel. It brought a great flood of peace to our hearts, and I am sure Eternity shall reveal results of that missionary journey because you prayed.

"Sometimes,—ah, little do we know
How often we prevail
Through God's remembrances alone,
When strength of ours would fail!
O, faithful, hidden hearts that plead
For others night and day,
May living streams from founts above
Refresh you as you pray."

Yours, in His glad service,

—Mabel Willey.



Abraham And His Son

Here is the Grand Old Man of the Sambu! I have learned to love this old man dearly, and make my home with him and his sons when on the river. His name is Abraham, and with him is his son Antonio. This family is always delighted when I come to their house, they cease their own activities and we gather around to talk and sing and study the language. Abraham is very exacting with me in language study, carefully checking on each word. This old man would make a striking figure dressed and in any company of people. He is very anxious to have a school for his people. Abraham does not have many years left to him. During my last visit with him, he had aged considerably, due I think to the loss of his favorite son, Jose, who was one of the most intelligent Indians I ever met, and was deeply interested in the Gospel message. This fine Indian died of snake bite, leaving a large family.

—Thomas H. Willey

The Resurrection A Fact

By the Editor

We think of Easter many times during the year, but as Easter Sunday draws near, we think of it more definitely, and the more we know of the meaning of Easter, the more we think of the things connected with the day.

Easter means a rising, a coming forth to life; it is very fitting then that Easter comes in the Spring time when all nature is showing forth life in manifestation.

When the trees, which have been bare all winter, bud and bloom and put on bright new dresses of beautiful green, we know that Spring is here; it is Easter time and suggests to us that, as the trees, after their period of rest, are beautiful in their new life, so shall we who love Jesus be glorious as He is glorious in His glorified body, after our period of rest: for it is promised that we shall rest, and at the end of the days we shall stand in our place (Dan. 12:13).

Many people think of Easter as the time to buy new hats, new bonnets, new dresses, new suits, and all the other things necessary to be fully dressed in genuine *Easter style*. It is all right to go forth in bright new Easter togs, if you can afford it and if it is to the glory of God: but if it is just to satisfy a selfish desire, or to equal or outshine some one else, it is vanity, and will not for long be satisfying. Often it is best to wear the old clothes, they are good enough for most any other Sunday wear.

The flowers and grass, and other vegetation which clothed the earth so beautifully last year, seemingly perished when cold weather set in last fall: but they are not dead, there are roots and seeds that all winter long have waited for the warming rays of the spring sunshine to bring them back to life and beauty. All this suggests resurrection and reminds us that our friends and loved ones, whose bodies are now resting in the dust of the earth, are not forgotten by Him who holds the keys of death, and who is coming, perhaps right soon, to call them forth to give them glorious bodies and immortality. Why should we ever doubt or be indifferent about the future glory of departed loved ones who lived this life righteously for God, when all nature testifies of a new and

better life that shall be given to all them that live for it?

Now let us go to the Bible for a few witnesses of the resurrection: for the Bible gives much indisputable evidence that there is life after death, though atheistic historians, who write text books for our schools, tell us that the Hebrews got their idea about life after death from the Egyptians. Well, if the Egyptians believed anything or knew anything about life after death, they got it from the Hebrews: for it has always been a part of the Hebrew religion.

Moses wrote about resurrection life in the first five books of the Bible.

Job believed it. What did Job mean (Job 14:14), when he said, "If a man die, shall he live again?" and he expressed his belief (Job 19:25, 26), when he said, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

Abraham believed it; and it was said of him (Heb. 11:9, 10, 13), "By faith he sojourned in the land of promise: . . . for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. . . . And confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth."

David believed it; therefore he said (Psa. 16:10), "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." David also said (Psa. 17:15), "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness." I wonder sometimes if a lot of professed Christians don't fail to realize that, if they are not righteous, they shall never behold God's face in peace.

The above Scriptures, and many more testify of the resurrection. It is enough proof, but we want to give a word of evidence by the Lord Jesus, as He talked with Martha about Lazarus (John 11:25, 26): "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believeth thou

this?" This is evidence that we shall not all die; but some will be living when Jesus comes. But, as Paul also says, all shall be given glorious bodies, and shall ever be with the Lord.

Some people believe that Christians are glorified at death: but that is not right. Paul says (Titus 2:13), that we will be "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ." Then he says (Rom. 8:23-25) that "The redemption of the body" is the fulfillment of that hope, and that "we with patience wait for it."

According to nature all men die; but those who trust in Christ shall be made alive. Every man shall come forth from among the dead in his own order: "Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming" (1 Cor. 15:22, 23).

Then let us have faith in God, and be diligent and patient to the end: "For in due time we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).

EASTER

From *Christian Herald*

Not vain the promise of white
Easter tide,

And not in vain the green
ascending grass.

Grim was the spear that pierced His
tortured side,
Sad His dark hour, alas!

But O that moment when He rolled
away

The stone that bound Him in the
prisoning tomb;
And on that same triumphant Easter
day
Rose many a trembling bloom:

Lilies that loosed the iron gates of
Death,

Tulips that told once more that Life
is good:
After His silence and awakening
breath,
The abandoned Cross of wood:

A light upon the earth that had not
shone
Without the miracle of Easter
day. . . .

O heart, rejoice! O soul, look back
upon
The stone He rolled away.

—Charles Hanson Towne.

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A MESSAGE BY THE STATE LEAGUE REPORTER

"I write unto you little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.

"I write unto you, . . . because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one" (1 John 2:12, 14).

John, the beloved disciple, was nearing the century mark of life when he wrote the above wonderful message.

What a source of inspiration to the young to be addressed by a man so inspired, a man who was privileged in being a student of "Christ's School." He was a constant companion of the Master and the one to whom Christ committed the care of His mother, one who was permitted to view the heavenly host, the throne of God, and who gave unto us a bird's-eye view of the grandure of the heavenly home.

John rehearses four points upon which he bases his message of love.

John, who became a Christian in early life, realized the importance of building character. Like Solomon who began to build and who understands the worth of youth, urges them in Eccl. 12:1 to "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

In viewing life the most encouraging thing John beheld was the youth. What a source of inspiration to John as he, in his declining years, lived life over again.

There were possessions in the life of youth which enabled John to rejoice. This we understand from the statement in verse 12—"I write unto you little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake." What

a great thought to know, that at his age there were those to whom he (John) could pass the work on to, whose sins were forgiven, and that in Jesus' name! What a wonderful thing to know that your sins are forgiven, and you are under the blood.

Combined with a knowledge of sins forgiven was the thought that they were strong. Strength always comes through Christian grace. How great is life when hid away with Christ in God! Strength of character combined with that of youth, and a willing mind and a determination to press forward can conquer the world. Strength doesn't lie altogether in a person of large size.

Goliath was a man of large statue, but David (the shepherd boy) overcame the giant. Jonathan was only a youth, but with his armor bearer, he put the Philistine army to flight. Paul was small of statue, but he set the world on fire for God.

David knew the main bulwark of life, and knowing it, did it. Therefore I hear him saying in Psalms 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." Rev. Cooper, a young minister of N. E. Missouri is making wonderful progress in the ministry, owing to the fact that life is continually hiding away the Word of God in his mind and heart.

John then arrives at the climax of his message—"Ye have overcome the wicked one." What a grand thing it is to be an overcomer! A large field of work lies before us as a band of young Christian workers, so many of our churches have no league, and so many young people are without Christ.

May we earnestly pray the Lord to reveal unto us our Christian duty, and then trust Him to lead us in that path, is the earnest prayer of your editors and the sponsor of this page.

May we hear from your league?

—C. E. Mann, Sponsor.

LIBERAL, MISSOURI

To the Editors and "Gem" Readers:

I have long enjoyed the good articles, experiences and reports of others in the "Gem," but so far have contributed nothing myself.

The ones especially appreciated are those written by friends we know, many who have been in our home, and we've learned something of the background of their lives of sacrifice and devotion, and who invariably have left a benediction behind them, as they come and go. May the dear Lord abundantly bless and use every one of His called-out ones.

I have recently had an experience that I am led to believe might be a blessing to others, yet in order to be better understood, I will need to give the setting in the home life that brot it about, which I trust will not sound too personal. My companion was called out on the mail route as sub-carrier, the carrier being called away by sickness and a death among relatives, making it imperative that he carry on. In the meantime I came down with the flu, not able to do anything for more than a week, making it doubly hard for him.

I believe that we all, sooner or later, will find ourselves in one of two places: Either we will be set aside, not able to do the things we so much want to do, or be overburdened with the press of life, and conditions such that we are made to wonder how we are to go on. But in the old Book we find the remedy is the same for either case. An implicit trust in the great Burden Bearer, who knows every step of the way. My prayers while sick were short and childish: "Dear Lord, I'm sick, please take care of us and help us through."

I was able to dress for the first time the last day he was serving on the mail route, and in the middle of that night as I lay awake, thoughts began to crowd, and began shaping themselves into verse. So far as I can remember, I had never rhymed a line in my life; and I wondered if they'd be gone in the morning, like a dream.

But they were still mine when the morning came, and I sat down and wrote them down with such freedom, blessing and comfort to myself, that I felt that I must pass them on to others. They may seem crude to some, but the lesson is sweet, though often repeated. If we are to keep our blessings, they must be shared—

"Who comforteth us in all our tribulations, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God" (2 Cor. 1:4).

TWO LESSONS

I

The Master looked at me and smiled—
"Come apart and rest awhile," He said.
"Oh no! I want to work and serve—
My dear one needs me so," I said.

II

"Patience, my child, he doesn't need
you

One-half so much as you seem to think,
So come aside from your busy thoughts
Sit up to my table, eat and drink."

"Your loved one is mine, also," He said.
'I have plans for him, as well—
I want him to cast *all* his care on me,
That *my* strength to others he'll tell."

"I've promised to lighten *all* burdens,
Make them sweet and easy, too,
Oh, dear children, if you'd only see
The things I would do for you!"

So I lay and watched as the dear one
toiled,

And under the burdens did bend—
Full content in trusting the unseen
Friend,

Was under the heavy end.

"Dear Master," I cried, "I love thee so,
'Tis sweet to feel thee near,
To know you loved us so, that you died.
Why, then, should we ever fear?"

"Go back to your working and serving,"
He said,

"With my love, warm, deep in your
your breast,

Tell to others, that it's only in me—
That they'll find comfort, sweet peace
and deep rest."

So let us press on, never doubting,
Nor questioning the turn in the road,
For our Guide ever walks close beside
us,
And will govern the heft of the load.

"We thank you, dear Lord, for your
mercies,

For your word, for the sweetness of
friends,

And pray that you'll make us more
worthy

To walk with thee, e'en to the end.

—Mrs. G. E. Wade.

MONETT, MISSOURI

I will try to write a few words of
praise for my Lord. Have sure had
some wonderful blessings from His
bountiful hand during the past few
months, and have thought so much
as health fails us of the swift process
of decaying of this mortal body, and
of some day when we will lay down
this that is called life.

So while here we want to do our
best for the Lord. We thank Him for
the hope we have of that home on
the other side. We want to help others
to see the way.

It might be of interest to some to
know of the meetings we have been in
during the past few months. In the
fall, we had a meeting at the Jones'
Chapel church, but saw no visible re-
sults there. We hope to later. Bro.
John Swaffar was with us there part
of the time.

On December 1st, we began a re-
vival at the Fairview church near
Chetopa, Kansas, and was there three
weeks with one profession. We organ-
ized a young people's league with 33
members which is going fine.

On Thursday night before Christmas,
we began a meeting at Merl's Chapel
near Cassville, Mo., assisted by Rev.
O. M. Ennis of Cassville. The meet-
ing continued for five weeks with 68
professions, 32 additions to the church,
and 31 baptized.

We went from there to the Inde-
pendent Holiness church in Cassville.
Had another wonderful meeting with
39 professions. Bro. Ennis is a won-
derful man of God of the Methodist
church. We had wonderful co-oper-
ation from all denominations for which
we praise God. On the 26th of March,
we baptized 13 from the meeting at
Cassville.

Pray for us as we move on in the
Lord's work that we may always do
His will.

—Eld. W. K. Weston

WEWOKA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Gem Readers:

I was so busy in the month of
February that I did not get my report
to the press.

I received \$12.08 in the month of
February for Foreign Missions: \$5.00
from Tulsa church, \$2.41 from Mission
Circle No. 1., \$2.00 from Hawkins
Free Will Baptist League of Blanchard,
Okla., and \$2.67 from Wewoka church.

For the month of March I have

received \$4.15 from Wewoka, \$8.69
from Mission Circle No. 1., and \$5.00
from Tulsa church. The Lord is
blessing us here in a wonderful way.

We will soon have our new build-
ing completed. We are getting the
ground cleaned up around the new
building so the picture can be made
for a cut. We thought we would wait
for our revival to begin when we
moved into the new building, but the
Lord would not let us wait. It broke
out Sunday night with four precious
souls saved. The revival is now under
way and we desire the prayers of all.
We are having a wonderful revival.
The Garden Club of the city of Wewoka
gave us a donation of shrubbery for
the church ground, also twelve Chinese
Elm trees was given to us by one of
the men that lives here at the back
of the church, Mr. Brown. Also trees
were given by a group here in the
city of Wewoka. Mr. Yandell, an
artist here in the city, is donating
us a large painting of Christ to go
in the new church.

We are beginning to think about
meeting all of our good people down
at Bryan, Texas in our National Asso-
ciation. I'm praying that we will
have a great meeting there.

I have so much news this time that
I will not try to send it all.

Yours for Christ,
Rev. Bert F. Rogers, 401 Patton Ave.

RELIGION

Ethel Peterson, Greentop, Missouri

Religion is telling the truth in your
trade,

Without even counting the cost,
And having the courage to stand by
the right

Tho' fortune and friends may be lost.

Religion is thirty-six inches per yard,
And sixteen full ounces per pound,
And sixty whole minutes of other
men's time,

Not watching these minutes roll round.

Religion is meeting the world with a
smile,

Then bringing a bright smile back
home,

A joy to the loved ones, who wait for
your step,

No matter how far you may roam.

Religion is giving a bright word or two
To those whose dark clouds hide their
sun,

If you have the kind of religion I mean
You'll find your day's labor well done.

HANSEN, IDAHO, March 13th

Dear Gem Family:

It is with pleasure that I try to write a few lines to our dear little paper (or should I say little paper?). It has so many good articles in it that it seems to me like a pretty big paper.

I never can write much that I feel would lift any one up much, but I hope it is a help to some one, and any way, I get a joy out of writing it, during my many lonely hours of being shut in.

I did so much enjoy Sister Ada Brendlinger's good letter and beautiful poem; Sister Ada is one of my dearest friends, as we were together so much in our younger days. She has always seemed almost like a sister to me, and thank the dear Lord, she is a sister in Jesus' name. So, Sister Ada, write again.

We are so glad to read of the nice building that is to be constructed at Monett for the Gem, and we know the good editors will appreciate it beyond words to express; they seem so patient and take such an interest in making the paper interesting for the readers, that we think they are entitled to a good building; and it will be something that the denomination can be proud of.

We so much enjoy each picture in the Gem, they help to make it more interesting. We also enjoy so much the good pieces from our missionary and wife, Bro. and Sister Willey.

Pray for us. I am feeling good physically, but please continue to pray for my recovery.

A sister in Christ,

Mrs. Opal Frazier.

The RETURN OF A PRODIGAL

By Mrs. Opal Frazier, Hansen, Idaho

At midnight a young man opened the door of a house and entered. He saw in the moonlight a familiar bed, and being tired and ill, he threw himself on it and fell asleep. He was not a thief, but a prodigal son. After his mother's death, he had left his home. His father had sent him the key to the house, hoping that he would return some day. The next morning the father entered his son's room, as usual, and to his great joy, he found his son in the bed.

The young man soon woke up and very humbly asked his father's pardon.

In the same way our heavenly Father waits every day, every moment, for us to return to Him. He has given each of us the key to Heaven—the blood of His Son. Shall we not return immediately?

ZION HILL CHURCH REPORT
Talala, Okla., March 15th

Dear Gem Readers:

Here we are again, with a little report of our work for the Lord, after a few months' absence. We have had a wonderful Sunday school this winter, with an average attendance of 50.

We have two league classes for the young people, with forty-five enrolled. We have our classes each Sunday evening at seven o'clock.

The Collinsville Singing Convention met with our church on March 12th. There was lots of good singing and a very large attendance.

We are rock veneering our church building at this time and expect to have it completed in the near future. We are very thankful for this building. Sometimes it looked like we could not build, but we thank the Lord for the few faithful workers who can see the results of their prayers and efforts at this place.

Our mission is working hard, as they are only a few in number, to bear the burden of this great work. The East Side Mission Rally met at our church March 10th. There wasn't very many missions represented, but we had a wonderful time, if there were only a few present. The Lord said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst;" and we know it is true. We came together about ten o'clock with singing and prayer, and had some wonderful mission talks by Sister McDonald and Bro. Pate of Collinsville.

The morning session was in charge of Bro. Day of New Home Church.

Bro. Oliver Lindle of Tulsa read the Scripture lesson from Psalm 1.

Prayer by Bro. Pate.

A bountiful lunch was served at the noon hour.

Bro. Aery, our president, had charge in the afternoon service. Bro. Day read the Scripture lesson. Prayer by Sister Gebhart. There were several good mission talks.

Bro. Oliver Lindle had charge of the testimony service.

Bro. Talbert and Bro. Day brought the afternoon messages, both being very uplifting to Mission workers.

Dismissed with an altar prayer until the night service.

We had a wonderful song service at night, followed by a devotional service led by Bro. Pate.

There being seven ministers present, each was given ten minutes to talk.

Bro. Coursey of Collinsville took the stand first, his subject being, "God's Tool Chest." Followed by Bro. Buck McClure of Turley, Bro. Stinnett of Zion Hill, Sister Heaton of Collinsville, Bro. Ralph Brown, our pastor, and Bro. Cleo Aery of Tulsa. They were all very inspiring messages.

The next rally will meet with our Sapulpa Church.

We feel that it is a great help to any church to have a Mission Rally, for it gives all a greater vision of the Mission work.

We are preparing for an all day Easter service, and a good program started, to which we invite all who can come to be with us.

Our pastor, Bro. Ralph Brown, is holding a two weeks' revival at Collinsville at this time.

We ask an interest in your prayers, that God will bless his efforts, as we feel that he is a real man of God.

Pray for us.

Daisy Merchant, Reporter.

**REPORT OF CAVE SPRING
SECOND FIFTH SUNDAY
MEETING, January 28, 1939**

Bailey Chapel, near Alton, Mo., is made up of a splendid group of folks recently organized, with 42 members now, and in such a spiritual atmosphere we realized again that our prayers for a nation wide revival are being answered.

Neighbor J. E. Rolan and I started out afoot on the 18 mile trip, but good friends gave us lifts so we rode probably about half way, but even then were a little late and found Bro. E. E. Simpson, temporary moderator, reading Psalm 59, prayer by Johnny Pingleton. Bro. Elmer Pingleton, Bro. Huif and Bro. John Nichols were appointed Pulpit Committee.

Threatening weather hindered attendance, but 13 churches were represented. Eleven o'clock service by Brothers

San Bell and Billie Rogers with Rev. 14:13 as a basis: "And I heard a voice from heaven." Only those who obey the Voice are promised the "rest" that comes after labor well done. Jesus labored in the garden in agonizing supplication for us, when the awful burden of our sins rested on Him. Soon, perhaps without warning, we may be called from our work and it behooves us to be occupied *rightly* at all times, for otherwise Satan will switch us into eternal despair. Prayer by Bro. Woodring.

Verbal reports were given on Smyrna church by Bro. Simpson; Myrtle by Bro. Dodson; Liberty by Bro. Woodring; Walnut Grove by Bro. Beatty; also Bilmore church is doing well. Geo Watson said Dials Creek had appointed delegates, but they had not come. Altogether, the Lord's work seemed moving forward well.

Bluff Springs selected as place of next meeting. Sister Rosa Ridenhour gave an encouraging report of Pleasant Hill Mission Circle. Bro. L. R. Wheeler of Cane Hill church was found worthy of license to preach.

At night, Brothers Clarence Dodson and J. E. Rolan, using 1 Cor. 15:12-34 as a basis, gave us a glorious service on the resurrection and our need of being always ready for our *change*.

Sunday morning, Billie Rogers told us about Lot's trouble in "pitching his tent toward Sodom." At eleven o'clock, after singing and prayer, Brothers Russell muse, H. H. Beatty and E. E. Simpson, with John 1:1-10 as a Scripture lesson. If we are really obeying God, every needed help will come when needed, but carelessness leads toward that final great prayer meeting where none of our prayers can be answered because it is too late. After dinner, a warm strengthening devotional service led by Bro. Lawrence Janes made our hearts rejoice in the Lord greatly.

Ministers present: Sam Bell, E. E. Simpson, Clarence Dodson, H. H. Beatty, Billie Rogers, B. H. Woodring, Elmer Hodges, L. R. Wheeler, J. E. Rolan, and W. P. Stogsdill.

Deacons present: Elmer Pingleton, G. L. Harrison, Johnny Pingleton, S. E. Coble, E. L. Frey, Marvin Williams, J. A. Nichols, Com Crews, W. E. Crews, Billie Huddleston, and Elgin Williams.

Eld. H. H. Beatty, Moderator.

Ralph T. Hoyt, Clerk.

TULSA CHURCH REPORT TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Gem Readers:

As I look out of my window this first day of Spring, I see the sun shining so beautifully, the fruit trees putting forth their blossoms, and hear the birds singing so merrily.

Then I wish that every one could appreciate the fine and beautiful things that our Creator bestows upon us, as I am made to appreciate it right now.

Still the blessings we receive in this life are nothing to compare with what we will receive in the next, if we run our race with patience.

Now for a short report on our church. We have had with us the past few nights a Dr. Larry Newgent, former Chaplain of San Quenton Penitentiary. The first two nights he was with us he demonstrated how any one is put to death in the electric chair, which was very touching, and indeed a good lesson for the youth of today.

Since our last report we have had several renewals and seven additions to our church, and plan to have a baptizing in the near future.

This coming Sunday we will be honored by having the Community Singing Convention with us, and we are expecting a huge crowd, and some fine singers. One of the noted quartets will be the "Vaughan Western Quartet."

Will close now by saying that we still covet your prayers.

Ethel Renegar, Reporter.

NEW HOME CHURCH NOTES Tulsa, Oklahoma, March 17th

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

The last two months we were absent from your paper in the way of a report, but we were thinking of you and glad to read the many wonderful reports. It is always inspiring to read a good report from a real working band of Christians.

Here in our church we are so glad to report that our young married people and the older young people are having wonderful meetings. They were meetings on Sunday evenings at about 6:15, but the interest and numbers grew until they found it necessary to meet on Tuesday evening. They have more time and room, as they can use the auditorium. On March 7th they

had 53 in attendance. On March 14th they had 69. In the past four weeks they read 2095 chapters and memorized 117 verses from the Bible.

Our pastor conducts the meetings. For the next meeting "Faith" is the subject and the side that can produce the greatest number of Scriptures pertaining to the subject gets the greatest number of points. We are very happy that they are taking such an unusual interest. We have such a good interest in the Sunday school too, which is also holding up well in numbers.

These are very serious times; so it is really a time when we should be truly alive to God's work. But after all, if we are stayed on Him, we will be in perfect peace (Isaiah 26:3).

"The world is wide, in time and tide, and God is Guide; then do not hurry.

"That man is blest, who does his best, and leaves the rest; then do not worry."

These simple lines by Charles T. Deems have brought peace and comfort to many a soul. The fact is, we, most of us, take ourselves too seriously.

What we need to bear in mind is, that there is a great and mighty power about us, in whose hands the world is safe. Things may not be going as we wish they were, but if we have done our full duty, we need have no fear of the outcome. God moves slowly, but He moves surely. He neither slumbers nor sleeps. The helm of the universe is in His hands.

I will close with a verse which Dr. Forney Hutchinson of Tulsa wrote some years ago:

"I have learned as the years roll onward

And leave the past behind,
That much I counted for sorrow,
But proves that my Lord was kind
And many a rose I longed for,
Had a hidden thorn of pain,
And many a rocky by-path
Led into fields of golden grain."

Mrs. Ed Jenkins, Reporter.

HOPEWELL REVIVAL

Dear Friends:

I wish to report our meeting at the Hopewell Church, 18 miles north of Buffalo, Mo., on highway No. 73.

We started our meeting on February 20th and closed March 9th. We had lots of snow and bad weather the first

ten days: but when the weather faired up so people could attend services, we had a wonderful meeting. The Devil had entered into the hearts of a few here and had caused heartache and trouble that we knew nothing about until the Lord uncovered the wrong. The old Devil was put to rout and the people met in the altar, shook hands and forgave one another.

The Lord blessed in a great way and 13 found peace to their souls. Eight united with the church and we expect several more to unite in the near future. We plan our baptizing for March 26th. Bro. Kenneth Turner was our evangelist. He brought some very powerful messages against sin.

I ask an interest in your prayers, that I might lead the people right.

Eld. Frank Linton, Pastor.

HENDERSON, TEX., Mar. 14th.

Dear Co-Workers:

We are just back from our Ministers' Association, which convened with our Fellowship Church, near Henderson. Bro. Hicks is pastor, and is a splendid young man, and made the delegation feel very much at home.

Just ahead of the Association, the young people met with the League and Sunday School Convention. The Ministers' Association started Sunday night and continued through Friday. It was a real Bible school. We had several courses. Evangelism was first. Then doctrine, church history, English, homiletics, and other things. We had some splendid teachers: Brothers Davidson, Warkentin, Wiggs, Harper, Newsom and others, we can't remember all. The different churches brot dinner every day. If every state could get their ministers organized and meet and study God's Word, it would be a wonderful thing.

Since we last wrote, we have visited several churches here in east Texas. First we visited Fellowship Church.

Names of those that have responded to the Mission call:

YOUNGBLOOD CHURCH

Mrs. T. T. Meggason	1 hen
Mrs. J. C. Kester	1 hen
Mrs. A. B. Duncan	1 hen
Mrs. J. A. Lambert	1 hen
Mrs. Houston Hicks	1 hen
Mrs. Floyd Dollar	1 hen
Mrs. Hughes	1 hen
Mrs. Mary Andrews	1 hen
Mrs. Vernon Newman	\$1.00

Mrs. W. H. Tompkins	1 hen
Mrs. J. S. Tompkins	1 hen
Mrs. Dick Tompkins	1 hen
Mrs. Elmer Hill	1 hen
Mrs. Otwell Tompkins	1 hen
Roy Sharp	\$1.00
Mrs. Jennie Tompkins	\$1.00
Mrs. Fargan Tompkins	\$1.00
Monnie Tompkins25
Bettie Tompkins25
Fay Sharp25
Dorothy Tompkins25

Mrs. V. B. Stone will give money to equal any of the women's chicken money. We thank God for the Fellowship Church.

UNION ARBOR CHURCH

Mrs. Joe Harris	1 hen
A. B. Grant	\$1.00
Joe Harris	\$1.00
J. W. Pittman	\$1.00
Mrs. Avis Kenard	\$1.00
Mrs. Bertha Kenard	\$1.00

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH

Mrs. F. B. Payne	\$10.00
Sallie Dukes	\$1.00
J. B. Dukes	\$1.00
J. L. Ross	\$2.50
Mrs. Henry Gray	\$1.00

BUNCOMBE CHURCH

Mrs. Ola Heard	1 hen
Mrs. Jane Graves	1 hen
Mrs. Minnie Godman	1 hen
Mrs. Edna Morris	1 hen
Mrs. Mae Nail	1 hen
Mrs. Maud Graves	\$1.00
Mrs. Bessie Hayes	\$1.00
Mrs. Willard Hayes	\$1.00
Mrs. Earnest Graves	\$1.00

We are making a special call in this article for all loyal Free Will Baptist women to set aside a hen for National Mission work. The month of April will be fine time to set hens and get ready for the offering to be sent in around July the first. Just drop me a card and your name. I have received two names from Illinois since I last wrote, Mrs. Cecil Edwards sends \$1.00 and Mrs. Wiley Ryan one hen.

We feel that the churches are responding in a wonderful way, and I wish our pastors would take this up with their churches, and each president of the Missionary societies would take it up with their mission women, and see how many would set aside one hen and all the chickens that hen could raise this year.

We are planning to have two offerings, one the first of July and the other around Thanksgiving. Any one wishing to send money any time can send

it to our treasurer, Rev. J. Warkentin, Fort Worth, Texas, 2001 Prairie Ave.

We have a splendid offer to our people or any one that takes the Gem. It will help to raise mission funds in every circle. We have a recipe for a splendid "cleanser" used for a number of things. You can use it for all kinds of washings—Silks, fine cloth of all kinds, and is splendid for a washing machine, cleaning wood work, etc. We offer this recipe for \$1.00. Any one can buy it. Then mission circles can make it and sell for their circles. You can sell it for 25c per quart. This recipe has sold for \$5.00; but you send us \$1.00 and we send you the recipe. We thought this would be a good way for us to raise some more funds, and for you too, and every house wife should have the recipe and never be without the "cleanser;" for it will lighten your work.

Our address is Henderson, Texas.

Pray for us to go on with great success.

—H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

WHEELERSBURG, OHIO

Dear Gem Family:

I visited the Porter Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting at Harrison Church, Minford, Ohio, February 18th.

They have twelve churches, which all reported by letter and delegates.

Eld. J. A. Kemper was chosen Mod.

Saturday morning service was a praise service, conducted by Bro. Ed Gilmore. This meeting lasted for more than two hours, with shouting and praising God.

Good reports from all the churches.

Eld. Earl Rankins preached Saturday night.

Business was conducted with a good spirit in all the sessions.

PINE CREEK QUARTERLY MEET'G

We will also give a brief report of our Pine Creek Quarterly Meeting, which convened with our Bethlehem Church, near Portsmouth, Ohio Feb. 25th and 26th.

Elder Sheppard was chosen Mod.

Saturday morning was spent in a praise service conducted by Bro. Gould from Jackson Q. M. God blessed this service in great way, and it was a time of great rejoicing.

At 2:00 o'clock p. m. we met for the business session. We have 15 churches all of them reporting by letter and

delegate. All churches have pastors, Sunday school and prayer services. Reports were all good.

The business session had a real spiritual feeling all through. We had messengers from Vinton, Ohio Q. M., Jackson, Ohio Q. M., Maigs, Ohio Q. M., and a visiting brother from the Enterprise Baptist, and a visiting preacher from the United Brethren Church.

We received one church at this Q. M., making us 16 churches, and a committee was appointed to investigate a request to bring another church into our Q. M.

Pulpit committee selected Elder Messer to preach Saturday night, Bro. Fry Sunday morning and Bro. See Sunday night. Our churches have been having some great revivals and our preachers have been doing some good work.

Pray for our work here in Ohio, and may the good Lord bless the Gem family.

—Eld. John A. Kemper.

WHY I LOVE MY BIBLE

By Mrs. Ola Skaggs, Granby, Mo.

First of all it tells me of the great sacrifice, the awful death on the cross. I love it because it is a way bill or road map that tells us the way to the home Christ has gone to prepare for those that love Him.

It is my best friend, my daily companion that no one can enrage against me, no gossip estrange toward me, no deceiver separate from me. It never spoke an untruth to me or raised a false hope for me nor falsely accused me. And I can turn to it in every time of trouble.

My Counsellor, my Guide, my blessed Book, my very best friend — The Bible.

FALCON, MO., March 19, 1939

Dear Brother and Sister Brown and Gem Readers: Here I come with my message from New Home Church.

We had no services in February, on account of the bad weather, but we are looking forward to the fourth Sunday in this month. And our Sunday school will start the first Sunday in April; so I hope everybody will take courage and come to learn more about the Lord. If the people knew that this would be the last Sunday school we would have; if the Lord would come say, "It is enough," the church

house would not hold the people.

Now, when John was sent to the seven churches in Asia, what did he find? He found confusion; and I am afraid that when Jesus comes to claim His own, that He will find the people in confusion. But He said there were a few which had not defiled their garments, "and they shall walk with me in white." So let us love and obey His commandments; and grow strong in the Lord as we keep clear from the wickedness of this world.

Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." If we would open the door of our hearts and let the Lord come in, He would always be ready to forgive us, if we are not what the Lord wants us to be. Let us not be idle shepherds, but let us be willing workers for the Lord.

And John said, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them" (Rev. 14:13).

If we are willing for the Lord to lead us in the way, we should be obedient to His commands. Then let us draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to us.

Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss; then let us be careful how we call on God. We should first examine our own heart, then be sure we pray in the Spirit. If any man seemeth to be religious and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, that man's religion is vain.

The Word of God says we can believe a lie and be damned; then let examine ourselves and see if we are fit subjects for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

So many are passing away, both of the saved and unsaved, that our hearts are reaching out after their souls.

For every one it is either joy in heaven or burning in hell for ever and ever. O, sinner, prepare to meet God!

Brothers and sisters in Christ, pray for our church and Sunday school, and pray for our good pastor, that he may bring messages that will touch the hearts of the children of men.

—Mrs. H. G. Hamilton.

NIANGUA, MO., March 16, 1939

Dear Gem Readers:

As I haven't seen any report from Amity Church for some time, I am glad to report that it is doing fine.

Our pastor, Bro. John Swaffar, was with us for his regular appointment on the second Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night and preached three wonderful sermons. He is a real servant, and may we all do our part each time to hold him up with our prayers. We feel that Bro. Swaffar will be a great help to the church as a leader.

Sunday school and prayer meeting are both good and we hope the attendance will increase.

—Mrs. Harley Chandler.

AURORA, MISSOURI, Mar. 22.

Dear Gem Readers:

Here we are with our monthly report. At our last report we were at Hartville, Mo. We were there three weeks. Had some real good services, and twelve souls professed a faith in Christ.

Rupert Cravins, a fine young minister, led the song service. Hartville Church has only a few members, but it has some of the salt of the earth.

We began meeting here at Aurora March 8th. Then on Saturday we were called home for the funeral of wife's grandmother. We left Saturday night after services and returned Tuesday. Bro. John Rollins the pastor held the fort while we were away.

There is prospect here for a real revival. We ask all who read this to join us in praying for the salvation of souls here, and everywhere.

May God bless our Gem family and the household of faith everywhere.

Sam and Daisy Marcum,
Home address Cameron, Mo., R7.

TORNADO, W. VA., Feb. 28th

Dear Brother and Sister Brown, Bro. Rollins and all the Gem Family:

I have been thinking of writing for some time, but could not think of anything that would interest any one; so I have not written for some time.

Some of the Gem readers said that my brother, F. E. Nicholas, and I had both laid down on the job; so I thought I would try to write a few lines.

I have attended three quarterly meetings since I last wrote to the Gem.

On Friday before the second Sunday in December, 1938, I attended Union Quarterly Meeting. Had a very good meeting. Three churches reported by letter and delegates. Three preachers were present: Elders R. L. Stanley, Thomas Bell and D. W. Wade. Bro. Wade had been absent from five Q. M.

on account of poor health. The brethren were all glad to see him out again.

Bro. John Henson and Bro. Harper were present from Brotherhood Q. M.

Then I attended Brotherhood Q. M. on Friday before the first Sunday in January, 1939. Had a very good meeting, with a good delegation and several preachers, and we had some good preaching.

Then on Friday before the 5th Sunday in January I went to the Kanawha Q. M. Had a good delegation and lots of preachers, but we had to break up right in the middle of the services on Sunday on account of rain and high water.

I attended a revival that Bro. Henson was holding at Brown's Chapel Church in the Union Conference in December. Had a good meeting, but not much success. I walked six miles to get there and six miles back for about seven nights. That is about the closest I have to attend church now, as the church here has quit having any kind of services.

Pray for me and this community, and pray that God will send some one here that can build up this church.

May God bless you all, is my prayer.

—F. V. Nicholas.

MISSIONARY HONOR ROLL Regular Monthly Contributors to the Foreign Mission Fund.

Mt. Olive Church Blue Eye, Mo.
Mt. Zion Church, near Plattsburg, Mo.
Union Third Fork, near St. Joseph, Mo.
Monett Church Monett, Mo.
Merl's Chapel Cassville, Mo.
Flat River Church Flat River, Mo.
Jones Chapel Church Stella, Mo.
Aurora Church Aurora, Mo.
Desloge Sunday School, Desloge, Mo.
Mt'n Valley League.... Norwood, Mo.
Oak Grove Church Stella, Mo.
Verdella Church, Liberal, Mo.
Hazel Creek Union, .. Novinger, Mo.
True Blue Class, Mt. Olive (Neola)
Church, Greenfield, Mo.
Mt. Olive (Neola) Mission Circle

INDIVIDUALS

Eld. and Mrs. B. F. Brown, Purdy, Mo.
K. J. Ester, 1020 Hamilton, St. Louis

If you or your church, your League, or your Sunday School is a regular giver, and the name is not listed on this roll, please send it in.—Editor.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION FUND

True Blue Class, Neola S. S.	\$1.00
Neola Mission Circle,	2.50
S. P. Eastley, Portales, N. Mex.	4.00
Hannon Church, Hannon, Mo. ..	7.00
Verdella Church, Liberal, Mo. ..	.65
Mr. & Mrs. B. F. Brown, Purdy,	2.00
Mine La Motte S. S.	1.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Thomas,	
Arcadia, Kansas	2.00
Mr. & Mrs. E. N. Crippen,	
Garden Grove, Calif.	2.00
Mr. & Mrs. K. J. Esther, St. Louis,	2.00

FINANCIAL REPORT OF PUBLISHING HOUSE FUND

Final Report

Leadington Sunday School	
Leadington, Mo.	\$1.99
J. O. Filkins, Novinger, Mo.	19.00
Mrs. Goldia Elsea, Novinger, ..	5.00
Amount given in notes, which notes were accepted by B. F. Brown on payment for machinery.	\$270.00

—Winford Davis, Treas.

Fire, A Symbol of Spiritual Power

By Eld. John H. West, Bristow, Okla.

In my previous article I gave Scripture texts to prove that all fire spoken of in the Bible was not for the wicked; but that it was a symbol of the presence of God. I assure you that there is no one that believes that there is a fire for the wicked any more than I; but there is a spiritual power called fire, for the righteous. When we say that all the fire of the Bible is for the wicked, we place the Hebrew children in that class; but my dear brethren, if we only had a few more soldiers like they were we could move things for God. I think that the fire that they were thrown into symbolizes the troubles of this world; and that Christ walks beside us in them as He did with those three Hebrews.

In Luke 12:49, we find the words of Jesus, "I am come to send fire on the earth; but what will I, if it be already kindled?"

In Malachi 3, we find some prophecy concerning John the Baptist, one of God's messengers. God said that he was like refiner's fire. In Matthew 3, we find the prophecy being fulfilled as John came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, "Repent." John really had the fire kindled for Christ when he came. This messenger had a message for all that would believe, and God is still sending messages to those who will accept them. John asked all that believed to prove it by being baptized in water, and many were baptized. There are many folks today that say they believe and are baptized; but dear people, there is something greater yet. John said

to those people, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance; but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

It is preposterous to say that John was talking to two congregations as some people teach. He was talking to one bunch of people and about one baptism. You may refer me to the next verse (Matt. 3:12), "Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." But, may I ask this question? When Christ came, did this happen? We should rightly divide the word of truth. I will speak of this in my next and last article. When was this thing that John spoke of fulfilled?

Come with me to Acts 2, where "they were all with one accord and in one place, and suddenly there was a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting."

Space will not permit me to tell all the story that you know so well; but there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire.

You may say, "What about the spiritual power?" Read on through the chapter and you will find that Peter preached as never before; and there were three thousand souls saved.

Brethren, when we get in touch with God, there is something that burns within us. Read Psa. 39:3; Jer. 20:9.

PURDY, MISSOURI

Dear Gem Readers:

We wish to report our meeting which we have just closed at Union Light Free Will Baptist church, near Marquand, Mo. We certainly had a good revival. This church is located in the country, and there are two church organizations in the same building. The congregational Methodist have a church there and also the Free Will Baptist. We found them both ready to help us and we had splendid co-operation. Of course, we always find some who are a hindrance rather than a help. We had 26 professions, and 12 fellowshiped with the Free Will Baptist and one with the Methodist. We had a number of preachers with us. On Sunday, March 26, we had an all day service and Rev. James F. Miller from Flat River brought a soul stirring message in the afternoon to a tightly packed house. Then we went to the water's edge, and Bro. William Reeves, pastor of the Free Will Baptist, baptized 11 among whom was Sister Eunice Miller's mother and two sisters. We closed the meeting Sunday night, March 26, having been going for five weeks. We have visited home folk and our home church at Aurora, Mo. where Bro. Sam H. Marcum is in a revival. We leave Monday, April 3, to go to Kirksville, Mo. to begin a meeting with Bro. Noel Turner at the Sublette Free Will Baptist church. We ask your prayers that God's will may be done in our life.

—Eld. F. C. Zinn and Wife

GREENTOP, MISSOURI

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

As I am sending a subscription, I will write a few lines just by way of letting off steam, or whatever you call it. My heart is so full that it seems I can't keep still, and I can't think of anything better than to take my spite out on the Gem family.

Everything looks so beautiful and spring-like, trees budding out, wild flowers blooming, all sorts of birds singing on every side, and the earth putting on a new green coat; just can see God and His handiwork just anywhere you look. And, best of all, surrounded by kind loving friends who are never too busy to be thoughtful of one's every need, wants and wishes; it's no wonder our cups are made to

run over with joy and thanksgiving. Without these kind, really Christian friends, those that follow the trail that Jesus blazed for us, that are interested in all mankind, that are willing to forgive the full seventy times seven, those that are always ready to help that one that stumbled, with a special kindness, a word of encouragement, a special invitation, if necessary. I say, Without these, I have often wondered what would have become of me and perhaps others as well. So I am thanking God this morning for these good folks, and my heart is made to overflow with thanksgiving and praise. I have been made to wonder about that wonderful man of God, of whom Jesus said, "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." His life might have been different, had it not been for the thoughtfulness of our loving Savior sending him that special invitation, after Peter had denied Him three times and cursed and swore, lied, and said, "I never knew the man." After all this Jesus was put to death and arose the third day and met those folks, and said, "Go, tell my disciples, and Peter, that I have risen and gone on before them into Galilee." If Jesus had not been there, and Peter had been surrounded with some of our modern "better than thou" Christians who would have said (by their actions), "Tell the disciples, all but Peter (there's no use to bother with him), he isn't worth it, he did something I wouldn't do (the old backslider), but tell the rest of them to come on." It seems reasonable to believe that it might have had some influence on his life. I think it would be well to keep these examples in mind, they surely are not written just to fill up space. Why not be willing to overlook mistakes, always ready with kind encouraging words, never missing an opportunity to give that special invitation Jesus thought so necessary in Peter's case? Now, this is just one of the nearly three hundred "Do's" in the Bible. God made us free moral agents, with a will of our own—we can do these little simple "Do's," or we can disregard them, whichever we choose, but I wonder sometimes just how many of them we can ignore and still call ourselves Christians. We are truly our brother's keeper, and if we fail to do these things, and someone drops out of the race, well, we will always have the roadhouses and dance halls to lay the blame on, but we can't un-

load the responsibility that easy.

So, while we are trying to solve all the mysteries of the Bible, and are watching Hitler's every move, let's not get too busy to keep one eye on the land marks along the pathway that Jesus trod, that leads to that beautiful home over there. I get a lot more pleasure out of saying something kind, that has a tendency to draw folks closer than in saying something mean, that drives them farther away from God, don't you think so?

We meet up with folks who have the idea that something they can say, anything they like, about anyone, just so long as it's the truth, is all right. And, if the preacher hops them about it, they say, "It's the truth, my conscience is clear." I think their conscience is like the Dutchman's "Just as good as new" (never been used). The trouble with that doctrine nine times out of ten, we are telling something that has already been repented of, and God has forgiven it, and forgotten it, and here we go dragging it around like something the cats dragged in. Oh, how ashamed we ought to be!

I have always understood my Book to teach that we don't have (at least) much more right to tattle things that are true, than we do things that are false. I wish some of you Bible students would put me stright on this point, if you please. There are several folks who seem to think it's really their duty to keep a thing fresh in the minds of all the people, just because it's true. No matter how true a thing was yesterday, God has forgiven it, if He has been asked in the right way, and every one of the folks who are Christ-like have forgiven it, and, although one might have been a thief and a murderer yesterday, after God has forgiven, those things are not true of him today. Just my idea, but may God help us to try to see things in the right way.

I feel that I almost owe you readers an apology for writing so much, I didn't intend to. My letter of some months ago drew so much criticism, that I thought I wouldn't write again, and perhaps would not have done so, had it not been for mailing my sub.

I'll mention another little thought, as I may never have another opportunity. It possibly isn't worth anything, but it won't cost anything. It seems to me that we are approaching the time when it is becoming more and more

necessary for one to stand on his own two legs and decide for ourselves what is right in any matter, God helping us, and then stand up for that thing against the whole world, if necessary. It's a lot easier just to side in with the bunch, go to sleep on the job, and never bother about using your own head.

We hear a lot about that good old majority rule, and that's fine as long as it's right, but if the majority votes to put card tables in the basement of our church, how about that? Because the majority does a thing doesn't even indicate to me that it's right. The Devil might even have a majority sometimes (in fact I think he has), but we are not going to agree that he is right. Too often the majority is obtained by some conceited one with an overestimated opinion of himself, and his thinking capacity, who is willing to indulge in duplicity and deceit, approaching us weaker ones who lack the backbone to make our own decision, and before we are aware of it, we find ourselves putting our stamp of approval on things that are wrong without giving it proper thought. So let's get the habit of using that knot that sits on our shoulders, it wasn't put there just to keep our backbone from raveling. God meant that we should use it, or He might have made us even dumber than what we are (if that were possible). If we will stop to think, some of the best men the world has ever known were very much in the minority.

I will close now, hoping that some one will get at least one thought that is in line with the written Word.

I ask an interest in your prayers to the end, that I make my own decisions, stand true and firm for that which I know to be right, never stoop to try to please men, never miss an opportunity to do good, and live a life untainted by the customs and traditions of men.

—C. B. Gregory.

SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI Third Free Will Baptist Church

Dear Gem Readers and Friends:

It has been some time since I have written about our church. We are getting along fine and the Lord is blessing our work. We are having fine meetings and people are getting saved. Have had about seven saved in the last two months. Bro. Lewis is doing about as good preaching as I ever heard, and our services are good.

We have good crowds, and several have come forward for prayer, and we are looking for better results: for the Lord is blessing Bro. Mark. I think he is going to make one of the finest preachers in Southeast Missouri. He is getting better all the time: for God is with him, and he preaches with power. People can't sit under his preaching without getting convicted.

We are looking for a revival to break out most any time: for we sure have some good meetings, some praying, some singing, and some shouting. Well, praise the Lord.

Bro. Hill is getting along fine, and is doing some preaching now; and we hope he continues to improve, so he can get back in the service.

Our Sunday school is coming along fine, and everything is working out fine. We are looking for a bigger Sunday school than we have ever had, and are hoping and trusting and praying for the Lord to help us do greater things for Him.

Winter is past now and summer is here, so let's all work for the Lord as we have never worked before, for time is swiftly passing by and what we let go to waste now is forever lost; so let us get busy.

Our young people's league is coming along fine, and they are having some good times. We hope everything will continue to work in harmony, so the Lord can bless our labors.

Francis McCauley, 1622 Hickory St.

A NEW BOOK THE PRACTICAL PRINCE OF PEACE

By J. M. Doughty

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A Reminder!

The Gem is a little late this time for different reasons.

We were short on manuscript and much of what we did receive came in late. All manuscript should reach us not later than the 25th of the month preceding the date of issue, to insure publication in the current issue of the Gem. We thank every one of you for whatever you have contributed for the Gem, and hope for a continuation of your

co-operation and support.

The editor has had a case of the flu, and the assistant editor got married; but we are now on the job doing our best for the worthy cause.

We had a fire in Febr. Only the building was damaged, which the insurance company paid, and repairs are being made.

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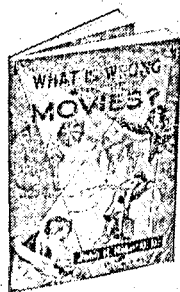
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