

Rev. J. E. Hudgens

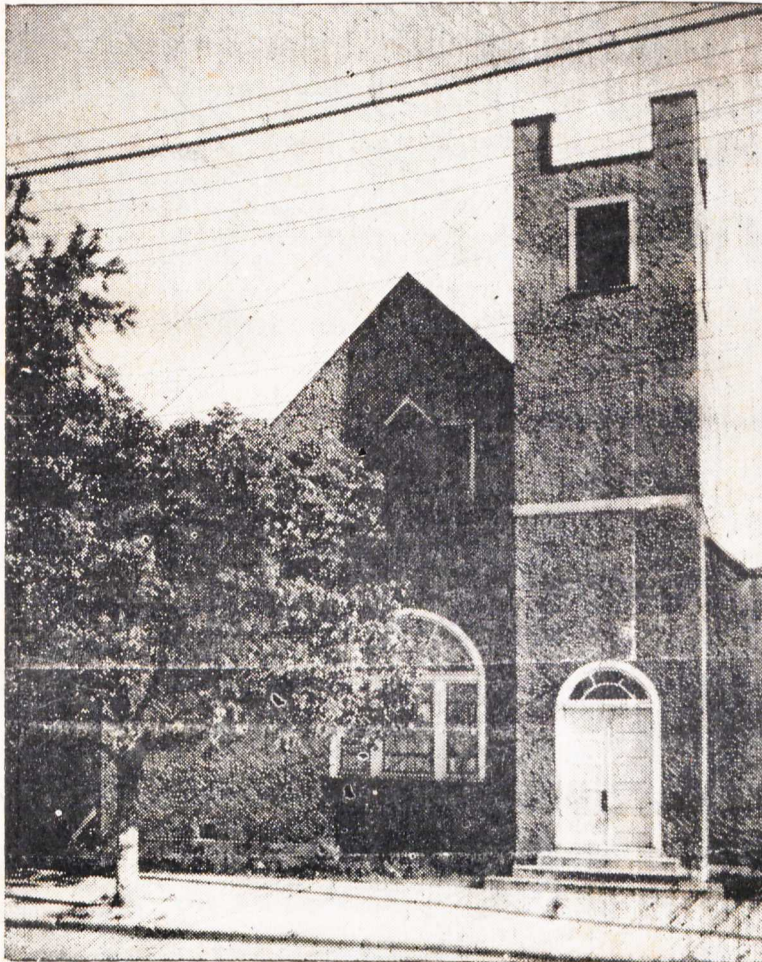
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. XII No. 7

Monett, Missouri, July, 1940

50 cents per year



Free Will Baptist Church Paintsville, Kentucky

The Free Will Baptist Church in Paintsville, Kentucky was organized about thirty-five years ago under the leadership of Rev. B. H. Conley, who is also the present pastor.

The new building was built about fourteen years ago at an approximate cost of \$8,000.00. It is a fine spacious building, and is very nice inside. The present membership of this church is about 500. The National Association will convene in this church, July 15 to 19, this month.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

The Free Will Baptist Church

Published monthly at Monett, Mo.

John B. Rollins Editor

Entered as Second Class Matter July 14, 1939, at the Post Office Monett, Missouri, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

TERMS

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

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

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

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Education Fund

Fredericktown Church	\$5.00
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Rev. S. H. Marcum, Cameron, Mo.	2.00
Clara Dunkin, Alton, Mo.50
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Rev. Mrs. Lowell Martin, Green-	
field, Missouri	2.50
Mrs. Rose Nipps, Colorado,	
Springs, Colorado	1.00
Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.	1.00
Total	\$128.55

Continued on page 23

Quibs & Squibs - by Bigfoot

Steady by Jerks -- Like a Frog Walking

THE NEXT GEM - SPECIAL

The editor plans to make the next issue of the *Gem* (August) a National Association Special. With the co-operation of the various officials, and especially the Secretary, we will produce articles, editorially, concerning each major department in our enterprising National Association, incalculating the exact reports and recommendations of the various boards and special committees.

Since we are expecting a climax to be reached in actually getting things going in a big, definite way at this session of the National Association, we feel that the next *Gem* will carry the news of such a climax reached, therefore, the next issue of the *Gem* will be Special in bringing all the articles of denominational enterprising for the past two years into an issue of one real climax.

As we are within reach of good photo-engraving, here in Monett, at greatly reduced rates, we solicit the co-operation of our Association in securing pictures of special interests to be printed in the August issue of the *Gem*.

RADIO PROGRAMS

Some of our Free Will Baptist preachers, scattered around over the nation, are conducting regular programs on the radio in their local stations. The editor suggests that a permanent column be carried in the *Gem*, giving the announcements of all these programs.

For instance: Melvin Bingham has a program each Sunday afternoon in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Ralph Staten, of Pochontas, Arkansas did conduct a radio program; and N. P. Gates conducted one in Detroit, Michigan — and so on around the nation.

Why not send in your announcement for the Radio Column in the next issue? If, and when, your program time is changed, have it changed in the Radio Column — let's keep it up to date.

The *Gem* goes into 35 states, and into Alaska and South America. There is no way to tell just who might be able to pick up your program. Let us hear from you.

THAT PRINTING PRESS

By Helen Houston, R.2. Neosho, Mo.

You won't like what I have to say,
You who read the *Gem* this day,
You'll try to tell me, don't be funny,
You've got use for all your money,
So let me say these few words more
'Tis something else I'm talking for.

This is as you would never guess,
An antiquated printing press,
As for itself, it cannot speak,
Another mouth-piece it must seek;
With service it is almost through,
This paper's fate is up to you.

Tho' Johnny hints it, who is the boss
He cannot nearly get across,
The hours he's wasted every day,
To get this book upon its way,
And in spite of all that he can do
The printing press is nearly thru.

Our *Gem* just can't afford to fall,
That could not happen at all;
If you'd help shake this world from
sin,
Quite belly-acking and kick some in
You Tom, Dick, Harry, Luke and
Bess
For Big Foot John's printing press.

To help our Johnny with his task,
Let's not make him just out and ask
But each send something more or
less,
And get a better printing press,
To keep our reading going strong
And may our Queen live as long.

COMMENTS ON THE POEM

A few months ago, we printed the pictures of our machinery, including one of the press. We made remarks about the press being an old timer, we didn't know how old, having such an antiquated appearance that we wondered if Noah might have hauled it over, and considered the possibility of it wearing out before the next Flood. At any rate, we concluded that the old thing prints — and to give it full credit, it prints remarkably well, considering.

After reading that linguistic jargon, a young lady received the inspiration to write the above poem. Her inspiration went deeper than the mere composition of good literature. She sent one dollar to be the first dollar in purchasing a new press. May God richly bless her life!

All this came as a surprise to us. We had not dreamed of staging a campaign to buy a new press. We are not attempting to start that campaign now. If we continue in the work — and we shall until the Lord comes — we will have to have a new press, eventually, when certain conditions develop that we are praying will come to pass.

We thank Helen Houston very gratefully for her interest and poem, and assure her that her contribution will be used in the cause she has so eloquently expressed.

ABOUT POSTAGE STAMPS

When making remittance to the Free Will Baptist *Gem* for small orders or for a subscription, and you choose to send stamps for convenience, please send stamps of three cent denominations or less. We have no use for five, ten, and fifteen cent stamps.

From henceforth, please, when sending stamps, send three cent stamps. We prefer not to accept stamps for orders of more than fifty cents.

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Ask for Catalog Number 2, if
you do not have a copy.

Order Sunday School and League Literature from the Free Will Baptist Press.

Program of the National Association

Program of the National Association of the original Free Will Baptists of the United States to be held with the Free Will Baptist Church of Paintsville, Kentucky, beginning July 15, 1940.

Monday Night

Opening of National Women's Auxiliary Convention.

7:45 — Song and Prayer Service — Conducted by Mrs. Georgia Frost Barnes, Lucama, N. C.

8:15 — Sermon — Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, Midway, Texas.

Tuesday Morning

9:00 — Women's Auxiliary Convention.

Tuesday Afternoon

1:30 — Women's Auxiliary Convention.

Tuesday Night

7:30 — Song Service; Devotional — Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, Missouri.

8:00 — Sermon — Rev. D. F. Pelt of Alabama.

Wednesday Morning

8:45 — Devotional — Rev. R. C. Wiggs, Texas.

9:00 — Association called to order by the Clerk: Moderator takes charge.

9:10 — Enrollment of Ministers and Delegates.

9:30 — Appointment of Committee on Credentials: Appointment of Finance Committee to receive Associational dues.

9:40 — Welcome Address — Rev. H. B. Conley, Paintsville, Kentucky.

9:50 — Response — Rev. K. V. Shutes of Georgia.

10:00 — Business Period — Report of Credentials Committee: Election of Officers and Board Members: Appointment of Temporary Committees; 1. Publicity, 2. Business, 3. Formal Resolutions, 4. Petitions and Requests, 5. Registration Fee Committee.

10:30 — Moderator's Message.

11:00 — Song and Prayer Service.

11:20 — Associational Sermon — Rev. George D. Dunbar, Chuckey, Tennessee.

12:00 — Lunch.

Wednesday Afternoon

1:30 — Devotional — Rev. W. R. Spurlock, Bonnie, Ill.

1:45 — Miscellaneous Business: Reading of minutes of morning session, Enrollment of delegates late in arriving, Report of Credentials Committee.

2:30 — Report of Board of Education.

3:30 — Report of Women's Auxiliary Convention.

4:00 — Adjournment.

Wednesday Night

7:30 — Song Service: Devotional — Rev. F. C. Zinn, Bristow, Oklahoma.

8:15 — Sermon — Rev. J. B. Rollins, Monett, Missouri.

Thursday Morning

8:45 — Devotional — Rev. Aston Peques, Normangee, Texas

9:00 — Business Periods: Reading of Minutes of Wednesday's Proceedure. Enrollment of Delegations late in arriving. Reports of Temporary Committees.

9:30 — Report of Home Mission Board.

10:00 — Report of Sunday School Board.

10:30 — Report of Denominational Publications.

11:00 — Song and Prayer Service.

11:20 — Sermon — Rev. Clarence Bowen, Durham, N. C.

12:00 — Lunch.

Thursday Afternoon

1:30 — Devotional — Rev. Floyd Cherry, Dothan, Alabama.

1:45 — Business Period: Reading of Minutes of Preceeding sessions. Committee Reports: Publicity, Business Resolutions, Registration Fee Committee.

2:30 — Report of Foreign Mission Board.

3:00 — Report of Executive Board.

3:10 — Report of Superannuation Board.

3:40 — Reports on Orphanage Work.

4:10 — Selection of Place of Next Meeting after Reports of Petitions and Requests Committee.

4:20 — Adjournment.

Thursday Night

7:30 — Song Service; Devotional — Rev. E. J. Kilgore of Virginia.

8:15 — Sermon — Rev. B. F. Rogers, Wewoka, Oklahoma.

Friday Morning

8:45 — Devotional — Rev. J. A. Kemper of Ohio.

9:00 — Business Period — Reading of Minutes of Wednesday and Thursday Proceedings. Final Reports of the following Committees: Publicity, Business Resolutions, Formal Resolutions, Registration Fee Committee, Finance. Treasurers Report. Decision on number and distribution of Minutes. Completion of all Unfinished Business.

10:30 — Report of Free Will Baptist League Board.

11:00 — Report of National Statistician.

11:30 — Miscellaneous.

12:00 — Final Adjournment.

Directors of Music

Wednesday — Mr. I. L. Stanley, Greenville, Tennessee.

Thursday — Rev. R. E. Tripp, North Carolina.

Friday — Mr. Marvin Dalton, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Last Call for Preparation for the National Association

The National Association of Free Will Baptists

The actual sitting together in heavenly places will soon be a living reality as the brethren, whom we love, will be coming out of the East, West, North and South to meet in Paintsville, Kentucky for another annual Association during the week of July 15 to 19.

It was a struggle to keep from saying that the National Association will soon be a *GLORIOUS* reality, yet to have done so would only be expressing our fondest expectation in view of what our past Associations have been. We expect nothing less than the greatest and most successful of all our great and successful meetings. Yet we are conscious of the fact that none of us can go there and sit down to do nothing, and gain any victory. There are grave situations to face, and extremely difficult problems with which to wrestle: the battle is on, and Satan uses powers and principalities which are not flesh and blood.

In spite of Satan, we are expectant, and we fully believe that in the act of grappling with whatever circumstance that may appear will be the stepping stone to that *GLORIOUSNESS* which we persistently hope will crown our National Association.

Eastern Kentucky, the place of our meeting, presents a favored country. There is so much "land" in Kentucky that it lays around in great piles—fully a half-mile high. Paintsville, itself, is a fine little city, sitting out there on the plains, but one cannot there on the plains, but one cannot on the account of those great heaps of surplus land.

The pleasant looking, venerable gentleman, honored with the frosts of many winters, pictured at his desk, is our Brother, B. H. Conley, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church in Paintsville. He it is, who will proclaim the address of welcome. Bro. Conley is 77 years of age, and is, perhaps, the senior minister in that section. He organized the church in Paintsville 35 years ago. In addition, he is given credit for being the leading minister, having organized the first Free Will Baptist church in that whole country, over 50 years ago. Today, there are about 40 Free Will Baptist churches in and around Big Johnson County, Kentucky. Though it has been difficult for him to continue in active service during the past twelve months, yet his interest is as keen as in other years.



B. H. Conley



F. S. Van Hoose

This modern Moses has an Aaron, and his Aaron is F. S. Van Hoose, assistant pastor of the church in Paintsville. Bro. Van Hoose is also the mayor of the city of Paintsville. He has justly gained for himself the appellation of "The Shouting Mayor." When he gets happy, he shouts. He shouts by "letter"; all he has to do is jump to his feet, and let 'er fly, and it flies out from his soul without any struggle, whatever. In addition, he is president of Van Hoose & Co., specializing in building materials and mill work. We admire him for his business abilities, but most of all, he has our respect in that he is honored with the office of Treasurer of the National Association. He carries the pocket-book.

These men will largely be responsible for the entertainment of the National Association, however, it must be borne in mind that the National Association is too big for any two men, and that it takes the co-operation of all to make it a success.

All in all, it is a great privilege to go to Paintsville to attend our National Association of Free Will Baptists.

This page is Editorially prepared

Systematic Theology---Butler & Dunn

The lectures on Systematic Theology, embracing the existence and attributes of God; the authority and doctrine of the Scriptures; the institutions and ordinances of the Gospel, were given by John J. Butler D. D., and Ransom Dunn D. D.—both Free Will Baptist ministers. Here is a synopsis of the series of lectures which make up the pages of this book.

Lecture I

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD

- Section 1. Theism.
- Section 2. The Nature of God.
- Section 3. The Attributes of God.

Lecture II

NECESSITY AND AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE REVELATION

- Section 1. Necessity of Revelation.
- Section 2. Authenticity of Scripture.
- Section 3. Miracles of Scripture.
- Section 4. On Scripture Prophecy.
- Section 5. Difficulties of Scripture.
- Section 6. Inspiration of Scripture.

Lecture III

THE WORKS OF GOD

- Section 1. History of Creation.
- Section 2. The Creation of Man.
- Section 3. Man as a Spiritual Being.
- Section 4. Human Destiny.
- Section 5. Man's Destiny in a Future State.

Lecture IV

THE DIVINE GOVERNMENT

- Section 1. Physical and Providential.
- Section 2. Moral Government of God.
- Section 3. Penalty in the Divine Government.

Lecture V

FALL OF MAN—ITS CONSEQUENCE

- Section 1. The Original State & Fall.
- Section 2. Moral Depravity.

Lecture VI

THE ATONEMENT

Indicated in nature—Divine in its origin—Unobjectionable in its philosophy—Fundamental in truth—Human in its sacrifice—Divine in its merit—Universal in its provisions—Conditional in its application—Continuous in its presentation.

Lecture VII

THE CONDITIONS OF SALVATION

- Section 1. Justification.
- Section 2. Repentance.
- Section 3. Faith.
- Section 4. Nature of Regeneration.
- Section 5. Means and Evidences of Regeneration.
- Section 6. On Sanctification.



Dr. John H. Wolfe

- Section 7. Conditional Election.
- Section 8. Perseverance.

Lecture VIII

THE CHURCH—ITS INSTITUTIONS

- Section 1. Constitution of the Church.
- Section 2. Government & Discipline.
- Section 3. Constitution of Ministry.
- Section 4. Ministerial Qualifications.
- Section 5. On Prayer.
- Section 6. The Sabbath.
- Section 7. Subjects of Baptism.
- Section 8. The Act of Baptism.
- Section 9. The Lord's Supper.
- Section 10. The Millennium.

(Section 10 is purely Post-Millennial, but it will do our people good to study the subject diligently and thoroughly.)

Lecture IX

ESCHATOLOGY—FUTURE STATE

- Section 1. Death & Intermediate state
- Section 2. The Resurrection.
- Section 3. End of the World and the Final Judgment.
- Section 4. Final State of Rewards and Punishments.

The study of Christian Theology is of the highest importance in disciplining, enlarging, and liberalizing the mind. Its themes are the most practical and exalted that ever occupied the soul of man. These marvelous subjects, which concerns God and man,

while in their essentials, are level to the smallest human capacities, and at the same time, affords ample scope for the most powerful minds forever. Nor are they mere theories, but throughout practical and essential to our highest well-being. To study such subjects aright must have the most happy influence upon us. In view of them, we see how great a privilege it is to be a Christian, and especially to be the minister of such a Gospel—to have our time and energies devoted for life to the contemplation of these glorious realities, unfolding them to others, and winning them to the participation.

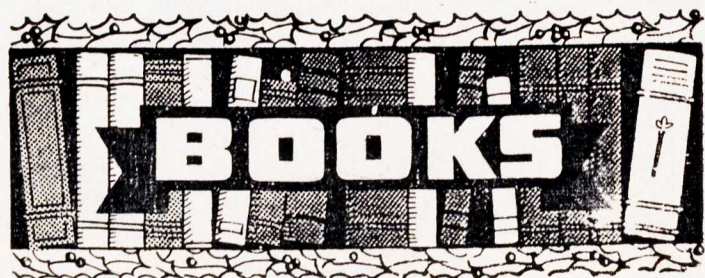
Systematic Theology is an extraordinary volume, 9 1/4 x 6 1/4 x 1 1/2 inches in size, containing 476 pages, well bound, published by THE SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE, Pawnee City, Nebr.

Dr. John H. Wolfe, Dean of the School of the Bible, is placing 100 copies of this book on sale at \$2.00 each, and the proceeds, less the actual mailing expense, are to be donated to the present National School Fund of the Free Will Baptist Association.

All you preachers, Bible students, and Christian workers, order your copy at once from John H. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Nebraska. Do two good deeds at one time—prepare yourself with new equipment, and help build a Free Will Baptist School. Churches, order your pastor one, if he doesn't have one, then demand better preaching out of him! There is more than one way to kill a dog besides choking him to death on butter! Come on, let's buy this book! It is only \$2.00 postpaid.

Brother Wolfe wants to have the 100 copies sold by the time of the National Association, July 15-19, so he can turn in his contribution to the National School. Act now, send your order at once.

This page is Editorially written.



Activities of Our Missionary

Miss Bessie Yeley, Estado Bolivar, Tumeremo, Venezuela

Written to her home Quarterly Meeting in Ohio, February 8, 1940

Dear Friends of Pine Creek Quarterly Meeting:

It is high time that I should be getting my letter ready, for I failed to get two letters ready for the last time. I have to write three conference letters in the same month, but I am glad to have a little time to visit with you all this morning, although I don't know if you will be able to understand it or not, for I am writing under difficulties. I am still with the native family and the little girl is crying to the top of her voice, while the little boy is singing to the top of his voice. I just have to pray for grace and go ahead.

We have just finished two weeks of carnival, and I am glad it is over. The last four days have been the worse; but it is not nearly so bad in Tumeremo as in some of the other towns. There was a woman killed in another town. Surely the Devil is abroad in the land in these days. A little over a week ago, one of our bus drivers took his own life. As I listened to the church bells tolling for him, I could not help but say, "Oh God, another soul has gone out into eternity without hope. Help me to be more faithful in witnessing to the lost here in this pueblo." Yesterday came the news that the banker in El Callao took his own life.

We are going on in the work here, much as usual. No one has accepted the Lord for some time; but the seed is being sown, and we know that God will give the increase. We count it a great privilege to be laborers together with Him, here, in this sin darkened land. Some of those that have lately accepted the Lord seem to be growing in grace. I am thinking especially of Chucho, the young man who accepted the Lord more than three months ago. He seems to be making quite a bit of progress. He just seems to drink in the messages, and his face just shines when he tells how he loves the Lord and what the Lord has done for him. He certainly needs much prayer, for there is much temptation for the young people, especially. He is hoping that he can be a missionary to his own people, and, truly, he can be used if he remains true. Pray for him.

I was privileged to visit in the home of one of the sisters that never comes to service because of a very wicked husband. She expressed a desire for the Senorita to come to see her as she cannot come to services. I did not know that there was such a person, as I had not been told, or I would have gone before now. We found her happy in the Lord, although she admitted she was very weak, which is not at all strange, never having Christian fellowship, and never hearing the Word preached, although I am glad that she has great hopes of her husband being saved. She said that he arose that morning singing a hymn, and had not been mad all day. We have a great God and One who is able to break that heart of stone and do what, to us, seems impossible.

I praise the Lord for the many blessings that He has been bestowing on me and that I am feeling quite well these days. I was quite discouraged for I had fever and my strength came back so slowly. But God has answered prayer in my behalf and now I am looking much better, and I believe I shall get along all right. I notice that many prayers of gratitude are ascending to the Father for the mejoría of the Senorita. Please excuse the Spanish word. It means improvement in health. Please remember me in prayer that my health fail not, for one can not do much here if they do not have plenty of strength for the work is hard.

We are praising the Lord for the privilege of extending our borders. Miss Hege and Mr. and Mrs. Green

left for Tucupita January 17, for the purpose of opening a new work. From there it will be possible to reach some of the neglected Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Hauser went with them to help them to establish the work there. While in San Felix, the little town where they boat, they had a good opportunity to witness there, as they had to stay there four nights and three days. This place has no witnesses at present, but we are hoping to place someone there in the very near future. San Felix is only a small place, but other places can be reached from there. The people seemed very interested in the Gospel. They held two services there, and people came to the house afterward to inquire the way of salvation. News like this thrills our very being and may the time speedily come when all the places will be reached with the precious Word of life.

I am looking forward to the return of the month. They are to remove the native family and to bring Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher, new missionaries, to be with me. They will not be of much help in the work for a while, but even their presence will mean a lot, and we can have fellowship. Only those who have been alone with natives for a time can really appreciate just how much this means to one.

I really must close now, as one doesn't have much news when they write to two conferences so closely associated with each other. I am trusting that you will have a time of real blessing. I cannot be with you in person, but I can in spirit, and my prayers will be with you. May the God of Peace be with you is my prayer. Don't forget to hold up to the throne of grace one Free Will Baptist, in dark Venezuela, who needs your prayers.

Yours in His Matchless Name,

— Bessie Yeley.

Representation in the National Association

J. R. Davidson, Assistant Moderator, Bryan, Texas

In as much as all state bodies are to be represented by the laity of the church in our National Association in July, it is important for all state officials to check up and see if your arrangements are properly made.

Too, in as much as ministers are not supposed to represent the various bodies, as each minister is to represent

himself, hence he can not expect any body to assist him in paying his expenses to the Association; and in as much as each minister in all connection should attend this meeting it would be a marvelous thing should the church, or churches, where each pastor works, see to it that your pastor is financially able to get to and from this all important meeting.

Enthusiastic Educational Tides

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

FROM VARIOUS Directions, demonstrations of great concern for our future program, educationally, are coming in, and to me this is a desirable symptom.

Reverend John H. Wolfe, Dean of the Correspondence School of the Bible of Pawnee City, Nebraska, sends in the price of another of the Butler-Dunn Theology and says, "They are coming in slowly, but if they will only keep coming we shall be glad. I trust that others are sending in larger subscriptions, for we must have that school." You will do well to send your order to Bro. Wolfe for your copy of this theology at once.

Reverend Winford Davis informs me that interest continues to grow in our school program in the state of Missouri. He further states that the figures will soon be released, with the cash, in evidence of this growing interest.

Reverend Melvin Bingham writes to say that he has never enjoyed such wonderful cooperation in the state of Oklahoma. Let's listen in to hear the returns from Oklahoma in this June campaign.

From Tennessee, communications have reached me which express great concern, and these come from two of our leading ministers in Cumberland and Union Associations of this state, namely, Rev. I. J. Blackwelder and Rev. Paul Woolsey.

Brother Blackwelder says in part, "The National Association is not very far away, and I certainly hope that we will have a grand session. There are many things to be considered, one of the greatest of which is a school location. Not that any of the other phases of the work are unimportant, but without necessary training for our leaders and Christian workers the other phases of our work can not go on as they should. May we be able to realize something definite in the way of a school during the coming session of the Association." We agree Bro. Blackwelder, and could we succeed in getting this vision into everyone's heart in our connection we could go on to success.

I also wish to pass on some of



J. R. Davidson

Brother Woolsey's Suggestions: I quote—"I am going to offer a suggestion: I would like to see both Bible School and Junior College. I know that at first there may be only the Bible School, but plans for the other can be in the making, under a business manager who might also act as field manager, and carry the needs from both angles to our people. This official would not need to be, either, scholar nor minister. By this method you could add teachers as they were needed that would meet requirements. Of course I know that it will be impossible to grow into a flourishing institution over night, but small efforts of today should be approached in light of the greater accomplishments of tomorrow. Our people are demanding action now." Thanks Brother Woolsey. We are in hearty agreement with your suggestions, and we are glad to learn that our people are beginning to demand that something be done now. In fact this is where we have been trying to get them for the past two years, and I am sure now that their interests will begin to be manifest in really sacrificial giving. The trouble, heretofore has been that we have wanted, and even demanded, but have been unwilling to make possible our desires and demands by putting the money where it can be used. We would that all of our ministry would feel free to express themselves as you and Bro. Blackwelder have.

We are now where we have wanted to be all the while, that is, with such an high enthusiasm that it will manifest itself in expressions. We invite you to write us to let us know what you, and the people with whom you work, want, and what you are willing to pay for. Sit down right now and

write me, and I assure you that whatever matters of importance are brought to my attention will be carefully placed before the Board when it meets at Paintsville, Kentucky, in July.

In response to my mailing out coin envelopes to most of the pastors in the state of Texas, for their convenience in the June Campaign, I have received several encouraging letters. Several are going to work, and some money has already come in. Brother, what are you doing in your state? May we all work faithfully, and unitedly, until our National Association in July. The nature of the report we are able to make shall be determined by the work done on the field.

Where has the man been who said that there has been nothing said of late about our educational work? We have been so very regular, and earnest, until we have begun to wonder if our people have developed a feeling that we are dragging them over the coals. If it is greater financial figures the Brethren are looking for, there is a sure remedy: Take it up with your people, and ask them to come forward with the greenback. We shall be happy to make reports of that nature.

Quite a number of those who pledged during 1939 have paid up in full, while others have written, saying that they will finish before the Association convenes in July. This is a fine example to all who pledged. Will you respond that this record may be clear in July?

The following is a financial statement of money received by states:

Arkansas	\$ 7.00
Alabama	38.25
Florida	18.00
Georgia	134.66
California	1.00
Kansas	4.00
Mississippi	10.00
Missouri	300.45
Nebraska	22.75
North Carolina	747.88
New Mexico	15.00
South Carolina	36.00
Texas	616.13
Tennessee	528.20
Oklahoma	92.16
Virginia	100.00

Total by states \$2,671.48
 Offering at National Ass'n., '39 198.35
 Educational fund from Western
 General Association 105.54
 Special offering by Ministers .. 28.00

Grand Total (June 7, 1940) \$3,003.37

A meeting of the Board of Education will be at 10:00 A. M., July 16, at Paintsville. Anyone having a matter for the Board's consideration should have it in before the 16th.

The Entire Program of the Church

Rev. Paul Woolsey, Greenville, Tenn.

It has been said that by our educational program we stand or fall. The same thing has been said about both our home and foreign missionary efforts, about our orphanages and other benevolent institutions, about both the Women's and the Young People's work and the various Sunday School activities. In fact, it could be said, with truth, about any and every phase of our denominational enterprises. If we are to be ultimately successful in achieving the task to which we have set our hand, and to which we have been called by Divine Providence who will require the accounting of the same at the reckoning bar of His justice, we must do the whole council of God, and carry on the work of the Church in its entirety.

What is, or what should be, the program of the church? The answer: The manner in which we are to meet the responsibilities that God has placed on our heads in that part of His moral vineyard which He has designated as our field of labor for the upbuilding of His kingdom, the salvation of the lost, and the inculcating of the life, principles, teachings and Spirit of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, on the minds, and in the hearts, of men and women. In simple language, the program of the church is the method of carrying on the duties of the church in their fullest sense and meaning. One limb or auxiliary of the Cause cannot successfully advance ahead of the other auxiliaries, but all the various units must make a consistent, normal and steady growth together.

How can we best achieve the program of the church? Not by the spasmodic bursts of explosive enthusiasm caused by undue emotional stress. (I am a hearty exponent of experimental and spiritual religion). But by the willingness on the part of all to bear their share—yea, ready to bear more than their part of the burden. There must first be unity of purpose, a zealous connection of the importance of the Divine call, and the readiness to make any and all sacrifices necessary for the furtherance of the Gospel. Money or financial sacrifice is, by no means, the only, or even the greatest sacrifice, to be made. We must first sacrifice our own opin-

ions and ideas for the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit; then our selfish ambitions must go. There are two classes who, alike, are detrimental to the cause. Those who must rule or ruin and those who refuse to do the work for which their talents,

heritage, training and calling has prepared them. While we should never seek to advance our own selfish ambitions, we should always make ourselves available for what ever work God has for us to do. There is work for all; noble and great work for the Master. The clarion call has come to us from the very throne of God. While its divine notes are still ringing in our ears, let us march under the banner of Emmanuel to conquest and victory in His name. "Let the Church Roll On."

Missionary Efforts in Houston, Texas

By Rev. T. H. Willey

We have been in the city of Houston, Texas, in an effort to contact our Free Will Baptist people and organize a church for our denomination. We arrived in Houston, March 25, and began to search for our people and a building in which we might begin our campaign. We found 47 Free Will Baptist families, or with a Free Will Baptist background. Since being here, we have visited most all of them. Many have joined other churches, though the greater majority are still holding membership in some of our country churches. We received cooperation from about four of our people throughout the meeting. Some came only once or a few times during the entire meeting, while there were others who could not come, due to distance.

Not being able to secure a building for the meeting, we constructed a portable tabernacle which can be used throughout this section. Our meeting was from May 5 to June 2, when it was moved to Huntsville, Texas. There we are planning to help get the meeting under way before going to the National Association in Kentucky.

We were enabled to secure a lovely building in the heights around which numbers of our folks are living. This building is a woman's club. Out of this place four churches have been organized and gone into their own buildings. The rent is \$20.00 per month with \$1.25 for each service. One of our folk is paying half the rent for two months, thus leaving us only \$10.00 per month to pay for a start.

Dr. L. B. Hankins, who recently came to us from the Methodist church is pastor here and is being entertained in the home of one of our members.

I have an exact account of all funds coming to me and am listing them as follows: 1. Amount received for the Houston campaign from the date of the Quarterly Meeting at Bright Light, April 31, 1940. 2. Amount paid out for the tent and the campaign. 3. Amount received in collections at the tent.

Received:

Bright-Light Quarterly Meeting	\$25.83
Bryan Church (for canvas)	65.00
Bro. Wiggs' Churches	23.70
Mrs. Parker, Huntsville (chairs)	4.00
National Home Missions	50.00
Total Received	\$168.53

Amount paid out for tent:

Bolts, Angle Iron	\$6.97
Lumber (frame, platform, etc.)	18.73
Canvas (top and sides)	74.00
Electrical Equipment	5.86
Piano	25.00
Folding Chairs	28.89
Total	\$159.45

The chairs were bought from Sears & Roebuck on account to Thomas Willey. \$11.40 has been paid up to date, June 4, leaving a balance of \$7.49.

In our effort to personally contact our people, we have used 262 gallons of gasoline at a cost of \$45.90.

Amount received under the tent in collections from May 5, to June 2, was \$27.39.

The Woman's Club building in the Heights Harvard, E. 20th Street, rents for \$20.00 per month.

Received on rent:

Bro. Luther Payne	\$10.00
Bro. Clyde Goen (Bright Light Church)	13.50

There were eighteen persons present in the first service with an offering of \$3.88

It Isn't the Board, It's You

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

It isn't the way the work is done,
Or the way the money is spent,
Or the size of the coin your brother
give,
Or the help your sister sent
That make our records appear as they
do;
It isn't the system it's YOU.

The following report of the National Superannuation treasurer from December 3rd to June 10th is as follows:

North Carolina	\$96.63
Virginia	65.84
Tennessee	51.81
Missouri	42.69
Mississippi	32.38

Georgia	26.00
Texas	16.81
Florida	10.89
Alabama	10.46
Arkansas	9.40
Kentucky	1.00
Total	\$363.91
On hand, December 1, 1939 ...	201.25
Total	\$565.16
Interest, January 1, 1940	1.87
Total amount in treasury	\$567.03

As treasurer, I want to express the appreciation of the board for every effort put forth, by any church or individual, to make the above report what it is. There has been splendid

co-operation on the part of some individuals who worked with the board in their respective states, while some have disappointed us in failing to report any work done in their states. But we are still hoping to hear from them before our National Association convenes, in July, at Paintsville, Ky.

Will you please make your reports together with the contributions to me by July 10th and avoid handing them in at the association when we are all too busy to change our reports and possibly cause errors to appear. I appeal to you to do this.

If your state does not show up in the above list, why not make up for it now. Meet the National Superannuation Board at Paintsville with a co-operative handshake and claim the honor of being a one-hundred percent backer of our National Denominational Program.

The Missouri Statistician's Message

By Rev. William Reeves, Missouri State Statistician, Fredericktown, Mo.

Dear Brethren in Christ:

Greetings to all!

Another year has rolled around. Another year's record has been made "well or amiss." We are hoping it has been a prosperous year for our work all over the state (and elsewhere also). We are trusting and praying that our statistical reports will show a great increase over the past.

God has wonderfully blessed in different parts of the state, that I have heard of, and we are hoping every association has moved forward for His cause.

The time has come for our statistical reports, the year closing at this issue.

I was elected at the State meeting as State Statistician and I am, at this writing, sending out my statistical blanks to our Associational Statisticians, hoping we can have the co-

operation of each church clerk and statistician, and I am sure we will have that. I have always found co-operation in working for our blessed denomination.

Brother and Sister Statisticians, please send your blank encouraging your church clerk to give it their earliest attention, that we may have our reports in on time.

If there is any associational statistician that fail to get your blanks by the time of this issue of the *Gem*, please write me.

Praying God's blessings on all His people.

Missouri Sunday School Encouragement

By William Reeves, Missouri Sunday School Supervisor, Fredericktown, Mo

Dear Gem Readers and Sunday School Workers:

With a thankful heart, I am writing to you, at this time, in behalf of the good progress in our Sunday School program during the past year. We have accomplished a number of our plans, of which I am very proud; there are others we had hoped for but as yet not seen.

We are so proud of our three conventions we have already lined up for our State organization; one of them (Indian Creek Convention) was organized this year.

I just received a report from Bro.

Geo. La Shum of their convention June 9, at Cartersville, Missouri. I am sure it was a real success by the expression of his letter. Now just wouldn't it be fine to receive nine or ten such reports, within the state of Missouri.

Our National Association is at hand, and we are glad to be able to take this report to our National body. There is one thing I would like to know before going to our National Association, and that is the expression of each association in regards to our Sunday School program. We would like for each field worker to write us

a letter of the interest in the Sunday Schools, of the work in general, and of our program, so I will know what to offer in our national program at our National Association this month.

I am, at this writing, mailing our Sunday School report blanks, hoping an early return of our July reports so we can have our year's report ready in plenty of time.

I am praying that God will bless the work everywhere.

A GREAT SALVATION

(Hebrews 2:3)

1. A common Salvation.
2. A free Salvation.
3. A personal Salvation.
4. A present Salvation.
5. A powerful Salvation.
6. An eternal Salvation.
7. A Salvation that cannot be neglected with impunity.



Bus Trip to the National Association Again

By Rev. Kenneth Turner, Manager, Monett, Missouri

THE Bus Trip to our National Association has been enjoyed each time, by those who go, to the extent that we have been urged to charter the bus again for this year. At this request, we have contracted with Mr. Bert Thompson, and his son, James, again, as we did two years ago, to drive the school bus from Neosho, Missouri to Painstville, Kentucky, and back for \$125.00. The bus will carry 25 persons, and that will equal \$5.00 each. Then, of course, the first

twenty-five who pay in will be the ones who get to go.

The bus will leave Neosho, Sunday morning, July 14, 8:30 a. m., arriving back at Neosho the following Sunday, July 21.

If you desire to go, please send your five dollars (\$5.00) to us, at once, and you will receive a receipt for the same. Should you not get to go, you are permitted to sell your seat-rite to some one else. We trust this will make it possible for some to attend

our National Association that could not otherwise.

Following is a list of names who are receipted to go.

Miss Dorothy Bush Cassville, Mo.
Miss Ruby Davis Purdy, Mo.
Mrs. Oliver Flarity Cassville, Mo.
Miss June Bush Cassville, Mo.
Rev. Virgil Greenway .. Monett, Mo.
Miss Carolyn Bush Cassville, Mo.
Mr. Lloyd Jefferys Sheldon, Mo.
Ella Frazier Santa Rosa, Mo.

(Report closed June 20).

Christian Love

By A. H. DeWeese, Easton, Missouri

Oftimes, we are at a loss to know what should be the attitude of us, as Christians, under conditions that exist in the world today.

At all times, our actions should be guided by God's word. If we act upon our own motive or man's idea, we can only expect defeat. Christians at all times should maintain a full measure of charity and devotion. In Matthew 10:16, Christ's own commission to His disciples tells them, "Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." We know doves harm no one.

John 13:34 says, "Love one another as I have loved you." Here love is manifested as fulfilling the law.

May I here ask the question, why was Christ's advent into the world? It was to bring about that, wherein

the law had failed; that was to establish love and a great measure of charity. God sent His only begotten Son into the world that those who will believe and become converted might be newly born of the Spirit of God. Many, like Nicodemus, do not fully understand the new birth and thus rob themselves of the good things God has in store for those who love Him.

How does Christ deal with the sinner? In St. John, the eighth chapter, Christ speaking to the woman taken in adultery says, "Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more." Love, here, richly manifested itself to the adulterous woman.

Christ's church today must move shoulder to shoulder at God's command to do that which so many have failed to do. We should manifest love

and charity to those who can not see with spiritual eyes.

The Scripture saith, "He leadeth me," speaking of the Holy Spirit, then why do we so often attempt to drive souls to become followers of God.

Professors today can only expect defeat unless they are born again. Who is he that overcometh the world but he that believeth Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God?

In all things let charity prevail and love shine forth in this world of sin and strife. Could we explain our love for others with a sword or a rifle pushed to his face?

Let's not fear dictators or dictatorial powers, but rather let us stand unshaken amid persecutions, no matter how great.

If we are called upon to seal our testimony with our own blood we will do well to remember the blood of Christians is seed sown to the glory, and honor of God.

Gospel Sermon Department

The Church Age

By Winford Davis, Monett, Missouri.

THE CHURCH AGE

The Fullness of the Gentiles
Romans 11:25

The Seven Pauline Epistles to the Seven Churches
Rom. Cor. Gal. Eph. Phil. Col. Thess.

The Seven Churches of Revelation

Ephesus Smyrna Pergamos Thyatira Sardis Philadelphia Laodicea

The Seven Mysteries of the Church. Matthew 13th Chapter

Sower, Wheat-Tares, Mustard-seed, Leaven, Treasure, Pearl, Net

The Dispersion of Israel
Deuteronomy 30:3

These Cover

The Dispensation of the Holy Spirit which is also The Gospel Age

FROM

Pentecost to the Rapture

They Represent

Seven different stages through which the church would pass during this age
Seven different conditions which would exist in the church during this age.

They Are to be Studied

In seven distinct divisions; each containing an epistle, a message, and a parable.

There Is

An outstanding likeness in each three as they are linked together and studied comparatively.

The Church Age Is

The "mystery" of Ephesians 3:1-11, Romans 16:25; 6:19; Colossians 4:3. That which the prophets yearned to know more of, and after all, saw but little of, and that which the "angels desire to look into." 1 Peter 1:10,11, 12. The New thing in the earth.

REPRESENTATION

EPHESUS APOSTOLIC ERA
SMYRNA MARTYR ERA
PERGAMOS PAGAN ROME ERA
THYATIRA PAPAL ROME ERA
SARDIS PROTESTANT ERA
PHILADELPHIA MISSIONARY ERA
LAODICEA APOSTATE ERA

It would take entirely too much space to treat on this outline in its entirety, as there are seven distinct divisions, so we shall only touch on



Winford Davis

a few leading thoughts. In the first place, the number seven in Biblical numerology means completeness. So this completely covers the Church Age, or dispensation of the Holy Spirit. This age, too, might be called the Gospel age. Some maintain that there has always been a church, and true there has always been "the called out

ones" which is the meaning of the original Greek from which our word "church" comes, but we have not had the church as we have had since that day of Pentecost as recorded in the second chapter of Acts.

In studying these three sevens in their collaboration, we notice a number of outstanding similarities. The message to Ephesus, which represents that first or apostolic period, collaborates with the parable of the sower, and truly the apostles went forth sowing the seed. In the church at Ephesus were the deeds of the Nicolaitanes which simply means that ungovernable "rule or ruin" class among the laity. Well, as the sower sowed the seed, some fell on stony ground where it had not much earth, and is it not the shallow experienced members in the church who always cause trouble?

Notice the likeness in the second division. The parable of the wheat and tares, and the epistle to the Corinthians. Was not the Corinthian Church greatly infested with tares? As we read first and second Corinthians, it certainly seems so. And in the church at Smyrna somebody was giving them trouble, who was of the synagogue of Satan.

In the third division, we have the message to Pergamos, in which church the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, as mentioned previously, had become a doctrine, which thing God said He hated. The parable and epistle collaborating with this message is the mustard seed and Galatians. All kinds of fowls of the air came and lodged in the branches of the mustard stalk, and the Galatians had foolish people among them who were susceptible to bewitchery (Gal. 3:1). Certainly the church has grown in numbers, but is greatly weakened in spiritual power and prestige, simply because of the fowls which had lodged in its branches, the Nicolaitanes, the foolish.

Concerning the fourth division, the message to Thyatira: this word means "a woman." It represents the Papal Rome period, or that period when the church began to worship the mother of Jesus more than the Christ, Himself. The great trouble in the church at Thyatira was that corrupt woman, Jezebel, seducing the servants of God. Notice the collaborating parable: the

leaven hid in three measures of meal till the whole was leavened. Don't let anyone make you believe that the leaven, as used here, represents the effectual spreading of the gospel, for it does not. Leaven used in the Bible is always a type of sin. Cf Matthew 16:6-12 and 1 Cor. 5:7-8.

For fear our article is going to take on too much length, we are going to proceed to the seventh division; the message to the Laodiceans. This, in its prophetic significance, represents the last or apostate period; that (or rather this) luke warm age. The word Laodicea means "the people." Certainly, masses of humanity have flocked into the church. The flood gates have been lifted, and the world has flowed in. Hence, we have in the church the unregenerate, the unbelieving, downright infidelity and atheism. Our great wave of lukewarmness is nothing to marvel at. How striking is the parable of the drag-net which gathers of every kind. The good were kept in vessels, and the bad cast away. Jesus said, "So shall it be at the end of this world" (or age). The principle reason for the writing of the Thessalonian letters was to set the church at Thessalonica right, concerning the second coming of Christ. Especially was this true of the second letter. They were greatly confused concerning this great truth. Is not the masses of this present end-time period of the church age equally, or worse, confused and blinded concerning the second return of the Lord? It most certainly is.

The message to the church at Philadelphia is of special interest. The word means "brotherly love." It was the only church the Lord was entirely pleased with. It represents that true church within the organic church of today. It is that prayed up, packed up, paid up, and ready to go up group, or church, whom only the Lord knows for certain. They are the regenerate, born again, Spirit filled; living to meet their Lord in the air. Notice, the Lord said to the church at Philadelphia, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I will also keep thee FROM the hour of temptation (or trial), which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell on the earth." Rev. 3:10. Jeremiah called that hour "a little moment." Jesus and Daniel called it a time of great tribulation. The collaborating parable is that of the pearl of great price. Jesus is the merchant man who gave all he had in order to purchase this wonderful pearl, the

church. The purchasing price was His life's blood; praise His dear name. Study carefully the connecting epistle. Note how well pleased Paul was with the church of the Colossians. He said, "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God" Col. 3:3.

During this church age, the dispensation of Israel has taken place, and the fullness of the Gentiles is fulfilled. This dispensation of grace has practically coincided with the times of the Gentiles which was made necessary by the rejection of the Christ on the part of His own, the Jews. But now it is reversing. The Jew is returning to

his home land, the Gentile nations are going bankrupt in a hurry (in which situation the present raging war will certainly be of no help) and the church, in its spirituality, is dying and failing to save this civilization. Surely, we must be nearing a radical change. Yes, this dispensation is ending. We are entering, if not already fully in, the last of the seven stages of the church age, and that means we are nearing something new and surprising, perhaps, to many of the masses of humanity; but not to those who are striving to live close to their Lord, and searching diligently for His Truth.

The Supreme Task of the Church

By T. H. Willey, The Missionary

There is one question to which I trust you will give proper thought. What is the chief task of the church? If Jesus really gave His Church a charge that was central in its importances, around which all other activity revolves, it remains for us to think through and discover and execute His command. Furthermore, it is our duty to discover our task, then to perform it to the best of our ability.

It was after the tragedy of His suffering and death on Calvary and His resurrection, just before the eventful day of His ascension. He was giving His parting message to His disciples, His last earthly message in Mark's Gospel, 16th chapter, 15th verse, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Here we have it, *the evangelization of the world*, again in Acts 1:8, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me," then He names the places and includes the whole world. Evangelization is the central command of Christ to the church.

This is the very foundation for the existence of the church to carry the message of His salvation to the uttermost bounds of the human race. The

church that ignores its supreme task, has surrendered its right to exist. We would remind you it is not the Christianization of the world; this has not been done after these years, and from prophecy we have no hope that there shall be a Christian world. The message has not been proclaimed to a large part, or the larger part, of the known world. It is the work of the church to witness, spreading the good news, giving to every man, woman, and child a chance to accept Christ.

We are not told to educate the world; this is the business of the State. Our task is to preach the Gospel. We need an institution to train men for this task, but the task is greater than the institution, and we have failed God, to a large extent in that we have not been able to take our place, to present the great doctrine we name, because we have not trained men to do so.

The marching orders of the Master was "GO" not "COME" or "STAY." Furthermore, if we do not execute the marching orders of the Master or fail to obey Him, puts us in a position where our existence as a church is threatened. No church can live without the missionary spirit! If you study the progress of denominations around us, you will discover the churches that are doing things abroad are the ones that are making the greatest progress at home. We are living in what we might think of as the dispensation of denominations. Great numbers have sprung up within the past fifty years; they have been formed out of the denominations. The mission-minded churches are the most



T. H. Willey

spiritual churches: I need not name them, you know them, get the report of their missionary progress and study it. The light that shines the furthest shines the brightest at home. The church that is not missionary, and by that I mean winning souls to Christ, is like a stagnant pool. If we do not obey our Lord we are unfair to our Lord. Love to God demands that we obey Him. If we do not obey, we lose the joy of service and finally the claims to son-ship. It is the central task because of the great need.

Here, we are preaching over and over and over to those who have heard the Gospel all their lives, many of them never have appreciated the opportunity of the Gospel to obey it and "taste and see that the Lord is good." Sunday after Sunday they refuse to accept Jesus Christ as a Saviour though they have had every possible chance while there are tens of thousands who have never heard, in darkened lands. Should they not have a chance?

Our first task is not to multiply churches; I trust you will not misunderstand me. I believe in reaching the unsaved everywhere, but now I am speaking of the great task. Some have the idea, because we advocate the foreign missionary program, we should put the brakes on, and instead push into the great centers of our own nation. What we should do is to have an aggressive program in every department of the church with able, qualified men to man them.

As long as there are masses of people destitute of the Word of God, and the knowledge of Christ, I feel we shall be falling short of the marching orders of Jesus to be anywhere other than the place of the greatest need. God has ordained that they shall hear of His Son through us. He has commissioned us to bear that message "to the uttermost parts of the earth." Quiet Talk Gordon tells this story, which is a legend:

Jesus returned to heaven and met Gabriel. He stated He had completed His divinely appointed task.

"And what is your plan?" Inquired Gabriel. "How is the Gospel to be spread? Did you leave a strong organization on the earth with well defined plans?"

"No," answered the Saviour. "I left no organization, only a small company of disciples of humble birth. They are to tell the world."

"But suppose they fail?" exclaimed

the great Arch-Angel.

"Ah!" responded the Christ, "I trust them."

"But if they fail you," persisted Gabriel, "What plans have you then?" "I have no other," replied the Saviour.

Amy Wilson Carmichael, a great missionary to India, tells how she lay awake and listened to the heathenish dances, the beat of the tom-toms thumping through the night, "the darkness shuddered around me like some living thing. I could not go to sleep. So I lay awake and looked: and saw as it seemed this:"

"That I stood on a sward, and at my feet broke sheer down into an infinite space was a precipice. I looked down but saw no bottom, only cloud shape, black and furious. Back I drew, dizzy at the depth. Then I saw forms of people moving single file along the grass. They were making for the ridge. There was a woman with a baby in her arms and a child holding to her dress. She was on the verge. Then I saw she was blind. She lifted her for the next step—and it trod on air. She was over and her children with her. Oh, the cry as she went over! The tom-tom still beat heavily, the darkness still shuddered and shivered about me; I heard the

yell of devil dancers and the wild weird shriek of the devil possessed just outside the gate. What does it matter after all? It has gone on for years; it will go on for years. Why make such a fuss about it? God forgive us! Arouse us! Shame us out of our callousness! Shame us out of our sin!"

How Can the Church Evangelize the World

1. By Missionaries.

"How shall they hear without a preacher."

2. By contributing of your means and money to help send others.

"How shall they preach except be sent."

We pray "Thy kingdom come," but never say "Here am I, send me." The burden of the proof rests upon you who are disinterested in the faith of the lost that they have no claims on you as a Christian. While you can't go in person you can go by proxy.

3. By prayer.

"Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He will thrust forth laborers into the harvest."

Upon the Church of Jesus Christ rests the responsibility of praying out missionaries and paying in money to send them.

Stand Where the Fire Has Been

By Gweneth Talley, Aurora, Missouri

A dry summer day it had been, out in the prairie country, with a gentle breeze, and everything was going on smoothly in the log hut. The small patch of corn, in front, had just been gathered. As the owners of the land gazed contentedly over the long, waving prairie grass for some miles beyond, they looked upon their lot in life with satisfaction. After a hot day the breeze had freshened.

Suddenly a long, dark cloud was seen upon the horizon, followed almost immediately by a lurid glare. Miles and miles away from the little settlement, but none the less horrifying to the people, who, even if they had never seen it before, could not be mistaken in the awful sight; and with anxious looks the words went around, "The prairie is on fire!" Yes, there it was bearing down upon them, coming first in their direction.

All soon saw that with such a wind, which had now increased to almost a

gale, and with grass and prairie grass very dry by the day's hot sun, their narrow fire break was simply useless before such a furious and galloping fire, little short of a roaring furnace, coming along at eight or ten miles an hour. What could stem it?

Nothing—simply nothing. Oh, that you, reader, could just be within a half mile of it, and see the roaring blaze sweeping along, and get a view of the flying multitude going before it—a run for life. You would never forget the scene. Bear, Buffalo, Antelope, and every four-footed animal, a mixed mob, a terror-stricken crowd, alike, realizing the value of life in the face of certain death; to prey upon each other never entered their heads in the face of such a mighty foe. No time to think, hardly time to breathe.

What a scene! Does it not remind you of the description of the last day (Rev. 6:15) where it says, "kings of the earth, great men, rich men,

captains, bondmen, and free men" — a terror stricken crowd, all mixed together "hid themselves in the dens and rocks." If ever you see that scene, you will know you are beyond hope. Therefore, haste now to a deliverer.

Those who live in the regions of the wild prairies, know well that there is only one way — only one means of salvation from the face of the awful foe we have been describing. Thank God, there is one way of escape, and that is given to man only. No animal can obtain the deliverance.

A man, by a match, just takes some of the same pursuing element, fire, and lights the long dry grass at his feet. As swiftly, this new fire flies ahead, consuming all before it; and, before the great fire comes up, he walks on to the blackened ground where all has already been consumed. He is safe! When the fire comes up to this spot it finds nothing left to consume, and so it cannot touch him. And with him, perhaps thousands of poor animals, almost breathless, rush in there and stand safe, quite safe; for the fire having gone that place once cannot do so again. Truly, one understands the often repeated words, "Stand where the fire has been."

This is but a poor picture of the Great Day when the terrible fire of God's wrath comes. Yes, and it is soon coming along. Pity, you may, the one who is not then "standing where the fire has been."

Simple as it is for man to take a match and light the grass ahead of him, and then "stand where the fire has been"—so simple is it to shelter under the finished work of Christ.

God sent the fire of His judgement on His beloved Son, and now He has pledged a present and eternal security to anyone who will take their place in Him, take refuge in the One, who bore on the tree the sentence for us. "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."

We said, simple it is to trust Christ and shelter beneath His precious blood, but only by the Holy Spirit can we appropriate this work on our behalf.

Yet the responsibility is yours if you now neglect this; for there remains but one alternative for you—that is, take your place in the condemned crowd, hiding in dens and rocks.

Think! If God's wrath has fallen upon your substitute, can it ever again fall upon you?

Friend, "stand where the fire has been."

A Paganized Education

By M. H. Duncan, in the Moody Monthly, June, 1940

FOR MORE Than twenty-five years, the gradual substitution of the evolutionary hypothesis for the principles of the Christian faith as a basis for American education has controlled the thinking of educators, and educated away from the landmarks of our civilization. It has led away from the Christian individualism of an earlier day, to an attitude of mind that believes in the socialization of our political and industrial institutions. During these years we have heard much of the training of the coming generation for some kind of useful work and the substitution of the three H's (head, heart, and hand) for the three R's (reading, writing, and Arithmetic) in our educational program. But a wrong viewpoint of life, inculcated by a pagan philosophy, has kept the schools away from such a program, and today their products are without practical training and unprepared to face the problems of everyday life.

This pagan philosophy, which the educators call modern, but which is old enough to have destroyed the civilizations of the ancient world, not only does not prepare for work, but creates an attitude of mind hostile to work. It has turned the boys away from the home. The boys look for the white-collar positions that will not soil their hands, and the girls leave school with only the training that comes from the reading of books, looking forward to a career of their own. These girls have entered the industrial world, crowded the young men out because they were willing to work for less, and today we find thousands of young men walking the streets looking for work, which they are ill-prepared to do if they were to find it, and embittered against the social order that brought them into such a situation. Many of them have turned to crime to gain that which they could not get honestly, and thus during the period when our educational system—which cost us ten billion dollars to establish and two billion dollars a year to maintain—claims to have reached its highest efficiency, we have our penal institutions filled with young men, and the crime age in the country reduced to less than twenty years.

We wonder what is the matter with

conditions in this country, the richest in the world and with a capacity to produce more than enough for all. We wonder why the home is decaying, why moral conceptions and practices are becoming lower and lower, why crime is on the rapid increase, and why communism is gaining such a hold among the people. The trouble is we have established an educational system and turned it over to a group of theorists who had in their minds some social and political theories that they wanted to try out, while we have gone about the business of providing for our physical needs, and have not realized that those who shape the program of the schools today also shape the destiny of the people tomorrow. These educational theorists who are hostile to the things in our national life that have made us what we are, have gradually turned us away from the sane conceptions of our forefathers and trained us to think like pagans instead of Christians. We thought we had sown our educational field with the seed of Christianity, but while we slept these enemies have sown the tares of distrust and unbelief. They have so enervated us mentally and morally, that we have neither the power nor the inclination to free ourselves from the conditions in which they have placed us.

A false attitude of mind inculcated in the schools has taken away from us the determination to help ourselves, to solve our own problems with the help of Him in whom we once put our trust, and has turned us to legislation as a means of getting out of our difficulties. As a result of a false educational philosophy, the American people have become "pension minded," and more and more of them feel that the state owes them a living. They have forgotten the meaning of discipline and thrift, refused to deprive themselves to lay aside for the rainy day, and feel that the government should make up for their deficiencies. In other words, we have left God out of our life and are paying the price.

As an indication of the almost total lack of sanity in our educational system and the inability of the people to think for themselves, we are spend-

ing more than ten million dollars in this country each year for football, which all but the blindest enthusiasts should know prepares for nothing worth while in life and, worse than that, it creates an attitude of mind in the player that tends to render him incapable of doing any useful work. Every school has its football team as the center of its program, where the coach is the biggest man on the teaching staff, and frequently paid a higher salary than the principal, superintendent, or president. Hundreds of young men are thus exploited and robbed of an education, to furnish entertainment for the football fans, who frequently are the dominating factor in the community. There has not been anything like it since the days of the gladiatorial combats of ancient Rome. Every thinking man knows that an attitude of mind among the people that will allow such a situation means certain disaster in the end.

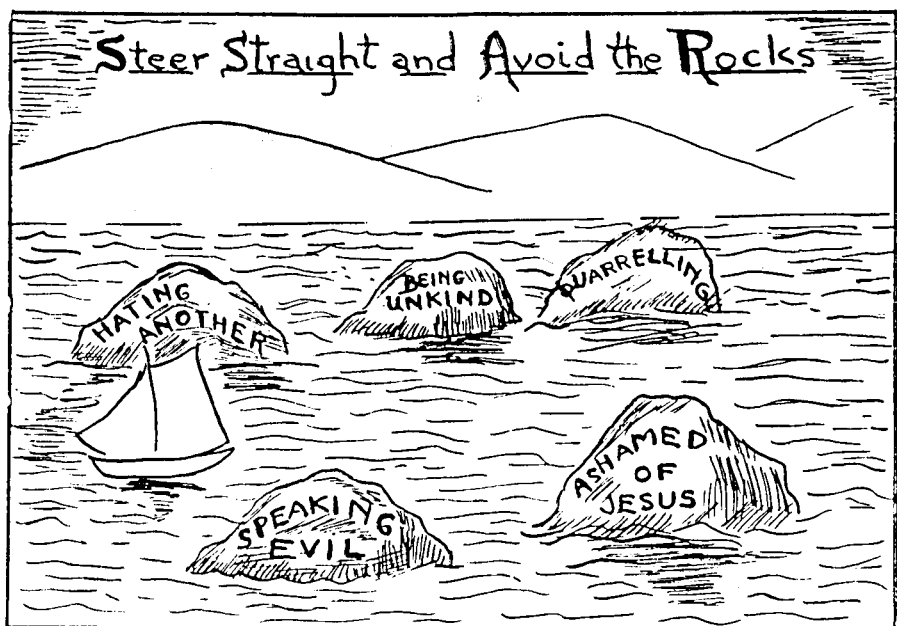
Another indication of the lack of sanity in our educational system is the emphasis placed in recent years on band music. The most important department in many schools, outside of football, is the band, and in most communities the band is an adjunct of the football team. Music helps to create enthusiasm for the team, to give color, to prevent the fans from thinking long enough and deep enough to see the emptiness of it all, and otherwise to help give football the place it has among those who have influence in the local school affairs. Band teachers are among the highest paid instructors, and even in many rural communities the band receives an emphasis above agriculture, home economics, carpentry, and other courses that would prepare for practical life. Parents who can ill-afford it, frequently pay hundreds of dollars for band instruments for their children, and money is taken from the school treasury to purchase the larger instruments, while other departments that have real value are allowed to go begging. This is all because the people want a band, something showy to which they can point with civic and community pride. A visitor from another world would think that music is our principal business and that life with us is one grand song. Maybe a wise providence, seeing that we are headed for the precipice, has so arranged that the shrieks and cries of those who go over shall be timed to music and perhaps drowned by the sound of the cornet, trombone, and saxophone!

If the money and energy invested in band teachers, band instruments, football excursions, and vain parade in the schools could be devoted to preparing the boys and girls for some useful occupations and for the proper attitude toward work, we would not be in the present condition. We are not censuring the many fine young men who have entered the business of band teaching because of the demand for such work, and the bands are all right in their place, but they are not going to save us or help us in the least to grapple with the problems we must solve within the next few years or face certain disaster. We are making no progress toward the solution of our difficulties when we seek to make musicians of the children, for musicians have never been noted for the things that we must build in our future citizens, or perish. In all the history of the world, no nation has been saved by band music, and certainly there is nothing in the jazzy music of the average school band of today that will help us out of our difficulties. Common sense should enable us to realize that the schools are not a picnic affair where the children meet to have a good time, but a serious situation where they should be engaged in the serious business of preparing for life, which most of them will find very serious.

The question is, What are we going to do about it? The answer is, Nothing! We are not going to do anything

and those who do see the situation as it is are unwilling to face the sneers of the vast majority who are blind to the disaster they are surely facing. Christian people who know their Bibles are the only ones who know where we are headed, and the Spirit of God is the only source of sanity in a world money and pleasure mad. If help comes, it will come from above and as a result of the petitions of the God-fearing people of the land who believe in prayer. It will do no more good to warn the people of the dangers ahead than to warn a drunken man of the precipice before him. God alone can save us, through a revival of Bible Christianity such as came to England during the days of John Wesley.

Thousands are praying for such a revival, and we do not believe God would have inclined their hearts to prayer, if He had not intended to answer. So let us pray that God will send such a down-pouring of His Holy Spirit upon the people that their eyes will be opened, and the infidels in our schools, on our school boards, and among the tax payers will turn to the Lord. Such an awakening will be from above, miraculous, and it alone will bring sanity to the nation. The promise is, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (II Chron. 7:14).



Letters of Interest and Field Reports

Pine Creek Quarterly Meeting Wheelersburg, Ohio

Dear Gem Family:

I am sending a report of our Pine Creek Quarterly Meeting that convened, May 25, at the Garden City Free Will Baptist Church, on route 52, near Wheelersburg, Ohio. By ten o'clock, the house was filled with delegates, messengers, and visitors. Our clerk, Eld. G. L. Yeley, (a brother of Sister Bessie Yeley, our missionary) called the conference to order. Eld. J. A. Kemper was chosen moderator, Eld. Earl Ramkins, assistant. The committees were all appointed, and the constitution and by-laws were read by the clerk. Business was then suspended until after noon.

The Pulpit Committee reported Eld. Sheppard to lead a praise meeting, which was surely true to the name. The meeting continued until the noon hour with much shouting and praising our dear Saviour.

Dinner, a bountiful spread, was served on the church lawn, on a table prepared for the occasion.

Business was taken up by presenting and reading the letters from the different churches. All of our 17 churches were represented by letter and delegates. A good spirit of fellowship was felt in the business session which was taken care of by the various committees. The churches all reported in good fellowship and working nicely.

Elder M. Riddlebarger from Porter Quarterly Meeting, preached Saturday night: a wonderful message. Elder Earl Ramkins was to preach Sunday morning.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held with the Germany Hollow Church, on the fourth Saturday in August, 1940.

Reported by

— J. A. Kemper

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Porter Quarterly Meeting Sciotoville, Ohio

The Porter Quarterly Meeting, in Ohio, convened with the Madison Church. The meeting was called to order by the clerk, Rev. J. Shonkwiler. Rev. William Sheppard was chosen moderator. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Frank Delawder with Rev. Gus Graham following. One soul was saved.

Eleven letters were read from the churches, and all reported a small gain in membership. An interesting letter was read from our own foreign missionary, Miss Bessie Yeley, who is in Venezuela.

The next meeting will be held August 17, 1940 with the Wakefield Church.

— Mrs. Grace Peach, Reporter

Catlettsburg, Kentucky June 3, 1940

Dear Gem Readers:

"There Are Joy-Bells in My Soul" because "I Have Found the Way" to "The Cross of Calvary." "I Am So Glad" "There is a Fountain" where "Amazing Grace" gives me that "Blessed Assurance" that "His Seal Is On My Soul." "He keeps Me Singing" "Wonderful Words of Life" "Each Day and Hour."

"Do You Wonder Why" I am "No Longer Lonely"? It's because "Jesus is a Friend of Mine." "I Am So Glad" "He Knows How" to lead us to "The Promised Land." "I'll Be Ready" for "The Home-Coming Week" "On the Other Side" when "I Hear Thy Welcome Voice" say "Come and Dine."

"Master, The Tempest is Raging" but "My Faith Looks Up To Thee." "Lead Me, Shepherd" "Every Day and Hour" to "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer." "Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me" through "The Eastern Gate" to "The Pearly White City" "When I've Gone the Last Mile of the Way."

"Jesus is Calling" "Come, Humble Sinner," I will make you "Whiter Than Snow" if you will "Believe on the Lord." "Prepare To Meet Thy God" for "You Can't Do Wrong and Get By." "Listen to the Voice" of "Elijah's God" and say "I Choose Jesus."

"Lord, Help Me Carry On" "Just a Little While" for "It Won't Be Very Long" until "I'll Fly Away" to "An Empty Mansion" in that "Heavenly Home."

In His Name,

— Gertrude Bowe

REVIVAL MEETING Hazel Park, Michigan

Dear Gem Readers:

I love to read each article of the *Gem*. I enjoy it very much.

This is my first attempt to write to the *Gem*. This will be a short sketch of my experiences for the last two weeks in Hazel Park, Michigan. On May 5, I left Ashland and arrived there at one o'clock in the afternoon and was met at the bus station by Bro. Edgil Howard and Bro. Kirk.

After being entertained in Bro. Kirk's home, we went to the First Free Will Baptist church in Hazel Park to a singing convention. A large crowd attended and it was enjoyed by all. I met many of my friends and among them was our beloved Editor, Bro. John B. Rollins of Monett, Mo.

Then after the singing, we were entertained in the home of the beloved pastor, Eld. N. P. Gates, and that night we preached, by the help of the Lord, and had a real old fashioned meeting. A large audience attended these services. We visited many homes and the friendship that existed between us made us feel as if we were right at home.

While in the revival, we had the pleasure of meeting Eld. Winford Davis of Monett, Missouri; one whom we have long ago learned to love. In this revival the Lord blessed in a wonderful way. There were a number of souls saved, and we hope that this same spirit will continue to strive in this community.

In our stay in Michigan, we visited many places of importance, such as the automobile factory and many other interesting sights. All of these visits were enjoyed. I hope that in the near future I will have the privilege of going back again.

On Monday May 20, Eld. N. P. Gates and myself began our trip back to Kentucky. Eld. Gates is engaged in a singing school at the Westwood Mission at Ashland, Kentucky. Arriving home, I went to church at the Sandy City Methodist church where they were beginning a revival. I enjoyed being with these good people. By the Lord's help we start a series of meetings at Hampton City, Catlettsburg, Kentucky next Monday night, May 27. Pray for me and also for all of these services.

— Eld. L. E. Collier,

Leadington, Missouri June 6, 1940

Dear Co-Workers:

We are always happy to report victory over the enemy of our souls, and truly we had a great victory over sin in St. Louis. Our people had a nice place for the meeting and were all lined up for the battle when we got there. Bro. Mark Lewis is pastor and he had everything ready to make us comfortable while there.

We had victory from the start. I think I never saw the church, as a whole, more ready to work and sacrifice. We had such wonderful singing all the way through. Every night before services we had three prayer meetings. These services proved a great blessing to the meeting. We had 60 conversions and reclaims. Thirty-three were added to the church and twelve were baptized.

We also organized a Women's Auxiliary which is working right on.

Bro. and Sister Lewis are fine people to work with, in fact the whole church is ready to stand by you in the winning of souls. We made our home with Bro. and Sister Lewis. God Bless them in their noble work. Several preachers came out of the meeting which we expect to hear from later.

We came to Leadington the last of May and built a tabernacle to hold a revival with Bro. Dewese and his church, and we trust and pray it will reach all over the "Lead Belt." Brothers Miller, Dodd, and Dees are coming right along and urging these people to line up with the move.

Last night we didn't get to preach at all. As we were reading our text a woman raised to her feet and ask for prayers right now. She rushed to the altar and in a few minutes she was gloriously saved. She said she had promised God if He would only send the blessed Spirit back she would go, and she feared if she waited until the sermon was over she would have had her last call. The power fell and shouts went up to the throne of God. Oh! such wonderful grace to save from sin.

Pray for us here that God will give a revival that will shake this place.

A word to our women—let's pray as our National Association draws near, that God will give a great victory there.

Yours for Jesus,

—H. M. & Lizzie McAdams

Third Free Will Baptist Church ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Eld. Mark Lewis, Pastor

Francis McCauley, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

It has been some time since I have written a letter for the *Gem*. We have closed a four weeks revival meeting and the Lord blessed the meeting. For a small church you never saw such a meeting. God poured out His blessing and people were saved and reclaimed. The revival was on when Sister McAdams got here. She only preached a few nights until people were coming to the altar and getting saved.

I believe Bro. and Sister McAdams and Sister Woods were never in a greater meeting than they had up here. They had a glorious time for the Lord was with them, and we certainly hated to see them leave for we had a glorious time with them.

There were about sixty saved and reclaimed. It was one of the best revivals I was ever in for that length of time. I don't believe they get any better than that revival. It was a success spiritually and financially, and we had a glorious time to the end. We had good music, good singing, and a lot of shouting and praising the Lord. It was a meeting long to be remembered for the glorious times we had with the Lord, and He has done glorious things for His people.

We had a baptizing service Sunday at the Maramoe River and a good crowd attended. Bro. Lewis did a fine work in performing his duty, and he is preaching some fine messages; trying to get sinners saved.

The church organized a Young People's Brotherhood the other night, also a prayer meeting band. We are expecting some great things from our young people.

Our Sunday School went up to 117 last Sunday and we are expecting a larger crowd next Sunday. So every thing is coming along fine.

Harvey Hill is going to preach this Saturday night. This will be his first sermon. He is a fine Christian young man, and he loves the Lord, for he was redeemed from his sins when he was a boy about twelve years ago. He is the youngest son of Rev. W. C. Hill, who has gone home to be forever with his Saviour, your Saviour, and my Saviour.

Seco, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Family:

We wish to report the progress of our church, nestled in the shadow of the Cumberland Mountains in eastern Kentucky.

Rev. Mack Gardner of the Free Will Baptist Church, came to Seco in the year of 1931, and began holding home services. The Lord abundantly blessed and convicted hearts from the very first services. Rev. Joe Patterson from Fleming, Kentucky, came to help in the services. About forty souls were gloriously saved in three weeks, and our church was organized, then took membership with one of the Virginia Conferences of the Free Will Baptist Church.

The revival over, the church was without a pastor for some time, but continued to hold services until Rev. Lucian Winchell, of Dunham, Ky., came to pastor the church. Rev. Winchell was a member of the Johnson County Quarterly Conference. The church took membership with that conference, and has been a member ever since.

The church had great difficulty in keeping a suitable place to hold services, so in March, 1938, we started our new church building which was finished about April 15th at a cost of about \$2500.00, which we succeeded in paying in March, of this year. A series of services were held on May 11 and 12, with the dedication of the church on May 12, 1940.

The welcome was given by Rev. Monroe Hubbard, pastor; expression of appreciation by Rev. W. L. Hooper, assistant pastor; Scripture by Rev. Albert Dingus, Jenkins, Ky.; Sermon of Dedication by Rev. Millard Van Hoose, of Paintsville, Ky.; Dedication prayer by Bro. Byron Van Hoose of Paintsville.

We were honored to have with us on that day the Ramsey, Virginia Gospel Singers, also the The Alka, Kentucky Gospel Singers.

Ten souls were added to the church during these services. Our present membership is about 115. Rev. Monroe Hubbard is our pastor, and has served us with untiring efforts for the past four years. We thank the Lord for a man like Brother Hubbard.

We certainly thank the Lord for the *Gem*, and those good inspirational messages, and the wonderful letters from the great Gem Family. We en-

joy every one. It sure looks like I will have to subscribe for two, as my good wife and I want to read it at the same time. Pray for us.

Here is hoping to see you at the National Association.

— Walter L. Hooper.

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Summers, Arkansas June 5, 1940

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I would just like to say I really do enjoy reading the "Gem." It is such a comfort to me, as we live so far from church and have no way to go.

I feel so weak and unworthy in the sight of God, but I am determined to live right and teach my children right with God as my helper. My husband is not a Christian and it sure makes it hard.

I belong to the Free Will Baptist Church at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Bro. Melvin Bingham is my pastor. He is a real preacher; the best I have ever heard. I know he is a real man of God. I sure was glad to see the Tulsa church report in the *Gem* again.

I would like to ask every child of God to pray that my husband will be saved. We have four children. I am not well at all. I would like to ask every child of God that believes God can and will heal to pray for me. I believe God can make a way through any difficulty if we trust and obey Him.

Here are a few lines to sinners:

LOST—a little word with only four letters, but what a terrible word when applied to the human soul. We doubt if the mind, of even the most intelligent person, can comprehend the "terribleness" of the state of a soul eternally lost from God. God will make a way through any difficulty if we trust and obey Him.

Pray for peace and happiness in my home. May God bless everyone of you that read this.

— Mrs. Hugh Hulet.

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Independence Church Stockton, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

For a long time I have had a desire to write to the *Gem*. I feel that there are so many more that can write so much better than I, that I have been

putting it off.

I am so glad that I know Jesus; know of His wonderful powers, and the miracles that He can perform if we only believe. I feel there are so many that can do greater things and more for Jesus, but there are so many little things multiplied together make great things. So I am hoping that I will still keep a great desire to work for Him and to do what I can.

I am so glad Jesus said that He is no respecter of persons. He even said He isn't far from any of us, and whatever we ask in His name, believing we will receive. He says to tarry at Jerusalem until we are endued with power. I'm glad I did tarry until I knew of his great power. I am not ashamed of Jesus and His power. I am glad He made me miserable until I found a closer walk with Him.

In these dark days when it seems that Satan is going about, as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, I am glad we have Jesus to come to; to help us through the times that are now upon us. I am glad that when we come to the crossroads, and we know not which way to go, we can call unto Him and He will lead us to the little path that leads to Heaven.

We don't see many letters from this part. So I am hoping this will be printed. Even though I do feel little and weak in the sight of God, I am glad for Paul said when he was weak he was strong.

— Pearl Pruitt.

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A Great Day In Michigan

Last Sunday was a marvelous day with us here in the North. The church I am pastoring and two others went together and had all day services out on Flint River, about five or six miles northeast of Flint. It was a beautiful day for the occasion and a splendid location on the river bank.

We went from Sunday School, and the first thing after getting to the river was to spread dinner. Then after dinner preaching service was held, and this was followed with baptizing.

There were fifty baptized, and some 500 people were in attendance. We got away from the baptizing grounds at five o'clock in the evening. It is impossible for me to tell you about the services of the day, as I would like

to. I have never seen anything like it before. I never saw such outpouring of the spirit at a baptizing; both in the water and among those standing on the bank. There was an hour and a half of almost continual shouting of God's praises. All 50 of the candidates were lined up in the water at the same time.

It was a beautiful sight. The ground where the audience stood was elevated in a gradual way as if built for that purpose, and the foliage on the bank across the river furnished a beautiful background. The skies had been overcast most all day; but just as we started to baptize the sun broke through on the scene, and this added to the beauty of the occasion. I wished for all of you that I know to be there.

Then when we returned to the church that night for service, of course everyone was filled with the spirit. We intended to have communion and washing of the saint's feet; but so many got to rejoicing in the praise service; they shouted the preaching entirely out. There were three souls saved. By the time the altar service was through it was twenty minutes until ten, and so we just postponed the ordinance service until next Sunday night.

That night closed a weeks revival with nine, in all, saved and reclaimed during the week. I am praising the Lord for the religious wave that is sweeping this part of the country. It is getting more noticable in this part all the time.

Just below us, a mile perhaps, in the same stream of water, was another baptizing in progress at the same hour where 26 were baptized from another church in Flint. Thank the Lord that there are still left a people who love and fear the Lord and worship in the old time way. I thank God for the great fundamental peoples left in our land. They are the hope of this country.

Well, I will close before making my report of the day too long. I hope to see a great number of you in Paintsville, just after the second Sunday in July. Go if you possibly can; but if you just can not go, then be sure and pray much for this important meeting.

Love to all,

— Winford Davis.

Original and Select Poems

LOVE

By Mrs. Opal Frazier, Mt. Vernon, Mo.

Love is a little four-letter word.
But it means so much to us all;
It helps us along life's pathway,
And protects us from many a fall.

Christ bled and died upon the cross
Because He loved us all;
How can we then go on in sin
And still resist His call.

If we have God's love deep in our hearts:

And live for Him each day:
Sometime He'll call us to realms above
Forever with Him to stay.

Through trials and tribulations,
Whatever may be the test;
We can always depend on His great love,

For He will surely bless.

—(|| -oOo- ||)—

A SERVANT FOR JESUS

By Clell Preston

I wish not to be a great ruler,
Or King of some foreign land,
A Dictator, II Duce, or Hitler,
A Villa of a rebel band,
Not even Lincoln, the emancipator,
Or be his little son, Tad,
But be a servant for Jesus;
And preach just like my Dad.

I do not wish for great riches
Of silver or of gold,
To own large stocks in business
Or to have fortunes untold.
I do not want precious jewels
Such as many Queens have had,
Only be a servant for Jesus;
And preach just like my Dad.

I wish not to be a Billy Sunday
With salary of ten thousand or more
With a choir of one-hundred singers
And will not preach to the poor.
Just give me the old family Bible
Like old time preachers had,
Let me be a servant for Jesus;
And preach just like my Dad.

I wish not to be a prophet
An Elijah or a John,
Or be a man like Moses
Which led the children of Israel on.
And I wish not to be Jonah
With all the troubles he had,
Just be a servant for Jesus;
And preach just like my Dad.

This poem was written by Brother Clell Preston, whose father has been preaching the Gospel for more than forty years. Mr. Preston is also an artist of ability. He has painted Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane, and The Rock of Ages, and donated them to the church. — Seco, Kentucky.

A Conversation With Death

Contributed by Edna L. Jeffreys and Catherine Jeffreys Miller, Sheldon, Mo.

Oh, what is this I cannot see,
With icy hands taking hold of me?
"Oh, I am death, none can excel;
I open the door of HEAVEN and HELL."

Oh, death, oh death, how can it be,
That I must come and go with thee?
Oh death, oh death, how can it be,
I'm unprepared for ETERNITY?

"Yes, I have come to get your SOUL;
To leave your body and leave it cold,
To drop the flesh off from the frame,
The earth and worms both have their claim."

Now death, oh death, if this be true,
Please give me time to reason with you;

"From time to time you've heard and saw,
I'll close your eyes and lock your jaw."

"I'll lock your jaws so you can't talk,
I'll fix your feet so you can't walk,
I'll close your eyes so you can't see,
This very hour come and go with me."

Now death, oh death, consider my age,
And do not take me at this stage;
My wealth is all at your command
If you will move your icy hands.

"The old, the young, the rich, the poor,
Alike with me will have to go;
No age, no wealth, no silver nor gold,
Nothing satisfies me but your SOUL."

Now death, oh death, please let me see
If Christ has turned His back on me;
"When you were called and asked to bow,
You wouldn't take heed and it's too late now."

Oh death, oh death, please give me time
To fix my heart and change my mind;

"Your heart is fixed, your mind is bound,
I have the shackles on you now."

Too late, too late! to all — farewell,
My soul, my soul, will burn in hell;
As long as God in Heaven shall dwell,
My doom is sealed, I'm summoned to HELL.

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" Psalms 9:17. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" Romans 6:23.

He Is With Me

By R. L. Cannady, Dunham, N. C.

He's with me on the mountain
And in the valley too;
He's with me when in sorrow,
He is a pal so true.

He tells me of a mansion,
He's planned for me above;
He's coming soon to claim us
To join the host of love.

I think of how I've grieved Him,
And what He's done for me;
My Lord I did not mean it,
It was then I could not see.

I traveled far to shun Him
With evil I would be;
But bless His name He found me,
And now He has set me free.

I think of all the trials
I've had on earth alone;
When if I'd only let Him
There's some I'd never known.

My sins I bore did burden
My life was breaking down;
And since my Lord has found me,
There is joy for me now.

You travel blindly onward
Destruction you are bound;
When if you'd only let Him,
Right now you could be found.

Your sins are all before you
You are sad and lonely too;
When just one look at Jesus,
That's all you would have to do.

Come now and let's reason
You are lost in sin you know;
Just now won't you receive him,
From Him you would never go.

STATISTICAL REPORTS

This is the last call for statistics for the National Association Statistical Report. All associational and conference clerks are urged to send a copy of their minutes right away in order to get their groups counted. If you have not responded, please do so now.

Clarence Bowen
National Statistician
Box 203
East Durham, N. C.

Obituaries - Memorials

BLALOCK—Sarah Elizabeth Blalock was born August 13, 1868, and passed away at her home in St. Louis, Mo., June 4, 1940. She was 72 years old. Her husband preceeded her in death 19 years ago.

She leaves to mourn her going five children; two sons, Harvey and Ira Blalock; and three daughters, Mrs. Marie Goodman and Mrs. Lucille Hamilton, both of St. Louis, and Mrs. Ida Dunlap of Waynesville, Missouri. There were eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, and a host of friends who were grieved at her sudden departure. She leaves a vacant place in her home and the church. It was so hard to give her up but God's will be done, not ours.

The face we loved is now laid low,
The voice we loved is still;
We often sit and think of her
As she lies in death's cold chill.

Oh, what would we give to clasp her hand,
And her dear face to see;

To hear her voice to see her smile,
That means so much to me.

Our family is broken,
A link is gone from our chair,
And though we're parted for awhile,
We soon shall meet again.

Our mother longed to be living
When Jesus came for His bride;
She waited and longed for his coming,
But Jesus came to her side.

We'll never find a treasure like you,
mother,

For mother's love is rarer than gold,
And its value will not lessen,
Till the sun and the stars grow old.

Written by a friend.
—Mrs. Birdie McCauley

IN MEMORY

Written in memory of Eld. Ezra T. House, loving husband and father, who passed away one year ago, May 29th.

How much we miss you, loved one,
No one on earth can tell;
We miss your precious footstep,
And your smiling face as well.

Not dead to those who loved you,
Not lost, but gone before;
You live with us in memory,
And will live for ever more.

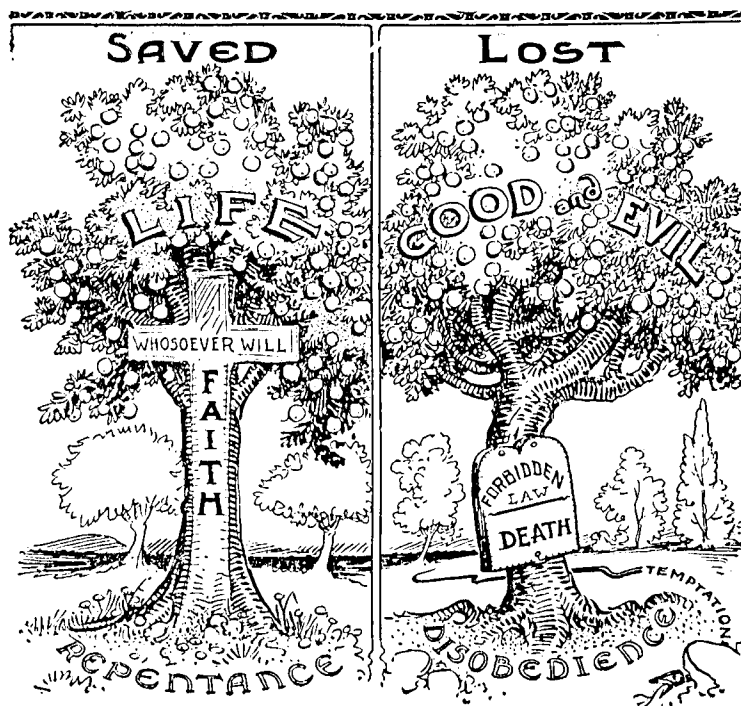
Our hearts still ache with sadness,
Our eyes shed many a tear;
God only knows how we miss you,
As it dawns another year.

Never shall we cease to love you,
Never shall your memory fade;
Sweetest love forever lingers,
Around the grave where you were laid.

Loved one, we hope to meet you,
When the days of life are fled;
Yes, in Heaven with joy to greet you,
Where no farewell tears are shed.

We'll march through the streets of
the city,
With our loved ones gone before;
And sit down by the banks of the river,
There we'll meet to part no more.

—Sadly missed by wife and children.



SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY Liberty, Oklahoma

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

We believe in heralding the good news when we have a good meeting of any kind, so we are giving you a brief out-line of our wonderful Sunday School Rally held at our tabernacle, on our camp grounds, near our Free Will Baptist church at Liberty, Oklahoma, about 30 miles out from Tulsa.

Owing to the inclement weather, the morning service was attended by only a few, and no program was rendered. The congregation was divided into

four groups of classes, and we had a real Sunday School followed by a very interesting talk by our State Sunday School Superintendent, Bro. Wilbur Underwood. His subject was "Conditions of our country from the landing of the Pilgrims."

Following this a wonderful and most inspiring message was brought by Bro. Florence of Drumright, Oklahoma, his subjecting being, "The Sabbath and Its Works" (Prov. 14:28).

After the preaching hour, a good dinner was enjoyed. Promptly at 1:30 p. m. the programs of the different churches began. There were six churches represented with programs of

which all were good, both in songs and plays.

Drumright was awarded the banner for the best program, which was indeed a wonderful play.

Bro. Zinn, pastor of the Bristow church, was selected to call for an offering to finish payment on the piano that was bought for our tabernacle, and he not only did a good job at that, but enough money was raised to buy 100 song books. So praise the Lord for that!

A good time was had by all, and at the close of the Rally everyone seemed to have in mind, "Let's make it better next year."

—Mrs. Evelyn Miller, Tulsa, Okla.

REPORT OF SAM H. MARCUM

Missouri State Evangelist

Dear Gem Readers:

Greetings in Jesus Name!

Well, as previously announced, we began a meeting at the Hickory Grove church near Harrisonville, Mo., May 15.

As usual, we found a few faithful ones on hand for the service. We met many new friends, and had some real stirring services.

While there, the church had their regular annual home coming. There was a large crowd present. A basket dinner was served at noon. The pastor, Bro. Arthur Kicenski, brought the message at 11:00 o'clock, and yours truly preached in the after noon and Sunday night.

We were there three and one half weeks. Three souls seemed to pray through to victory.

We are planning on a preaching tour out west this summer. We want to stop at churches in Kansas and Nebraska, then we plan to go to Wyoming to see my aged mother.

May God bless our people everywhere. Pray for us.

—Sam and Daisy Marcum.

—(|||-oOo-|||)—

Fredericktown, Missouri

June 1, 1940

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

It has been quite a long time since I have written anything from our church. When I read the good letters from all the readers of the "Gem" it makes my heart rejoice; most especially when I find one from my very dear friends like the one from Dorothy McClanhan. I was so glad to read her letter. She said she started out serving the Lord while she was young. So did I. It brought my mind back to when we both went to the dear old Amity church and shouted God's praises together. But now we are separated by miles, but we can still serve the same God. So I just want to say to those dear ones, "Praise the Lord. It won't be long until we will meet around the great white throne with God and all of our loved ones that have gone on before where we can praise God forever more."

Our church here at Fredericktown is growing. We have a wonderful Sunday school, and I am glad to say that more stay for preaching than did. Bro. Hand has pastored our church for quite a while, and may God bless him. He surely is doing a great work.

We are trying to get enough money to start building a new church, and Bro. Hand certainly is working at the job. If anyone that reads this feels like helping us out, we surely would be so thankful for anything you could do for us.

Just a few lines in loving memory of a very dear friend and neighbor of mine, and my son's, Wilbur, mother-in-law, Mrs. Mattie Sanders, who passed away May 21. She fell just a week before and broke her right leg, below her knee, but everyone thought she was getting along fine until she had an attack of heart trouble and passed away so quickly.

Oh, it was so hard for Mr. Sanders and the children to give up such a good wife and mother, for she was so good to everyone. She was a good worker and faithful member in the church where she was a member. Everyone that knew her will miss her.

I just want to say to those loved ones, that mother has only gone on to her sweet reward to be with God. So dear ones you can meet her again if you all live for God and hold out faithful until God calls you.

She leaves eight children; five boys and three girls, also her husband and a host of others near to her. Their loss is heaven's gain for we know she is at rest.

—Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Jemes

—(|||-oOo-|||)—

Cross Roads Church

Dry Nob, Missouri

Again, the second Sunday of this month (June), we take communion and feet washing.

Saturday at eleven o'clock our pastor brought a heavenly message, using for a text: "Faith, Hope and Charity." — a message that would surely renew our faith in God, and cause our souls to look up with a steadfast hope and our wills to be completely lost in the will of God.

At ten o'clock Sunday morning, the house was filled for Sunday School.

Bro. Jeff Peterson, of Drynob, brought the message at eleven and was followed by Bro. Curtis, making feet washing and communion so plain a child could understand. There were twenty who took part in the service. It was really a good place to be. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if you do them."

We always do receive a blessing when we do the things and follow the examples our Saviour left for us, if

we are sincere and really do it for the glory of God.

Once there was a man that prayed very loudly in church, and then forgot it at home. He passed by a man who was swearing because his cow had kicked him. And he said, "Now Bill, you should not swear like that."

Bill said, "Well, I know I swear and you pray, but the Lord knows we don't mean a word of it."

We need to be careful when we do these things to show to the world we are following Jesus. We want to be sure our every day life is what it should be.

We have prayer meeting each Wednesday night. Those that can not meet with us, we earnestly ask your prayers. If ever we needed to pray it is now while the nation is preparing for war, and some of our boys are yet unsaved.

May God bless you all and keep our dear paper flowing through the land.

—Alpha Jane Wilson.

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First Free Will Baptist Church

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Rev. Melvin Bingham, Pastor

Mrs. Evelyn Miller, Reporter

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

Along this Christian highway there are no shade trees to sit down and rest under. If we had such, Satan would be sure to creep up on us, so we just have to keep moving — and this is what the Tulsa church is doing.

On June 1, only a few of our young people were able to attend the Young Peoples' League Rally, held at Bro. Bert Rogers' church at Wewoka, due to the long distance of 115 miles from Tulsa, and a very bad rainy Sunday. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful time while there.

The Drumright church took both banners for best attendance and the best program.

The next League Rally will be held at Bro. Paul Pursell's church at Tecumseh. This church has just recently joined the league association.

The Tulsa church has a group of fine young leaguers, who believe in living, reverencing, and doing things for God. They meet regularly on Friday nights in study session with 50 and 60 in attendance. This fine group makes up our choir, on Sunday nights, rendering a 45 minute song service before the preaching hour. We

are proud of our young people, for we realize that the youth of today is our future church of tomorrow.

The directors of the league took them on an outing, held at one of our parks last week. About 100 attended and enjoyed the various games and refreshments.

Sunday, June 9, we enjoyed a message by a visiting minister, Bro. James of San Antonio, Texas; a recently returned missionary from South America. He gave a very interesting talk of his work on the foreign field.

Our hearts were made happy over one conversion and two additions to church last Sunday night.

On Sunday afternoon 63 grown-ups and youngsters were in the studio for the 15 minute broadcast. Special numbers were rendered by the children and dedicated to their fathers and to all the fathers throughout the radio land.

While some are rejoicing, others have been made sad by the passing on to the glory world of some of their loved ones. Bro. Bingham has conducted several funerals since our last report.

Please, continue to pray for us.

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Indian Creek Sunday School Association

The second Association of the Indian Creek Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools met with the Carterville church, Carterville, Mo., the second Sunday in June.

The meeting was opened by congregational singing led by Elder Kenneth Turner. The Welcome address was given by the chairman, Eld. Cecil Campbell; then turned over to Eld. C. M. Hatfield for the devotional part. The lesson was read from Hebrews 11th chapter.

The programs were then opened as follows:

"Best Method of Teaching," by Eld. J. B. Rollins. A very interesting talk and educational for the teachers.

"Preparation of Teachers," given by Bro. B. F. Brown. A very good talk on the qualification of the teacher. Bro. J. B. Jefferson added a few inspirational points on the same subject.

"Preparation of the Superintendent," given by Bro. C. M. Hatfield. I wish all Sunday Schools could have heard this talk, especially all the superintendents and teachers.

"Best Methods of Keeping Juniors and Intermediates Interested while in Class," given by Bro. Kenneth Turner. Bro. Turner broke any monopoly there might have been by having the congregation stand and sing the chorus of "Christ the Solid Rock." Then he gave a very good talk on the subject.

"Keeping Young Men (age 16-21) Interested In Their Sunday School," was given by Bro. O. T. Allred. We are always glad to hear Bro. Allred speak, on any subject, and he sure did justice to this one in such a way that all parents should have heard him.

"How To Increase the Membership of the Sunday School," was given by Bro. Frank Linton; a very encouraging and helpful talk.

Several good specials were given during the afternoon by the Monett quartet and the Carterville quartet. Sister Pool of Monett gave a reading, which was very fitting for the occasion, entitled "Empty Church Seats."

An offering of three dollars was taken to help defray the expense of buying the banner and the printing of the programs.

The Banner Committee, consisting of Bro. Jefferson, Bro. Turner, Bro. La Shum and Bro. Timmons, unanimously voted to give the banner to Carterville.

It was decided not to meet any more until after the local association.

Adjournment.

— Eld. Geo. La Shum, Clerk

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First General Baptist Church Flint, Michigan

Winford Davis, Pastor

Carl B. Ragsdale, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

Since writing my last letter, we have been feasting at God's table and sitting in heavenly places.

We were glad to have Bro. Rollins, your editor, with us on his visit to this section of the country. We feel as you no doubt do, that he is a man of God and capable of the position where you have placed him.

We were also happy to have Bro. McKinzie of Aurora, Missouri, known to most of you there as "Uncle John." It really encourages us younger people to hear all the old veterans of the cross testify to the saving and keeping power of the Lord.

We have sure been having some wonderful services the past two weeks; starting June 2, with a one week re-

vival, held by our pastor, ending the following Sunday with baptizing service on the river bank. Two other churches, also, took part in the service with us. Then this last Sunday evening we had the ordainance service of Communion and feet washing. In all of these services, the Lord has been giving us a double portion of His spirit and blessings.

Our Sunday school is still prospering with the word of God being taught to our future church.

The church has called Rev. Winford Davis as our pastor for another year. He hasn't accepted the call as yet; but was given two months in which to accept or reject.

Souls are still being saved and the church is growing in membership.

Remember us when you pray that God may continue to use us in His work, and that He may be pleased with our efforts in these perilous times.

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Continued from page 2

Foreign Mission Fund

Fredericktown Church	\$5.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Mission	2.00
True Blue Class, Mt. Olive S. S.	3.00
Oak Grove Church by F. Linton	2.20
Hazel Creek Union Church	20.25
Sublette Sunday School	4.00
S. P. Easley, Portales, N. Mex.	4.00
Mine La Motte Sunday School	1.50
Oak Grove Church (of Missouri State Association)	2.00
Union Third Fork Church	1.97
Mailed in without a name from	
Galena, Kansas	5.09
Pleasant Grove Ch. Anderson,	6.56
Carterville League23
Blue Eye Church	3.71
Monett Church	5.48
Golden Oak Church, Mill Creek	1.00
G. E. Wade, Liberal, Mo.	10.00
Macedonia Church Purdy, Mo.	1.25
Total	\$79.15

New Press Fund

Helen Houston, Necsho, Mo. .. \$1.00

Publishing House Fund

Fredericktown Church \$2.50 |

Superannuation Fund

Fredericktown Church \$2.50 |

Entertainment Fund for Missouri State Association

Flat River Church \$10.00 |

— Winford Davis, Secretary

Announcements of the Associations

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION—The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Paintsville Free Will Baptist Church, in Paintsville, Kentucky.

The Women's Auxiliary Convention convenes on Monday night after the second Sunday in July, 1940, and the National Association, proper, convenes on Tuesday night following.

ZION HOPE NO. 2. ASSOCIATION

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Session of this Association will be held with Mountain View Church, seven miles north of Charleston, Arkansas, beginning on Thursday night before the first Sunday in August, 1940.

Elder T. J. Robertson to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder Roy Rose, alternate.

HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION

The Forty-Seventh Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Murray Hill Church, beginning on Thursday night before the third Sunday in August, 1940.

Elder J. J. Lackey is to preach the Introductory Sermon.

OLD MOUNT ZION ASSOCIATION

The Ninety-Ninth Annual Session of this Association will be held with Cottage Hill Church, beginning at ten o'clock a. m., on Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1940.

Elder George Been to preach the Introductory Sermon, Eld. H. M. Knox, alternate.

LACLEDE COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The Thirty-Seventh Annual Session of this Association will be held with Cross Roads Church, in Laclede County Missouri, beginning at three o'clock p. m., on Thursday before the third Sunday in August, 1940.

Elder Roy Jones to preach the Introductory Sermon, with Elder T. J. Peterson, alternate.

FIRST MISSION ASSOCIATION

The Thirteenth Annual Session of this Association will be held at Old Ministers' Home and Camp Ground site on Drumright-Sapulpa road, beginning on Tuesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1940.

Eld. H. E. Staires, Mod., Drumright, Ok

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

The Third Annual Session of this Association will be held with Mt. Zion No. 3 Church, near Grovespring, Mo., beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1940.

Elder Tona Jinks to preach the Introductory Sermon, Eld. E. E. Vestal, alternate.

CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI AND SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS

The Thirty-Second Annual Session of this Association will be held with Fair View Church, near Chetopa, Kansas, beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1940.

Elder Ronea Thomas to preach the Introductory Sermon, with Elder W. K. Weston as alternate.

INDIAN CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Session of this Association will be held with Mt. Olivet Church, Blue Eye, Missouri, beginning on Monday night before the first Sunday in September, 1940.

Monday night and Tuesday will be given to the Ministers' Conference. Everybody invited.

Elder Cecil Campbell of Carterville, Mo., to preach the Introductory Sermon on Tuesday night, Eld. Kenneth Turner of Granby, Mo., alternate.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI ASS'N.

This Association will convene on August 29 to September 1, at the Stahl Church, with Rev. C. A. Phillips bringing the introductory sermon; Rev. Cecil Horner, alternate.

ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION

The Seventy-Second Annual Session of this Association will convene with Mulberry Church, at Gravelly, Yell County, Arkansas, on highway 28, beginning on Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1940.

J. S. Lovett to preach the Opening Sermon.

LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER ASS'N.

The Sixty-Second Annual Session of this Association will be held with Mt. Zion Church, Langley, Arkansas, beginning Thursday evening before the first Sunday in September, 1940.

Elder E. J. Oneel, Mod., New Hope, Ark

DIBBLE ASSOCIATION

The Thirty-Third Annual Session of this Association will convene with Hawkins Church, beginning on Thursday before the second Sunday in September, 1940.

C. L. Hudson, Mod., Blanchard, Okla.

ROBERTS-McGEE ASSOCIATION

The Fortieth Annual Session of this Association will be held with Salonia Church, three miles north of Leflore, Oklahoma, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1940.

Eld. D. O. Scroggins, Moderator.

SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION

The Sixty-Sixth Annual Session of this Association will be held with Pirtle Church, Peach Orchard, Ark., beginning on Thursday evening before the third Sunday in September, 1940.

Elder Charles Staten is to preach the Introductory Sermon.

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

The Seventh Annual Session of this Association will be held with Friendship Church of Pell City, Alabama, beginning on Friday Morning before the fourth Sunday in September, 1940.

Eld. J. G. Roberts, Moderator.

MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Session of this Association will be held with Niangua Church, Niangua, Missouri, beginning on Monday night following the fourth Sunday in September, 1940.

Mission sermon on Monday night, September 23rd, by John B. Rollins of Monett, Missouri.

League sermon on Tuesday at 11:00 a. m., September 24th, by Damon C. Dodd of Desloge, Missouri, Melba White of Plattsburg, Mo., alternate.

The Introductory Sermon for the Association will be preached on Tuesday night, September 24th, by O. T. Alfred of Monett, Missouri, W. R. Rush of Weatherby, Mo., alternate.

OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION

The Thirty-Second Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Bible Church, beginning on Tuesday night before the fourth Sunday in October, 1940.

W. E. Dearmore, Mod., Wanette, Okla.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI ASS'N.

This Association will convene with the Union Third Fork Church near St. Joseph, Missouri, on Thursday night, August 22, 1940.

Introductory Sermon by Rev. Mary Welbaum, Rev. Melba White, alternate. Melba White, Clerk, Plattsburg, Mo.

NOTE—We will be glad to print the announcement of your Association, Yearly Meeting, or Special Conference on this page. If your announcement does not appear on this page, and you would like to have your meeting announced, please send it in for the August issue. These announcements, excepting two, were taken from our file of minutes that we printed last winter.

— Editor.