

The Free Will Baptist Gem

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Monett, Missouri February, 1945

Volume 17 Number 2

The
Bible con-
tains 3,566,4-
80 letters, 810,
697 words, 31,175
verses, 1,189 chapter-
s and 66 books, the lon-
gest chapter is the 119th
Psalm; the shortest and mid-
dle chapter the 117th Psalm.
The middle verse is the 8th of
the 118th Psalm. The longest name
is in the 8th chapter of Isaiah. The
word "and" occurs 46,627 times; the word
"Lord" 1,855 times. The 37th chapter of
Isaiah and the 12th chapter of the second book
of Kings are alike. The longest verse is
the 9th of the 8th chapter of Esther, t-
he shortest verse is the 35th of the
11th chapter of John. (Jesus Wept)
In the 1st verse of the 7th chap-
ter of Ezra is the alphabet. T-
he finest piece of reading is
the 26th chapter of Acts. Th-
e name of God is not men-
tioned in
the
Book
of Esther. It
contains knowledge,
wisdom, holiness and Love.

THE BIBLE TREE

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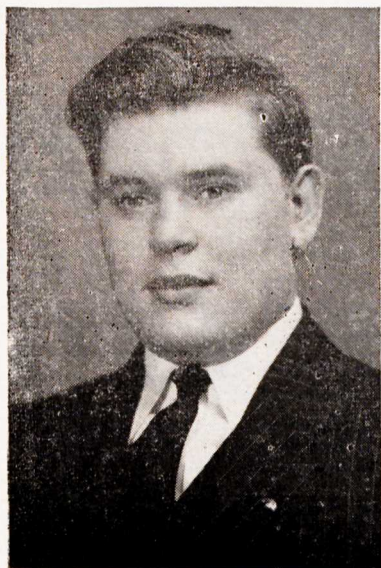
Reward's of the Faithful

Rev. H. E. Willis, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

Note—Bro. Willis is now a student in our Bible College in Nashville, Tenn. While attending school he is also serving as pastor of a rural church outside the city of Nashville.

Before going to College he was quite active in the administration of the Wolverine Association. He is a good evangelist, so if you ever need him, just let him know.

Editor



Rev. H. E. Willis

Faithfulness is rewarded in the home by good deeds; in school faithfulness is rewarded by good grades and in the kingdom of God faithfulness is rewarded by crowns.

The Lord expects us to be faithful to Him and His teachings at all times. He has not required any certain amount of

work from any of us, but He does expect us to be faithful to the work He calls us to do.

We shall consider this evening some very important ways and reasons for faithfulness to Him.

1. The Rewards God has in store for us.

Crowns are not always glimmering objects, but rewards, in the sense Jesus spoke of them. The five rewards Jesus has promised to give are:

a. Crown of glory, 1 Peter 5:2-4 "Feed the Flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, Ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

This reward is for those who feed the flock of God. This does not only apply to the minister but to the lay members as well. A special reward that can not be won any other way is this crown of glory. To wear this crown we must be personal workers, not failing to feed the flock of God in our midst.

b. Crown of righteousness, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only; but unto all them that love His appearing." II Timothy 4:8.

This reward is given in recognition of those who love His appearing, and who live in the atmosphere of "that blessed hope."

c. The incorruptible crown is given as a reward to those who have been temperate in all things and have striven for the mastery.

This is the reward God gives for self-denial, and to those who put God first in their lives.

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

d. The crown of rejoicing is given as a reward to soul-winners. This crown will never be given to us for any other deed. With this reward to our credit we have the assurance of recognition in heaven.

"For what is our crown of rejoicing?" I Thessalonians 2:19.

e. The crown of Life is given to those who are faithful unto death, amidst temptations and hardships. Also for those who enjoyed their salvation amidst difficult situations.

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

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive a crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love Him." James 1:12.

II Necessity of faithfulness.

a. One of the main reasons to strive for these crowns is to be able to escape the second death. If we fail to receive the crown of Life, we must hear Him say, "Depart from me." "That He by the grace of God should taste death for every man." Hebrews 2:9. Surely we want to work and aim for this reward which means eternal life.

b. As we strive for the various rewards we enjoy our salvation more fully. One who is faithful, surely enjoys the fruits of his labor. We enjoy our labor because we wait for the "Chief Shepherd to appear." I Peter 5:4.

c. We are told in the Scriptures to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we are faithful to the things He would have us do, we bring about this growth. Faithfulness is required to try not destroy Christians. "The trial of your faith being much more precious than gold." I Peter 1:7.

As we prove our faithfulness in one department of His work, no doubt, He will give us more to do.

III. a. Now you ask how may I be faith-

ful to the Lord. One of the best ways is to read the Bible daily for instructions. You find His plan in the Word. "Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

b. Then we need to pray without ceasing. Ask God for His guidance daily. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16b.

c. To be faithful we must be obedient. It is not ours to question the leading of God, but it is only ours to follow. We must obey when God tells us to feed His people. Live in the atmosphere of the hope of His glorious return for His people; to be temperate in all things; speak to the soul He lays on your heart; and be faithful in all things unto death.

You remember the story of the lord who called his servants to him, when he was about to go into far country and delivered unto them talents with the request that they add to the number while he was away.

At last the day arrives for his return and these servants are brought before him to account for the talents delivered them. One came who had gained five talents and the lord said, well done. Another came who had gained two talents and the lord said, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

One came who had been slothful and failed to gain a talent, at his appearance the Lord said, "Take away even that which he has."

I wonder if we are gaining talents or are we slothful doing nothing. Surely we must work if we win. Matthew 25.

We have studied of the various crowns which God has as rewards for faithfulness, and also we have read from the Scripture how these may be obtained.

Shall we all strive harder that we might hear Jesus say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant," on the great day of judgment! Amen.

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The Anti-Diluvian World

Elder B. F. Brown, Cassville, Mo.

The Bible tells us of three worlds: The world that was, the world which now is, and the world which is to come.

The world "that was" (2 Peter 3:6) is also called "the old world" (2 Peter 2:5), and we also call it the Antediluvian World. Ante means before and diluvian means deluge or flood: The Antediluvian World then, was the world before the Flood.

The world which now is called "this present world" (2 Tim. 4:10; Titus 2:12). It is an evil world (Gal. 1:4). It had its beginning just after the Flood, and Noah and his three sons and their wives were the first inhabitants of "this present world", the only antediluvians who were inhabitants of the world in which we now live. If they lived in willing obedience to God until death, they will be citizens of "the world to come". I certainly hope to meet Brother Noah over in the world to come.

This world will come to an end and all ungodly persons will perish, just as certainly as the ungodly of the old world perished in the Flood, though it won't be by a flood of waters that this present world will perish, but by fire (2 Peter 3:10); but God has provided a way by which all who will live godly lives and be overcomers by faith our Jesus Christ in this present evil world shall be citizens in the world to come. God's people are strangers and pilgrims in this world, but will be citizens of the world to come (Heb. 11:13; 1 John 2:17; 5:4).

The world to come is quite different from the two worlds preceding it. Satan will not be there; sin and sorrow will not be known there; sickness and death will be no more; it shall be "full of righteousness as the waters cover the sea." The world to come will not perish, as did the old world, nor as the present world will perish; but shall continue for ever and ever. It is pleasant and gratifying to think of the world to come and the glories the redeemed shall there behold.

There is much said in the Scriptures a-

bout the foundation of the world. A foundation is composed of principles or elements which constitute a firm base upon which a building may be erected. The principles or elements which constitute the foundation upon which the old world was built are set forth in the first chapter of Gen. and are expressed in the unerring, unfailing words of the living God. There was nothing wanting in the foundation; but the first (world) building erected upon that foundation was a miserable failure, because men chose to believe and obey Satan rather than to trust and obey God. However the old world was permitted to run its evil course from the creation of Adam until the Flood, a period of 1656 years.

The only record we have of the founding of the Antediluvian World, its wicked sinful career, and its tragic ending is told in the first eight chapters of the Book of Genesis. Though this account of the rise and fall of a great world is brief, it is to the point and contains all we need to know about it.

Though the Genesis account of the Creation is by the infallible word of the living God, and cannot be set aside, wise (?) men.

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of all ages have refused to believe it, and have spent much time and labor, writing many books, to teach us, and even our children in school, how the earth came into existence, how the animals came to be what they are, and how man became man and the human race was developed, all of this by evolution, by a process of development taking millions of years. They claim that man appeared on the earth perhaps a million years ago; according to the Bible man was created, a little less than six thousand years ago. Why spend years reading all this fallacy of men when the true account is given in the first eight chapters of Genesis and can be read in one hour?

Now let us consider a few of the statements found in the account of the founding, rise and fall of the world that was.

Gen. 1:1. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." There are several important facts expressed in this first verse, which deserve at least a brief comment, but it must be brief:

IN THE BEGINNING--The beginning of all things is God. All things had a beginning except God. It is a fact, there was a beginning of all earthly things; and Genesis is the Book of Beginnings. "In the beginning" was a time farther back than any man can know; the beginning was long before there was any man to know about it; we know of it only as God tells us. Only the heaven and the earth were created in the beginning; but that must have included the waters upon the earth and the air about and above the earth, and the sun, moon and stars which are in the heaven above.

GOD--God was in the beginning, but He never had a beginning. He always was. He is the Great "I AM", the self-existing One. The Hebrew for God in this verse is plural; so must include the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Son was with God in the beginning and by Him the worlds were created, "and without Him was not any thing made that was made" (Heb. 1:2; John 1:1-3). The Holy Spirit was also there, and by Him was the Word of God spoken to and through holy men (1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

GOD CREATED--God not only created

the heaven and the earth, but the whole universe, all things were created by Him. No, Satan never created anything, he only works on and perverts the good things God has created, making them serve an evil purpose, instead of a good purpose, all that God created was good (Gen. 1:31).

The sum of all the things that God created is called Nature. Men have ever sought to know the origin and purpose of Nature; they have asked her many questions, and received many answers; for Nature has and speaks a language all her own; and what she says to man is called science. Nature always speaks the truth; and if men hear correctly, it is true science and we are thankful for Christian men who are scientists, they are the source of true science and agrees 100% with the Bible. but, alas! most of the men who enquire of Nature do not know God, they are natural or unregenerated men and not spiritually minded, just what Paul had in mind when he said in 1 Cor. 2:14, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard" (Psa. 19:1-3). Ungodly men cannot hear that voice, nor see the glory of God in Nature; for they have no eyes to see, nor ears to hear such things but in darkness they construct theories, then work hard to find out the origin and then they have their findings printed and purpose of the things God has created; distributed as scientific facts. But, usually, these facts are not facts; for they deny and oppose the Word of God.

THE HEAVEN--The heaven of Gen. 1:1 is not the heaven of heavens. God's dwelling place, nor the third heaven to which Paul was caught up to see and hear things not lawful for man to utter; but it is the firmament which men call the sky, and which the Jews call the first heaven; nevertheless it is wonderful. The Psalmist looked up and was moved to say: "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars

which thou hast ordained; what is man, that thou art mindful of him?" (Psalm 8:3-4). Yes, God created the heaven, which testifies of the power and the glory of God to all who have eyes to see.

THE EARTH—The earth was created, and not evolved as some smart (?) men of the earth would have us believe. Men have many theories about the earth, as to its origin, shape, size, motions, age, etc. But none of these things trouble us so much; for we know that God created the earth and prepared it for the habitation of the human race. God made the moun-

tains, hills and valleys; He appointed bounds for the oceans, lakes and streams; He put metals, minerals and water in the earth; He has clothed the earth with an abundance of forest trees, fruit-bearing trees and shrubs, herbs, grasses and flowers; He created the animals, fowls and fishes; and He gave man dominion over them all. All that man should need or desire was abundantly provided for him; but man perverted the things God so graciously provided for him, and his world perished in the judgement of the Flood.

(To be continued)

The Believer's Hope of His Resurrection and Glorification

By Rev. T. L. Piles, Dennison, Texas, Student in F. W. B. Bible College

Apart from the great fact of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we would have no gospel to preach. By "resurrection" we do not mean that our Lord's spirit continued to live after His body died, but that He was actually raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, and came forth from the tomb in the very same body that had been impaled on Calvary's cross. In that body, now glorified, He sits at God's right hand, and in that same body He is coming again.

There were many results obtained by the resurrection of Christ from the dead. One of these results is that the resurrection of Christ assures the believer of his own resurrection, also his glorification. This one particular result should be a source of inspiration to every believer. In time of trouble, the believer may meditate upon this doctrine, and receive strength to meet the problems of life. In Matthew 28:18, Christ says, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. These words were spoken unto the disciples by the risen and glorified Christ, a short time prior to His ascension. Seeing then, that the risen and glorified

Christ has this power, He will quicken the bodies of those who are asleep in Him. The following Scripture will verify this statement: "And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." (Jn.6:40)

"Great Words of the Gospel"—Dr. H. A. Honside

The resurrection of the dead in Christ, and translation of the living saints are inevitable results of and inseparably connected with the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Up to this point we have taken the Second Coming of Christ for granted. Let us observe further, and see what saith the Scripture. For the purpose of establishing the fact that Christ is coming again, we shall consider for a starting point, Jn. 14:3, which reads, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." Now, whether this passage refers to the first or second phase of His Second Coming, we are not chiefly concerned at this particular point. As has already been stated,

this passage serves to definitely establish the fact of the Second Coming.

Therefore, we see that the Scriptures teach beyond the shadow of a doubt, the fact that there will be a Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Further, the Scriptures teach just as clearly that there will be two phases of the Second Coming of Christ. First will be the return of Christ **FOR** His own; and secondly there will be the return of Christ **WITH** His own. This may seem at first glance as if we were advocating a **THIRD** coming of Christ, but not so. These two phases really make up **ONE** event. If the reader will bear with us, we shall trust that the Holy Spirit will enlighten us on these blessed and glorious teachings of His precious Word.

We must needs distinguish between the two phases of His Second Coming in order to give the rapture, or the blessed hope of the church its rightful place.

In order to do this will observe 1 Thess. 4:15-17. "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord." We observe further, Behold I shew you a mystery: we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (1 Cor. 15:51,52). In the first passage we will note the words "clouds" and "air" which surely teach that is the coming of Christ **FOR** His own, the second passage will further verify this statement. As we note the order of events in both these passages, we see that the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then the living saints shall be changed and caught up to meet the Lord; where? In the air.

This could not be the visible return of power and great glory, because when this takes place Christ's feet shall touch the earth, Zech.14:4. "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south."

Therefore the passage in 1 Thess.4:15-17, refers to the Rapture or to the first phase of Christ's Second Coming, while the passage in Zechariah refers to the second phase. What joy will flood our beings as we find ourselves transported through the air, and feel the Holy Spirit singing and throbbing in our veins! What joy it will be to behold Him who died for us!

We shall never be perfect in this life, but when He shall appear we shall be perfect, for "we shall see Him as He is," and "our vile bodies shall be fashioned like unto His glorious body." As we meditate upon these great truths, we receive untold joy and comfort. When we think how that in spite of our imperfections, failures, and short comings, God has saved us by His grace, we praise His great name; even though we can not fully comprehend these things.

Then at a time that is according to His good will, He will return to earth with power and great glory. At this visible and personal manifestation of Christ, He will be accompanied by His saints as prophesied by Enoch in Jude 14. "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints." This phase of His Second Coming will be in judgment upon the earth. How blessed it will be in His presence and to know that we shall ever be with Him throughout all eternity. Hallelujah, what a Saviour! Yea, even so come, Lord Jesus.

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Meditations

Rev. Luther Hampton, 3511a Wyoming Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

The year of 1944 has come to a close. Its 366 days have been filled with trouble, War, Blood shed, Suffering, Death, Heart Aches, and Chaos through out the world. Yes the year 1944 is gone. It can never be recalled.

Nothing I could say or do will bring it back. And as I am sitting here meditating, I am taking my mind back to its beginning, and trying to recheck my past life for one year to see if I find where I as an individual person fit into it during 1944. I am doing this in order that I may be able with Gods help to eliminate past mistakes, and be able to live a better CHRISTIAN life in this new year of 1945. Which our Father in Heaven alone has given me this glorious privilege to live to see. And as I review the past year I can see many mistakes in my life that with Gods help in this new year I am going to try to eliminate. I ask myself if I have been the citizen of a nation that I ought to have been. Am I worthy of those that have died in battle for me? Have I done what I could to bring about a better understanding between race's and nationalities toward peace, both with God and one another? I am a CHRISTIAN, a member of the brotherhood of believers all over the world. I ask myself what kind of a CHRISTIAN have I been? Have I did all I could in God's vineyard in that field that is white unto harvest, and the laborers are few. Has my prayer life been what it ought to have been? Have I shown the love towards my CHRISTIAN brother that I should? Have I been the steward in my Church that I should have been? Have I been the CHRISTIAN Father to my children, to my home, and Husband to my wife that I should have been? Have I did all I could towards Preaching SALVATION to a lost people? Have I sincerely endeavored to follow CHRIST in such a way as to make my

disposition more like Him? And to cause others whom I come in contact with to see CHRIST in me. To these questions my answer is many times NO. I have not done them as good as I could have.

But the year is gone, my record for the past year is written, I from the bottom of my soul regret its failures. But I can not change its records. But in this new year with GOD'S help I am determined to write a better one.

Then in my mind I go back over this past year and review its gains, and truly I rejoice in them. At the beginning of 1944 I was a lost soul, Backsliden to the extent that I was plunging at a break-neck speed to an eternal HELL. I was wandering out on the bleak dark mountain of SIN, BLIND, UNDONE, LOST, seemingly not a ray of hope for my poor lost SOUL. But thanks be unto GOD for putting into the hearts of Rev. Harvey Hill and his good folks, the desire to start the little mission work in my neighborhood at 5418 Idaho Ave., for it was there that the Lord found me, and led me back into the fold. Gave me back my sight, warmed my cold and dying Spirit, clothed me in a robe of Righteousness, took me by the hand and led me over to His Spiritual table, and set me down to a Bountiful meal of good old GOSPEL food. (Praise His name forever). Told me to take up the CROSS where I had so carelessly layed it down. And to PREACH His never dying WORD to a world that is headed for eternal Destruction, for the lack of SALVATION.

He put it in the hearts of the Church people to grant me a Ministers license to preach His word. And I want the Free Will Bapt'ist people to know that I appreciate their confidence in me enough to give them to me. And my PRAYER is that I may with GOD'S help always be found worthy of them. I thank GOD and the CHURCH for them.

Yes I rejoice in the gains of 1944. I had to pay a price for them.

Like all CHRISTIANS TRULY REBORN I had to humble myself before man and the world and the CROSS OF CHRIST with a GODLY sorrow for my past SINS. I had to present my SOUL, MIND, and BODY, my ALL, a living SACRIFICE HOLY to Him. I gave up HOME, FAMILY, POCKET BOOK, WORLDLY FRIENDS, BAD HABITS, MY ALL. But thank GOD I have a promise of greater things than these if only I mind GOD and keep His COMMANDMENTS. I have a promise of a home in a CITY not made with hands. A CITY and COUNTRY not ruled by WAR LORDS, PRESIDENTS, or MONEY HUNGRY POWER SEEKING DICTATOR'S. But is a place created by our GOD. Prepared for them of us that are willing to pay the price for it. Thank GOD for a place where we can be with Him who died for us. Where we will not need the sun, for His presence will light it. Where there will be no more heartaches, or sorrows, no tear dimmed eyes, for He has promised to wipe away all our tears. (WELL GLORY BE TO GOD) Just thinking about it makes me want to shout. Yes it will be worth every Sacrifice we make.

Yes I rejoice in the gains of the past year, but it won't suffice for this new year of 1945. So I have made some RES-

OLUTIONS for this new year. Trusting that through them I might become a better worker in His vineyard. And that those that might read them, may be helped. So here are a few of them.

I RESOLVE to live my life DAY by DAY MINUTE BY MINUTE, in a closer Unity with GOD.

RESOLVED to do my best to build my own character so close to CHRIST, that those whom I come in contact with will know beyond a doubt that there is a reality to SALVATION.

RESOLVED to be a better man in every way, more CHRIST like, more loving in my nature, more kindly in my disposition and more generous.

RESOLVED to help GOD hunt out my weak points and strengthen them.

RESOLVED to live the life regardless of the cost.

RESOLVED to take more interest in others, and in the LORDS work.

RESOLVED to let GOD use me in any way He see's fit.

I am sure that if I do these things and let JESUS lead me by the hand, that at the end of this year 1945 I will be able if HE should tarry, or spare my life to meditate back as I am doing now and see that I have received greater blessings than in 1944. I ask all CHRISTIANS to join me in prayer that this may be so.

Amen

The National Association

Enterprise Department

Rev. Robert B. Crawford, Executive Secretary National Association
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee

It should be remembered by every interested person throughout our ranks that the National Association is a young but growing organization. Perfection of design and results are difficult in this stage of the organization. Plans have been intensely studied and adopted with a view to unity of faith and action.

A genuine Christian fellowship which is born of a common experience of Christ and practically expressed in a cooperative service in the fields of Christian Education, Missions, and benevolence is the basic reason for the existence of the National Association. The Board of Publications and Literature, Women's Auxil-

lary work, Sunday School, and Free Will Baptist League, are inseparably tied up with this basic reason for the existence of our National organization, and their contributions to the successful prosecution of educational, missionary and benevolent work is expected to increase with every passing day.

What is the purpose of the Unified Program Fund?

The purpose of the Unified Program Fund is that individuals, churches, auxiliaries, and general organizations may be provided a method by which they may render equitable support to Education, Missions, and to Superannuation. You should remember that the chairman of each of the standing boards which receives a percentage of the Unified Program Fund, is a member of the General Board, and that the basis upon which this fund is divided is studied carefully by this Board in the light of all the needs and plans for the success of their respective departments; and then the National Association is called upon to authorize such a distribution of the Unified Fund.

1. How is this Fund distributed?

This Fund has been distributed so far as follows: 10% to Superannuation, 20% to Home Missions, 30% to Foreign Missions, and 40% to Christian Education. This schedule of distribution was recommended by the General Board and adopted by the National Association. Let it be understood that the National Association duly appraised and authorized this method of financial support to our various denominational enterprises. It is understood by the Treasurer of the National Association that the Unified Program Fund shall be allocated monthly, and any undesignated funds he may receive from time to time shall be included in these monthly allocations.

2. What expenses are paid out of the Unified Program Fund?

The answer is, none whatever. The National Treasurer receives this fund, and forwards it to the treasurers of the four standing boards mentioned above on the

first of each month.

The Executive Department of the National Association

The Executive Department of the National Association was created through the adoption of a special resolution in the 1941 annual session for the purpose of meeting all expenses incurred in the management of the business and general program of the National Association together with the expenses of all promotional service not specifically prosecuted and financed by the standing boards. This fund is created and paid to the National Executive Secretary as time and needs may require by the treasurers of the following standing boards, and on the percentage basis herein set forth: 10% by Superannuation, 20% by Home Missions, 30% by Foreign Missions, and 40% from Christian Education. From this fund are paid the Executive Secretary's salary, traveling expenses, office rental and supplies, essential part-time stenographer's salary. A stenographer's necessary time should never be much. The expense of the Christian Workers Institutes are paid from this fund. Funds may be paid out of this department as the National Association may order for any special reason, as was done for the Board of Publications and Literature in the 1944 session.

The Executive Secretary is paid \$50 per week. The stenographer's salary is fifty cents per hour. Christian Workers Institute teachers get \$25.00 per week plus travel expenses.

Persons under special assignment for promotional work for the National Association are paid five dollars per day, their travel expenses.

Watch this department for the program of the National Association, all of its boards, and auxiliaries--such as Women's Auxiliary, Sunday School Convention, and Free Will Baptist League Board. The Executive Secretary promotes all phases of the National work.

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PASTORS TAKE NOTICE

Are you trying to be the pastor the Lord wants you to be and the kind the church needs today? May we make suggestions as to some of the tests you should give yourself to find out your score as one of His servants.

(I) Are you faithful and competent in the use of your Bible? Is it the theme of your ministry--do you preach and teach the word effectively?

(II) Do you put forth great efforts to win souls? In your personal contacts in the pulpit and community canvass for souls to be saved and fed?

(III) Do you lead your church in co-operative service with churches of your denomination? In the Educational, Foreign Missions, Orphanage, etc., efforts do you lead your church or do you allow the denominational phases of the Lord's work to lag? You should take the lead and explain plans to your church.

(IV) Do you paramount worldwide testimony above every other obligation of the church? Jesus gave His all for the whole world--He has asked of us no

less. Can you afford not to love and administer to those of the whole world Jesus gave His all for?

(V) Do you try to train for efficient service members of your congregation? Train Sunday School, Free Will Baptist League, Women's Auxiliary workers, in your own congregation. Feed them and they will feed you and bless your ministry.

(VI) Are you a source of comfort and council to all who are in distress and need?

(VII) Are you loved and respected by little children? Do little children love you and your visits?

Where our work for Him as a denomination has made great progress is where pastors meet these qualifications and have made good in a test like the items above. I wonder if you are worthy to be a pastor or leader if you do not make great efforts under the Lord's leadership to make a hundred per cent as a pastor. As a denomination we are greatly in need of our preachers becoming PASTORS for the Lord.

Rev. Robert B. Crawford



Our Bible School



Spring Semester Opens

February 1, 1945

By Rev. L. R. Ennis, Acting President

The spring semester of the Free Will Baptist Bible College will open with a day of prayer and thanksgiving on January 31, and class work will be resumed the day following. There were twenty-seven students here in the College at the close of the year last June, the exact number we have had during the fall semester of this year. We anticipate an in-

crease in the enrollment at the opening of the spring semester.

Those who are interested in specialized training for Christian service among Free Will Baptists should apply immediately for admission if they expect to complete the work that will be offered during the spring semester of this year.

I wish to give the following statement

all the emphasis possible: We are compelled to acquire additional housing facilities for the work of the College. We have reached within six students of our utmost capacity. For many years Free Will Baptists who desired training for Christian service were compelled to attend institutions outside their own denomination. We rejoice in the small beginning which God in His kind providence has made possible, but we must EXPAND. The infant must grow during his growing period. It would be tragic to put

a ceiling on our present attainments.

May I urge Free Will Baptists everywhere to join us in prayer that God may provide the essential facilities in which to house and carry on the work of our Bible College. "He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think."

Our thanks go up to God on behalf of everyone who has made a direct or indirect contribution to the success of our program of Christian education. God bless you.

Growing in Grace and Knowledge

Rev. J. P. Barrow, Dean of the College

My heartfelt gratitude to our blessed Heavenly Father has not diminished with further acquaintance, experience, and fellowship with our college personnel. I really believe our students here possess higher spiritual and academic standards than any other body of Free Will Baptist I have met. Surely we are growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. These students are doing an excellent type of work both in the class room and in practical Christian service. One of the features of renown in current student activities is a church in the making. It is meeting in Brother Rashie Kennedy's home which is located in a good residential section of Nashville. There is no Free Will Baptist Church near this locality. At the first meeting January 7, 1945, at 10:30 a.m. there were thirty-two present for Sunday School, and about the same for church. The offering that date amounted to \$100.

The group responsible for the work is composed of the following students: Brother and Sister Rashie Kennedy from North Carolina, Brother and Sister John Rich of Florida, Brother and Sister Homer E. Willis of Michigan, and Brother and Sister Huey Gower, of Tennessee. Brother Rich brought a splendid message on the subject, "We owe ourselves to God as a Living Sacrifice," at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, and Bro. Kennedy at 7:30 p.m. brought

another heart searching message on the subject, "An Ideal Church." At both meetings the Holy Spirit was present in a marked way. We had an "old time revival," the kind that makes you shed tears of rejoicing, because you know in whom you believe and are persuaded that Christ is able to save to the uttermost.

These young Free Will Baptists are, in a practical way, answering the question often asked by nominal Christians, "Why is it that I am neither happy nor successful in my Christian life?" They are trusting God, launching out into the depths of His blessings, and receiving satisfying results.

Surely the Holy Spirit is being allowed by our students to take their lives and direct them in the class room exercises. Since the Christmas holidays the Bible Doctrine Class has been studying the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit. The class was appealed to and urged to let the Holy Spirit, the third person of the blessed Trinity, take their lives and operate them according to "the new mind in Christ Jesus" instead of approaching the subject intending to take it as though it were an ordinary academic subject, they were to take, pass on, and use the knowledge derived therefrom to further personal gains. The challenge was accepted. The result is apparent. We have some happy students that are daily entering deeper

joys of their heartfelt, Scripture fed salvation.

Surely all my Christian friends would rejoice with me were they to share my privileges of mingling with and watching these young friends grow and expand into a spiritual life of usefulness, where I see them in the future abounding in that marvelous grace and glory that God desires we should enter and continue in.

Since it isn't possible for you to share all the joys of which we shall be writing you occasionally, the faculty has decided to help you to a peep through a few side lights, which through our good editor's kindness will come in the form of students' written exercises.

Please pray that we may always remain in the center of our Lord's will.

Yours in Christ.

REPORT OF FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE FOR DEC. 1944

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Business Manager, Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville (5), Tennessee

We rejoice to be able to bring to you this report of the financial standing of the College as relates to the last month of 1944. It is encouraging indeed to note the fact that our receipts are up quite a bit over that of November, and one thing which accounts for this is the outstanding gift by Miss Dot Harvey of Jakin, Georgia, plus about twenty-five special Christmas gifts. I feel that it is worthy of special mention to bring to you the fact that Miss Harvey's December gift represents the largest individual gift by any Free Will Baptist in the history of our educational program, which gift amounted to \$500.00. Surely this should serve to stimulate others in our connection to respond with like gifts in larger and smaller proportions. May the Lord be glorified in every gift which we now report as follows:

Source	Endowment	Gift	Total
Alabama	\$ 10.00	\$ 45.55	\$ 64.55
Florida	7.50	34.00	41.50
Georgia	33.50	532.20	565.70
Illinois	23.00	35.00	58.00
Arkansas		11.60	11.60
Kansas	1.00	50.00	51.00
Michigan	9.00	10.00	19.00
Mississippi	22.50	21.00	43.50
Missouri	59.00	11.75	70.75
North Carolina	83.00	118.22	201.22
Oklahoma	39.00	13.25	43.25
Tennessee	127.00	245.00	372.00
Texas	38.00	65.00	103.00
Virginia	9.50	50.00	59.50
National Woman's Aux. Conv.			5.25
Registration Fee			2.00
Student Room and Board			574.49
Miscellaneous Income			15.25
Total	\$462.00	\$1242.57	\$2301.56

Disbursements for December

Room Rent	\$64.37
Grocery and Kitchen Supplies	38.44
Heat, lights, water, etc.	54.16

School Supplies	37.75
Traveling expenses	22.50
Maintenance	322.16
Salaries	1206.57
Labor	116.20
Miscellaneous Expenses	56.00
Total	\$2,218.15

We wish to express due gratitude to God and to our people who are so faithfully supporting this cause, for the success of this program thus far. May we all look forward to achieving greater victories as we accept divine leadership for the very necessary Expansion Program for the institution. We would like for our people everywhere to feel free to call upon us for any information desired relative to any phase of the Cause as it relates to your educational institution.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF NATIONAL SUPERANNUATION BOARD

Rev. J. O. Fort Sec. & Treas.
808 W. 27th. St. Bryan, Texas

July 1, 1944 - December 31, 1944

Balance brought forward from 1943-44 \$1,841.68

Receipts

7-31-44 M. L. Johnson, N. C. State Board	\$2.25
8-3-44 Cecil H. Campbell, Mo. State Board	6.37
8-4-44 C. F. Goen, Texas State Board	6.48
8-31-44 M. L. Johnson, N. C. State Board	14.64
9-11-44 Cecil H. Campbell, Mo. State Board	9.61
9-12-44 F. S. VanHoose, Unified Program	102.30
10-4-44 J. R. Davidson, check	3.00
10-15-44 M. L. Johnson, N. C. State Board	37.13
10-20-44 Mrs. J. B. Bloss, Ala. State Board	16.05
10-31-44 M. L. Johnson, N. C. State Board	122.84
11-7-44 W. A. C. South Carolina, Mrs. B. M. Thomas (M. O.)	5.00
11-15-44 C. F. Goen, Texas State Board	4.11
11-30-44 M. L. Johnson, N. C. State Board	166.75
11-3-44 Cecil H. Campbell, Mo. State Board	6.55
Total receipts for period	502.12
Total	\$2,343.80

Disbursements

7-14-44 R. B. Crawford, Pro. Dept. of N. A.	\$100.00
9-15-44 R. B. Crawford, Pro. Dept. of N. A.	10.00
9-7-44 Wallace Printing Co., printing survey forms	35.50
9-13-44 W. C. Holmes Ins. Agency, Prem. on Treasurer's Bond	5.00
10-9-44 R. B. Crawford, Pro. Dept. of N. A.	50.00
11-14-44 Haswell's, stapling machine	6.75
11- 28- 44 Olive Ruth Hensarling, secretarial work for November	10.00
12-28-44 R. B. Crawford, Pro. Dept. of N. A.	50.00
Total disbursements for period	297.25
Balance in Treasury December 31, 1944	\$2,046.55



Missionary Department



Rev. Winford Davis, Chair.-Treas. National Board, Monett Mo.

Thanksgiving day in Cuba

Mrs Bessie Yeley, Our Missionary

Although the celebration of Thanksgiving Day is a purely American custom, we decided to celebrate it with our Cuban family out at the farm, for it makes no difference whether we are Americans or Cubans, we can always find something for which to be thankful.

As the dinner was to be an American one, we had need of American cooks, so we all had an opportunity to display our culinary skill. The afternoon before, the turkeys, pumpkin pies and other supplies were taken out in the cart, while the family went in the bus.

Early the next morning, the work of the day began. There were classes in the early part of the morning, after which a holiday was declared for the rest of the day, which was a cause for rejoicing among the students.

While the classes were going on the ladies aided by Peter Skanse were busy in the kitchen peeling potatoes etc. Mr. Willey and Tio, (the man helps on the farm) were in charge of the turkeys which they roasted over an open fire, out of doors. The dining room was kept closed until the dinner hour and there was an air of secrecy among those who were preparing the table. When the bell sounded, the doors were opened and we all marched in to the strains of, "Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow," played by Peter Skanse on the folding organ.

The two long tables were beautifully decorated with red and green mango leaves and a beautiful centerpiece of fruit. At each plate was a place card in the form of a turkey. All of this work of art was in charge of Mrs. Willey and Miss VanSyoc. The Cubans probably had never seen a table decorated in this way

and I am sure the thoughts of the Americans were turned to similar tables in the home land with loved ones gathered round, but I am sure there was no sadness in the thoughts, or at least not for long.

We had a precious time of fellowship around the table. We had no dressing for the turkey and we had to substitute grape jelly for the cranberry sauce, but who cared? We were in Cuba, the land of the Lord's choice for us, and we were as one big jelly family. One could hardly tell which were Cuban and which were American, excepting perhaps for the accent when speaking.

Although we enjoyed partaking of the food provided for our natural bodies, the most precious time of all came after eating, while we were yet seated at the table. This time was spent in singing choruses and giving testimonies. It would have thrilled your hearts to have heard

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By William Evans

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the testimonies of the students, as they told of how the Lord had saved them from sin and how He had called them to the ministry, that they might take the gospel to the lost, and how grateful they were for the privilege of studying in the institute that they might be better prepared for this great work. I am sure you would all have agreed that the money which has been given for the Institute is money well invested and will pay large dividends in the future.

The rest of the day was spent in music and singing and in taking pictures. A service was held in the evening and the Christians of that neighborhood came to have part in this service. Mr. Willey was the speaker of the evening and gave a very helpful message which I am sure was enjoyed by all, and thus ended Thanksgiving Day of 1944, and if the Lord tarry, I am sure we will have another one next year and perhaps even greater blessings than in this one. We are expecting great things from him in the future. We are told to ask and ask

largely. He is faithful that promised.

Truly our hearts have been made to rejoice as we think of all the Lord has done for us in the past year. There have been many problems, many things to try us, but He has given victory over them all.

Cyclones came that did much damage in other parts of Cuba but here in our part of the province the damage was comparatively small, thanks to Him, who is our refuge and our strength.

He has given us sufficient health to carry on His work and this is another cause for Thanksgiving. Also He has supplied our needs both materially and Spiritually, and although we have many needs as yet in the carrying on of the work here, we know that the one who has supplied will continue to do it, for He is the same Yesterday, and Today and Forever.

In closing, I will say th's; Let us remember that we should not wait until Thanksgiving time to count our blessings and give thanks, but let us make each day in the year a Thanksgiving Day.

REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION TREASURER

DECEMBER 1944

National Woman's Auxiliary Convention	\$69.82
Pikeville Church, Pikeville, Ky.	6.35
Claud E. Sawyer, Ware Shoals, S. C.	2.00
Trinity Church, Ft. Worth, Texas	143.52
State of North Carolina	535.41
Altona Church of Ohio	5.00
Glenville Church, Glenville, Ga.	100.00
Whaleys Chapel Ladies Aid of N. C.	10.00
W. S. Gardner, Springer, Okla.	10.00
North East Association of Miss.	32.50
Trinity F. W. B. S. S. of Nashville, Tenn.	25.00
Kenly Woman's Auxiliary of Kenly, N. C.	2.65
Mt. Zion Church of Illinois	10.00
Missouri State Association	637.30
Total	\$1,589.55

Winford Davis, Treas.

SEMI ANNUAL REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION TREAS.

Balance brought forward from last associational year \$3,111.84

Continued on Page 20

EDITORIAL

DEATHS

We have received two shocking surprises since the last issue of the Gem, first we received the word of the death of Sister Opal Bingham, wife of Rev. Melvin Bingham of Tulsa, Okla. Sister Bingham's going will be a blow that will be felt for a long long time in the circle of the Free Will Baptist Denomination, and especially in the women's work, they will have a task on their hands trying to duplicate her.

The church at Tulsa will surely feel a great vacancy there for she has been with them for these many years, and for you Bro. Bingham your burdens will be many and hard to bear without the help of your companion, but JESUS is able to make up all the deficiency, just remember she has just beat you to the goal, may the blessings of the LORD be upon you.

Second we received the report of the death of Rev. William J. Sheppard of Sciotoville, Ohio. Bro. Sheppard for many years one of the leading preachers of Ohio doing pastoral work, until the last few years when he devoted his time to evangelistic and Home Mission work. Bro. Sheppard also was one of the very important cogs in the National Association, his absence will be keenly felt throughout the ranks of the Denomination, as well as in Ohio.

REPORTS

It is indeed gratifying to read the splendid reports in this issue of the Gem, it ought to make every Free Will Baptist very proud of the splendid progress that is being made by the Free Will Baptist Denomination, and just think too, about the percentage that is making this noticeable progress possible, there is so many sections that is not as yet united with us in a united effort to advance the cause of CHRIST. It is going to be a great day when all the Free Will Baptists from the north, south, east and west combine their

forces together and pool our dollars and our prayers and ourselves for the CAUSE of CHRIST.

I already know what some of you think about this statement, but if you will review a few facts with me I will prove to you, that things can be done. Let us think back a few years ago when we didn't have any Foreign Missionaries, and think of the great Foreign Mission work of today, a few years ago we didn't have a College, but today we do have, and some have already finished a course there, and many said these things couldn't be done, but praise the LORD they have been done.

The Superannuation plan and the Home Mission plan will go forward the same way when all will get behind them, and I am sure that will be soon.

IT IS GOD'S JUDGEMENT

Why is God forsaking us nationally?

"Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord" (Mal. 3:7).

Why do we have RATIONING?

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord" (Mal. 3:10).

Why are we NOT AT PEACE with ALL nations?

"Bring ye all the tithes And all nations shall call you blessed" (Mal. 3:10-12).

Why do the godless rule today?

"Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord Ye have said IT IS VAIN TO SERVE GOD: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance yea, they that work wickedness are set up" (Mal. 3:13-15).

NINETY DAYS FOR SMOKING

An engine room man who smoked while the ship was being loaded with explosives was recently sent to jail for ninety days. Wish they would put some penalty on all who smoke in buses and trains.

GLEANINGS

By the Editor

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The man who heads our Government
Should be a man of might,
A man who God has called and sent
To lead and rule us right.
A man who loves our nation's flag,
Our country and our laws,
Who's not content to see us lag
And lose sweet Freedom's cause.

He ought to love our people much
And be a man of truth.
Intoxicants he should not touch
But warn our noble youth,
Against degrading beer and wine
And liquor's curse and blight
And show that only what's Divine
Can lead and guide us right.

He ought to have communion sweet
With God from day to day.
The Word of God should be his meat
Along his toilsome way.
And he should show that right alone
Can win the final race,
And bring us to the crowning throne
Where we shall see God's face.

Mrs. F. E. Kiefer, Miami, Fla.

CHURCH DONATIONS

During the past fifteen years, the U. S. national income has almost doubled, registering an increase of more than 86 per cent, according to figures published by the Golden Rule Foundation, Inc., of New York.

During the same period, taxes have increased more than 600 per cent, and Federal expenditures more than 2700 per cent, while contributions for churches and church-related charities have decreased 33 per cent. These figures are made more vivid with the following comparison:

In 1932, during the deepest depression, the per capita income of the American people was \$322 and they donated \$19.02

per capita to church activities, or a percentage of 5.9. In 1943, the national income was \$1,062 per capita, while the church or church-related gifts were only \$15.59 per capita, or a percentage of 1.5—about one sixth of the Biblical tithe of 10 per cent, and about one ninth of the 15 per cent hitherto allowed for income tax deduction.

—F. A. Soper

EDITORS NOTE: The people of America have robbed God. Unwilling to give ten per cent of their incomes to the salvation of men, spiritually, they are now forced to give from 35 per cent to 98 per cent of their incomes in taxes (hidden and otherwise) for the destruction of men, physically.

NIEMOLLER AND THE ATHEIST —

Here is an interesting item about the conscientious German pastor who will not bow to Hitler, and for that reason is confined in a concentration camp.

"It is reported that the concentration camp commander at Sachsenhausen, where Martin Niemoller is being held, is determined to make an atheist of his famous prisoner, and to this end placed a Communist atheist in the cell next to him, with permission for them to talk. He also arranged for these two men to take their daily half-hour walk at the same time, and in the same yard. The atheist was a very intellectual person, skilled in argument. He had been promised all sorts of 'favors' if he could make Niemoller lose his faith. Each prisoner enjoyed presenting his own viewpoint. This lasted four days. On the fifth day, the atheist begged Niemoller to lend him his Bible, a Book that now assumed a new meaning to him. The same day the atheist was moved to another cell."

The News Chronicle.

NINE MILLION DOLLARS

Is spent for liquor by drinkers in the United States every day.

Continued from Page 17

Received during the last six months by states as follows:

Missouri	\$3,057.96
North Carolina	1,391.56
Illinois	1,380.10
Michigan	450.86
Tennessee	420.70
Texas	349.53
Oklahoma	302.75
Ohio	290.00
Alabama	236.66
Arkansas	218.67
Kentucky	184.63
South Carolina	150.00
Georgia	148.19
Florida	38.62
Mississippi	32.50
California	25.00
New Mexico	15.00
National Woman's Aux. Convention	561.24
National Association Treasurer	306.89
Trinity Church of Nashville, Tenn.	75.35
Offering taken at National Association	112.00
Refund by Laura B. Barnard	5.00
Refund on freight charge19
Total	\$9,753.45
Grand Total	\$12,865.29
Total disbursements for the six months period	\$9,474.76
Balance brought forward January 1, 1945	\$3,390.53

Winford Davis, Treasurer

REPORT OF MISSOURI STATE TREASURER

Receipts for the month of Dec.

Foreign Missions

Myrtle Long, Patton, Mo.	\$1.00
Fowler Union S. S.	3.56
Golden Oak S. S.	1.65
Merls Chapel S. S.	9.29
Leadington S. S.	3.58
Gladys E. Filmer, Niangua, Mo.	1.00
Hannon Church	12.00
Hazel Creek Union Church	21.00
Mine La Motte S. S.	3.30
Blue Eye Church	3.00
Rock Chapel	12.00
Auxiliary of St. Louis Third Church	6.00
Mrs. Jessie Thompson, Anderson, Mo.	6.00
North East Missouri Mission Band by J. W. Adkins	50.00
Aurora Church	4.25
Macedonia Church	7.18
Independance Church	31.30

Verdella Church	21.00
Hickory Grove Church	7.44
Mr. and Mrs. G. Buchanan, Greentop, Mo.	5.00
Designated as from a friend to the cause	5.00
Connelssville S. S.	10.00
Amity Church	40.00
True Blue Class Mt. Olive (Neola) S. S.	1.00
Mrs. Jewell Maberry, Greenfield, Mo.	10.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Church	6.35
Mr. and Mrs. Ottis Martin, Greenfield, Mo.	10.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Auxiliary	1.00
St. Louis Third Church	76.14
St. Louis F. W. B. Mission	32.42
Berkley City Church	11.66
Fredricktown Church	45.33
Mine La Motte Church	25.00
Richwoods Church	10.00
Flat River Church	50.16
Desloge Church	11.00
Leadington Church	19.00
Offering taken at Csa Methodist Church	29.40
Shibleys Point Church	2.27
New Harmony Church	12.02
Rev. and Mrs. Winford Divis, Monett, Mo.	20.00

Home Missions

Sunday School of St. Louis Third Church	\$18.01
---	---------

State Unified Fund

Flat River Church	\$41.34
Golden Oak S. S.	1.31
Berkley City Church	6.07
Hannon Church	1.25
Fredricktown Church	35.80
Mt. Olive (Neola) Church	1.30
South East Mo. Woman's Auxiliary Convention	4.50

Jehoida Chests Fund

Golden Oak S. S.	1.00
Copper Mines Church	1.00

Publishing House Fund

Mr. and Mrs. G. Buchanan, Greentop, Mo.	5.00
Merls Chapel	6.00

Educational Fund

Leadington S. S.	3.45
-----------------------	------

Orphanage Fund

Merls Chapel Auxiliary for Tenn. Orphanage	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Ottis Martin, Greenfield, Mo. for Tenn. Orphanage	3.00

Winford Davis, State Treasurer

The League Department

OKLAHOMA LEAGUE RALLY

The various leagues of Hope Well Association No. 2 met for the organization of their League Rally on Sunday, November 12, 1944 at the Free Will Baptist Church at Wirt, Oklahoma.

The all day service had a very spiritual beginning when the Rev. J. O. Hudson, Pastor of the Clemscot Free Will Baptist Church delivered the introductory sermon concerning the youth of the Bible.

After the lunch hour, the business session convened with three Leagues represented: Wirt, Enterprize, and Clemscot. Rev. Paul Purscell was selected by the Association to take charge of the organization, and under his supervision and with his help, the election of officers were elected: Sister Cleo Purscell, Sponsor; Brother Kenneth Kern, President; Sister Bonnie Bonds, Vice President; Sister Lavana Fay Ballew, Corresponding Sec.; Sister Alene Woods, Recording Sec.; Sister Billie Jo Tines, Treasurer.

A good program was given by each League present. We were very happy to have with us three League workers from Hope Well Association No. 1. They were: Brother and Sister Kechem, and Brother Wilson. Brother Kechem, and Brother Wilson each gave an inspiring talk, for the benefit not only of our League Rally as an organization, but also of each member.

Two banners were presented. Wirt League won the banner for presenting the best program, and the Clemscot League won the attendance banner.

Shortly before the meeting adjourned, an altar call was made, and one soul was saved.

The next meeting of the Rally will be on Sunday, February 11, 1944 at the Clemscot Free Will Baptist Church, Clemscot, Oklahoma.

Lawana Fay Ballew
Corresponding Secretary

OKLAHOMA CITY LEAGUE

Dear Gem Readers,

There is another Bright Star in God's Heaven and one of the Blue Stars of the Honor Roll of the Central Ave. Free Will Baptist League class of Oklahoma City has turned to gold. We recently received word that one of our members Pfc. William (Billy) O. Mangham was killed in action in Germany. Tho our hearts are made sad with this news we know he had accepted Christ as his Saviour and had been called to preach the Gospel, we know he helped many of his Buddies to have a brighter outlook in life and to believe in God.

Our League Class now has Twelve names on its Honor Roll of its members now in the Service of our Country, of these we are very proud but their presence from our class we miss very much.

We have had a total of 60 visitors this past year in our League Class and added 20 new members, making us a total of 44 enrolled. We have an average attendance of 25, and our grade average is showing improvement and our perfect Daily Bible Readers are increasing in number.

We have attended 4 First Oklahoma Association League Rallies and won 3 program Banners and 2 attendance Banners.

We feel that our League is showing much improvement and that God will be given the Glory through the efforts of our Class.

We feel we owe much of our success to our Pastor Rev. Harry Stairs and his Wife, and to our Sponsors Brother and Sister Shinn for their help and much encouragement to us at all times.

Brother Ray Martin....President
Brother Warren Barnett....Vice President

Sister Gladys Campbell....Secretary
Sister Opal Tabor....Treasurer

TULSA LEAGUE

Dear Gem Readers,

I am a senior member of the Tulsa Free Will Baptist League.

Our league is growing and we need your prayers.

Recently our Pastors wife, Sister Opal Bingham passed away. She was also our senior class teacher. She was very dear to all of us.

I am sending a poem which I have written in memory of her.

Miss June Wagoner
Tulsa Free Will Baptist League
Secretary

God called away a precious friend,
A faithful servant of God.
She held His hand 'till the very end,
And in His footsteps trod.

She was always helping others
Through troubles ...thick or thin.
She taught us of salvation,
Many souls she helped to win.

She helped the young folks,
And never grumbled.
She led us on when we almost
stumbled.

Our pastors wife, one very dear....
We'll miss her while shes gone.
But if we live a life as pure,
We'll see her later on.

We would not call her back,
For we know she is happy there.
But we can prepare to meet her.
Through faith and humble prayer.

Written for the family left behind of
Sister Opal Bingham.

Passed away January 9, 1945

By June Wagoner



Our Boys in the Service



SOMEWHERE IN ITALY

Dear Loved Ones:

Today is Christmas the day our Lord Jesus Christ was born. As I sit down to write this letter, I wonder if there will ever be peace on earth and good will toward men. I know we must pray God to give us strength and faith in His keeping, so that we can go on fighting for a world in which we can worship Him as we see fit. I pray every day that God will keep me, so that I may return to the warm friendliness and love that is my beloved family. I pray that in His infinite wisdom and goodness He will see fit to end this war which was perpetrated by creatures made in His own image.

I have never more experienced the great comfort that the Divine hand of God is giving me at this time. In my natural mind of mortality I cannot see how men can go through such times as these without the knowledge of the presence of God in their hearts. Truly He is with me in

the darkest of dark hours. As long as I have faith in Him I know that I shall be privileged to receive His mercies. When you pray at home, pray for me, but also pray for the unguided souls of these brave young men whose minds know not the love of God, and whose lives may be snuffed out before they repent. Pray that they will realize that "On this day the Saviour was born." A Saviour whose love will guide them through the misfortunes and tribulations of a terrible war.

I did not have a chance to go to church today, but the Lord said where two or three are gathered in His name, He would be in their midst, I didn't have the two or three, but I find that God is omnipotent, and will bless me wherever and whenever I call on Him. By myself I rejoiced in His love today, the day of the birth of His blessed Son.

I did not mean to write a sermon, but it is just one more of those times where my heart is filled to overflowing, and I must tell someone. Sometimes I wonder

if I should be a minister of God's Word. I hope that I have not wasted any of my life. If I have, I pray that I may rectify it in later years, when I return to that faraway world of love which is all of you.

I trust that you have had a good Christmas. I know your hearts are laden with care, but remember that God is with me, and if it is His will I shall return to you, and our ensuing Christmases will be spent rejoicing in His goodness and mercy. I had a good dinner today, and I am sure it was enjoyed by all of us. It was one tangible part of the Christmas spirit of which we could partake. We are thankful to our homeland for giving it to us.

I must close now. I wish the one of you who reads this letter first would read it to all the rest together. If it brings joy to your hearts, write to me about it, because I have a problem to settle with my Lord. I want Him to use me as He sees fit, but as yet I just don't know. If I were in a different environment, maybe I would know.

This is my Christmas wish to you; may God see fit to let us live many happy years together. Love to all of you.

2nd Lt. Wesley H. Bonds, ASN O-1327325
APO 15649 % P. M., New York, N. Y.

Dear Gem Readers:

I noticed there is enough room in the "Our Boys in the Service" department for my letter and the lack of it makes even more room, so I decided to write.

I am very glad for the "Gem" and most grateful that I am not yet out of reach of it. Every part of it is a blessing and since it is my best contact with the Free Will Baptist denomination, I would miss it very much if it became impossible for for me to receive it.

There's no F. W. B. Church in San Francisco, (We trust there shall be some day) but we are thankful anyway for a fine old fashioned church near the heart of town where souls are saved and the folk are enthusiastic about God. There is a large congregation of perhaps 2000 and we are privileged to worship with them often. There has been services in this church without missing a single night for nearly a quarter of a century. Praise God for

churches where Christ Crucified is preached.

Will everyone pray that God will bless the testimony of every Christian in the Armed Forces! And when we return we will report of new born souls among our comrades.

May God bless you folk at home and make our church to prosper in the Glory of the Lord.

Sgt. Harold Hoover

Dec. 25, 1944

Somewhere in Italy

THE BACKSLIDER

(If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 9).

What joy there is in Salvation,
The light of God's love in your soul,
A new life born into creation,
The Lord in His mercy, has sown.
It lightens man's great tribulations,
Many blessing to Him is bestowed.
All the Lord ever asks, is to serve Him,
While you travel down life's short road.
But man in his haste and confusion,
Left God by the side of the road.
The world with it's thrills and allusions,
Has snared man's heart in it's fold.
His Lord and the church, man's forgetting,
The warmth of his heart growing cold.
Thinks not of the wrong he is doing,
Leaving God by the side of the road.
Man's first step on leaving his Saviour,
Is a cold and indifferent heart.
He neglects to call on his Maker,
Also falls, by not doing his part.
He travels t'ward temptation,
Which he meets from day to day.
Not having the sword of protection,
He yields, to the tempter's bait.
No one's to blame for his failure,
Nor caused him to go astray.
For he wilfully left his Saviour,
The day he ceased to pray.
As the sands of the sea, sin has mounted,
Till his record of life is black.
Lust and greed, in his soul's abounding
The devil, stays right on his track.
Still the Lord in his mercy, keeps striving,
For man, from his ways to turn back.

But man by this time, starts to doubting,
Is there a God, a heaven, is it a fact?
So man starts to think as he wonders,
Here's the earth, and it's beautiful plants.
Who makes it rain, makes the clouds and
thunder?

And created me, and called my name man?
While this God, whom I've been serving,
Gave peace and joy to my heart.
I hadn't this trouble, all this worry,
Till from Him I started to part.
Now I feel lost and so lonesome,
My future I hold without faith.
I wonder, beyond death, what is waiting?
While my soul's in such horrible state.
Why such change in my heart, is created,
When I turn from the good to the bad?
It must be this God, that's dictating

To my heart and soul, which is sad.
Yes, there is a God and a heaven,
And a hell, the place called bad.
Also Jesus, His son was given,
To pay for the sins I have.
How I'd love to return to my Saviour,
For my sins to be forgiven again,
But I feel so unfair so unworthy,
To ask for forgiveness from Him.
So to those who have never known Jesus,
And the God, the Father of men.
Learn to know Him, love and serve Him,
For all your future, on Him depends.
I'll some how get back to my Saviour,
And serve and love as before.
But I first get rid of this devil,
Before I can enter Heaven's door.

Charles C. Parris, stationed in Florida.

The Great
Commission
— Our Mission



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole
World
For Christ



CAN WE EXPECT MIRACLES NOW

This marks the beginning of a new year. If God is in our beginning of 1945 in every plan it will have been well begun. If not it is better not to make any plan.

In our Women's Auxiliary it is the middle of our year instead of the beginning. Yet it may be a good time to take inventory of our individual lives to see to what extent Christ has had first place.

The first words in our Bible are "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." We may think of these words and observe the earth marvelous work of His hand to convince any thinking individual of the greatness and power of our God.

In the same chapter, the beginning chapter, verse 26, God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

It was God's masterpiece in creation because it was a likeness a reproduction of himself—man was on probation and a will of his own and he obeyed his own

will led by Satans temptation and spoiled the creation.

But God was not defeated. Man was defeated.

God's work is miraculous—As he created man in the beginning without assistance of a father or mother,

Then created Eve from part of Adams body but no mothers aid a miracle of the all-wise God and that's how He usually works.

As the greatest honor to all God's creation man made in the image of God. was given the highest honor.

Again when God Himself in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ took on Himself our likeness in the flesh. This has been truly a new revelation to me of the extent of God's love. The incarnate son of God becoming man. Creator becomes creature.

It was a miraculous birth no earthly father surely He was born of the virgin Mary. But He is the Son given from heaven.

We too, may have a new and miraculous birth, born from above.

I trust that every member of our

Womens' Auxiliary has this foundation this beginning of life- and as the Infinite has performed this miracle in our own life. Let us not limit by our finite reasoning, and lack of faith. His power to work miracles in this age. Yes, in the rest of the year ahead of us.

He has left us with a task but He sent the divine power of the Holy Spirit in our hearts to work miracles and without Him we can do nothing.

By Him all things are possible. How much can we claim by faith? Great faith, Great work. Small faith, Small work. No faith, no work.

The faith once delivered to the saints brought supernatural blessings and transformation of lives. The Spirit has told us "to contend" for such faith.

Again calling us beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith praying in the Holy Ghost. Keep yourselves in the love of God.

Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And saving some by compassion and others with fear, pulling them out of fire.

Let us encourage each other, having in our midst peace and unity of Spirit. Our Bible College given us of God. Let us have faith to the extent of "miracles" in our prayers to God, and abound in the work of the Lord in our giving as the Lord has prospered us. Pray for the student body as laborers for God.

Pray for the faculty and officers of the school in their ministry in each field of the work.

Pray for the Willey Missionaries and all their converts. Sister Barnard as she goes back to India and our Home Missionaries, pastors and workers every where.

Our Orphanage and Superannuation program.

Remembering the miracles of our Christ even as His becoming like unto us (yet without sin) that we might become like Him by His power the Holy Spirit that dwells in our hearts by faith. 1 Cor. 15:28.

Praise His name, here, and forever!

Eveina Moore
Buffalo, Illinois

Fredericktown Auxiliary

Dear Gem Readers,

Again I am glad to report the blessings the Lord has given to our Ladies Auxiliary. We are looking forward to far greater blessing in the coming year and are striving to make it a year that will really count in the Lord's work. We are willing and ready to do Gods will and are seeking His leadership in our auxiliary work. We know if we are lead by God we will always be lead aright so are trusting, Him for all things.

At our last meeting we elected new officers. We ask you to pray that they may do their duty ever and never in any way fail the Lord. Sister Emma Bebout is our new president and we believe she will really have our auxiliary at heart and prove a great blessing to us. Please pray for our Pastor's wife who is in poor health and doesn't get to attend our service as she would love to do. Pray for our Pastor also and may we prove a great blessing to him and the church. We have set nine o'clock for our prayer hour and ask you to join us in our prayer each morning. With our countries at war and our cities and towns so deep in sin we have much to pray for. We truly thank God for watching over the boys in the service from our church. Although some may be in the thickest of battle God is able to protect them. Let us all be constantly at prayer and always let God have His way in our lives.

President-Emma Bebout

Corresponding Secretary-Oletha Chapman

Rescue Woman's Auxiliary

Dear Gem Readers:

Greetings in the name of the Lord from Rescue Woman's Auxiliary.

We have a fine Auxiliary, something of which we are very proud of and feel that God is blessing our work for His cause.

We meet once a month. Have our devotional service and programs as carried out in our "Year Book of Programs"

Our Auxiliary in the past year has tried to do our "mite" for the different treasury departments. We supported a native

missionary in Cuba this past year. (\$130) Sent \$3.50 to our Bible College in Tenn. monthly. \$100.00 for our Orphanage in Greenville, and also supported the "Unified Program Fund". We feel that it is God's will that we that are called by His name (Christians) owe our all to Him.

Our desire is to continue to support a native missionary this year in Cuba and increase our offerings for all phases of our great "Free Will Baptist" movement.

We have added 4 new members to our auxiliary during past two months. We appreciate our visitors very much.

Most of our women are tithers, and are anxious to be led by the will of God, and to cooperate 100% with our dear pastor.

Remember us when you pray that we may hold the banner of Christ high, and that more of our women in our community may see the need of them joining our ranks, and helping carry this great cross for Christ.

Mrs. Claudia Britton-Reporter
Whittington, Ill.

ILLINOIS

Tennessee Orphanage

Rescue Church	\$71.10
Bearpaint Church	10.00
Ina Church	17.50
Mt. Vernon	41.00

Foreign Missions

Ina Church	\$135.89
Rescue Church	\$04.00
Ladies Aux. of Rescue Church.....	90.00
Bear Paint Church.....	125.02
Webb's Prairie Church.....	35.00
Mt. Zion Church.....	46.80
Bakerville Church	26.29
Waltonville Church	31.00
Franklin Co. Quarterly Meeting.....	106.00

Unified Program

Bear Paint Church.....	\$147.40
Rescue Church	15.05

Education

Bear Paint Church	\$44.00
Franklin Co. Quarterly Meeting.....	35.00

Mrs. Mary Jane Mayo
Mt. Vernon, Illinois

FIELD WORKERS REPORT

Dear Co-Workers,

Greetings in the name of our blessed Master. Since our last report I have been in a glorious revival with our Hazel Creek Church near Kirksville, Mo. This church is very spiritual and they believe in a deep prayer life. They are ready at all times to co-operate with pastor and evangelist in every phase of our National Program. Very little is ever said about money. Most of them are tithers and others give liberally and when the time comes for missions, education, and other things they are right there. We didn't have as many conversions as we had hoped to, the weather set up bad and cold rains came and the mud rolled up so sometimes we had to go in wagons pulled by a tractor and sometimes we walked part way. Another thing this church keeps the unsaved on their hearts, till not many near the church are left, we had 36 saved last year and this year we had to go several miles from the church with our personal work. Had one old lady saved in her home. Bro. Orville Dobbs is the splendid pastor of this church and he assisted us in our missionary program in visiting other churches. They only have 2 active ministers in the Association, Bro's. Dobbs and Cooper. Pray with me that God will send them another good spiritual man to help these two who are carrying such a heavy burden for the work. Sister Franklin assisted us in the meeting and proved a wonderful blessing in personal work and also the song service. The church invited Sister Franklin to come for which we thank them very much. She is a wonderful soul used in God's hands to win the lost to Christ. On account of the very cold weather we didn't get to all the churches. The roads were covered in ice and snow when we left. I am now in Florida for a short time and will visit churches here while it is cold and in other places. I plan to write a number of our pastors and churches to send me the number of members they have in "The Co-Laborer Band" in this way "The Honor Roll" will become very interesting, and do you know that 90 per cent goes to our Uni-

fed Program? A number of our ministers have told me that the first of the year they would take up the "Plan" with their churches so come on now and lets get busy and have a splendid report at the National Association. Now for the "Honor Roll".

Tennessee

Royal Chapel, members, 100; Paid \$100

Missouri

Hazel Creek, members, 33; Paid \$5.00

Fredericktown members, 32; Paid \$15.00

Flat River, members, 22; Paid \$20.00

Desloge, members, 7; Paid \$5.00

Third Free Will Baptist, St. Louis, members, 22; Paid \$11.00

Mission Church, St. Louis, members, 19; Paid \$13.00

Martinstown, members, 5; Paid \$5.00

Connel'sville, members, 5; Pay later

Jewel, members, 6; Pay later

Oklahoma

Vewola, members, 100; Pay later

Tecumseh, members, 7; Paid \$7.00

Earlsboro, members, 4; Paid \$2.00

Texas

Bryan, members, 17; Paid \$17.00

Houston, members, 5; Paid \$5.00

Pine Grove, members, 15; Paid \$15.00

North Carolina

Bethel Church, members, 25; Paid \$25.00

Greenville, members, 11; Paid \$1.00

Elizabeth City, members, 12; Paid \$7.00

Davis, members 63; Paid \$37.00

Morehead City, members, 13; Paid \$3.00

Stacy, members, 16; Pay later

Beaufort, members, 25; Pay later

Virginia

Davis, members, 50; Paid \$5.00

Wilson Chapel, members, 39; Paid \$13.00

Coeburn, members, 19; Paid \$19.00

Norton Southside, members, 7; Paid \$7

Norfolk, members, 10; Pay later

Panner, members, 1; Paid .50 cents

Alabama

Siccomb Church, members, 4; Pay later

Florida

Piney Grove, members, 100; Pay later

St. John, members, 17; Paid \$10.00

Poplar Head, members, 9; Pay later

In our next report we have to have the exact number that have paid. This can be done by each auxiliary sending a card with number of members and number that have sent their dues to Sister Palston. Lets pray much for this great move in the coming months and go over the top for Jesus in membership and in offerings.

Yours for Jesus

L'izzie McAdams

Helping Hands

The ladies of the Pleasant Mound Free Will Baptist Church near Buffalo Springs Texas, have organized an auxiliary work known as the Helping Hands. A regular meeting was held in the afternoon of January 11 at the church.

The following program was given: Songs- Help Somebody Today and Sweet Hour of Prayer, led by Mrs. Tiff Covington. Prayer, Mrs. W.W. Winters. Scripture reading-23 Psalm, Mrs. Granville Covington. A review of the Book of Ruth, Mrs. Charlie Fuller. Report on Mission work, Mrs. W. W. Winters. Special prayer for our church, Mrs. Tiff Covington.

After a short business session the meeting was dismissed by prayer, by Mrs. Charlie Fuller.

Those present were Mesdames Charlie Fuller, Tiff Covington, W. W. Winters, Granville Covington, Katie Reader, Bert Moore, President, M.C. Covington, Secretary and Miss Venta Lou Moore, Reporter.

TEXAS

Dear Gem Readers:

We are glad to report we have an organized church in Midland, Texas. We are few in number but we have the faith and determination to go on. We know God will be with us in the building of our church, even the smallest free will offerings will help in this building, also be appreciated more than tongues can tell. We are looking forward to the day we will have a church building to worship God in spirit and in truth.

Our church was organized Sunday, January twenty first, 1945, by a council con-

sisting of two ordained ministers, Rev. R. H. Rogers of Commanche, Texas, Rev. Henry Measures of Weatherford, Texas, and one ordained Deacon, Bro. Alpha Hughes of Commanche, Texas.

Pray much for us.

Prayerfully yours,

Mrs. Gioia M. Onley
Church Clerk and Reporter
Rev. R. H. Rogers, Pastor.

Revival at Tulsa, Oklahoma

There's a saying, there are too many crises in the world today for us to have revivals; Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Has been proven in a revival meeting at the New Home Free Will Baptist Church, at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The first service of the revival beginning December fourth, proved to be the beginning of a sweeping revival, three precious souls were saved.

The following Thursday night there was seventeen saved, the church was asked to spend much time in prayer the next day, and the following night there was sixteen saved.

In the twelve nights of the revival, there was 66 conversions, thirty five joined the church, and the last night of the revival there was twenty four baptised.

Rev. Carl Hood the pastor, and his good wife with the people of the community deserve much credit for the success of the meeting.

Rev. Harry Staires



GENERAL ARTICLES



PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Dear Gem Family:

It is my happy privilege to give you a brief report of our church. Due to a flu epidemic our attendance has dropped off some. We are looking forward to fairer weather and a larger attendance.

Our pastor, Rev. J. R. Evans and his good wife just returned yesterday from a visit to Oklahoma, where their son is in training in the armed forces. They were gone a little more than a month.

Rev. C. D. Findley served as pastor in the absence of Bro. Evans.

The joint 5th Sunday Conference of General and Free Will Baptist just held near Los Angeles was reported to be a very spiritual meeting, with the conversion of one soul.

We ask an interest in your prayers and would welcome any and all to visit us and may the good Lord richly bless us all.

Rev. Ralph Geiger, Church Clerk and Reporter.

Alabama Orphanage News

The home is still being repaired. Two of the buildings have been covered, much painting has been done, quite a bit of plastering has been done, the heating plant has been repaired.

The treasurer informs me that they need \$2,000 now to continue this work. Material and labor are so high until it is costing more than we thought to do the work.

We greatly appreciate the way people have responded to the call of the home. We just thank our folk for what they have done and what they are going to do.

We have had some nice offerings from some of the neighboring states, we thank you greatly. It will take regular offerings to keep the work going.

Send your money to Mr. V. C. May, Vernon, Ala. If you want to send any kind of produce or material, send them to the F. W. B. Orphanage, Eldridge, Ala.

Alabama has surprised herself at what can be done when people try.

The quicker the home is completely repaired, the quicker you can see announcements in the papers that we are ready for children. Don't stop your offerings, keep

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\$1.00 per Year

them coming regularly.

Rev. K. V. Shutes, Chairman of Trustees

EARLY RISING SO AS TO SERVE GOD

Jacob rose early to worship the Lord. Gen. 28:18.

Moses rose early to give God's message to Pharoah. Ex. 8:20.

Moses rose early to build an altar to God. Ex. 24:4.

Moses rose early to meet God at Sinai. Ex. 34:4.

Joshua rose early to lead Israel over Jordan. Josh. 3:1.

Joshua rose early to take Ai. Josh. 8:10.

Gideon rose early to examine the Fleece Judges 6:38.

Hannah and Elkhannah rose early to worship God. 1 Sam. 1:19.

Samuel rose early to meet Saul. 1 Sam. 15:12.

David rose early to do as his father bade him. 1 Sam. 17:20.

Job rose early to offer sacrifices for his children. Job 1:5.

The Son of God rose early to go to a solitary place to pray. Mark 1:35.

Jesus rose early to go to the temple to teach. John 8:2.

The people rose early to hear Christ teach. Luke 21:38.

The women rose early to go to the sepulchre. Mark 16:2.

The morning is the gate of the day and should be well guarded with prayer. The morning is one of the threads on which the days actions are strung, and should be well knotted with devotions.

If we felt more the majesty of life we should be more careful of its mornings. He who rushes from his bed to business and wait not to worship in prayer, is as foolish and unwise as though he had dashed into battle without arms and armour.

Be it ours to bathe in the softly flowing river of communion with God before the heat of the wilderness, and the burdens of the day begin to oppress

Mrs. Albert Halbrook, Student of F. W. B. Bible College.

WHATS WRONG WITH THE MOVIES

Seventy-seven million people in U. S. attend the movies each week: 28 million are adolescent young people: 11 million are under 14 years old.

The emotional reaction of children to moving-pictures is from 2 to 8 times greater than that of adults. Minds repeatedly shocked, thrilled, horrified, and excited by scenes of murder, war, rape, crime, monsters, nudity, are not normal minds.

Movies impair health, produce nervousness, fear, hysterics, insomnia, suicide, insanity, miscarriage, high blood pressure, heart failure, inability to concentrate constructively, susceptibility to disease, and disinterest and deficiency in work. Perhaps this explains why the present generation is so restless, hasty, nervous, dissatisfied, uncontrollable and changeable.

Movies destroy self-control, thus producing drunkards, dope fiends, spend-thrifts, adulterers, fornicators, murderers, thieves, liars and what not. In an analysis of 40 films, in which 57 criminals committed 62 crimes, only 7 of the criminals were punished by the law. On the average, less than one-fifth of criminals in the movies receive legal punishment. Part are punished by extra legal methods and many go scottfree.

About 50 per cent of the boys and girls, men and women in jails, reform ities, and penitentiaries hold the movies partly responsible for their criminal and immoral conduct.

Moving pictures deal principally with sex, crime, and impure love themes: nudity, murder, robbery, war, gambling, stealing, vile witticism, etc.

The overwhelming majority of "movie stars" are immoral and lascivious. "Film-producing cities are communities full of grossest vice and degeneracy - modern Sodoms. Hell couldn't concoct more degeneracy than is prevalent in these places; men lying with men, and women with women or both sexes clinging together in every conceivable arrangement of nude bodily contact.

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The movie teaches revolt against all constituted authority and neglect of responsibility: would destroy the home by teaching children disrespect for parents, parents, neglect of children, wives, disobedience to husbands, and husbands, unfaithfulness to wives, it would destroy the government, by teaching disrespect for law, and for officers of the law, and by encouraging crime, riot, violence and anarchy. Its philosophy is 100 per cent anti-American and anti-Christian. It would dethrone God and right, and enthroned Satan and evil. Hate should reign, love should be exterminated; "Self" should be the supreme motive "others" should be the least. It magnifies sin, minimizes its punishment, robs

death of its seriousness, and forgets that the resurrection shall place all men before the judgment bar of God Almighty, where they shall be rewarded according to their works.

According to the movies, the Bible is all wrong, sinners are all right—they don't need saving; Christ's death for all men was in vain—but be not deceived.

"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord." Rom.6:23.

Pilgrim Tract Society, Pandemonium, N.C. Tracts Free as the Lord permits. Send for package of over 100 samples of tracts.

—Selected

POEMS

Rev. T. H. Newsome, Springtown, Tex.

When I Essay, Dear Lord to Pray

When I Essay, Dear Lord, to Pray,
From earth exclude my sight;
Remove impediments away,
Make entrance for thy light

From Satan's councils far with drawn,
In thine own courts shut in;
Let heavenly sunshine on me dawn,
And pardon every sin.

In Thy sweet presence, O my Lord,
Within thy secret place;
I cherish each endearing word,
Conversing face to face.

Sweetest experience ever known,
Enraptured by thy grace;
Just you and I, there all alone,
In intimate embrace.

Lord, grant that this ecstatic bliss
Shall e'er my mind employ;
Enthralled by Thine enchanting kiss,
My soul doth thrill with joy.

O Precious Saviour, Love Divine,
Enfold me to Thy breast,
O, Gracious Lover, ever mine,
In Thee I find sweet rest.

(In Thee I'm wholly blest.)

In pain and sorrow, grief, and care,
A solace, sweet, I find in prayer;
All of my burdens, I leave there
When I commune with God in prayer.

Why Did The Saviour Suffer So?

Why did the Saviour die for me?
Why suffer untold agony?
Upon the cross of Calvary?
It was for you and me.

Why did He leave His home above
Where all was joy and peace and love?
Was it for me, His love to prove?
Yes, 'twas for you and me.

Why did He worldly pleasures spurn?
Why did His soul with anguish burn?
No earthly home to which return
It was for you and me.

Why suffer in Gethsemane;
Crushed by the world's iniquity?
Was it that sinners might be free?
Yes, 'twas for you and me.

Why did He bear the cross alone;

No sympathy, no mercy shown
By those for whom He did atone?
It was for you and me.

Why did our Saviour suffer so?
Why to the Crucifixion go,
To rescue man from sin and woe?
It was for you and me.

The blessed Lord, for sinners gave,
Himself upon the cross to save;
And rose triumphant o'er the grave,
To rescue you and me.

O love divine, O boundless love,
That brought to earth from heaven above
The Son of God, His love to prove;
His love for you and me.

O Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove,
Sent from the Father's throne above,
A messenger of peace and love,
Of love for you and me.

God, Hold On To My Hand

By nature I'm so weak and frail
That I can scarcely stand;
In all my efforts I shall fail,
Except Thou hold my hand.
Lord hold on to my hand,
Help me that I may stand;
I shall prevail, I'll never fail,
If Thou hold to my hand.

I meet with many things in life,
I do not understand.
Oft I'd be overcome by strife,
Except Thou hold my hand;
Lord, hold on to my hand.
Help me that I may stand;
I shall prevail, I'll never fail,
If Thou hold to my hand.

Lord, grant that I, my mission fill,
As Thou hast fully planned;
Submissive always to thy will,
Lord, hold on to my hand;
Yes, hold on to my hand.
Help me that I may stand;
I shall prevail, I'll never fail,
If Thou hold on to my hand.
Lord, hold on to my hand.

The Way Of Holiness

The last beams of the setting sun,

Tint with rare gold, the Western sky.
The stars their vigil have begun;
The watchdogs of earth's canopy.
Fantastic shapes in ghost like guise,
By visions, indistinct and dim.

Life's highway, too, is often blurred
By shadows dark and eye sight dim:
Which sometimes obscures God's own
word.
And blinds us to the sight of Him.
Yet, when our faith is firm and strong:
We peer through e'en the densest clouds,
Distinguishing the right from wrong;
So nothing doth the truth enshroud.

'Tis only when we drift from God;
Permit the world to come between
Us and the Lord, we blindly tread
Forbidden paths that intervene,
Dear Jesus, guide us day by day
In ways of truth and righteousness;
Help us to walk the King's highway,
Which is the way of holiness.

O blessed way; The King's highway:
The way of truth and holiness;
O Saviour, lead us day by day
In ways of truth and righteousness.

Sweet and Low, The Name of Jesus

Sweet and low the name of Jesus,
Falling on the listening ear;
Soothing as the gentle breeze,
When the eve is drawing near;
Cadences, so gently calling,
"Faithful servant, have no fear."
When the weary soul is quaking,
Neath the burdens of this life;

When the heart is aching, breaking,
Overcome by grief and strife;
'Tis so sweet to find in Jesus,
Joy and comfort, peace and rest;
When His loving arms receive us
And we nestle on His breast.
Jesus, Jesus, Blessed Jesus;
Sweetest note on mortal ear,

Jesus, Jesus, Blessed Jesus;
Sweetest name I e'er did hear.

The Lord's Our Buckler And Our Shield

How doth the Lord protect His own
From all of Satan's wiles?

He doth, His power in them enthrone,
Lest them, sin too defiles.

Man hath not strength within himself,
The tempter to defeat;
But when we trust in God for help,
His victory is complete.

We do not have to fight alone,
We have a strong aid;
For when we make the Lord our own,
He will our strength supply.

He is our buckler and our shield;
Our fortress and support
When aided by Him we'll not yield,
But bravely held the fort.

DON'T HIDE IT — LET IT SHINE

In the soul of every human
Let it be man, woman, or child
There is a burning light,
That can't be hid
It is shining all the while.

The sins we commit,
May dim it.
And hide it from others view.
Tho many keep their light blackened
It is shining in others too.

It shines from the cross of Calvary
Where our blessed Saviour died
That the light might be shining
In every human mind.

Ask your self this question
Is your light shining bright?
Or with sin is it darkened
Does Satan blind your sight.

Friends God gave it to you
That we might ever abide
With Him in all His glory
Don't hide it, let it shine.

Pvt. William J. Mangham

THE LIQUOR BUSINESS — Nearly every belligerent country except the United States has taken governmental action to curtail the drinking of liquor. They demand sobriety and curtailment of wasteful activity. Canada, finally, has rationed liquor officially. Germany has restricted all alcoholic beverages. England, Russia and Japan have done the same. America

stands alone in her shame before a wiser world.—Religious Digest. Is this the country the Pilgrim Fathers braved the sea to establish? Are we to relinquish religious liberty and be slaves of the brewers? Is the Government so tied to the liquor industry that it cannot free itself; or is it in love with the business that it does not want to do so?

A CITY STATION

Was called late at night, and when an officer answered, a small child said, "We're all alone out here at home, and I'm scared." Investigation by officers disclosed that two little boys, one six the other three years old, had been left alone at home while the mother had gone to a club. The officers calmed the frightened little fellow and then made frequent visits back to the home until the mother returned. She got back to her children at 2 o'clock in the morning.—Is there any wonder that we have a youth delinquency problem?

Christian Parent.

OBITUARY

BINGHAM—Mrs. Effa Opal Bingham, was borned in Wright Co., Mo., Aug. 11, 1901, and departed this life Jan. 9, 1945 at the age of 43 years.

Surviving, husband, Rev. Melvin Bingham; one son, Melvin Jr. Bingham serving in the United States Army; two daughters, Mrs. Alveta Hancock, Tulsa; Mrs. Bertha Keiffer, Tulsa; three grand children.

Three sisters, Mrs. Elsie of Competition, Mo.; Mrs. Dessie Coatney of Marble, Ark.; Mrs. Nola Hyson of Escalon, Calif.

Four brothers, Mr. Ava Gregory of Greeley, Colo.; Mr. Alva Gregory of Brownsville, Texas; Mr. Ira Gregory of Competition, Mo.; Mr. Theodore Gregory, Tulsa.

Many other relatives and a host of friends.

She was converted at the age of 13 years and lived a constant Christian life, a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church.

Second Vice President of the National Women's Auxiliary work, also Second Vice President of the State work, President of the District Convention, First Vice President of her home church work, Sunday

School teacher of the young married peoples class. She with her husband walked six miles when he preached his first sermon, all her life has been spent in the service of the Lord.

Our loss is heaven's gain

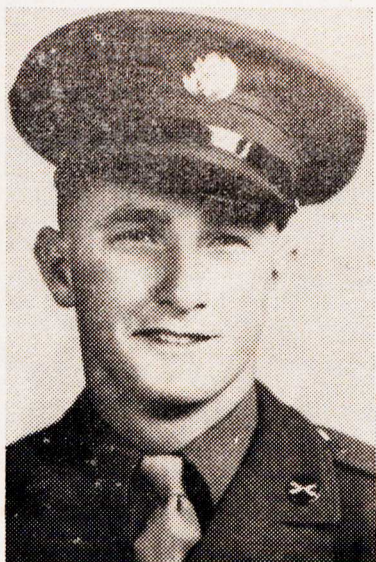
We humbly bow to our Heavenly Fathers Will.

Funeral services was held at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla. Rev. B. F. Rogers, officiating.

CONVERSION

The meaning of the word "conversion" is: A change or transformation. When America went to war, factories were converted to production for war. When the war is over, industry will be converted to peace-time activity. This cannot but mean a complete change over. In the spiritual realm, conversion means a change from Satan's service to the service of God. This conversion demands a change of heart, a change of will and a change of relationship. Faith changes the heart (Rom. 10: 9-10) repentance changes the will (Matt. 21:29), and baptism changes the relationship. (Rom. 6:1-6).

Mrs. Melvin Bingham



William O. Mangham

MANGHAM—Pfc. William O. Mangham, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Mangham,

401 South East 44 St., Oklahoma City, Okla. Was born at Porum, Okla., Feb. 25, 1921.

He was wounded in Germany December 22, 1944 and departed this life December 27, 1944 at the age of 23 years, 10 months and 2 days.

He was married to Miss Inez Thompson, Feb. 20, 1944.

He was better known to his many friends as Billie.

Entering the U. S. Army, September 1, 1943 and went overseas June 1944.

He came home on a furlough February 1944 and was converted, baptized and joined the Central Avenue Free Will Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Billie not only offered his service to his country, but like Amasiah of old (2 Chron. 17:16) he willingly offered himself to the Lord.

After going overseas he announced his calling to the Ministry. He was an active worker in the League work before his conversion.

Surviving beside his wife are his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Mangham of Oklahoma City, Okla. Five sisters and four brothers.

Poem composed by Billie Mangham after going overseas.

What Will You Do

When your days on earth are over,
And your life on earth is through,
When you stand before the Judgement
My friend what will you do?

Will you say my Lord I am ready
I've been faithful unto the end
O will you hang your head in silence,
As you've lived your life in sin?

When you stand before the judgement
And meet your Saviour face to face,
Will He say well done my servant,
Or will He say you have come too late?

Will your name in gold be written
In the holy book of life,
Or will you dwell in a devil's hell,
With nothing but sorrow and sigh?

My friends it pays to be ready
To live for your Lord kind and true
And when you stand before the judgement,
No question will come what to do.

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