Mrs. Emmett Maberry 4-46 Greenfield, Mo. Rt. 2

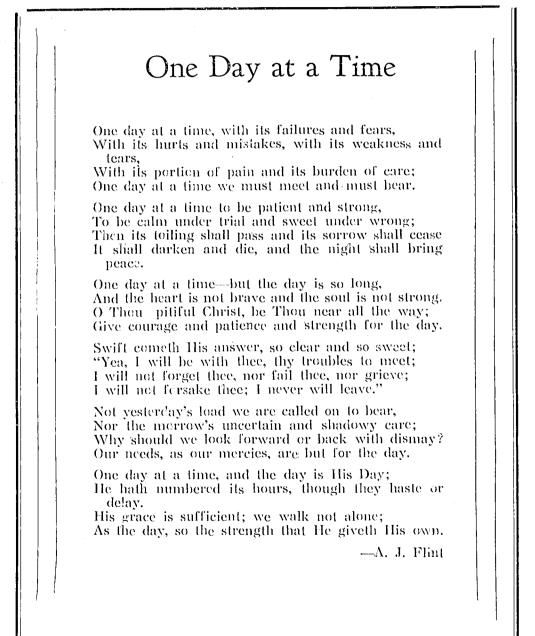
# The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

Volume 17

Monett, Missouri

February, 1946



The Free Will Baptist Gem Organ of Missouri State Association

> Published Monthly Monett, Missouri

#### EDITOR

#### Rev. C. B. Dees

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

#### TERMS

\$1.00 per year, cash in advance. Paper will be discontinued when subscription expires.

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Order a copy of Butler-Dunn Theology from The Free Will Baptist Gem. These books are a Free Will Baptist production and were used in the School of the Bible. Since that School has discontinued, the entire supply was sent to the Gem Office. Every minister and Christian student should have one of these books in his library.

> 476 pages, Cloth Bound Price, post paid, \$2.00

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

F GOSPEL SERMONS

# Advertising for God

Pfc. Clarence Hearron, U. S. Army

It has been estimated that approximately one billion dollars is spent annually on advertisements. Such a huge sum of money would most certainly not be spent by clever business men it no results were realized from the expenditure. Any logically-minded individual can see that advertising is successful.

What I intend to write may pinch a few toes, but this is written with the hope that it may cause the Free Will Bap tist Churches that have not been advertising to proceed to do so. In no way do I mean this to offend.

During the war, when many Free Will Baptists were in the Armed forces, many of our churches failed to have any alvertisement whatsoever in any of the local newspapers. Consequently, many Free Will Baptists attended churches that had the forsight to advertise.

Although the war is over, there are still Free Will Daptists in the 'Armed Forces. Some of them may be fortunate in being close to a Free Will Baptist Church and aware of its presence.

I have in mind three large cities where Free Will Dapt'st Churches are located, but if one eram net the section devoted to churches in the local newspapers, one would fail to find any mention of Free Will Bapt'st Churches.

Being a member of the Army, I think I have a right to complain of this lack of advertising, since I have had a chance to observe such a lack on the part of some of our churches. Some of our churches do not even have Free Will Baptist on the Church building or on a sign by the church building or on a sign by the church.

Now I ask this question, "Why?" Is it because we are ashamed to be called Free Will Baptists? When the Free Will Baptists possess the gospel of Christ, why shoul! we be ashamel? The Free Will Baptists are doing things for God. Let all our churches get in movement and bring honor and glory to His name. Othe? churches advertise. Why shouldn't we? When men pay out a billion dollars a year for advertisements on business, why can't the church of the living God pav out a few dollars to advertise Christ's business.

There are various ways of advertising. I believe that every Free Will Baptist Church in a town or city where a newspaper is published should have a weekly announcement in that newspaper with the location of the church and the time of each service during that week. The theaters make sure their attractions are in the newspapers. Do you think more of Christ's church than you do of a moving picture house?

Another successful means of advertising is the displaying of signs along highways leading into the towns and cities. Why not spend a few dollars on signs? The expense will hardly be noticeable after the results are seen. Anyway, we owe as much to our brethren who might be traveling through, and certainly we owe as much to our Free Will Bapt'sts in the Armed Forces.

The radio is still another excellent means of advertising. If a church can't support a program on the rad'o (some could if they would), it can, at least, pay for a short announcement or "commercial" telling its location and service times.

Churches in the country should have a few signs located along the roads near them. Many times travelers would stop for services if they knew the churches were Free Will Baptist, and if they knew the time of services, whether once a month or how often services were held. Personally, I think every Free Will Baptist Church should have services every Sunday, but that is another subject.

God will bless a church that advertises His business. This has been proven by those churches that have done so.

I believe that there are some of the best preachers in the world in the Free Will Baptist denomination. Since we can trace our succession anl perpetuity straight back to the Apostles without going into the Catholic Church to do it. why should we be ashamed to alvertise? Why not let people know that Free Will Baptists preach the same gospel the apostles preached?

I had rather attend a Free Will Baptist Church than any other that I've attended. I'm sure there are a lot of people who had rather go to a Free Will Baptist Church than to any other. Then by advertising, lots of churches could improve their attendance records. Why not advert'se?

In closing, let me state that this is meant as an appeal to churches to put forth a greater effort to serve the Lord with gladness. We really do owe it to the Lord and to ourselves to let people know our locations. Since advertisements have proven so successful, lets use this method of furthering the gospel. We won't regret it.

# Sluggards!

Mrs. Anna Moore, Springfield, Illinois

#### Text: Amos 6:1.

This message tho spoken to Israel many years ago, when they were acting similarly to the church in this age is for us.

The text reads, woe to them that are at ease in Zion.

It does not say "woe unto you who have followed idols or who have killed God's prophets".

In fact this judgement of God was not pronounced for something they had done, but for something they had not done. It was "The sin of neglect".

"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation." Heb. 2:3.

Omission and neglect are great sins and every transgression and disobedience receive a just recompense of reward. So God pronounces woe unto those that are doing nothing, 'Wee unto them that are at ease".

We may be appalled at the fearful unconcern of the unsaved, and of their excuses for not being saved, many of God's children remark, they are under the spell and power of the Devil.

Well I want to say the church as a whole that takes in all professors to be saved, but yes and many of God's children are so destitute of vital interest and concern for the lost, that the only thing we can say is "we are drugged by the devil".

Your desire to do good is so deadened that unless you wake from slumber your life will be unfruitful and fit for nothing but to be burned.

You can not bear fruit of yourself thats true, but you are Christ's and Christ is God's, we are laborers together with God.

Soul winning is hard work, God admonishes us to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

Soul winning requires much agonizing prayer and sacrifice of ones personal feelings and comfort. You may excuse your self in many an excuse, but they are too flimsy to be evidence.

Are you drugged by Satan?  $D_0$  you think it is the job of the pastor only to win souls? Do you ease your conscience

by saying "I pay money to do that in my place". No, the pastor is not employed by you, nor by the church. The true pastor is employed by Christ the head of the church and he is not paid a salary by the people either, he is given support out of the treasury of the Lord, while he gives his time to the work for which the risen ascended Christ gave him to the church.

Read in Eph. 4. What is your responsibility?

In the church at first they understood. They were not too lazy and drugged, read Acts 8, of the efforts privately and publicly to win souls to Jesus Christ. The rank and file of the church members in Jerusalem when they had to scatter went every where, women as well as men, telling about Jesus.

The name Jesus is a strong tower, have you ever tried to tell anyone of Him?

If you know Him personally and experience His love in your heart. If He is your contentment, your peace, your joy, your all. Why dc you never speak of Him? I know we have eased ourselves with the responsibility of intercessory prevailing prayer. I am not saying you never pray, you could not have life without breathing, you could not live long without praying, Spiritually speaking.

We know that salvation of souls is God's will and this wonder working prayer power is the privilege and duty of every Christian, why don't we prevail with God until the answer comes. We are too lazy, we are sluggards. Do you believe that those unsaved ones are lost, on their way rushing on to darkness, night, endless misery, burning hell, suffering forever? Are you grieved over their affliction? Its worse than any torture or suffering, mercy and help gone forever.

You may be very busy in what some choose  $t_0$  call church work, what about the souls for whom Christ died? He's waiting for you to obey the Spirit (the Holy Spirit of God which He gave you when you believed)  $t_0$  go.

Let us repent of our sin, unconcern, prayerlessness, our laziness, Jesus is still able to restore and heal us of our backslidings.

Ask Him to let us see the unsaved ones 'through His eyes, His kindly eyes, to feel for them with His loving heart, He cared.

Oh! Christian. Oh! Church! May we be aroused from our condition of sleep, unconcern, laziness to become soul winners. May we not come into judgement of wo<sup>2</sup> for our luke-warmness.

But into His presence with joy and bringing our sheaves with us.

"Lead me to some soul today, Teach me Lord, Just what to say.

Friends of mine are lost in sin,

And cannot find their way, Few there are who seem to care

And few there are who pray, Melt my heart

And fill my life, Give me some soul today.

# The National Association ENTERPRISE DEPARTMENT

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

# Unified Program Means Unified Progress

"Bless the Lor!, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Cratitude is best expressed when traned. You have to cultivate gratitude. One can not afford to have his soul grow dull and listless amid God's amazing metric. You will not be blind in your Christ'an experience if you will use your eyes to bchold all the benefits of the Lord—you will be blessed of the Lord, and you will bless the Lord.

You can decide whether to be thankful or not. You can decide to express your thankfulness or not. You can say 'Thank you'' from your lips and not be grateful. You can place money on the offering plate and yet not worship the Lord with the money. In being grateful we are to be glad for what we have, our Bible College, our Missionaries, our plan of ministerial superannuation—and uot ablow our neighbor denominations to be more grateful or happy.

In the unity and strength of Free Will Daptists we can express our gratitude and make progress if we will remember.-

First: That in knowing Jesus we can be come more like IIim. He gave Himself, what He had to give the Father and to the needs of the world, and gave thanksgiving in the seventeenth chapter of St. John for the pr vilege of giving.

 not forget His children. He has infinate appreciation of their efforts.

As we give to the Lord through the Unified Program we not only bless those that receive our gifts, but we also gladden and bless the heart of God. We do not give to one object but to the whole cause of the Lord.

Below are the amounts given by each state to the National Unified Program fund for the past six months.  $a_{11}$ d they have been distributed as follows: 40 percent to Christian Education, 30 percent to Foreign Missions, 20 percent to Home Missions, and 10 percent to Superannuation.

Amount Sent In By, Each State Missouri ..... 1157.47 North Carolina ..... 1827.09 Oklahoma 38.00 National Woman's Auxiliary Con. 700.16 D'fference between the money posted to the states and the amount of money Rev. Van Hoose sent ..... 20.50 Amount paid to boards ..... 5000.00 Amount in the bank ..... 154.89



**Our Bible School** 



### Rev. J. R. Davidson, Business Manager, Free Will Baptist Bible College FINANCIAL STANDING OF STATES AS RELATES TO EXPANSION PROGRAM OF THE BIBLE COLLEGE

The past six months have been revealing ones indeed in the progress made in raising the first quota of the allotments made to the several states for the purpose of acquiring the \$100,000 for the expansion of the Bible College. The state which was given the largest allotment of any state in the National Association went well over the top for 1945. The state to which I refer is North Carolina, which reached

Page 7

her quota easily because of systematic support on the part of many, and the two check in the amount of \$1000 each given by Mrs. Sophia Hardee and the Davis Church. All gifts taken into account puts the state over with a score of 37 per cent above the quota for 1945. South Carolina is also over the top with a score of  $40\frac{1}{2}$  per cent score above the 1945 quota, notwithstanding the fact that her per capita allotment is higher than that of some of the other states. This goal was easily reached with a good system of regular support in the use of the Annual Endowment Plan and by special effort on the part of some of the ministers who called upon their people to respond; having become good personal examples in their gifts.

There are other states which almost reached their 1945 quotas, and their successes can be attributed to the same reasons rendered relative to the Carolinas. Kentucky is one of these states which fell behind only 24 per cent, and this record stands as it does because of the fact that the Rev. F. S. Van Hoose of Paintsville mailed his personal check for \$500 as a Christmas gift. I make special mention of this state because of the fact that only two other individuals joined Bro. Van Hoose in making this record. Florida came within 17 per cent of her quota for 1945, and this was achieved because of the fact that some of the church folk responded to the call of leadership to do something about it.

The two states to fall the fartherest short of their quotas for 1945 registered a deficit of 90 per cent in one case and 96 per cent in the other. This short coming may be charged to the fact that from these states there came no large gifts by churches nor individuals, and, the fact that the ministry did not call upon the people to respond. Let each state profit in 1946 by the good examples and short comings pointed out above. The following table affords a complete record for 1945:

Receipts Un	paid Bal. 1	946 Quota	Total A	llotment
Alabama	\$269,60	\$730.40	\$2230.40	\$5000
Arkansas	10.00			-
Florida	412.50	87.50	837.50	2509
Georgia	904.96	59504	2845.04	7500
Illinois	143.30	856.70	2356.70	5000
Kansas,	16.00			
Kentucky	528,45	221.55	1346.55	3750
Michigan	236.00	764.00	2264.00	5000
Missouri	461.18	1538.82	4538.82	10000
Mississippi	100.00	399.50	1145.50	2500
North Carolina	5491.99		4508.01	20000
Ohio	98.00	902.00	2402.00	5000
Oklahoma	130.75	869.25	2369.25	2000
South Carolina	1414.68		1085.32	500Ú
Tennessee	977.64	1522.36	5272.36	12500
Tevas	582.95	417.05	1917.05	5000
. Virginia	29.50	720.50	1845.50	3750
West Virginia	133.12	366.88	1116.88	22500
Totals	\$11931.12	\$9991.55	\$38084.88	\$100000

#### **Receipts for December 1945**

	Endowment	Gifts	Total
Alabama	\$53.00	\$11.00	\$64.00
Florida	43.00		43.00
Georgia	41.00	231.00	272.00
Illinois	. 7.00	10.00	17.00
Kansas	4.00		4.00
Kentucky	1.00	515.00	516.00
Michigan	17.00	100.00	117.00
			Second St.

Page 8	Free	Will	Baptist	Gem		February,	1946
Mississippi					10.00		10.00
Missouri					21.00	263.55	284.5
North Carolina					93.50	119.10	212.6
Ohio					26.50		26.5
Oklahoma					1.00	39.00	40.0
South Carolina					25.18	25.00	50.1
Tennessee					60.50	195.50	256.0
Texas	•				19.50	105.00	124.5
Virginia					4.50		4.5
West Virginia					15.00		15.0
Students' Textbooks							11.5
tudents' Room and Board							156.5
Unified Program by Rev. R. 1	B. Craw	vford					200.0
Station Wagon Fund							3.0
Cift of Freshman Class of 1	945-46						3.3
Γev. L. R. Ennis for services	render	red					77.5
Miscellaneous receipts							.7
Totals					\$442.68	\$1614.15	\$2509.4
Dish	ourseme	nts for	r Decemb	er 194	5		
Room Rent							25.0
Groceries							171.4
School Supplies							. 31.9
Heat, lights, water, etc							. 49.1
Telephone							. 11.
Maintonanco							. 19.4
Salaries							1271.3
Traveling Expenses							
Dr. Hugh T. Pennell, student	t medic	al car	е				. 04.0
Miscellaneous Expenses	, moure						. 99.
anaconancous mapenses				Tota	al		31,817.9
				- 50			

# **REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION**

Rev. Winford Davis, Monett. Mo. Chairman, Treasurer

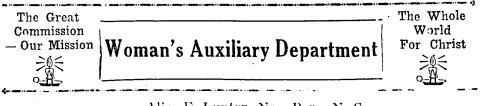
Receipts for the month of Nov. 1945

Wewoka Church of Oklahoma \$10.00
National Womans Auxiliary Convention
State of North Carolina by J. W. Alford, Treasurer
state of North Carolina by J. w. Anold, Heastier
Miss Rachel Gibbs, Nashville, Tennessee
Amos Martin, Nauvoo, Alabama
Marsh Swamp Church of N. C 5.50
Offering taken at Alabama State Association
Sun Beam Class of Tulsa Church, Tulsa, Okla,
Mrs. Howard Morris. Et. Worth. Texas 10.00
Rev T B Mellette Blakley Georgia 19.00
Wohly Prairie S. S. of Illinois 14.04
Core Creek Church of North Carolina
Core Creek S. S. of North Carolina
Wolverine Association of Michigan
Wolverine Association of Michigan
Midway Church of Georgia
Miranda Ditty of Florida
Missouri State Association by Marie Hyatt, Treasurer

Total \$1,	,261.12
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#### Receipts for the month of Dec. 1945

receipts for the month of Dec. 1945
State of Oklahoma by D. B. Hellard, Treas \$23.09
Unified program fund by R. B. Crawford 150.00
Altona Church of Ohio 7.00
Clarence Hearron of the armed forces 2.00
South Carolina Conference
State of Georgia by C. J. Harvey, Treas 115.35
Eastern Conference of N. C. by L. B. Dunn 20.00
State of Ohio by Grace Peach, Treas 100.00
Pittsburg Church of Illineis 9.08
Union F. W. B. Church of Illinois 19.60
Freedom Church of Illinois
Arnold View Church of Illinois 11.23
Union Grove Church of Illinois 27.53
Offering at Thompsonville High School of Illinois 13.63
Cordova S. S. of Alabama (on Jeep for the Dodds) 50.00
Trinity Church and S. S. of Nashville, Tenn 20.90
Mr. and Mrs. Cleon Van Riper, Breckenridge, Michigan 3.00
Core Creek S. S. of N. C 7.50
Ladies Aid of Core Creek Church of N. C. (on Jeep for Dodds) 15.00
Missouri State Association 537.27



Alice E. Lupton, New Bern, N. C.

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12.

In thinking of Stewardsh'p, we must not only think of the responsibility, but also of the accountability connected with it. There are precious truths to be kept in mind at all times, and if we would pass the test of good stewardship, they must be put into practice.

The officers of our Auxiliary, from the National on down to the local, have responsibilities in the specific duties assigned them by their organizations. It takes careful study and preparation for the successful performances of the various phreses of the work, as well as living close to the Master in prayer and supplication and thanksgiving. The officers, from the National on down to the local, form a unit and should co-operate with each other in every possible way, in order that there be perfect unity and understanding.

I think we all know the duties of the presiding officer, also those pertaining to the Secretary and Treasurer, but I fear there are but few who know what the Vice Presidents are supposed to do, perhaps some of our Vice Presidents are not familiar with their own duties. I believe that if our National Vice President would send in articles for publication in the Gem and the Baptist, from time to time relative to their specific work, instructing the officers of the various States, who in turn would keep the work before the Districts, and passed from them to the local societies, there would be greater act vities in the promotion of the work at large. Many of our women are not instructed, or informed on the "Plan of Vork," as published recently in the Baptist Paper. In the study of this Plan, each officer should readily f nd the part that pertains to her specific luties, as given in our Manual of Methods, and then keep them before our women until they become fam'liar with them, when, I feel reasonably sure, they would join hands with the Officers in one great movement for putting the plans into effect.

Surely, there must be co-operation, but first. there must be knowledge of what is required of our women, before any definite work can be accouplished. We never learn from merely reading a "plan" over—it must be pored over, prayed over, rightly divided and assortel, each phase of it accepted according to whichevel officer has charge of certain parts, then it should be given out in smaller allotments to the respective offices, or lepartments.

There seems to be some confusion, or misunderstanding relative to the Co-Laborer's Band, and its plan of action. In North Corolina, our women who are cooperating, are of the opinion that one tenth is kept in our National Aux'liary, treasury, while the nine tenths goes into the Un'fied Program of the National Association for the support of Missions, Bible College, etc., while the Plan, as recently published, calls for one thir 1 to be kept in the treasury, while the balance goes to the Un'fied Program. There has been several enqu'ries made about this—some from other States. We need to have an article regarding this fund, for the Gem and for the Baptist, (Two copies when meant for both papers), now and then, so that our women will understand that when they raise funds for Foreign Missions, or for National Education, they should send it as "Co-Laborers" money, so instead of for Foreign Missions, as this fund is to take care of all of our obligations, so far as the National work is concerned. Some have asked "Who is responsible for raising these funds, or for the keep ng the needs before the societies?" Since Miss ons, Christian Education and Superannuation comes under the jurisdiction of the Second, Third and Fifth Vice Presidents, it might be well for each one to stress the part coming under their particular care, however, we do urge that this be cleared up, if possible, so that all will know definitely just who to look to, or depen! on to carry out that part of our program. I am often asked. "Why make all of these plans unless we are informed how to work them, or make them effectual," May we concentrate more fully and prayerfully on our personal responsibilities, and consumation of the duties and opportuniconsumatiin of the duties and opportun ties lying out ahe .! of us. Paul speaks to us from Eph. 6:10. "Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." May we apply this to ourselves and go on to greater achievements.



#### ST. LOUIS, MO.

Greetings from the South Side Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis to all the Gem readers. We are glad to report to you of our church. We are still on fire going forward for God and His glory. I would like to say that our church is coming along fine. We elected our new officers for the coming year; Bro. Bert Carver, one of our returned sevice men is our Superintendent for the coming year. Sis. Emma Langley is our new Secrtary. Our teachers are Bro. Joe Farmer, Bro. Billie Hill, Bro. Oscar Davis, Sis. Ola Carver and Sis. McCauley. Some of our service men have returned home for which we thank God. Bert Carver, Howard Kennedy and Jimmy Langley have been returned safely to us after serving overseas. Our prayers are for the returning of all the boys. Our league is growing and our young people are real workers for the Lord. Bro. Bobbie Hill is our League President. The Lord has blessed us wonderfully in our church and Sunday School. Bro Harvey Hill is our pastor, a wonderful man of God. When you pray, we earnestly desire your prayers that we will let our light shine out and that we will stay in the center of His will.

> Rev. Harvey Hill, pastor Sis. McCauley, reporter

#### **RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### Fred A. Potter

To the many friends of Rev. Harry E. Staires, and in the interest of the tremendous task he has undertaken, I offer this report to the readers of the Gem who live in Oklahoma and surrounding states.

Bro. Staires came to Central Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Okla. City from Drumright, Okla., where he had been pastor for ten years. He came to Okla. City when this church was in a bad state of affairs, both financially and spiritually. We had been praying that God would send us the right man. He did.



Rev. Harry Staires

One of the first things Bro. Staires had to do when he came here was buy a home in which to live, the church had not even a parsonage, and there were no houses for rent. After getting settled in his new home, he next set about getting the Lord's House in order. There was so much to be done, it was hard to tell just where to begin. The church members were not in accord with one another. There was a great deal of suspicion and distrust; some wanted to do one thing and some another. It was only through the God-given guid-

ance of Harry Staires that the church came out on top.

Here are a few of the achievements that he accomplished during the two and one half years here: He preached 382 sermons, witnessed 340 conversions, added 114 members to the church, baptized 60, built a new Sunday School annex, 34x60 feet, so the young people and children might have a place for League and Sunday School; built two additional rooms, placed new lights and stoves in the church, bought a Sunday School bus, bought a six room parsonage, and paid off a \$4,500 mortgage on the church.

When Bro. Staires announced that the mortgage was to be paid off within 1945. there were some who said it could not be done. They said it just wasn't possible, but Bro. Staires set his chin a little firmer and called on the church for greater effort, and the church complied!

The climax came when we held the dedicational service and burned the mortgage. There was great rejoicing in every heart.

Ie wasn't very long after the dedication services until Bro. Staires heard a call. It was not unlike the Apostle Paul when he heard the words, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." For months the Free Will Baptists of Oklahoma had been searching for a field man to help raise funds for the State Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Ring-It needed 10,000 dollars to ling, Okla. start. It seemed only natural that Bro. Staires should resign his pastorate and take upon himself the task of raising the There seemed no ideal necessary funds. way to go about this. We know, from Bro. Staires himself, that there was much praying involved, but he was confident that the Lord would provide a way.

One night the answer came, almost like a revelation. Bro. Staires awoke suddenly from a deep sleep to find the answer as clear as day before him. He would form a club, a "One Thousand Club" of his own, or perhaps it was The Lord's. Each member receives a membership card his dues are \$1.00 a month, or one may pay the full amount of 12 dollars at one time, which would be for a whole year. The goal is 1000 members, hence the name "One Thousand Club".

Many have joined, but there are many more needed, and of course, every cent will go to the Orphanage. Texas and Arkansas have an interest, as the home is going to accept children from these states.

Anyone who wishes to join may write directly to Bro. Staires. His home address is: Rev. Harry E. Staires, 121 N. Ohio Street, Drumright, Oklahoma.

The Lord will certainly bless those who give from an open heart. "For as much as you did it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye did it unto me!"

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### HOME MISSION REPORT

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I would like to report some of our Home Mission Work in the First Mission Association in Oklahoma. We are still having our Mission Rallys the second Friday in each month. We had our Mission Rally for the month of December at the North Heights Church in Sapulpa, we had reports from nine churches, Lawnwood, Liberty, New Home, Sapulpa, North Heights, Blue Bell, Olive, Silver City and Drumright. The Lawnwood Mission reported three souls saved in their recent Mission Services. Bro. Talbert one of our field workers returned from California in time for our Rally. The Mission sent \$25.00 to our State Orphanage for the childrens' Christmas. We have voted to send 25% of our funds to the National Board. Our next Mission Rally will be at the Blue Bell Church. As I am Secretary and Treasurer of the State Home and Foreign Mission Board. I am enclosing a check for \$27.75, for the National Home Mission Work.

Rev. D. B. Hellard

#### TULSA, OKLA.

Dear Gem Readers:

Greetings from the Tulsa Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

We are glad to report to you of our church and its progress. We are having good services, our Sunday School is very good, prayer meeting and League too is a great work. Truly our youth need to be trained.

We started a revival this Sunday, we started with two souls seeking and finding Christ. We are trusting God for a good revival. Bro. West our pastor is preaching, we feel it will be a reviving for each and souls will be saved. We were privileged to have Bro. Talbert with us this Sunday the 20th of Jan. He preached us a great sermon, it was enjoyed by each one who was present.

We can't fail to mention our Ladies' Auxiliary of the church. Last Thursday they went to Pretty Water church and helped organize an Auxiliary there. They report a good service.

We desire your prayers that we will always be on fire for God and always be a light for our Master.

Pastor, John H. West Reporter, Margarette West

### HOUSTON, TEXAS

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Houston, enjoyed another wonderful day in the Lord's service Sunday, January 20. The Lord blessed us with a wonderful congregation, and an increase in our Sunday School attendance.

We are gradually getting in touch with many Free Will Baptist that have come to our City. I just received a letter from Pfc. Clarence Hearron, now in the U.S. Army, in regard to the Carson Twins that are located here. Clarence is the son of Rev. W. A. Hearron, which is now pastor of the Sulphur Free Will Baptist Church of Sulphur, Oklahoma. Rev. Hearron also sends us a message in regard to Bro. Carson's daughter being here. Bro. Carson we hope you get to read this little article in the Gem, we have already got in touch with your daughters and they promised that they were going to start to our church here in Houston. I was also glad to receive a letter from Sis. Collins of the Tulsa church, she also informs me that her daughter lives in our City. Sis. Laura Coffman of Denison, Texas writes that she has a neice here. If you have a friend or relative in our City get in touch with us by letter or telephone, my phone number W. 3-2406.

I am still the old fashioned Free Will Baptist preacher that I was back in 1931 when I started out in the great field of labor. I still preach that the Lord's Supper should be taken at night, and that Feet Washing immediately followed. There are many Free Will Baptist today making a Sectarian Dinner out of the Lord's Supper. We have the Greek word for Supper

(Deipnon) which means an evening meal. Free Will Baptist are under obligation to the Lord, to wash one another's feet, owing to the fact that we have this Scripture in John 13:14. "If I then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet." The little word ought places us under obligation, in Tithing, as well as feet washing. I still teach my people to kneel and pray, regardless of the size of the city I may be preaching in. May God help us to stay in the old paths.

> Rev. Bert F. Rogers, Pastor 4406 Brady St., Houston 11, Texas

#### PORTERVILLE, CALIF.

Dear Gem Family:

I hope every one of you are enjoying health and happiness and will continue to do so throughout the entire year. I believe I will take the authority and say that that is the wish of the Porterville Church.

Our church has all the evidence of starting the new year 100 per cent for God. In the last Sunday School election (quarterly) there was almost a complete change of officers and teachers. All of the new officers and teachers were present and on time today.

The flu epidemic is subsiding and our attendance is coming back up. The young people are showing a great interest in the league work.

We covet your prayers and invite you to our services.

Rev. Ralph Geiger

#### SULPHUR, OKLA.

Dear Gem Editor:

Enclosed find \$1.00 for your good paper, I would not miss it.

My husband is now pastor of the Sulphur First Free Will Baptist Church. We have a fine group of people  $t_0$  work with. A good parsonage and I am getting my strength back after over a year of sickness.

God has blessed us, we have two sons, who accepted the call to the ministry last year. Arthur, our oldest child is full time pastor of Oklahoma City's Third Free Will Baptist Church, he sang over the Stamp's K. R. L. D. program last Sunday at Dallas, Texas, he has a fine voice.

Clarence, our youngest, who was the writer of your first article in the Gem in January is still in the army hospital at Temple, Texas, he preaches at the First F. W. B. Church in Waco, Texas, about 33 miles from the hospital.

We lived in Arkansas 15 years, our furniture is stored there yet. To our very dear friends there we send Gem greetings.

Essie Hearron, 1302 W. 13th, Sulphur, Okla.

#### MASON, ILL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We come to tell the world how God has richly blessed us here, where over a year ago there was no church, until a few of God's children began having prayer meeting in our homes.

Praying for the lost of the world, and for God to make a way for us to have a church and Sunday school, also prayed for Him to send us a good shepherd, thank God, He heard and answered our prayers.

He sent Bro. and Sis. Tracy W. Dees of Waltonville, Ill. our way.

Then for several months we had Sunday school and church services every Sunday morning and Sunday night at the town house. We kept praying for God to give us a building in town, He answered our prayers again, He gave us a building 'o rent, in a few months he laid plans for us to buy it, which we did, He blessed us with His richest of blessings in five months we had paid for our building, redecorated it inside, put a new roof on and He is still blessing us.

We organized our church on Dec. 7, 1944 with eleven charter members, now we have the membership of thirty seven. We have a good attendance in our Sunday school.

One of our young boys has been called into the ministry. We praise God from whom all blessings flow.

We pray God will keep blessing us and keep us all near the cross, that our little church here will be a light to the lost and dying world as the light house is to the ship out on the sea.

### PRETTY WATER, OKLA.

We are happy to report the Lord is still blessing the Pretty Water Church, the attendance for all services is good, especiaily so considering the fact our church is a rural church.

The League is very active, has good attendance, and is a great blessing to the church.

We are still thanking the Lord for our pastor, Bro. Wilson, who lives about 20 miles from the church, he is always there and on time for all services.

We are all understanding the Bible more by his preaching and teaching, he teaches a Bible class on Sunday evenings while the League is having class, this has proved to be a great help to the church.

On the 17th of Jan. the ladies of our church with the aid of the ladies of the Tulsa Church, met to reorganize the Womans' Auxiliary, after a short song service, followed with a prayer by Sis. Wilson, Sis. Ida Hamilton the Associational President of the Auxiliary gave a talk on the duties of all the officers and the purpose of the Auxiliary. Some of our members are unable to attend services as often as they would like, so far the present time a few of the ladies were elected to fill more than one office.

The officers were elected as follows: President—Mrs. Myrl Wilson.

1st Vice President—Mrs. Edna Varner 2nd Vice President—Mrs. Valeria Varner 3rd Vice President—Mrs. Golda Bock 4th Vice President—Mrs. Gladys Cutsinger 5th Vice President—Mrs. Gladys Cutsinger Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. Vida Underwood Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Valeria Varner.

The Auxiliary plans to meet at the church twice a month, we desire your prayers that we might continue to prosper and grow in the Lord's work.

Valeria Varner, reporter Rev. C. C. Wilson, pastor

### PICHER, OKLA.

On Sunday night, Jan. 20, 1946 the young people met with their pastor, Mrs. Myrtle Black and organized League. A wonderful spirit prevailed throughout the League session. The young folks were so eager and interested in getting started right. We feel sure that this group will go forward in a wonderful way, by the help and in the name of our Master, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The service opened by singing the League song, prayer by one of our leading young girls, Sis. Lois Landreth.

The following officers were elected: President, Wilma Jean Carey Vice President, Robert Black Group Captain, Charles Black Sec.-Treas., Lois Landreth Quiz Leader, Betty Agard Song Leader, Genevieve Roland Pianist, Edna Forbes

We have a wonderful group of young people, just bubbling over with zeal and enthusiasm, most of them being new converts. We have just had a wonderful revival at our little church with 15 conversions in the 10 days revival. Bro. J. S. Barrett of Aurora, Mo. conducted the revival.

We truly thank the Lord for His faithful ones we find everywhere we go. Sometimes it is such a few, but never the less the Lord has His faithful few everywhere. In the case of this little church the most credit is given to the faithful Deacon and his good wife, who has kept the church doors open for Sunday School, for the sake of the children, in spite of all the hardships the devil has caused the church to suffer. Now these faithful souls who have carried on through thick and thin have been rewarded in seeing the children they have watched grow up in S. S. become Christians and now have a League to work in.

We thank God for the faithful Deacons and wives, such as Bro. and Sis. R. G. Hattabaugh. Bro. Harry Staires of Drumright, Okla. came and met with us at this service in behalf of the Okla. State F. W. B. Children's Home at Ringling, Okla. He is the State Field Worker for the Orphanage. We understand that Bro. Paul Purcell and wife are the Superintendents of the Home. Our church has a fine picture of the Orphanage. We ask the prayers of everyone, everywhere, that our church may continue to grow.

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Mrs. Myrtle Black, pastor

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD METTING

The Executive Board of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptist met in call session at the home of Rev. Jas. F. Miller, at Desloge, Missouri, on Tuesday, January 15, 1946.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by the Chairman, Rev. B. F. Brown. Scripture reading, Luke 19:41-48. Prayer by Rev. J. F. Miller.

Three regular members of the Board were present, namely: Rev. Jas. F. Miller, Rev. B. F. Brown and Rev. C. B. Dees. Bro. Willard Lackey was seated as proxy for Rev. Melvin Bingham, and Rev. O. T. Allred and Rev. F. C. Zinn were seated in council.

The allocation of the State Unified Program Fund was taken up and thoroughly discussed, and an agreement reached.

Motion carried, That, beginning today, and with this Board meeting the allocation of the State Unified Program Fund be as follows: 70% to the General fund; 10% to Superannuation; 20% to the Missouri Student fund, until the close of the present school year, after which the 20% shall go into the General fund until otherwise ordered by the State Board.

Motion carried to authorize the Secretary-Treasurer of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptist to draw on said State Association Treasury to pay for printing the State minutes, Letter heads, National dues and maintenance of the Publishing House, including insurance.

#### EDITOR OF GEM TENDERS HIS RESIGNATION

Whereas, on this 15th day of January, 1946, Rev. C. B. Dees, Editor, Manager of the Free Will Baptist Gem, did, at Deslege, Missouri, offer his resignation as Editor-Manager of said Free Will Baptist Cem. And, whereas said Excentive Board did accept his resignation, to become effective on April 15, 1946.

Be it therefore Resolved, That the Executive Board of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptist meet with Rev. C. B. Dees, in the Gem office, at Monett, Missouri, on Monday, April 15, 1946, at 2:00 o'clock p.m. to take an inventory of stock on hand in the Gem Office and make settlement with Bro. Dees. Be it further Resolved, That, if there should be job printing, left in the Gem office at said date of April 15, 1946, secured by Bro. Dees prior to said date, and because of sickness or other providential hindrances, said job printing be not done, it shall be the privilege of Bro. Dees to use the machinery in the Gem office to complete said job printing.

Be it also Resolved, That the minutes of this Board meeting be published in the February issue of the Gem.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet at the Gem office in Monett, Mo., at 2:00 o'clock p.m. on Monday, April 15, 1946.

> Rev. B. F. Brown, Chairman Rev. C. B. Dees, Secretary

P. S. Since the office of Managing Editor of the Free Will Baptist Gem will become vacant on April 15, 1946, applications of those desiring the work at the Gem office should be made before April 15, 1946. Application should be made to Rev. B. F. Brown, Cassville, Missouri.

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### CHIPS

#### BY ELD. T. C. FERGUSON

When you hate sin it ceases to be a temptation.

The only thing in all God's creation that is vile is man.

If you preach about hell these days you usually raise hell.

Self conceit is practiced by people who are small enough to enjoy it.

War is organized insanity.

If God should take all the selfishness out of some peoples' prayers, he would need a magnifying glass to see what was left of their prayers.

We are unworthy of the least of God's notice, when we are engaging in sin.

How would you like it, if Jesus should come today.

Where is Heaven? It is where Jesus

is. Where is Hell? It is where the Devil is.

Where will you spend eternity? The answer is: Where you want to.

We ought to be too big to get offended at little things that we don't like.

Don't condemn people until you know what their motive is, for while their actions may be wrong, their motive may be right.

Prayer is talking to God.

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It is better to try to do good and fail, than not to try at all.

Don't fuss it sounds foolish.

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# SEMIANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 1945 to Dec. 31, 1945

Brought forward from last year \$4,458.92 Received by states during past six months as follows:

Missouri \$1,970.63
North Carolina 995.67
Ohio 893.29
filinois 569.69
Alabama 412.35
Texas 396.71
Michigan 261.11
South Carolina 257.00
Georgia 143.65
Tennessee 188.75
Oklahoma 118.00
Arkansas 117.00
Florida 61.79
Mississippi 43.00
West Virginia 10.00
Kentucky 2.55
N. W. Aux. Convention 993.14
N. U. Program Fund 1200.00
Offering taken at National Ass'n 173.52
Trinity Church and S. S. Nashville 47.10

Total ..... \$8,854.95

Grand total ..... \$13,313.87

Total expenditures	for th	he si	x mor	nth
period			. \$12	2,878.86
Balance in treasury	Dec.	31, 1	1945	\$435.01
	nford	Davi	s Tro	easurer

# SEMI ANNUAL REPORT

Of the National Home Mission Board, July 1st to Dec. 31st, 1945.

Receipts as follows:

7-9-45, Eld. C. J. Harvey, Camilla, Ga. \$74.38 8-3-45, Lucille May, Vernon, Ala. .. 27.06 9-5-45, Rev. R. B. Crawford ..... 400.00 10-20-45, Mrs. Luther Reed, Ashland City, Tenn. ..... 3.25 10-25-45, Rev. R. B. Crawford ..... 300.00 12-7-45, Rev. R. B. Crawford ..... 100.00 12-7-45, Mo. State Ass'n. ..... 15.90 Total ..... \$920.59 Disbursements: 8-13-45, Rev. R. B. Crawford .... \$100.00 8-20-45, Rev. R. C. Wiggs for Norfolk, Va. Church ..... 200.00 8-20-45, Rev. H. Ray Berry for Huntsville, Texas Church ...... 200.00 9-5-45, Rev. R. B. Crawford ..... 100.00 11-13-45, Rev. R. B. Crawford .... 100.00 Total Disbursements .... \$700.00

2-6-46, Balance on Hand ...... \$1505.44 Rev. C. B. Dees, Sec.-Trea3.

#### A LOYAL SUPPORTER

It is with great pleasure that we send you the following names, of various menibers of our churches of Oklahoma, as subscribers to the Free Will Baptist Gem: O. R. Willyard, Pryor, Okla. Rt. 2. A. E. Ramsey, Pryor, Okla. Star Rt. Howard Gage, Salina, Okla. M. E. Yelton, Pryor, Okla. Star Rt. Rev. Jake Gage, Salina. Okla. Box 74. E. M. True, Pryor, Okla. Rt. 2. Homer Nave, Pryor, Okla. Star Rt. J. W. Littlefield, Pryor, Okla. Box 1272. O. A. Sharp, Pryor, Okla. 224 S. Whitaker Jesse Pilant, Salina, Okla. Rev. A. L. Boswell, Locust Grove, Okla Mrs. Bessie Floyd, Pryor, Okla. E. E. Qualls, Pryor, Okla. Star Rt. Luther M. Jones, Pryor, Okla. I am enclosing my check herewith for

1 am enclosing my check herewith for \$14.00, please print the above names in the Feb. publication.

Rev. W. F. Willingham

Subscribe to "The Gem" \$1.00 per year

# FIELD WORKERS REPORT

#### Dear Co-Laborers:

Greetings in the name of our Master. Since we last wrote the old year has gone into history with all of its troubles. We are now facing the new year with all of its opportunities and privileges and what a joy it should be to each of us to know that the Master will be with us in all of our work for Him. Since our last report I have visited the S. C. state Association and it was indeed a privilege to meet such splendid Christians as our S. C. brethren and sisters are. They gave us a place on the program at 11 o'clock the first day of the Association. It was a real joy to tell of our women's work, then tell something of our National Association and what it is doing. Our S. C. people are indeed zealous for the work and the women in some phases don't have the Auxiliary, but are asking for it to be brought to them. After leaving S. C. I came back to the west part of N. C. and visited more churches. In Kannafolis, N. C. we have 4 full time churches and certainly did enjoy visiting all of them.

Our western preachers are very spiritual. I visited one of their Institutes and the old time power was there, it was nothing to see people shout the praises of God and such a sweet fellowship. Also visited in Gastonia, N. C., we have 2 full time churches in that town, but I only visited one, I plan to return and visit that church and 2 more in Belmont, N. C. These are mill towns and thousands are without Christ, we need to pray much for these dear pastors. Such a white mission field right at our door.

Now a word to our Auxiliary Workers lets stress the Co-Laborer Band and do more this year than we did last. I am asking our pastors to help us, if we could get 50,000 praying members, praying for a revival and each pay \$1.00, how easy it would be. Men, women, girls, and boys, all praying and paying, great things can be accomplished and many saved. When this article goes to press if it is the Lord's will I will be in Missouri. I plan to conduct a revival with our New Hourcort Church and visit a number more on the tour. So pray for me to have success.

We are rejoicing that our Auxiliary

books are ready, so lets get them and do our best for the Master in winning souls through the Auxiliary. God bless you dear workers every where.

Lizzie McAdams .

# A CUBAN PREACHERS MESSAGE

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(By Sr. Benito Rodriquez, Student in the Seminary "Los Cedros del Lebanos, Pinar Del Rio, Cuba)

Scripture: Acts 4.

Introduction:

This is a very beautiful chapter which reveals the high spiritual grade in which the primitive church lived, especially in strict obedience to God's command. Among all the many characteristics possessed by early Christians we can consider three principal ones which have been of great value and at the same time have been strong columns which have supported the building of a world wide missionary work.

I. The Christian's Value. (VV. 19-20).

(a) For announcing Christ.

(1) Among other religious tendencies. (VV. 1-2).

(2) Declaring the error without respect of person.

(b) Under Menaces (V. 18).

(1) Obeying God before men. (V. 19)(2) For testifying to the truth without fear.

(3) To serve with genuine liberty.

Our constitution offers us expression freely to all on all subjects. Sometimes we limit this precious privilege by our sins and prejudices. This privilege has been given to us by our Lord and consented to by our government.

II. Absolute Unity.

(a) In spirit and fellings (V. 32).

(b) For glorifying God unanimously. (V. 24)

(c) Recognizing His Power.

(d) With sincere love toward needy men. (V. 30)

(e) With Powerful faith in the Spirit. This power is something supernatural and appears in our lives only by the Holy Spirit, without which we can never reach it.

III. Co-operation (VV. 35-34)

(a) Liberal to the degree revealed w

them by the Spirit. (II Cor. 9:7)

(b) They gave all they possessed. (V. 34-37)

(1) Proving the sincerity of their prayers. (VV. 29-30)

(2) Showing their love for fellowmen. (Jas. 2:15-16)

(3) Laying up Treasures in Heaven

1. With sincere gifts.

2. With their efforts for the spread of the Gospel.

It is said that there was once a poor laundress and a rich woman who gave of their gifts. The laundress gave of her little sum a great part. The rich woman gave very little, having much. When both women died, the poor laundress found a beautiful residence in the heaven in the midst of the celestial city. The rich woman, however, found a poor one and out of the celestial city.

Conclusion:

These characteristics of the first Christians impelled Christianity down through the ages and offers to us a living example of self-denial and obedience. If we decline them, we are refusing our celestial crown and as we sow in this world, we reap in eternity.

#### HE KNOWS

He knows it all — the winding path, The sky o'ercast and gray,

The steepness of the mountainside, The roughness of the way;

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He knows it all — the haunting fear, The doubtings that distress,

The wond'rings and perplexities, And all the strain and stress.

He knows it all — each troubled thought, Each anxious wave of care.

And every burden, every grief, Or cross that thou dost bear;

He knows it all — thy weight of woe, Thine often tear-dimmed eye,

The stabbing pain, the slow dull ache, And sorrows broken cry.

He knows it all — be His to choose, And thine to take His choice!

He knows it all! He planned it so. Then trust Him and rejoice!

-E. Margaret Clarkson in Evangelical Beacon.

#### A CHRISTIANS HOPE

While traveling along, On God's highway of life; There's just a few lines That I'd like to write. 2 I know He's our leader, On land, sea and air; With him as our captain, Men, why should we fear? 3 No matter how great, The battle may be; Only God can protect us, Yes, both you and me. We think of our loved ones, At home far away; We can see them each night; As they kneel to pray. 5

Now as the night grows darker, I can hear a voice saying, And the battle grows near; Men be of good cheer.

Yes it is our leader,, The Master of all; And I'm sure he'll protect us, If we have answered his call.

Composed by Pvt. Robert Leonard McCoy while aboard ship before landing at Iwo Jima.

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The next State Association will be held at Myrtle Church, by unanimous vote of the Cave Spring Association.

Rev. Harry Beatty, Thayer, Mo.

### NOTICE

Still no paper, had word that the mill has discontinued the manufacture of the paper we have been using for the Gem. So we will be forced to accept another kind of paper, what I have yet to find out, and perhaps it will be 60 days before it will arrive, so please bear with us, if you doubt that the paper situation is serious just go to your local newspaper and inquire.

Editor

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Class Book No. 2(Juniors, Intermediates, Young People, Adults) 25c each	\$
General Secretary's Book No. 6 · · · · 75c each	\$
Large Wall Card (Six Point Credits), Form 8 · · · 35c each	\$
Information Card (Six Point System), Form 9 · · 20c per 50	<b>\$</b>
Individual Report Slips, Form 10 \$1.50 per (pad) 1,000	\$
Class Report Envelopes, Form 11 · · · · 75c per 100	\$
Request Slips, Form 12 · · · 20c per pad of 100	\$
Monthly Report Blanks, Form 13 · · · 50c per pad of 100	\$
General Secretary's Report Blanks, Form 14 · · 15c per pad of 25	\$
Convention Report Blanks, Form 15 75c per pad of 50	\$
Superintendent's Report Blanks, Form 16 · · 40c per pad of 25	\$
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