

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

Vol. XI. No. 5.

Purdy, Missouri, May, 1939

50 cents per year.

The Conflict of Peace

By Sadie Louise Miller, Upland, Indiana

For nearly seventy years there was a dispute between Chili and Argentine over a tract of eighty thousand square miles of land along the border. Battleships were being constructed, immense sums of money were being expended for armaments, and the feeling of jealousy ran high. Despite the difficulties that had arisen, the two countries came, however, to see the folly of going to war, and the matter was finally settled by arbitration. Funds were raised, and with the metal melted from their guns, an immense statue of Christ was erected at the highest available spot on the border between the two countries. Upon this statue were inscribed these words: "Sooner shall these mountains crumble into dust than Argentines and Chileans break the peace to which they have pledged themselves at the feet of Christ the Redeemer."

Far up on a mountain peak, rugged and high,
A figure stands reaching a hand toward the sky;
Immense in its structure, it gleams from the height,
All bathed in a halo of heaven's pure light.
A face full of pity, with love beaming forth,
Speaks in silent entreaty to people of earth
A message of truth from the mountain so high—
Give heed to its meaning, all ye who pass by.

Many decades two nations who lived side by side
For a small strip of land with each other had vied,
Until both decided that life blood should pay
For the coveted land that between them now lay.
So they built their huge battleships, burning with hate,
But awoke to their folly before 'twas too late.
And, melting their guns, they agreed to unite
In placing the Christ on the borderland height;
Then carved on the statue their newly made creed
To Him whose ideals forbids lust and greed:
That though those great mountains should crumble to dust,
Yet would Chili and Argentine not break their trust.
There He stands mutely pleading with men of all lands,
"Give not your brave sons into hell's fiendish hands.
Your race will be weakened the great toll to pay;
Is land worth the lives that are lost in the fray?
Make spears into pruning hooks, plough shares of sword;
God's children shall live in the sweetest accord."
Attend to His words as their warning they bring,
For the Christ of the Andes is Jesus your king.

Rise, Christian America! Wake to the truth,
And slay not your men in their vigor and youth.
France, England and Germany, what is the gain,
A square mile of land for a lifetime of pain?
Let Mars be dethroned, with shame in his face,
And Christ of the Andes enthroned in his place.
"Lay down puny arms," speaks the Voice from the height,
"My strong hand will conquer, man's might makes not right."

Put your millions in ships, but speed them afar
Filled with soldiers for Jesus, and trained for His war;
But not with harsh weapons. Let men go aboard
With the sword of the Spirit, the Word of our God;
Their helmet salvation, with faith for their shield,
And girded with truth to conquer, not yield.
To earth's remote nations He bids them to go
With love and good will in the place of grim woe;
Their feet shod with His preparation of peace;
For the Christ of the Andes proclaimeth release.

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

Published monthly at Purdy, Missouri


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

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

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

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Travelers---Where?

Contributed by Elder Sam H. Marcum

The millions of earth are marching right on,
From morn until night, from dusk until dawn;
All nations and tribes and kindreds are there,
Yea, some who the signs of royalty wear;
The rich and the poor, the grave and the gay,
The young in their prime, the old and the gray;
Some seek for themselves to make a great name,
Engrave it high upon the annals of fame;

Some seek the wealth that soon flies away,
Or pleasures that perish—fade as the day;
A few seek to lay up their treasures above,
Where God is the light, in the city of love—
Whatever our quest, we're marching right on,
From morn until night, from dusk until dawn!
Oh, solemn indeed are the scenes that await
Each one of this number—lowly or great;
A few fleeting years, or days it may be,
Or even less time, then the vast Eternity!
When time now on wings shall quickly have flown
The "Ancient of days" will sit on His throne,
And summon the millions before Him to stand;
The scene will be awful, solemn and grand;
The books will be opened; the dead shall arise
In time for this Judgment scene in the skies;
That Presence, majestic, will shine like the sun,
Judge men by the Word, and what they have done;
Irrevocably fixed each sentence will be,
And holy and just, none from it can flee!
O traveler of earth to the great Judgment Bar,
Stop now and consider, just where you are!
If suddenly called from earth scenes away,
No time for repentance, for mercy to pray,
Would yours be the wall, "Forever too late?"
A heaven of bliss, or a dark hell of woe—
'Tis one or the other, oh, where would you go?
There is only one way to prepare for that home,
Where sorrow ne'er enters, and sin can not come;
Then fly to the Savior, repent and believe,
And you His blest cleansing will surely receive;
He'll comfort and lead you each step of the way,
From the lowlands of earth, to the bright realms of day!

—B. Staples.

The Bridge Builder

Contributed by Mrs. Sophia Ackerson, Richwoods, Mo.

An old man traveling a lone highway,
Came at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm deep and wide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
For the sullen stream had no terrors for him,
But he turned when he reached the other side,
And builded a bridge to span the tide.
"Old man," cried a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with your building here,
Your journey will end with the ending day,
And you never again will pass this way.
You have crossed the chasm deep and wide;
Why build a bridge at eventide?"
And the builder raised his old gray head,
"Good friend, on the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today

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The Why of a National School

By Rev. J. R. Davidson, 808 W. 27th Street, Bryan, Texas

This matter of a National Educational Institution for the Free Will Baptist church has been in many hearts since the time of our great loss by fire at Eureka College. I am believing that we are nearing the time that something definite shall materialize in this connection, and the earlier this time comes the better for our cause, which has suffered greatly because of this lack.

"Study to shew thyself approved" is the challenge to the young people who are aspiring to definite fields of service in our church; yet we have not the place to which we can send, or invite them, with a guarantee for their safety. If we are to raise the educational standard of our ministry, and that we must do, we must have this institution to which the aspirants can go for training. You ask if they cannot be trained in other institutions which are already established? We answer, yes, but that we have sacrificed too much of our talent already on this altar. Our failure to operate such an institution of our own has allowed such influence to come into many lives which has weakened their convictions in the old Fundamental Doctrines of Christ as taught by the Free Will Baptist church. We must have a uniform plan of training, if we are to present a solid front for Christ in this Day of Apostasy. Men who think alike, pray alike, believe alike, preach alike and work alike may be in our pulpits everywhere, if only we arise and build this much needed institution. God wants to present to the world, through our church, men who need not be ashamed, "rightly dividing the word of Truth." This is the most important business in the whole world, why not begin treating it as such in our denominational work?

We are commissioned to preach the Gospel to every creature, and if we are to make our contribution in this respect we must have an institution in which our talent shall be trained for this special work. How greatly we feel the responsibility in spreading the Gospel in our home land, but if we are to succeed in this great task our talent must be trained. Those who blaze the way as evangelists must be well prepared, as well as those who are to follow as pastors in the newly organized work. "Let us go into the

next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth," said Jesus in Mark 1:38. So we are bound to evangelize the home land, and the world at large, if we are going to accept His challenge in the fullest sense. Surely all can readily see the part our educational institution must play in this great cause. The church which fails in this entrustment, is nothing short of a complete failure, and I know that all of us wish for ours to be the greatest of success. But are we anxious enough about it to pay the price? I feel that in a great measure this question will be answered by our people in the period from May 15 through June 30, 1939.

I urge that each church and minister secure a copy of the plan for the campaign as outlined by the Board, and get it before you. Select the portions of it which are the most adaptable to your situation, and get busy. I trust that no one will say, "I wonder what they are going to do in this campaign?" But let every one say, "WHAT MUST I DO?" Please do not aim at raising only ten cents per capita, but raise every dollar that you possibly can.

My Brother and Sister, if the Lord has blessed you with much of this world's goods, will you not open your heart, and draw on your bank account



Rev. J. R. Davidson

with a large check for this work? Give the one thousand dollars asked for in the plan if possible, if not give as much as you can.

To My Brother Ministers: Every one of you are called upon to open this campaign with your people with an offering of not less than \$1.00. If you can give more, don't be satisfied with the \$1.00. Also you are called upon to set an example for your people during the week from May 15 through 21, the week designated as self-denial week by the Board. As chairman of the Board, I am leading the way by announcing myself as an example: In the donation of one dollar or more on the first day of the campaign, May 15, and to deny myself of all unnecessary things, and some necessary ones, the entire week. Every preacher who will join me just drop me a postal card stating the fact, and I will publish your name as soon as possible after your card reaches me. I already have Bro. Melvin Bingham's pledge for the one dollar, and I am sure that he will enter the self-denial proposition too. So will many more, but will you be among them? I shall be disappointed in you if you fail, and so will the Lord.

To the Brotherhood at large: If possible, set aside \$1.00 on May 15 as an investment proposition. Invest it to the greatest advantage possible for the entire forty-five days of the campaign, then turn the dollar with what it has gained in for this institution. I am further becoming an example by investing the one dollar which I am to give on the first day of the campaign to the very best of my ability. Come on preachers and follow suit. If you wish to invest your dollar you are asked to give, just mention it when you write that card. I mean the one you are going to write to me as soon as you have finished reading this article. Deacons, elders, laymen and ladies are also challenged on this point. Write me.

Remember we are looking with expectancy to every auxiliary in our entire connection, whether it be Ladies' Aid, Sunday school, League, Missionary Society or what not. Put your time, talent and means to work, and let's be able to shout victory when the National Association convenes in July.

Your funds should be sent to J. R. Davidson, Bryan, Texas, or to D. Selph Jones, Mansfield, Mo.

Foundation for Character

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

"Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11).

A FOUNDATION Is so important that it will determine the stability of any structure. We are all engaged in the construction of a character for two worlds—this world and one more. Our actions and motives compose the materials. Good deeds and noble acts will provide a shelter, quiet, honor, and comfort in this life, and in the life to come, an abode with the blest. Unprincipled and irreligious conduct will yield a curse, unrest, shame, disgrace in this world, and eternal infamy in the next.

How important it is to lay a foundation suitable for the structure we expect to erect! It is folly to think of placing a virtuous superstructure upon a substructure of vice. Many who design to be right in the end, begin by indulging in follies which they intend to repudiate later. Each day's actions adds to its dimensions—and this is building on the sand!

Other young men avoid these indulgences and pride themselves on a spotless morality. Notwithstanding all this, they are building their character on the sand. Why are they moral? Because they wish to be respectable. Why do they refrain from the wine-cup, the card-table, the theater, the house of "her whose feet take hold of death"? Because they are too proud to be vicious. Why are they diligent, studious, careful of their reputation? Because they are ambitious of success in this life. Now what stability is there in pride or ambition? They are but as the sand! The first rushing flood of tempting circumstances may wash them, and the character they have built to utter destruction!

What is the true foundation of character? Where is the **SOLID ROCK** which will afford a firm resting place for a virtuous life? The apostle Paul struck the key note in this notable language: "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is **JESUS CHRIST**," which means that corner-stone of everything truly great, honorable and noble in human character is a saving faith in Jesus Christ. Without this, life is filled with a "dread uncertainty" and the "blackness of darkness" encircles the grave.

Temporal prosperity and social superiority, riches, honor, power, and long life are often gained by men who are "an abomination in the sight of God." Brilliant business talents will make their possessor a desirable and prosperous man, even duplicity, knavery or over-reaching in trade may fill a man's coffers with unholy gain. Often do the vile enemies of Christ climb to high places. Their gain is their portion. Beneath the gay and attractive exterior they carry a heavy heart. To real contentment, to inward tranquility, to genuine happiness every godless man is an utter stranger.



Multitudes of the world's most honored and applauded heroes have groaned forth the lamentable cry, "Our misery is greater than we can endure!" Midst profusions of honors, riches, offices, and plaudits such notables as kings, princes, senators, philosophers, merchants, warriors, and orators without number, when at the height of their ambition, have signed the declaration of that wise monarch who said of this world, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity!" Their recorded confessions reveal their misery!

Listen to Voltaire, one of the most brilliant of the sons of genius, whose friendship was courted by powerful kings and whom the people delighted to honor, speaking of life, said: "Life is thickly sown with thorns; and I know of no other remedy than to pass quickly through them." Death to Voltaire was a "Leap into the Dark."—A foundation without God!

Lord Chesterfield, a British nobleman, a man who made pleasure his

chief pursuit in life, rich in titles, lands, wit, learning and opportunity, compared life to a dull, tasteless and insipid journey. He said, "As for myself, my course is already more than half past over, and I mean to sleep in the coach the rest of the journey."

John Byron, that highly gifted, but deeply sinning child of the Muses, described human life in the following sorrowful lines:

"Alas! It is delusion all;

The future cheats us from afar,
Nor can we be what we recall,

Nor dare we think on what we are."

Where is the young man who can envy the literary glory of Voltaire, the fashionable pre-eminence of Chesterfield, or the blazing luster of Byron's genius, while he beholds the first so tormented with the thorns of life, the second so horrified with a feeling of disgust, the third so tormented with remorse and fear, that a hasty flight, or a blind forgetfulness, or a reckless leap into the great deep of consequences is their highest consolation? How pitiful, how inexpressibly mournful to see minds immortal so tormented and so hopelessly wretched!

Foundation for Life—What about it? These brilliant worldlings unintentionally proved the truth of him who was accounted as the "filth and offscouring of all things." Persecutions and sufferings rained down upon his head with such fury, yet there he stood firmly and calmly, amidst the foaming of the storm with his feet resting on the Solid Rock of Christ's promises. "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

"Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." Tell me, young man, if this noble bearing, this divine triumph under the sorest of present ills, is not of more value than the pleasures of sense, the pomp of power, or the luxuries of wealth! How much more preferable, therefore, must be a life consecrated to Christ in its youth, to a life of even profitable sin.

All other foundations of life crumble, break, dissolve, and disappear—only One stands—Jesus Christ.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body." 2 Cor. 4:8-10.

Citizenship, Crime, and Christianity

By J. M. Doughty, Strafford, Mo.

A short time ago I heard a discussion over the radio on crime. A chief of police told of the awful financial cost of crime. But the suffering of the innocent and the loss of life due to crime is the worst of all. Criminologists are trying to find ways of reducing crime, and our law enforcement officers are apprehending criminals and bringing them to justice, but no way has ever been found that is equal to the religion of Jesus Christ for preventing crime.

I once heard of a phrenologist running his fingers over a Christian's head and saying, "By nature a criminal." The good man replied: "By nature a criminal, but by the grace of God a Christian." A person may have criminal tendencies, but Christ is able to save him from crime for with God all things are possible.

We read in the seventh chapter of Hebrews that Christ is able to save to the uttermost.

When I was a boy, a simple minded old man visited in our home. The poor man had never been able to count more than five. My mother told me that when this feeble minded fellow was a young man that he was profane in his conversation, but he was converted in a revival meeting and the officers of the church asked him if he wanted to join their church. He replied that he would wait and see if he could drive the oxen without cursing. After he had proved to his own satisfaction that by the help of God he could drive the ox teams without swearing, he joined the church and was a loyal Christian throughout a long life.

So much of the crime problem can be solved by getting the Gospel to those of abnormal minds and the underprivileged. A few years ago I heard a member of a prison investigation committee state that 90% of convicts of the Missouri Penitentiary had never been above the fourth grade in school.

The good citizen is one who does right because he loves that which is right and not because he or she fears the law. In the 13th chapter of Romans we have the words of the apostle Paul, "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." When one has

the Christ's Spirit in his breast, he loves his neighbor and tries to live by the Golden Rule. One does not commit crime when he lives by the Golden Rule.

No doubt preachers of the Gospel of Christ do more to prevent crime than do policemen and peace officers and each real Christian is setting moral standards that help to prevent crime.

Christians should use their influence against sources of crime, and one of the greatest of these is alcoholic liquor. Homer Rodeheaver, the great singing

evangelist, considers the repeal of prohibition as our greatest national tragedy.

Then Christians should do more to bring more people in contact with the Gospel of Christ. There are entirely too many children out of Sunday school and too few people attending religious services.

One of the greatest things that can be done to overcome crime is to have more well prepared Sunday school teachers who will invite children to Sunday school and then meet the children at Sunday school and teach them of the practical Christ.

Judges of Juvenile Courts state that most of the children that come before them do not attend Sunday school.

The Power of the Word

Rev. W. C. Cadle, Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

It is with the greatest of pleasure and by God's mercies that I have the privilege of writing once more to the Gem. As we study the Scriptures, we find the apostle Paul has given charge in 2 Timothy 4:2, "Preach the Word." "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

This Scripture refers to Jesus the Saviour of the world, and "the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). The majority of the so-called preachers today are preaching so many things that do not harmonize with the Saviour's Word. Many folks are blinded against the Bible truth, and do not give the Bible as careful study as they should.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine and my Father is the husbandman" (John 15:1). "I am the vine, ye are the branches." Jesus said that we cannot bear fruit unless we abide in Him. "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:5).

Then when we come to Jesus and ask anything in faith believing, He said He would give us the things that we need. Jesus knows what we need better than we are able to ask of Him. Jesus said that if we would come

unto Him, He would in no wise turn us away.

Every true child of God ought to be glad for a Saviour like Jesus, that can save and keep us saved.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

We have many wonderful things to be proud of, when we have our eye singled to the Word of God: for we know that the peace of God is resting upon us; we can lay down at night and not be afraid.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). We should take everything to God in prayer.

I read of a man that was fervent in prayer, and he prayed to God and asked God to close up the heavens that it rain not. God heard and answered and three and one half years had passed, when he prayed again and the heavens gave rain. If we pray like Elijah did, with our hearts singled to God's holy Word, and ask in faith believing, and confess Him with our mouth, we shall be saved. We must first come to Jesus and confess our sins, then Jesus will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

"The Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword." Heb. 4:12.

The Apostle Peter

By Rev. E. E. Simpson, Alton, Mo.

The first glimpse we have of Peter is when Andrew brought him to Jesus; this is John's account of him.

But he didn't leave everything then and follow Christ. He waited until he got another calling. I think we all can learn a lesson right here. It is not every one who becomes a saint that has to give up his occupation to follow Jesus.

I believe there are self made preachers, or in other words, man made preachers. This is why so many fail and break down in the ministry. If people will go when God calls them, success will crown their efforts.

Now we find in the fifth chapter of Luke where Peter got his calling, and also in the fourth chapter of Matthew.

He was out with his partners and other fishermen when Jesus came along and told them to cast their nets into the sea. Peter said, "We have toiled all night and caught nothing," but Jesus had commanded them to do so and down went the nets. What happened? They were successful! Insomuch that they asked for help. I think of that word help. We are all called to be disciples, and may the Lord help us to abide in that calling wherein we are called, that we may help in some way to spread the Gospel.

So after the disciples got ashore, the Lord called them. He simply said, "Follow me."

We can learn another lesson here. Some may say, "why didn't the Lord call them before they were successful in catching the fish? I tell you what I think, the Lord wanted them to sacrifice something. They might have said, "We just as well go, business is poor." That is people's way of looking at things these days. They are willing to become disciples of the Lord if it doesn't cost them anything.

I hear the Apostle Peter say in another place, "Lord, we have left all and followed thee." What did they leave? Just an old broken net. It is just so now-a-days, people leave a few broken nets, and say "we have left all and followed thee." Let us think, have we left off Sunday ball playing, the card table, dance halls, and things of the beer joints to follow Jesus? My friend, if you haven't, you aren't following Jesus.

The next glimpse we catch of Peter is when he takes on the character of

doubt in Matt. 14: 21—. Jesus constrained His disciples to get in a ship and go to the other side while He sent the multitude away. Jesus went to the mountain to pray and was there until evening while the ship was tossing on the waves of the sea until the fourth watch of the night. Jesus came to them walking on the water. Peter said, "Lord, if it be you, bid me come to you on the water." The Lord said, "Come." Out stepped Peter on the water with his eyes on the Lord walking to Him until he got his eyes on the waves, and off the Lord. When he did this, down he went. He cried to the Saviour. The Lord will help us as he helped Peter if we will turn our eyes up to Him. Paul said, "Keep your affections on things above," not on things beneath. So the Lord lifted him up and said, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

A good many people would be willing to become disciples these days if they could see how they were going to walk. They are not willing to walk by faith.

I say by our own experiences, sometimes we are on the mountain top and some times we are like Peter confessed.

Christ Jesus asked the people who he was: Some said one thing, some another. Peter said, "Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God." The Lord blessed him. I haven't seen anyone yet who really confessed the Lord but what received a blessing. Peter had self confidence. He said he wouldn't deny the Lord. The Lord said he would (Luke 22). He should have said, "Lord help me that I won't deny thee."

We cannot live a Christian life without the Lord. This is the great mystery of the world, Christ in you the hope of glory.

Next we find Peter goes to sleep while Jesus was praying in the garden. Is that our experience, I fear too many Christians are asleep today and are not up about our Father's business. So let us awake unto richness and sin not.

After awhile, I see Peter follow afar off and getting in bad company, and denying the Lord. That is what happens to people that follow the Lord afar off, they get in bad company and then deny the Saviour.

May this message cause Christians to get warmed up.

The Love of God

Mrs. Sophia Ackerson, Richwoods, Mo.

I want to write a little message that will help everyone who will read, if they be Christian or sinner.

The Love of God is a gracious principle or habit wrought in the soul by God, which inclines us to delight, esteem and earnestly desire to enjoy an interest in God's favor and communion with Him as our chief good portion, happiness, and fountain of perfection and excellency, with likeness in us to do good to all such as resemble God in holiness and bear His image. God's love is Holy, Pure, and Perfect. We know it is perfect because it casts out all fear.

We can conquer all sin by the love of God, and nothing can separate us from His love. The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost given us. We are not ashamed of that hope that is given us of eternal life.

In 2 Corinthians 13:14, Paul is speaking to the people he had labored with and suffered for for Christ's sake

and who depended on the love of God. He prayed for the people there, that they might be of one mind, of good comfort, and be at peace so the love of God might abide with them.

The Love of God is so great that it can direct our hearts. 2 Thes. 3:5 tells us about the love of God directing their hearts. In Titus 3:4, Paul is speaking of them being disobedient and unrighteous, but the love of God appeared unto them and according to His mercy He saved them.

When Jesus Christ came into the world and suffered and shed His precious blood upon the Cross of Calvary, then it was the love of God that appeared to all men everywhere. Every individual can have this perfect love, if they will turn from sin and repent and meet the conditions of God and be saved.

We might repeat John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The effect of God's love is very great. John 15:13—"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." The love of God makes us love one another. If we love Him, we will keep His commandments. I am thanking and praising God because I have accepted Christ as my Saviour, and I have that pure and perfect love

abiding in my heart. Jude 21 says, "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

I'm praying that whoever reads this little message, if you have not the love of God abiding in your hearts, you will have to seek for it and find peace and rest, for there is peace and rest in the love of God.

Wanted---Every F. W. B. League

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

Link up with us in the *NATIONAL SUPERANNUATION BIRTH DAY CELEBRATION*.

WHO requested this? The National Superannuation Board.

WHEN—During first week in May.

WHERE—Place selected by each local league.

HOW—In connection with social, business, or pep meeting.

Who will be expected to attend? Who-soever will.

What shall my offering be? One penny for each year old you are.

What will the proceeds go for? The National Superannuation Fund.

Is the task too great? No! No! No!

We can form a chain that will span this grand old U. S. A. if each league will link up with us.

"Let's be faithful to go, glad to do and to say
What He would have us from day unto day,
Reaching to others a helping hand,
(With material blessings to our fellow-man."

Do I believe in leagues? I surely do, and I know there is courage, enthusiasm, ability, and willingness to be found in true leagues.

That is just the reason I do not expect this effort to meet with failure. Do you?

Now which link will you be? Just drop me a card saying you want to become a link in the chain, and your number will be corresponded to the number of cards that have come in. If your card happens to be the first one to reach me, then you will be Link No. 1.

The readers may be interested to know the following donations have been made to the National Superannuation fund:

E. J. Kilgore, Coeburn, Va.	\$5.00
Mrs. J. E. Simpson,	5.00
C. E. Davidson, Glennville, Ga.	1.00
Mrs. M.A. Woodard, Winterville, N. C.	1.00
Glennville F.W.B. Church	2.70

Total \$14.70

Other pledges have been made and will be paid, I am sure, but this is complete up to March 22nd.

A WORD TO PASTORS:

Please help us to help you, if ever the conditions in life render such service necessary.

You can make the birthday plan a success by boosting it among churches.

I say with a deep feeling of assurance that the attitude of our ministers toward this work in the beginning will determine greatly its future progress.

Preachers, do you favor Superannuation? Do you hope for such a security? Have you prayed about it? Then what are you going to do about it?

Look not for—, pray not for a lighter task, but for strength and grace sufficient for the task that is yours.

Wresting the Scriptures

By Eld. Kenneth Turner, Granby, Mo.

"And account that the long suffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction" (2 Pet. 3:15-16)

There are so many people who are guilty of wresting the Scriptures, and do not stop to consider the danger they are in. I know a man who delights in standing around where he can entertain someone by referring to scripture, trying to prove it is full of discrepancies. He will use a verse of scripture that is hard to understand, and makes an altogether dif-

ferent meaning of it. For instance, he quoted the scripture from Matthew 27:5, and Acts 1:18, concerning the death of Judas. Matthew said that he hanged himself, and the Acts says, "falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out."



Now we know this may be a hard saying to some people, but it can be harmonized if we look into it with a desire to know the truth. The poor skeptic that I refer to says it is impossible to make the two scriptures harmonize, therefore we had just as well discard the whole Bible, for fear it might be full of such things. Another sad thing, there is always some one listening to him who think he is right. This brings our minds to the words of Jesus, where He says, "And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch" (Matt. 15:14).

Some sayings are hard to be understood by people, because they do not study the Word. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15).

Christ said, "Whoso readeth, let him understand." And we can do so if we will be prayerful. May God help us to have an open heart to receive the truth as He would have us, and not

to wrest the Scriptures to mean something else. May we receive the Bible as a whole, and not omit part of it. May we be satisfied with the Bible as God has given it to us, and not seek for a new and modern kind that leaves out the teaching of God's plan of salvation.

Isaiah spoke of the word of the Lord as being precept upon precept, line upon line, saying, "This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary

to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

"But the word of the Lord was unto them precept upon precept, precept on precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken." (Isaiah 28:13).

Let us remember, that twisting the Scriptures will bring us to destruction.

and girls on the threshold of maturity, where are you? You may laugh and scoff at the Bible and its message, you may defy God, you may crucify Christ afresh; but don't trifle with the Spirit of God until the gates of mercy close.

Oh, men and women, choose for eternity and choose now! The Hand that puts the blush on the rose will take your tangled lives and make them straight. Choose to serve Him now! Let Him prepare you now for His soon coming. "Today, if ye hear His voice, harden not your hearts."

How Long Halt Ye?

By Gweneth Talley, Aurora, Mo.

Elijah's message was, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve" Joshua 24:15. And that was the message of John the Baptist.

Just before the great and dreadful day of the Lord comes, a movement is to sweep to the earth's remotest bounds, calling to men, "How long halt ye between two opinions?" "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." It is to come with the spirit and power of Elijah, to make ready a people for their God.

And that message is sounding even now to earth's remotest bounds. The world has its Ahabs, Jezebels, false priests, and its apostate worship. There is a growing contempt for human and divine law, a tendency to exalt creed and church, to lean on the fathers and founders. In the midst of it all, God's final appeal is being given. He is calling for moral reform on the part of the individual. He is pleading by judgements and calamities. The only safety is in the return to the principles and practices of the Bible. Once again the voice of stern rebuke is heard ringing over the world.

"How long halt ye?" One year? Two years? Three and one half years? Until the fields are parched, the cattle dead, the people starving? "How long halt ye?" Until the Bread of Life be withdrawn, the dew of heaven taken away, and the water of salvation removed? "How long halt ye?" — Ten years? Twenty? Thirty? Is it not enough? How many graves must be dug? How many more times must the hearse drive up to the door? Choose you! There is no neutral ground. We must be for or against. We must accept, or reject. Where do you stand now?

Six thousand years ago, when the evening clouds curtained the setting sun with crimson glory, the voice of God called to Adam hiding out in the

garden: "Adam, where art thou?" His voice echoes down through the ages to our present hour: "John, Mary, Henry, where art thou?" You old men and women living in the sunset of life, where are you today? Young men and women in the strength and prime of life, where are you? Boys

The great decisive day is at hand! The day when Christ will come To call His children home, And to seal the sinner's doom, Is at hand.

Where will the sinner hide that day? It will be in vain to call, "Ye mountains on us fall," For His hand will find out all In that day.

Fire, The Fact of God

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

In my previous articles, I tried to show that fire spoken of in the Scriptures did not always mean destruction or torment; but that in many places it symbolizes the presence of God, spiritual power, etc. Brethren, I firmly believe that if we walk with God, we will feel that burning within us. Come with me to that familiar passage of the Word of God, where the two men were walking along very sadly because the One in whom they had placed their trust had been crucified. But as they walked, they began to talk to Jesus. My friends, when we the professors of today can walk together as they did, Christ will appear on the scene. He always appears when we are agreed. After He had gone His way, they remembered how their hearts burned within them. Burning is always the result of fire.

If we fail to let Him in, we can expect the fire on the outside, for there is a fire for the wicked. In Matthew 3:12, John told the crowds that Christ would burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Some try to connect this with the first coming of our Lord, but it surely means the second (2 Thes. 2:8). It would be useless for me to take up space trying to prove that there is a fire for the wicked, for every Free Will Baptist believes it.

Whether we get the fire as a spiritual

power or as the wrath of God, it will always mean the presence of God, or the fact of God. In my first article, I took you to the beginning where God placed the flaming sword at the entrance of the garden, but now I shall take you to the end. John saw an angel come down from heaven and bind the Devil for a thousand years that he wouldn't deceive the nations any more until the thousand years were finished. Brethren, how can you say that the Devil is bound now? If there ever was a time that he was deceiving it is now! I know one thing, he is not bound here at Tuskegee. But when he is bound, it will be wonderful. If we keep the fire in our lives, we will be permitted to reign with Him. You might ask, "Where is the fire for the wicked?" After the thousand years, Satan will be loosed a little season. He and his crowd will go upon the earth and compass the camp of the saints about, yet trying to steal souls; but God will never let us come in contact with the old deceiver any more. God will then pour out the fire and devour them, and soon after, Christ will deliver up the kingdom to the Father.

Lord help us to keep on fire for God that we may live with Him in glory. Pray for me, just an humble servant of His.

The Fig Tree And Its Fruit

By the Editor

I have searched the Scriptures for what is said about the fig tree and figs, I have heard Bible teachers and preachers express their opinions about the fig tree, and usually they say the fig tree represents the Jews or the Jewish kingdom: but I can't find any evidence that assures me that the fig tree represents the Jews. But I do find (Jer. 24) that the fruit of the fig tree represents the Jews.

I have no quarrel with others about what the fig tree represents, but just want to express some of my own impressions on the subject, which I hope may be helpful to others: for they are just honest thoughts gained by comparing Scripture with Scripture.

The fig tree was common and plentiful in the land of Palestine, and Jesus often mentioned it in His teaching, making it a symbol. The fig tree bears three crops of figs during the year: The early or *first ripe* figs, ripen in June; the *summer* figs, which appear in June and are ripe in August; and the *winter* figs, which appear in August and are ripe in late autumn when the tree has lost its foliage.

Now I think that, instead of the fig tree being a symbol of Israel, it is a symbol of mankind or the human race. The early, or *first-ripe* figs refer to Israel; the second crop, or *summer* figs refers to the Gentiles who believe on Christ; and the third crop or the *winter* figs refers to Israel, regathered after the times of the Gentiles is full.

The early fig, which we believe represents Israel, is said to be most delicious. The fig tree is referred to in the Song of Solomon 2:13 as putting forth "her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell." Israel was God's treasure in the world (Matt. 13:44), and the Lord Jesus gave all He had to buy the field (the world) because of the treasure. But Israel did not remain true to God and pleasant in His sight; and God said of her (Hosea 9:10), "I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: but they went to Baal-peor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved."

In Jeremiah 24, the good figs represented Israelites who were obedient and willing to go with Nebuchadrezzar

into captivity, that the Lord might do them good and bring them again from captivity: but the evil figs represented Israelites who were evil and disobedient, who were taken into captivity for their hurt.

The second crop of figs appears in June among the ripening early figs. These summer figs which ripen in August last a long time and keep almost indefinitely.

As the early figs refer to the Jews, so the mid-season or summer figs refer to the Gentiles, not to all the Gentiles, but to those who come unto the Lord from among the Gentiles (Acts 15:14). Called out Gentiles, with Jews that believe on Christ, constitute the Christian Church, the Gentile bride of the Christ. There are just three classes of people in the world: The Jews, the Gentiles and Christians (the Church).



Israel, because of sin and disobedience, was set aside and Gentile believers were grafted in. Millions of Gentiles have been saved, so that this second crop of figs (Gentile Christians) is very great, and is distributed to the uttermost parts of the earth.

As the summer figs began to appear among the early figs before the first crop was fully harvested, so the dispensations of Jew and Gentile overlapped one another.

As the Gentiles were grafted in, many Jews believed, and were brought into sovereign Grace in the Gentile dispensation. But God will again deal with the Jews ("And so all Israel shall be saved"—Rom. 11:26), when the times of the Gentiles shall be full.

At the time summer figs ripen in August, the *winter* figs appear on the same tree, and late in autumn, when the tree has lost its foliage, the winter figs ripen.

Correspondingly, we are now in the autumn time; apostasy has crept into the church, and she is losing her spiritual foliage, the times of the Gentiles and the Dispensation of Grace are drawing to a close; all nations of earth are feverishly preparing for war, the Jews (those who can) are returning to Palestine, and their afflictions increase daily—the time of "Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7) is drawing near. The time of Israel's regathering is also drawing near, that it will come to pass as recorded in Jer. 23:3, "I will gather the *remnant* of my flock out of all the countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again into their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase."

Just as the winter overtakes this third crop of figs, so the winter of tribulation will overtake the Jews: but just as the figs that survive the winter are very dainty and delicious, so the Jews that turn to God out the winter of tribulation will be precious in God's sight.

When God made the fig tree, He gave it a body with life in the sap thereof, and foliage to drink in the moisture, oxygen, heat and light from the air and the sunlight, and roots to draw food and moisture from the soil in which it grows. Then God sends the sunshine and the rain and fruitful seasons, and the fig tree bears figs.

When God made man, He made him in His own image and likeness: He made him body, soul and spirit, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. Because man is "spirit" he has God-consciousness, and can communicate with God; because he is "soul" he has self-consciousness; and because he is "body" he has world-consciousness. Man was created pure and innocent and had blessed communion with God: but man, through sin and disobedience, fell from his blessed estate, and the human race became a race of sinners, enemies of God and under the sentence of death. But God still loved the world of men, and sent His only begotten Son to taste death for every man, that all who will believe on the Son, shall not perish, but have eternal life. So ever since the fall of man, God has been, by His chosen messengers, touching the hearts of men and bringing them back to again bear the image and likeness of God, and to live with God, and He is even now taking out from among the Gentiles a people for His name. Now, it is said in Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that

which was lost." This is illustrated in the Parable of the Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:6-9). Jesus came that He might dig around the hearts of men, that they might turn to God and bear fruit unto life eternal. This is the work He has left for His chosen ones to carry on, gathering precious fruit from the world of men. Every Christian is responsible to touch the hearts of men and win them for God and eternal glory.

Now, in the eleventh chapter of St. Mark's Gospel, the account is given of a fig tree which had only leaves—no fruit at all—and the Lord, finding no fruit on the tree, cursed it. And when the disciples marvelled that the tree was so quickly withered, Jesus said, "Have faith in God."

Many believe that this fig tree symbolized Israel, and perhaps it did; for they were making a show of their religion and of themselves: but I think it might symbolize the Gentiles also. All men are called to "have faith in God:" but the people of the world are making a display of their own things and what they have done—the god of this world is man.

True, it was not time to gather figs: but there should have been green figs on the tree. Apparently the fig tree does not bloom, and the little figs set on before the tree leaved out. Just so it is with all who come to have faith in God; they do not show forth any

spiritual life and righteousness until after they become new creatures in Christ Jesus—figs first, then leaves. True, there are many who make a profession who have never been converted or born again; they are as fig trees with leaves only, and are under the curse of death.

We want to call attention to just one more Scripture concerning the fig tree, found in Matt. 24:32, 33. It is a parable, and indicates that the end of this age is near at hand, when we see the things spoken of in this 24th chapter of Matthew coming to pass. Evidently this parable does not mean that the fig tree is the Jewish kingdom, but the Jews are very closely connected with it. Read this chapter and see how many leaves of the fig tree you can find; also remember that other Scriptures indicate that the buds not yet open will soon be leaves, then read again verse 23, "So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."

Then read verse 21 again, and notice that it speaks of the winter of tribulation that shall try the Jews, but out of it they shall be saved (Jer. 30:7), and shall be raised up to live in the Lord's sight (Hosea 6:2). Jesus is coming, and perhaps very soon, to gather all those symbolized by the food figs, and to destroy all them that are symbolized by the evil figs.—Let us be ready to meet Him.

synthetic materials that made them independent of other nations for raw materials. Her agents went forth into a commercial conquest of the Latin Americas, not with arms, but with goods to gain the world by what is known as a reciprocal trade agreement. Costa Rica, Columbia, Brazil, all of them were won. Germany said, "You take my machinery, the goods from my mills, the fruits of the labor of the German people, and I will in exchange take your coffee." Their goods entered duty free under those terms. Germany could do this because she had assumed control of all the industry of the German nation. At the same time, the United States was having her troubles, the wheels of her industries were being stopped by strikes and lack of business, economically we were suffering for want of customers outside of the United States—we had lost many of our buyers from the Latin Americas to the German and Japs.

Germany's commerce was not only an economic thing, but patriotic as well. Every salesman is a loyal German agent who peddles along with his goods his propaganda of praise to Hitler. They all proudly display their national emblem, they are outspoken against the democracies. Now at a late hour the big business of the United States is waking up to the import of our South and Central American neighbors as customers.

Here in Panama as everywhere, the Germans are formed into organized units with sworn allegiance to Hitler their hero, though they are Costa Ricans, Hondurians, Columbians or Panamanian, sufficient to have some German blood in them. Spies have sought to gain the secrets of our defence in the Canal Zone, one of them has been convicted and given a light sentence for which an Englishman or an American would have been shot. We are not blind to the fact that Germany has her bands and training camps in the United States, and the only reason we have tolerated them has been because we are a Democracy. Think what might happen to a group of Americans in Germany, parading their American ideals; they would be corralled and headed for the concentration camp to rot as are some of their own people who have dared to lift their voices in protest.

We can hardly get an English program on our radio without a German voice blurring in on the program we wish to hear, so they push into every field. Japan has not been idle, but has copied every improvement in machin-

Democracy and its Enemies in Latin America

By Rev. T. H. Willey

Democracy is the outstanding word of the moment over against the system of demagogism as represented by the dictators of Europe and Imperialistic Japan. I wish to discuss their relation to us on commercial, political and religious grounds. Democracy is defined, a government by the people and exercised by representation in the form of a republic. Demagogism, a demagog is a popular leader, a hero of the people, an insincere political leader and orator who stirs up popular prejudice to gain office or influence. Here we have a picture true to form in the persons of Hitler and Mussolini.

The three pillars that sustain democracy are freedom of speech, freedom of press, and freedom of religion. All Europe and many of the Latin Americas are divided into these two grounds. Hitler in Germany, the Duce in Italy, Russia is a slumbering bear, while to

East crouches imperialistic Japan, all ruled by the same spirit that makes them the mad men of the world. All these systems named have denied their subjects these three fundamental factors of democracy. All religion suffers under them, Jewish, Protestant, and Catholic, and in order to preserve peace, the leaders of Great Britain have been willing to take the word of these bad men and, as a result, have sacrificed principles as well as the liberty of weaker nations who, to have resisted the bully of Europe, would have committed suicide.

Germany has not been idle since the world war. She sacrificed nationally as one man would sacrifice for a great principle and this to establish her economic independence. Her men of science and chemistry buried themselves along with her technical engineers and stayed consecrated to their task till they came forth with

ery, paid what would be to us starvation wages, and flooded Latin America with cheap goods, so cheap that we wonder how the silk or cotton could have been produced. Until recently, there was a fleet of Japanese tuna fishing boats in the South and Central American waters with most modern equipment. They know every cove and inlet and sounding in these countries. They have large colonies in Columbia on the border of Panama and immense colonies in Brazil, which are loyal to imperialistic Japan. The Barber trade in Panama and the Latin countries is in the hands of the Japs most of whom are seekers after information.

What does this mean to us? You might say that one of the most important means of defence to the United States and the Latin Americas is the Panama Canal through which we in time of emergency rush ships and troops. These nations that do not sympathize with the program of Democracy naturally desire to know all there is to know regarding our defences and strength, and furthermore they have wasted no time in courting the favor of our South American neighbors, who in many instances do not love us with a great love, and some do not even respect us.

Do the following names mean anything to you? Italy, Mossolini, Rome, the Vatican? In all these Latin American countries, the church of Rome holds a large vote in all political matters, and many of the republics have representatives in the Vatican, the Vatican is doing its very best to place a representative in Washington D. C. God help us as a nation where religious liberty has been a fact since the birth of the nation when a powerful church begins to figure in our politics. Most of these Latin American countries are making claims to Democracy, but how is this possible when in many of these republics there is an absence of these three basic principles of Democracy, Freedom of speech, freedom of press, and freedom of religion? In many of these countries those of other faiths other than the Roman Catholic church are not permitted to labor. Many of the political parties are elected by a strong church vote, naturally those parties will do as they are told by the church. The strong Democracies are found in Protestant nations, and because of that they have sponsored religious freedom, and as a result have a high standard of morality. The Catholic church in Protestant countries has a very high standard of morality and enlightenment, they read their

Bibles and know something of the claims of the book on their daily life.

What about religious freedom in the Latin Americas? And how is it influenced by the Catholic church? One official in government circles informed me that the Catholic church is in a fighting mood, due to the war in Spain, and the attitude toward the priesthood in Columbia, and the present administration in Mexico toward the clergy. Apparently, much of this is blamed on the Protestants. It is no secret that the pope and the Fascist forces of Italy have done their utmost to assist General Franco and the rebels to overthrow Republican Spain and the Loyalists so that what would have been a Democracy has been turned into a great people chained to a great debt to both Fascism and Hitler. Italy and Germany have raped Spain. I have a great love and admiration for the Spanish on the grounds that they are a liberty loving people. Both Italy and Germany have had a chance to try out their war machinery on the Spanish people. I wonder to what extent the Latin Americas are going to let the powers at Rome dictate or

demand the suppression of liberty of conscience.

Our good neighbor policy is principally to form a better understanding between the Americas. In the conference at Lima, Peru, there was a clear statement made guaranteeing religious tolerance. If these things are lived up to, we can carry on a program of helpfulness and better understanding. Our good neighbor policy will be a success, if we are not in our effort to be a good neighbor placing arms in the hands of our so called friends to support Dictatorships rather than Democracy.

This article is not an effort to produce a political treatise, but rather to inform our people of the problems we are face to face with here in Central and South America, where religious liberty is so wrapped up in politics. In the United States, religious liberty has always been a fact and we have always demanded a separation of the church and state, thus it is hard for us to conceive of being denied opportunity to accomplish something in the field of religious endeavor by a government.

Be of Good Cheer

By Ralph D. Foster, Aurora, Mo.

"But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified; for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by"—Luke 21:9.

When we Christians are not about our Father's business, we become forgetful of the words of God and our Redeemer, and become fearful and weak, because we play with worldly things and partake of its roarings, strife and wrong doings and forget to pray and commune with God. We forget that we are not here to play, to dream, to drift; that we *should not shun the struggle, but face it*; for it is God's gift.

Many are fearful about the upheavals and turmoils of the world of today, and cry about it one to another, but never a word of comfort from the Word of God with which we should encourage, cheer, strengthen and edify each other. Jesus said, "When ye hear of wars and commotions," etc., that when these things begin to come to pass, "then look up, lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh."

When the kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel

together against the Lord's anointed, and say, Let us break their bands asunder and cast away their cords—the Christian's armor of God—from us, we ought to be happy that we are so tried, for after all is not this life just a stuff to try the soul's strength?

Christians should have no fear when they see these things, for Jesus said, "These things have I spoken unto you, that ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world: . . . I pray for them (those thou hast given me): I pray not for the world, but for them thou hast given me; for they are thine. And mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are one."

Paul says, "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth (that depends on the Christians, not the world). Who is it that condemneth? It is Christ

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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

Laboring Under Difficulties

By Rev. T. H. Willey, Box 861, Balboa, Canal Zone

Missions, to be a success, must be continually calling attention to the words of our Lord regarding the importance of carrying the message of salvation to all the world. It is human and very easy for us to forget the appeal of the living personality on the platform, and equally easy to be indifferent to the voice of individual responsibility that calls our attention to its importance in the program of our church. God's missionary program is horizontally as wide as the universe, it is as broad as the need of the human heart and as deep as the compassion of God.

Men all through the history of the church have felt those demands, and have gone forth to what others would call foolish and hopeless tasks. I have been profoundly moved by reading "The Splendor of God," a book on the life of Judson who went to India and poured himself out unstintingly as a Baptist missionary. I wish that every Free Will Baptist could read this book and feel the pouring out of the soul as I did. As we labor to establish a station, and to locate a field for our denomination, we are suffering in a lesser degree the things Judson faced. The compelling motive in the face of opposition is our responsibility to give a comprehensive presentation of Christ and His redemptive work to the whole world. We are to preach "Repentance and remission of sins" in the name of Jesus to all nations. We are to teach them to observe all things that He has commanded us. This is a world wide task. Here in foreign lands, it seems to some that we are a hated people. The enemies of the cause of Protestant missions have gone before, informing these ig-

norant people that we are devils and heretics, and that we will steal their babies and eat them, and, as a result, they look upon us at first with suspicion. When we first came to the Valley, for some time we did first aid work and won the confidence of the poor natives and the ranchers, but our enemies got to work, so that now we cannot treat them, as we must have respect to the law, and should we aid them we would be accused of practicing medicine. I talked to a government official about religion, stating that in many points a fundamental Protestant agreed with a good Catholic on many of the points of doctrine, especially as to the Virgin birth, the supernatural conception, etc. I said, "You believe in these things, do you not?" His answer was, "No, I do not practice religion, most of the men in Panama are not religious; religion is considered for women." When I outlined the plan we are endeavoring to carry out in Panama, he gave me the attitude of the officials in power toward any aggressive Protestant work, by saying that the Catholic religion is a part of the national life, and that any effort to convert the people or to change their religion was contrary to their desire. "But," I said, "you have a constitution that grants religious liberty." He replied, "Theoretically, yes; in reality, no." While he did not believe in anything concerning religious convictions, he was willing to give me the average slant they have of our work here, I was grateful for that.

Yesterday was the fiesta of San Jose, the religious celebration of Saint Joseph. We saw great masses of Indians from back in the hills,

having walked for hours, carrying their babies to be baptized. This makes them members of the Catholic church, and thus saves them. So these little innocents are made Christians and the priests are the beneficiaries to the amount of one dollar and fifty cents each. There was easily two thousand Indians in the Valley, and it was a gay sight indeed. Usually on these occasions we come in for a share of blame and abuse, and warning is given to the people to have nothing to do with us, as we are heretics: but in spite of all this, we continue to give out the "Word of God which giveth Light." We are finding that, without doubt, Panama is one of the most fanatical of all the Latin Republics. This official who talked with me said the church is in a fighting mood due to the trouble in Germany, Spain and Mexico. All churches in Mexico are closed and priests are forbidden to officiate. One priest was permitted to bring a series of lectures, but only under the condition that he discard his robes of office and stand behind a pulpit on a level with the people, garbed as a business man. Mexico, in her effort to curb the power of the Catholic church in the affairs of the government, has taken extreme steps, so that no foreign minister or priest is permitted to officiate in that country. All church property, both Protestant and Catholic, was confiscated and all church schools closed down. What was the effect? The Protestant church went to work as never before under the direction of laymen in an effort to assist the common people.

Columbia, South America, during the past seven years has turned liberal, and has broken many of the restrictions of the Catholic church and is doing her best to break relations with the Vatican in Rome. The Columbians, to a large degree, have lost faith in the Catholic priesthood. We are find-

ing this true here in Panama also, but the voice of the church is stronger here. Everything we do here is under surveillance, and every inch we gain in our effort to give the Gospel to these people will be contested by those who would keep the people in ignorance.

As we labor in these countries, we are treated very badly by the priests and officials similar to the treatment that Christ and the disciples received at the hands of the Jewish priesthood. On the other hand the people are desiring living waters, and it is our objective to follow the missionary manifesto, the commission of Christ which charges his disciples to proclaim in all the world his Lordship. This is the major note, whether at home or abroad; it lays upon us the responsibility of proclaiming to all the world the GOOD NEWS in the face of opposition. The foreign missionary program of the early church was born amidst persecution. It began with opposition and the flight of the disciples from Jerusalem after the stoning of Stephen (Acts 8:4-5). Phillip opened a mission in Samaria (Acts 8:4-5), and shortly afterward Peter and John went down to investigate his work (Acts 8:14). The ministry of the first chapters of Acts is to demonstrate how the Holy Spirit led the early church out of its purely Jewish environment into a world wide view to become, as it was originally intended by our Lord, a church of all nations.

For a good many years, I have firmly believed Romans 8:28 where it says, "And we know that All Things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Also I firmly believe our good Bro. T. H. Willey is a man of God, full of faith and the Holy Ghost. I further believe that the Free Will Baptist church is not a group of idiotic hair-brains who deliberately, willfully, and maliciously sent Bro. Willey on a wild goose chase.

We feel that God was leading in the event of our sending Bro. Willey to the Central American Indians with the Gospel of Christ.

These persecutions with which Bro. Willey is being attacked are for "good" and to the glory of God. Bro. Willey's persecutions are included in the "All Things," and we know he loves God. The Church also loves God and is called to fulfill His purpose.

These are the times that try our



Charting the Way!

souls. God is challenging our faith. Do we believe God's Word? We say we do, but do we?

In our prayer life, and in our church at Aurora, Missouri, we hold special prayer sessions for Bro. Willey's deliverance, safety and progress in the spreading of the Gospel. These persecutions are serious and we are deeply concerned, but God is able to stay the hand of the persecutor. May we stay humble, live righteously and pray fervently. May God give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ, and that the Gospel of Light and Liberty may be spread through the efforts of the Church and our good Brother T. H. Willey.

Again I say PRAY!

— John B. Rollins.

The above picture was taken in the village of La Palama on the occasion of the first survey made of the Darian Indian country in 1936. The big fellow is our missionary, Brother T. H. Willey. His companion was a soldier from the department of engineers at Corozal Post, Panama Canal. This young fellow is a Christian lad. Since out of the army, he is in a seminary studying for the ministry. It took 15 days of hard traveling to make this survey, requiring 18 hours of hard paddling—a day and night in a dugout canoe.

Rollins --- Turner

Clipping from The Monett Times

A marriage of interest to many throughout several states is that of Rev. John B. Rollins of Purdy, Mo., assistant editor of the Free Will Baptist Gem, and Miss Doris Turner of Neosho, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Turner of Granby.

The wedding took place Sunday morning, March 26, at eleven o'clock in the Jones Chapel Free Will Baptist church in Newton County. The Rev. O. T. Allred, pastor of the Free Will Baptist church in Monett, officiated using a single ring ceremony.

Miss Ernestine Turner, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Rev. Winford Davis attended the groom as best man.

The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion in potted plants and ferns.

The bride was lovely in a street frock of light blue crepe with harmonizing accessories. She has resided in Newton County practically all her life, and for the past few years has been employed in Neosho.

The groom is well known throughout the state. He is a graduate of the Purdy high school, and for some time has been associated with the Free Will Baptist Gem at Purdy.

Following the ceremony, a wedding dinner was served in the home of the bride's parents.

The young couple will make their home in Monett as soon as the Free Will Baptist Gem building, which is now under construction, is completed.

Information by Rev. O. T. Allred

that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." John the Revelator saw in a vision the judgment, and we have it recorded just what the judgment will be like. Hear him (Rev. 20:12), "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God: and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

Attention, every one! Now don't any of you try to justify yourself by your works only. Let the apostle Paul speak (Titus 3:5), "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour."

Let us read our text once more: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the Judgment." Now read the next verse, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many: and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Yes, the Lamb of God was once offered by the Heavenly Father, and hath redeemed us from the curse of the law being made a curse for us, "For it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree." Gal. 3:13.

"And it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment." Are you prepared to die?

Death and the Judgment are Universal

By Sam H. Marcum, Cameron, Mo.

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the Judgment." Heb. 9:27.

Yes, my friend, you will die. But many will say, "I don't like to hear the preacher talk about death, and tell death bed stories." Listen, my friend, you will die some of these days whether you like to hear about it or not. Yes, death is abroad in the land, and is after every human being born in this world. Yes, you will die! Some one is passing out at every tick of the clock and little do we know when our time is coming. God says in 2 Samuel 14:14—"For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again: neither doth God respect any person: yet doth he devise means that his banished be not expelled from him."

You say there is plenty of time to prepare. I have some friends at St. Joseph, Missouri, and I remember that a few years ago my friend with his wife, and his father and mother went out to the cemetery and picked out a lot which they purchased. We wouldn't dare ask what the lot was to be used for. Why? Because we knew that every one knows that a lot in the graveyard is purchased that we may have a place to bury the dead.

"To bury the dead?" you may ask. Oh yes, my friend, the text says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die." Yes, my friend, you will die. You may say, "Just the illiterate and weak minded are all that will die." Listen to God's Word (Psalms 49:10). "For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others." Yes, and Mr. Wise Man, you take out life insurance and pay month after month and year after year, and you know the policy is not paid until the policy holder dies, and the money is paid to loved ones. Well, you may say it is only good business to purchase a lot in the cemetery and to carry life insurance, but just let the preacher keep silent on the subject of death, or hell, or the soul's salvation. Yes, many would say that to talk on any of these things would be poor business, but listen, the text says you will die, or that it is appointed unto men once to die. And the verse doesn't stop at that, but it goes on to say, "And after this the Judgment." We will all come to judgment and every one will be judged according to his works. — Rev. 22:12.

Christ shall be the Judge. 2 Cor. 5:10—"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ:

CAMERON, MISSOURI, R7 Report of Eld. Sam H. Marcum, State Evangelist

Dear Gem Family, Greetings in Jesus' Name:
Dear Name:

At our last report we were at Aurora, Missouri, in a revival. We began there March 8th and closed April 9th. We saw eight souls saved, and we feel that the church was greatly strengthened. Five united with the church, which we feel will be of much help and strength to the church there.

Twice while at Aurora, we went to Verona, four miles away, to baptize. The first time we met Bro. O. T. Allred and Bro. Winford Davis who were engaged in a revival at Monett Church. Bro. J. B. Rollins, pastor of Aurora Church and Bro. Allred, pastor of the Monett Church, did the baptizing, while a large number looked on. Eld. F. C. Zinn and wife were also there.

We thank God for these good fellowship meetings. Bro. Zinn and wife were with us four services, also other ministers were present several times, which was appreciated by all.

Aurora Church has a very fine group of young people. We found them ready to work when called on. They also have a very good league.

We made our home with Brother and Sister Lon Carter. They are not members of our church, but are real helpers, and have two boys preaching; so their home is a real preachers' home. There are many we would like to mention, but cannot; so will say, "God bless you all."

We are at home for a few days' rest, as we are both about tired out.

Our next meeting is to be at the Verdella Church, near Hannon, Mo. where Eld. Kenneth Turner is pastor, to begin about May 20th. We have other calls we will get to soon as possible and the Lord is willing.

We feel that Bro. Rollins and his wife can do a real work at the Aurora Church.

Pray for us.

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

FLAT RIVER, MO., April 23rd.

Dear Mission Workers:

When I say Mission Workers, I mean everyone, both men and women. There is so much that needs to be done, and I feel that every one of us can do something. Some of us can do just the little things, others can do a little more, then there are others that can do greater things yet. But I am sure there is something that we all can do; and I long so much to see the work move forward, and I feel that there is such a little that I am capable of doing. But if we will all work and co-operate together, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, there is much that we can do.

I was so glad to see the good reports from some of our mission circles in the different parts of the state, and I would be glad to see reports from other circles; they are always encouraging, especially to your State Pres. I wish it were possible for me to visit every mission circle in the state: but that is impossible. I couldn't understand why I should be elected as State President for a number of years. Different ones asked me if I would serve as president, and I refused, because I felt it was impossible. Last year I

was asked again, and was afraid to refuse. The Lord has blessed me in so many wonderful ways, I was afraid He would withhold His blessings from me, if I refused to do my best for Him.

So, dear mission workers, after much thinking and praying as to how I might help our state work, I have a plan I want to submit to each and every circle, and this means from the very smallest to the greatest mission circle we have in the state. The plan is this: That every mission circle in the state of Missouri set aside one day (either in the month of May or June) to raise funds for our state work and let every penny that we raise that day go direct to our State Treasurer. Come on folks, let's do our very best. There are so many ways we can raise money. I have talked this over with a number of mission workers near home, and they all seemed pleased with the plan.

Some of my mission workers are talking of giving a social some time in June and sending whatever we make to the state. You might plan a bake sale or a bazaar, or serve lunch at some country sale. Well, I think each circle knows best how they can raise funds. I would like to insist that every circle co-operate in this plan, and I would like to ask the pastors in every church where do not have a mission, to take a special offering for Home Mission work. I get all enthused when I even think of this plan.

You know it may not be that the largest circle would be able to raise the most money, so you weaker circles do your best, and if you're not able to raise more than one or two dollars, if you do your best, the Lord will bless you just as much as the circle that raises the largest amount. When you raise what you can and you want to send it in, our State Treasurer's address is Miss Esther Apple, 906 Rinker Avenue, Aurora, Mo. and if you do not care to send it in, bring or send it to the State meeting this fall, and I'm sure the Lord will bless us in a wonderful way. I can gladly and truthfully say, The more we (The Millers) do for the Lord, the more He blesses us, both in a spiritual and a financial way.

I am praying that God's richest blessings may rest upon every department of the work.

—Mrs. Eunice Miller.

FALCON, MO., April 18, 1939

Good Morning Brother and Sister Brown and Gem Readers: Just a few

lines from New Home church.

Our good pastor gave us three good messages on the last meeting day.

Our Sunday school is good, and singing every Sunday night. We are hoping that something will interest our young people. We need a leader to lead the young, and the old, to reverence God and to keep the Sabbath holy. Prayer is the opening of the heart to God. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to God.

We should pray in the family circle, and above all, we must not neglect secret prayer: for there is the life of the soul—it is impossible for the soul to flourish while prayer is neglected. Pray in your closet and as you go about your daily labor, let your heart be often uplifted to God. Like Enoch, walk with God. Those silent prayers rise like incense before the throne of Grace, and Satan cannot overcome him whose heart is thus stayed upon God. Let the soul be drawn out and upward, that God may grant unto us a breath of the heavenly atmosphere. We may keep so near to God, that in every unexpected trial, our thoughts will turn to Him as naturally as the flowers turn to the sun. There is an evidence that is open to all, that God hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son. Help us Lord, that we might live a life that will please you.

Let us look away to the Lord, trust in His name, and ask for His help in all our trials of life. Our heavenly Father wants to bestow upon us the fullness of His blessing, He is so good, and always ready to lend a helping hand in time of need, and if we fail to get a blessing it is our own fault. Let us get ready: for the Lord said that He would come as a thief in the night. He said also to not let sun go down on your wrath. Again He said, "Be angry and sin not."

There are parents in the churches today, that are standing between young converts and their God. Christians are set as light bearers on the way to heaven, they are to reflect to the world the light that is shining upon them from the Lord.

O Lord, help us to live a life that will please the God of heaven. May we feel thy loving Spirit dwelling in our hearts, that we might call upon thee. Let us ask God to draw us more closely to Him, if it would be His will that we should live and have our being in the world and overcome the wicked one, and at last gain a home

in heaven.

I ask that all who read this letter will pray for sinners everywhere, and pray for me, that I may live close to the Lord and be of some good to the cause of the Lord.

—Mrs. H. G. Hamilton.

TUSKEGEE, OKLA., Apr. 20th.

Dear Gem Readers:

The Free Will Baptist Church and its Mission are doing some good work in the past few weeks. Two souls have been saved, and several united with our church. We feel that our community has been well blessed.

Our good pastor has filled his regular Sunday morning and night services, with sermons spiritual and uplifting to all listeners. We have very large crowds.

Our young people and the Junior League are growing rapidly and doing fine work.

April 2nd, Palm Sunday, we had Communion services at 8:00 o'clock p. m. Eld. W. H. Carter from Bristow conducted the services. We had a fine meeting and a large crowd.

Our mission ladies observed the week of prayer. We meet at the church each day at 2:00 p. m. Our program is outlined by different ones each day. Had a good attendance and spiritual meetings.

Easter Sunday was blessed by a program by the Sunday school, from 11:00 a. m. until 12:00 M., then a basket dinner, a fine dinner, and a good crowd. Several of our good friends who had moved away were back with us, and we were surely glad to have them with us.

At 2:00 p. m. Rev. Ray of Okemah gave a beautiful talk.

At 3:00 p. m. an egg hunt for the youngsters—a most beautiful sight, seeing the youngsters running thru the woods in gay colored frocks, halloing, laughing and hunting for the eggs—springtime and life is here again. We adjourned at 7:30 p. m.

The young people had an Easter Pageant sponsored by their teacher, Mrs. Walker. It was a beautiful play. The closing services rendered by our pastor, Rev. John H. West.

We call that a wonderful day, long to be remembered.

—Mrs. G. M. Hathaway.

JESUS

By Miss Louise Turner, Granby, Mo.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea. His father's name was Joseph, and Mary was His mother's name. His father was a carpenter, and I think Jesus was good to help him in his shop. And I believe Jesus went to church when He was a little boy. The Bible tells us that when He was twelve years old He went with His parents to the Temple to worship.

John baptized Jesus in a river named Jordan, and then Jesus began to preach. I think Jesus was the best preacher that ever lived, but some people did not like to hear Him preach, and they hung Him on the cross between two thieves. One of the thieves prayed to Jesus for help, and the other one did not. Jesus died and was taken from the cross and put into a tomb, and He stayed in the tomb for three days and then came out the third day, and from that day until now it is called Easter.

I am a little girl nine years old. I am going to be a Christian when I get b.3.

OAKLAND, MO., April 22, 1939

Dear Editor, Wife, and Gem Readers:

On this beautiful Spring morning, I feel in my heart that I must testify for Him that has cared for us through another winter. There has been neither serious sickness nor death in our home, and I thank the Lord for His great mercies He has shown to us and others.

I do enjoy reading the little Gem paper so much. I get so much help from other Christian people. I read Sister G. E. Wade's good article, someone I never knew, but it made my heart rejoice and my cup to overflow. I could plainly see it was the handiwork of God. She said she had never written before. What a wonderful message she gave to our hearts.

It brought back to my mind, on the 25th day of August, 1938, what a wonderful blessing the dear Lord poured out on a weak Christian like me. The Lord showed me His work so plainly, and made me to understand. You remember the dear sweet songs that we sing: "We'll understand by and by."

The writers of the good articles are mostly strangers to us, but the Lord has no respect of persons; so after all we are all brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. If we would love each

other more, we would be more Christ-like.

I want all you Gem readers to pray for our church at Happy Hill, that we may all pray more and live closer to the Lord.

A Sister in Christ,

—Mrs. C. A. Dickerson.

BE OF GOOD CHEER

Continued from page 11

that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who maketh intercession (a prayer or solicitation to one party in favor of another) for us:—not the world. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword"—See Romans 8:33-39.

When we hear of wars and commotions, remember that Herod and Pontius Pilate with the Gentiles and the people of Israel were gathered together and consented to the release of a reprobate and crucified the Son of God. Then we should be of good cheer and rejoice, remembering that death, hell, and the grave could not prevail against the hand of Almighty God, whose Son endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest we be wearied and faint in our minds for we have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin for reconciliation unto redemption to whosoever wills to partake of God's salvation and rest in peace amid strife, evil, and covetousness of the world and its roarings. We should get out and do something: work, sweat, hike, hump ourselves, starve if need be, but dig on and deliver the things of God, and teach men that Jesus said instead of making brazen shields to take the place of the golden shields—like King Rehoboam did to replace those that Solomon had made for the temple of God, lest we forget our first love and Him who made possible our redemption.

Be not afraid when we hear of wars and commotions, nor be terrified, but be of good cheer; for if God be for us, who can be against us? Christians are defended, loved, cherished, comforted, and nourished by the God of our salvation. Jesus said: "Be of good cheer, I am with you unto the end of the world." God told Joshua: "Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid; neither be thou dismayed; for I, the Lord thy God, am with thee whithersoever thou goest."

HOME

Mrs. Opal Frazier, Hansen, Idaho

What a blessed thing it is to own
A little place called home,
Where peace has found its dwelling,
And words of love are sown.

But how much more important to have
A mansion in the sky.
Where thieves do not break in and steal
And the soul will never die.

There we'll live on forever,—
There'll be no sorrow there,
No thorns mixed with roses,—
No troubles and no care.

There'll be no battles there to fight.
All fighting will be o'er,
All weariness turned to delight,
When we reach that blissful shore.

So let us not be weary.
'Twill soon come time to die;
And then we'll see how needful
To have a mansion in the sky.

A Young Man's Testimony

By Miss Lillie Pearl Guy

36 Twin Street, Sylacauga, Alabama

I want to write this story of a boy who waited too late to prepare. One night while at meeting, God's Spirit strove with him, but he rejected that Spirit for a dance he had planned to attend the next week, then promised to accept God; but it was too late.

God called that soul away the next week, and on his death bed, when his eyes were getting dimmer and his way getting dark, he called for mother's prayer; but it was too late. He held his mother's hand and confessed that hell was his awful doom. He asked his mother to pray for him, and with a voice that trembled, that mother asked God to save her boy, but it was too late. "Mother, I regret saying, Not tonight." He asked his mother to warn all his friends not to do as he had done.

My unsaved friend, if you should happen to read this when God's Spirit calls, don't put it off for fun, for by and by, when the days of grace are ended and the Spirit no more will wait, and then call for mother's prayer, for it will be too late.

I truly hope that each girl and boy that reads this will think of a dying boy's testimony and prepare to meet God; for when we come to the end of the road unprepared to meet God, hell will be our awful doom: but if we know God, Heaven will be our home, then how sweet it will be!

Brotherhood Quarterly Meeting

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

I wish to give a report of our Brotherhood Quarterly Meeting, which convened March 31 to April 2, 1939, with the Free Will Baptist church in Kenova, W. Va., beginning Friday afternoon at 2:00 p. m.

Ministers Conference opened by singing. Lesson read by Clerk, Eld. A. C. Berry. Eld. Earl Gillenwater elected Moderator. Several ministers and deacons were present, reports made with \$2.90 with reports.

An obituary Committee was elected.

There being no business, this committee reported briefly as follows: "We stand in silent prayer in memory of Elder G. T. Powell who passed away about two months ago, age about 82."

Frank Widner from Logan Q. M. was selected to preach. Subject: "Go Preach the Gospel."

Friday night, 7:00 o'clock, met back and after several prayers and songs, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. John M. Henson. Concluded by Earl Gillenwater. We enjoyed a real good old time meeting, and a fellowship handshaking.

Sat. Apr. 1, 1939—General session of Q. M. opened by singing.

Lesson 1 Timothy fourth chapter. Prayer by Eld. W. L. Cremeans.

Eld. Earl Gillenwater elected Mod. Business and Next Session Committees elected, after which letters from the various churches were read and approved. Seven churches out of the nine reported and turned in \$7.70. All but one had a real good Sunday school report.

Preaching at 11:00 a. m. by Eld. L. E. Collier of Ashland, Ky. He delivered a real sermon, one with power from God, a stirring message. Subject: "Salvation."

Called together at 2:00 p. m. by singing.

Prayer by Bro. Myrt Blankenship. Lesson, 17 verses of James 4.

Corresponding messengers from other bodies heard from.

Eld. Earl Gillenwater to Kanawha Q. M. gave a good report.

Eld. John M. Henson to Logan Q. M. reported that he made an effort to get there but due to high water it was impossible for him to get there.

Eld. John M. Henson to Clay, a good report from this Q. M. They are doing fine and some new churches came in and they have changed their name to Elk River Q. M.

Bro. Myrt Blankenship reported that by the help of Brotherhood Q. M. the

Union Q. M. had a very good session and good preaching.

Eld. W. C. Cadle gave a good report from Kanawha Q. M.

Eld. L. E. Collier gave a good report of the Johnson County Q. M. in Kentucky.

Eld. Eustice Adkins from United Baptist gave a report. He was hoping how soon the United and Free Wills would combine and be one body.

Hand of fellowship and welcome given to messengers.

Volunteers to other bodies as follows:

Elders C. T. Harper and Earl Gillenwater to Kanawha.

Eld. Andrew Workman and Bro. E. B. Legge to Elk River.

Eld. T. S. Young to Union.

Elders Earl Gillenwater and T. S. Young to Logan.

Eld. J. C. Wilcox to Boone.

Eld. N. Borders to Guyan Valley. Report of Business Committee accepted as read.

Next Session Committee reported the next Q. M. will be held at the Pine Grove church 8 miles from Hurricane, W. Va.

Moved that Bro. N. Borders have a letter of good standing from Brotherhood Q. M.

Motion carried that Mrs. Mary Henson be sole reporter for the Brotherhood Q. M.

Eld. John M. Henson was elected to preach the next Introductory Sermon, Eld. Andrew Workman alternate.

Preaching by Eld. Eustice Adkins from United Baptist, a wonderful and spiritual sermon. Subject: "Take off, Take up, Take after."

Saturday night service with much singing, an offering of \$3.50 for conference Evangelist, and preaching by Eld. Jeff Thomas, a father of Free Will Baptist in this part of the country. Subject: "Obedience." Enjoyed by all, closed by handshaking and shouting.

Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.

Preaching after Sunday school by our Q. M. Evangelist, Eld. A. C. Berry of Milton, W. Va. Several Christians testified and a young preacher Cremeans gave a wonderful talk on his conversion.

We want to thank all those good people who so well took care of the visiting brothers and sisters and delegates. They made everyone feel welcome. We had a larger delegation than usual.

Kenova, W. Va. is my home town. I was raised and got all my schooling there. This church was started by my father, Eld. C. F. Ferguson, and some other people through the help of a tent meeting where Elders Jeff Thomas and

Carter Clark organized this church. Now it has grown and owns a large church house of its own with a large number on roll, a real good Sunday school, seven or eight ministers, a good Ladies Aid, Young Peoples meeting. I am praying they will keep growing and holding on to God's unchanging hand.

— Mrs. Mary Henson, Reporter

CHIPS

From Eld. T. C. Ferguson's Sermons

It is all right to burn the bridges behind you, but you had better know how to swim first.

It is funny that a whisper often travels faster than a loud noise; so be careful what you whisper.

One of the best arguments in favor of religion is the way some European nations act when they get rid of religion.

In the Bible, we read the story of the rich man and Lazarus. When the rich man got to hell, the hottest thing about him seemed to be his tongue. There are a lot of people now in the world, that when they get to hell, the hottest thing about them will be their long tongues. You had better be careful what you say.

Some people, who claim to be modern, claim that it is all right to be bad in moderation. I ask them how they would enjoy eating a bad egg in moderation.

The Devil smiles when he sees professed Christians over on his playground, drinking his broth and licking their lips for more.

Some people now-a-days are like the children of Israel of old—they took the brazen Serpent, that blessed so much in the wilderness, with them to the land of Canaan, and made a heathen god out of it, and worshipped it. Some people now will take God's richest blessings and serve the Devil with them. Do you? Read 2 Kgs. 18:4.

Some preachers don't put enough fire into their sermons, and some of them don't put enough of their sermons into the fire.

Even tombstones will say good things about a man when he is down. Do you say good things about him while he is living. Don't wait till he is dead.

Advice usually costs nothing, and that is usually about all it is worth.

Why does a dog chew on a bone? It is because he can't swallow it, that is why. Some people chew on my sermons—they can't swallow them.

GO FORTH

Contributed by Naomi Hoover Evans
Arcadia, Kansas

Oh, what to me are lands and gold,
When far away the fields are white,
What could I from my Lord withhold,
When other souls are in the night,

And can I still at home remain
With loved ones dear? When from afar
I hear the echo of a strain,
A distant call—"Lo, here we are!"

Alone, they wait; there is no light
To guide the way, to lead them on;
Thru' centuries of gloom and night
They grope and stumble, then are gone

"Oh! come and help us!" still they call,
And as I stand upon the shore,
And scan the lands beneath sin's pall,
I seem to hear His voice once more.

And can I leave them in their shame
When I have that to meet their need?
No! let me bring to them a Name,
A ray of light their souls to feed!

Then, what to me are lands and gold,
Or any tie that binds me here?
To gather lost ones to the fold.
I'll yield my all, nor count it dear!

MINISTERS' DIFFICULTIES

Contributed by Mrs. Elva Tharp
Blue Eye, Missouri

The minister is a soul winner who, looking at the matter from the viewpoint of salary, is expected to win souls on the average basis of three cents each, thus putting souls in the same class with yeast cakes and sour oranges.

If the preacher is an old man, he is a fossil: if he is a young man, he hasn't had enough experience: if he has eight or ten children, he has too many: if he has none, he should have, and is not setting a good example: if his wife sings in the choir, she is presuming: if she doesn't, she isn't interested in her husband's work: if the preacher reads from notes, he is a bore: if he speaks extemporaneously, he isn't deep enough: if he stays at home in his study, he does not mix enough with his people: if he is seen around the streets, he ought to be at home getting up a good sermon: if he calls on some very poor family, he is playing to the grandstand: if he calls at the home of the rich, he is an aristocrat, whatever he does someone could have told him how to do it better.

He is a chip off a block on the sea of restrictions, and he usually finds

the going somewhat rough: if he prays too much, he is a windbag: if he prays too little, he is insincere: if his sermons tell the truth about things at home, he is a quixotic mule: if he calls so frequently on wealthy parishoners, he is a toad: if he does not call on them often enough, he is too proud: if he is unmarried, he is a fortune hunter: if he is married, he is uninteresting: if he lives comfortably on his salary, there is something queer about him. Any one who can be a good minister and please everybody is too good to be true.

OSAGE, ARK. Apr. 16, 1939.

Dear Editors and Gem Family:

How can I ever tell you in a way that you can understand, the good that I get out of reading the Gem, the help and inspiration I receive from reading your letters and articles? Here are just a few in the April issue that are full of inspiration and hope and peace to me: Bro. Brown, Christian Herald on page ten, Bro. Rollins, Sister Willey, Sister Wade, Sister Frazier, C. B. Gregory (stubborn old minority?), and the reports of the revivals.

Why are more people turning to God this year than usual, It is because those who were "at ease in Zion" have aroused and are showing their faith by their works. I find that they are waking up and are getting to work. Truly, "This is our Hour," but how long will it last? Let us work while we can, for tomorrow the chance may be lost forever.

I knew an old preacher out in the backwoods (he has gone on now), who preached to us some twenty miles from his home. His wife was sick and dying and he suggested that he shouldn't come so far, but she told him, "Go on, John, preach the Gospel."

I know a young preacher whose wife is down with T. B., but she says, "Go on preaching, I'll be all right."

I know a cripple who is much more concerned with "what saith the Scriptures" than his own suffering.

I know a preacher who has been sick for perhaps five years, and is old, who preaches to us when we go to see him, and studies always, hoping someday to preach from the pulpit again. Thank God for these stout hearted men and women and the others like them; they are the salt of the earth.

If Bro. Davis is right, we had better

be working hard and fast, for our time to work may be over any time. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.

Your brother in Christ,
— A. H. Camp

THE REVIVAL AT MONETT

The revival at Monett closed April 13 after having continued for six and one half weeks. Rev. Winford Davis was our evangelist. God gave us a wonderful victory. During the first two or three weeks, there was not so much visible results, then the revival began to really break through. There were some in the church whom Satan had caught in a snare of deception, but they broke loose from his clutches and began to take their places in the ranks for God. God began to work in a great way with the unsaved; old time conviction began to settle on some who had not even come to service. When they did come, they were ready to surrender. 42 souls professed faith in Christ—some of these were renewals, but most of them were conversions. 28 have united with the church and others are expected to join yet. 15 were baptized and others are to be baptized April 26. One man acknowledged his call to the ministry and preached his first message the last night of the meeting.

Bro. Davis made many new friends while with us, and the church feels greatly indebted to him for his untiring efforts with us.

— Rev. O. T. Allred, Pastor

FLAT RIVER, MISSOURI

A word to Free Will Baptist from the Moderator.

Permit me to use the columns of the paper to say Hello to the Free Will Baptist folk everywhere.

Since I was elected moderator of our National Association, I have had a number of letters of inquiry about the plan of work, etc.

In my opinion, we have the greatest opportunity to go forward we have ever had in the history of the Free Will Baptist in America. The present National Association will surely appeal to every group of Free Will Baptist. Our representation by delegation is so fair that no one could find fault. This is one of the questions that has been asked, and I shall try to answer.

The National Association is composed of State Associations, and each

state is entitled to five (5) delegates for the state organization and in addition, one delegate for each local Association of which the state organization is composed. It is my understanding that where there are state organizations that the local Association, or Yearly Meeting can become a part of the National Association only by becoming a part of the state Association. However, if there are Yearly Meetings or Associations in states not having state Associations, they may be received into the National Association and become a part of it as a local Association until such time as the state in which they live and worship may become properly organized into a state organization. Such a body would be entitled to one delegate. To me it seems the wise thing for every Free Will Baptist body to come in now, in the early day of the National Movement, and all go up together. To be sure there may be some things that certain groups will not like so well, but that is true in everything, so no Free Will Baptist body can afford to stay out of the National Association. Come brethren, every one, we have been divided long enough, now let's be one. If the Free Will Baptist will do it, they can put over any program that they wish.

I talked to a man a few days ago who is a member of a ministerial alliance of which I am president. He told me that they had fifty-eight colleges and seminaries. Brethren, if that man's church can support fifty-eight such institutions, we can support one. This fine man said, "We do not expect some of our people to do much, but we expect all of them to do something." And now, Free Will Baptist, we want you to do something, and don't make that something less than your best.

July, 1939 should find us better organized and farther advanced than we have ever been before.

Now brethren, if one of the National Board members writes to you, don't throw the letter away, but give it your prayerful, undivided attention. They are our National representatives, let's all be their co-workers.

I shall not say more at this time, only, Pray much, keep on your knees before God.

Come to Bryan, Texas in July, 1939, to the National Association of Free Will Baptist, and come with a mind to work. I am

Yours for greater things,

James F. (Jim) Miller.

ZION HILL CHURCH REPORT TALALA, OKLA., April 20th

Dear Gem Readers:

At our last report, our pastor, Bro. Brown, was holding a meeting at Collinsville, which continued three and one-half weeks. There were twenty-nine saved and reclaimed. Brother McDonald assisted Bro. Brown in the services.

Our church had an all day Easter service, with a large crowd and a good program. We had two pageants that were very sacred and soul-inspiring, being the "First Easter" and "The Stone is Rolled Away." It brought tears to many eyes throughout our service.

We are looking forward to a revival at our church. Wherever you go you can see sin abounding on every side.

The majority of our Sunday school is young people, of which we are very proud. We have a great number with six months perfect attendance through the winter months.

Our league classes also have almost perfect attendance on Sunday evenings.

We have the rock work completed on our church house at this time.

Our little mission is still in the battle, and always finds something to do for the Lord. There are little things, that others pass over that the mission workers can do. We have given several garments to the needy and have many service hours in the care of the sick.

We are looking forward to our fifth Sunday meeting, which meets April 29th and 30th with Collinsville Church.

We ask an interest in your prayers, that our church may glow and grow in the Spirit of the Lord.

—Daisy Merchant, Reporter

DRYNOB, MISSOURI

Hello Folks: Listen to old Cross Roads again, rejoicing because another son has been born into the kingdom of God. The second Saturday in March, at eleven, our meeting day, we had no services because of a funeral at the church, an old man who left no evidence of a hope beyond this life; how sad is a service like that! Does it not make you want to tell the good story far and wide, and pray as you never prayed before?

Saturday night we had a good meeting. A young father was seeking for salvation, and on Sunday he and two others were deeply convicted, and then

Continued on page 22

From Labor to Reward

During the past month, several of our faithful members have gone Home. These dear ones have lived outstanding Christian lives, and their fervent work in the Lord has inspired many youths to become Christians.

"All things work together for good to them that love God, and are called according to his purpose." We are sorry to give them up, nevertheless their living testimony in the hour of death is burning like a great fire in the hearts of many, and we feel this will give courage and inspiration that will glorify God in the lives of those of us who yet live.

JOSEPH E. TURNER—Son of John and Mary Turner, was born June 6, 1878 in Newton County Missouri, and departed this life at his home southeast of Granby at 6:50 a. m. Tuesday April 11, 1939 at the age of 60 years, 10 months, and 5 days, having spent his entire life in this neighborhood.

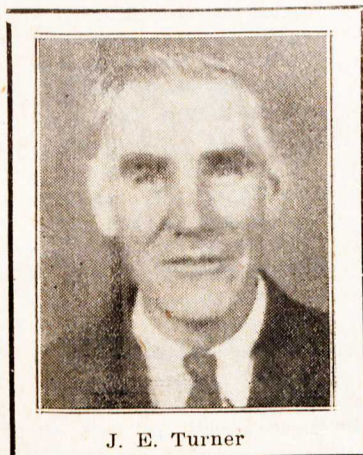
He was married December 24, 1905 to Margaret Ethel Nutting. To this union was born six children, three boys and three girls, all of whom were present at the time of his passing. They are: Rev. Noel Turner of Kirksville, Mo., Rev. Kenneth Turner of Granby, Mo., Mrs. John B. Rollins of Purdy, Mo., Lorena, Ernestine, and Rupert Rodney at home. Besides the wife and children, he also leaves one sister, Mrs. Rachel Whitehead of Galena, Kansas, and two grandchildren, Virginia Louise and David Eugene Turner, also a host of relatives and friends.

He was converted to Christ in early manhood during a camp meeting at Harmony, now known as Wanda, and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Jones Chapel. This church chose him as deacon a number of years ago which place he faithfully filled until death.

Brother Turner was always very active in the work of Christ and His church. He attended the various Associations regularly, and had held different important positions in the

denomination. He will be greatly missed in the realms of his church as well as in the community where he lived, and of course, by those of his family. Bro. Turner had a likable disposition and numbered his friends by his acquaintances.

He gave an exceedingly strong and convincing testimony at his dying hour, which made an overwhelming impression upon those who heard him. He passed away in the midst of praise and while rejoicing in a Saviour's love.



J. E. Turner

Brother Turner left the greatest inheritance possible to his children—that of Christian character, influence, and teachings. All his children had been converted to Christ while in early youth. He was justly proud and happy in a Christian's love when his two boys became ministers. He had many "sons" in the ministry because he was a father to many of our young men who are actively engaged in the ministry.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. Winford Davis. By his request, the six children were the pall bearers, and the flower carriers were the two grandchildren, Virginia Louise and David Eugene Turner; the two daughters-in-law, Jewell and Elaine Turner; and the son-in-law, Rev. John Rollins.

EMMA CLIFT MANN—The oldest daughter of John and Mary Hightower, was born April 4, 1876, and departed this life March 22, 1939, at the age of 62 years, 11 months and 18 days.

December 19, 1895, Emma was married to Marion B. Clift and to this union eight children were born, all of whom are yet living, and were all

present during her sickness and demise.

At the age of 15, she was converted to a faith in Christ and united with the Macedonia Free Will Baptist church later transferring her membership to Black Oak church. She will always be remembered for her untiring efforts in the interest of unsaved folk, and as a great source of inspiration to Rev. Clift, who became one of the outstanding ministers of his faith.

Rev. Clift was taken from us Nov. 30, 1926, and on December 18, 1937, Mrs. Clift was happily married to Rev. C. E. Mann of northern Missouri, who survives to mourn the loss of his companion.

The children who survive her are: Earnest, Dow, Mrs. Mary Shannon and Mrs. Jessie Hargus, all of Marshfield, Mo.; Paul, of Fordland; Mrs. Geneva Rader of Rogersville; Ervin and Mrs. Icy Booth, of Bethany, Mo. She also leaves one brother, Elbert Hightower of Niangua; three sisters, Mrs. Susie Raymond and Mrs. Claudie Berryhill of Owosso, Michigan, and Mrs. Jessie Arnold of Flint, Mich.; and one step son, John Mann of Kansas City, Mo., and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn the departure of this friend to all and mother to many.

Funeral services were conducted at the Black Oak Free Will Baptist church March 24, 1939 by Rev. Laster Branstetter of Springfield, her pastor, and Rev. D. Selph Jones of Mansfield, Mo. The Scripture lesson, prayer and remarks were offered by Rev. Branstetter, and the funeral sermon was delivered by Rev. Jones. The solos by Bro. Jones, also by Bro. Atkins were very beautiful, also the congregational singing.

Following the service, the Riley Funeral Home took charge, and the hundreds of waiting friends inside and outside of the church were permitted to view the silent form before the remains were laid to rest beside the sleeping form of her former husband, Rev. M. B. Clift.

The floral offerings were many and beautiful.

DEARMORE—Mary Elizabeth Dugan was born November 8, 1852 near Cassville, Barry County, Missouri. She lived there with her parents until 1862 when they moved to Franklin County, Arkansas, where she was married to J. H. Dearmore in 1872. To this union was born 12 children, eight of whom preceeded her in death. Her husband passed away January 6, 1918. She passed to her reward March 31, 1939.

She leaves to mourn her passing four sons: A. J. Dearmore of Bowie, Texas, Rev. W. E. Dearmore of Wauette, Okla., H. N. Dearmore, Montague, Texas, Rev. Benjamin F. Dearmore, Sunset, Texas, besides 20 grandchildren, 43 great grandchildren, and 16 great great grandchildren.

She was a consistent Christian from girlhood. Her last church affiliation was a church called the Baptist church that believed and practiced feet washing, free communion and also believed in the possibility of apostasy.

She was laid to rest in the cemetery at Bowie, Texas. Her funeral was conducted by Elder Quinn, pastor of the First Baptist church at Bowie, and Elder Speaks of Fort Worth.

BYNUM — Louella Jane Utter, was born Jan. 13, 1875 in Johnson County, Indiana, and departed this life April 17, 1939 at her home in Purdy, Mo., being 64 years, 3 months, and 4 days old.

She was married to William Starnes on Jan. 12, 1896. To this union was born seven children: Viola Pearl who died in infancy, Roy Earl and Herman Cleo Starnes both of Exeter, Mo., Mrs. Clara Ethel Terrell of Claramore, Okla., Virgil E. Starnes of the home, Mrs. Elsie M. Holler of Tulsa, Okla., and Aaron Cornelius Starnes of Cassville, Mo. Mr. Starnes predeceased her in death on Oct. 11, 1923.

She was married to Rev. James L. Bynum on May 6, 1927, who survives.

She professed faith in Christ early in life and united with the Church of Christ, and lived a devoted Christian life until death. She gave a brilliant testimony of her readiness to depart this life and be with Christ, comforting her companion and loved ones in the Christian's hope "To live is Christ, but to die is gain." We bow in humble submission to Him who doeth all things well, realizing that our loss is her gain.

Sister Bynum, with her husband and son, Virgil Starnes, was a regular attendant at the Macedonia Free Will Baptist church as long as health permitted. She was loved and cherished for her patience and willingness in the Master's service.

Funeral conducted by Elders B. F. Henderson, C. L. Marbut, and John Rollins. Burial at Muncy Chapel, north of Wheaton, Mo.

CHETOPA, KANS., April 23, 1939.

Dear Gem Readers:

Again the year has rolled around, and I will try to write a few lines in

memory of my mother, and also in memory of my husband's father, who was a member of our little church at Fairview. This is always a sad time of the year for me: but knowing that God in His wisdom doeth all things well, we realize that we who are left here should be trying to carry on the good work they so dearly loved.

I ask the prayers of God's people, that I may grow stronger in His cause, and train my children to walk in the paths our fathers and mothers left for us, also that I may help to win brothers and sisters to Christ, that we may be an unbroken circle when Christ shall claim His own.

—Mrs. Lulu Sexton.

IN MEMORY

In Memory of Malinda Olive Mayfield, who passed away May 7, 1933.

Sometimes I sit with tear-dimmed eyes,
Thinking of happy days,
When Mother was here to help us,
And guide our childish ways.

With Mother's steadfast faith in God,
It seemed she always knew,
Just how to cheer and comfort us,
And make our troubles seem few.

Times are not like they used to be,
Since Mother was called to rest,
The path gets dark and dreary,
But God in His wisdom knows best.

When God shall call for His ransomed ones,
I want to gain that home
And for ever live in that happy place,
That God has prepared for His own.

Then there'll be a great reunion,
With the loved ones gone before,
And there'll be no more sad partings,
And farewells will be no more.

A daughter, Mrs. Lulu Sexton.

IN MEMORY

In Memory of James M. Sexton who passed away Apr. 21, 1938.

Father is not gone from us forever,
But in Jesus he's at rest,
Away from the toils and cares of life,
In that happy home of the blest.

The memories of his life live on,
And hover o'er us all,
And will lead us upward to Christ,
If we will heed the call.

Oh, brothers and sisters, heed the call
Turn not your Savior away,
But turn to God who has loved you,
While you hear His voice today.

Then, when we leave this world below,
And meet our Savior face to face,
We'll also meet dear father,
In that happy, happy place.

A daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lulu Sexton.

IN MEMORY

In memory of Mrs. Rose Bell Carver who departed from this world 1 year ago, May 24, 1938.

A link in our circle is broken,
God called one we loved so dear
To be with Him in heaven,
In that Pearly White City so fair:
Dear mother and brothers have gone
before us,
To that other beautiful life,
That place of wonder and beauty,
That place where there is no strife.

Now that our circle is broken,
With mother beckoning, "Come,"
Let us all live to meet her.
When Christ shall say, "Well done,"
Mother, ask the shining angles,
Ask them if you cannot stay,
Who will care for us in sorrow,
When they have taken you away.

A Friend,

Mrs. Birdie McCauley, St. Louis, Mo

FINANCIAL REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION FUND

True Blue Class, Neola S. S.	\$1.00
Neola Mission Circle	1.00
Oak Grove S. S., Stella, Mo.	51
Mrs. S. A. Davis, Monett, Mo. ...	1.00
Niangua Church, Niangua, Mo. ..	1.50
Niangua Junior League	1.00
(Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Hartfield, Greenfield, Mo.	4.00
Leadington Sunday school32
Verdella Church	1.10
Union Third Fork Church	1.75
Mr. & Mrs. B. F. Brown, Purdy, ..	2.00
Mine La Motte S. S.	1.50
Merl's Chapel S. S.	5.00
Shibley's Point Church	2.00
C. M. Dauber, Novinger, Mo.	1.00
Mrs. E. J. Byers, Stahl, Mo.50
Flat River Church	10.25
Hazel Creek Union S. S.	7.15
Mt. Olive (Neola) Mission	1.00
Madison County Sunday School Convention	2.62

—Winford Davis, Sec'y-Treas

DRYNOB, MISSOURI

Continued from page 19

young man received pardon, full and free. If anyone needs Jesus in his life it would be a father of three little boys and husband of a good Christian wife.

We carried on our Sunday school through the winter months with good results, weather never got so bad but that a few were there. We began on a new quarter the 1st of April, with a goodly number back in Sunday school.

This month, at our regular meeting at eleven o'clock on Saturday, Brother Wilson seemed greatly encouraged to see a large number of the church out to services, and it was surely a good place to be for those that enjoy a real spiritual message. We had a good meeting, a wonderful message, and a full house Saturday night.

Sunday morning, our pastor who always has a message suitable and just right for the occasion, time and place, brought a beautiful soul-stirring Easter message.

We now have prayer meeting Sunday nights, taking turn about leading

the services.

Now, I hope I have not been tiresome, and that you all enjoy the Gem as I do. I can hardly wait for it to come each time, with its good messages of love.

The little church that was organized at Sunnyview in October, 1938, is moving forward beautifully. Two more have been added to the church, making sixteen. Another deacon was ordained at last quarterly meeting, making them three deacons. Bro. Clay Starnes who was ordained in February is a real man of God, filled with the Spirit. He and his good wife are the kind of people who encourage and inspire you to go on. Just to come in contact with them shows that their daily lives are the kind that please God, and beautify their place in the church and neighborhood where they live.

The quarterly meeting held at Sunnyview Church was reported to be the best one for a long time, and that is saying much, for we do have some grand quarterly meetings.

Must stop here, asking you all to pray for us.

—Alpha Jane Wilson.

A Deadly Poison

By Alpha Jane Wilson, Drynob, Mo.

James 3:8 says, "The tongue is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison."

James 1:26—"If any man among you seem to be religious, and brideth not his tongue, this man's religion is vain."

My friends, if a bottle, cup, or something was full of deadly poison, we would be very careful with it. Then are our tongues full of deadly poison, enough to kill the spiritual influence of millions, ruin good names, break the hearts of millions? and are we letting that poison pour out upon those round about us?

James 3:5—"Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!"

James 3:6—"And the tongue is a fire." It is so easy to say things that we should not. Trifling words carelessly spoken, sometimes grow into a great scandal; for we know that an evil report never grows better or any smaller. And Christians, especially, have so many good things to talk about besides gossiping about their neighbors. If, when a gossiping one comes to us, we would say, when they have finished their tale, "Wait a moment." Then get our Bible and read

Gal. 6:1—"Brethren, if a man be taken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness: considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Then, if we'd kneel and pray for the one they had talked about, gossipers would be scarce, or at least find a new place to talk. But too often we repeat it, excusing ourselves, saying, "No harm in the truth." Many truths are better never repeated. If we are using our tongues to glorify God, we won't have time for gossip and slander.

The Psalmist wrote: "The heavens declare the glory of God;" and when he closed the 19th Psalm, he wrote, "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer."

Speaking of bridling our tongues, we do not try to use a bridle that will hold them; we let them run away—they are like a horse that has been carelessly handled; the more it runs, the more it tries.

I once heard a woman say, "Well, there has been so many untrue things said about me, that no one cares for

me: I might as well be bad, as they think." As I stood by her, I tried to encourage her, and told her of one who always cares. Then, when her race was almost run, I heard her say many times, "You kept me from despair." And I heard her say, "All is well with my soul."

I love this old song:

"Down in the human heart,
Crushed by the tempter,
Feelings lie buried,
That grace can restore.
Touched by a loving heart,
Wakened by kindness,
Cords that were broken
Will vibrate once more."

So, dear friends, by the grace of God, let's touch those broken hearts by kindness, and show more of the love of God.

God bless all who read this.

THE BRIDGE BUILDER

Continued from page two

A youth whose feet will pass this way.
This stream which has been naught to me,

To that fair haired boy may a pit-fall be;

He, too, must cross in the twilight dim.
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

—Author unknown.

Dear friend, what kind of a bridge are you building for some fair haired boy or girl to cross?

And He Went A Little Further

By F. E. Nicholas, Bownemont, W. Va.

Tomorrow is Easter Sunday, which is kept as the day on which our Savior arose from the grave. Now I see people making preparations for a great time tomorrow; so this would be a good time to think on this text, "And he went a little further" (Matt. 26:39). This is the way Matthew tells of the trip to the garden of Gethsemane, and Mark 14:35 says, "And he went forward a little," both having the same meaning.

We must not accuse some one of misquoting the Scriptures until we know if they hear these two men talking about the same thing; for they both knew of His great agony in the garden, and just spoke it in a different way. The thought that I want to notice first is that some folks want to put the first four books of the New

Testament back under the law, and start out with the Acts of the Apostles; and, if that be right, Christ's trip to Gethsemane would not mean a thing to us, neither would His death on the Cross mean any more than offering burnt offerings.

Genesis tells of the creation of the world, how man was created, and what a wonderful land he was given to live in, and then he was not satisfied. He wanted to try something new, something that he didn't know about, and that is man today, he wants every way but God's way. Yes, I know that the Old Testament is necessary—it tells how the world was made, and how wicked the folks got, and even prophesied of Christ's coming into the world to redeem the lost; but let us do as He did in the garden, let's go a little further.

We see in the first four books of the New Testament where Christ laid out the plan of salvation, and the people that live up to that plan shall be saved.

I heard a real sermon last Monday night on the Judgment, which was divided into three parts, and he made it plain. He said the first judgment was of our life and conscience. The second judgment is at death, that we will know our final destiny. The third judgment is according to 2 Cor. 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ: that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

Then on the following Thursday night the same preacher delivered another wonderful sermon, using a different subject all together. Another preacher followed him, and brought up the Judgment, and said that he would not be in the last judgment.

Jesus, in giving His apostles instruction on what to preach after He was gone, said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:19-20).

Well, we will get back to the last supper. Shortly before He went to the garden of Gethsemane, when He knew that His time was near at hand, when He was to leave those that He loved, He loved them unto the end. He now leaves them another example. He took the bread and brake it and blessed it, and gave it to His disciples, and told them to eat it in remembrance of His broken body. Then He took

the cup and gave it to His disciples, and told them it was the emblem of His blood which was shed for many. Then, when supper was ended, not before supper, He poured water into a basin and began to wash their feet. There are many things that I can't understand, but when Christ says anything, I do understand it. I don't understand why some folks want to put the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John under the old law, neither do I understand why some wash feet before the supper, when it looks like it would be just as easy to do it like He did, then they would be entitled to the promise that He gave His disciples, when He said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Neither do I know why some folks baptize in the name of Jesus only, when Jesus said to baptize them in the "name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." I don't know why some say that they won't be in the last judgment, when He says that all shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to give an account of the deeds done in the body.

I will go back to the garden and try to close. While in the morning some

folks will be going to the Sunset Memorial park to celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, I wonder if they will go a little further, or will they go to sleep spiritually? O, how sad the Master must have been when He went a little ways from them that should have had His sorrow at heart! and after He had prayed till His sweat became as great drops of blood, and went back to them and found them asleep. Sometimes I get so blue after just a few of us have tried to pay for a little place where we can worship God, and walk about three miles to get there, and find that no body there is interested. It makes me feel like quitting, then I will think of Christ in the garden, and go a little further.

So now, I am not going to fall out with any one over what they believe. I am just going to try to follow the examples that Christ left here on record for us. He said, "If I go away, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also," and it is said again, "When He shall appear, ye shall be like Him." That is good enough for me.

I will close by saying, "Let's go a little further."

Stop, Look and Count

From Christian Herald

MEMORIAL DAY is the day appointed by the President for us to stop whatever we're doing and remember the heroes of our American wars. That's good. They deserve remembrance, and a lot more. But wouldn't it be equally good to have a national Stop-And-Count-The-Cost-Of-War Day?

We propose that, for we have been hearing a lot of loose talk about the "next" war, since Mr. Hitler got started. We are far enough away from the World War now to have forgotten it, and what it cost. Those in Europe haven't forgotten it: that's why they love the Englishman with the umbrella, who saved them at Munich.

But we in America never did suffer, during the War, as they suffered in Europe. So it is easy now for us to talk about putting Mr. Hitler in his place, without counting the cost. We could write the title of the war-song for this "inevitable war" right now: "Our Gallant Boys Are Putting Hitler In Heck." But I hate even to think of what it will cost, in good American lives, to do that.

Based on the cost of our other wars, this bill-for-heroes would come a bit high. Can anyone replace the Washington archives that were burned in the war of 1812, or bring back the lives lost at New Orleans? That was the

war we won in open battle and lost at the peace. (Said Will Rogers, "We never lost a war, or won a peace conference.")

Does anyone know yet what the Civil War cost the South? (It was General Grant himself that said that that War, at least, should never have been fought.)

We fought Spain and got Cuba and the Philippines—two prize national headaches. We fought Germany and got the island of Yan. Where's that? But then, we made the world safe for democracy. Or did we?

War may come; perhaps it is the only way, but we doubt it since we've read Mr. Walther Funk's frenzied blast at us for suspending payment Czechoslovak bank balances. Wars are won now with gold, not with shells. And they are paid for with gold—and human life.

No man buys a house without the money to pay for it. There is no sense in America's becoming embroiled in another World War—unless we are ready, beforehand, to count the cost, and pay it. If more of us would think of that, we'd talk less wildly than we are talking now.

There are other ways than war. Why not try them first?

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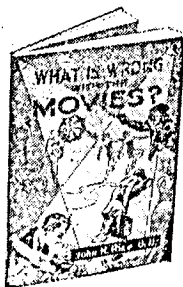
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