

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

Vol. 19 No. 3

Monett, Missouri, March, 1948

\$1.00 per year.



ROYAL PALMS ALONG THE CENTRAL HIGHWAY IN CUBA

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree . . ." Psalms 92:12.

Beautiful Royal Palms bedeck the island of Cuba everywhere. Providence has surely placed them wisely as they serve so many material purposes for the Cubans. This tree with its various uses is next to indispensable in Cuban life. Their stately appearance on first sight reminds one of the statement by David in the above quotation. They so well illustrate the noble, consistent, and fruitful Christian life. While this is some of the scenic beauty on this marvelous island, yet when we turn to the spiritual, the scene abruptly changes. Cuba sadly needs the beauty of Christ. However, the untiring efforts of our missionaries on the island are definitely contributing to what is today a noticeable change in the spiritual condition of the beloved Cubans.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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REV. WINFORD DAVIS

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HONOR ROLL

This present honor roll period,
which covers six months, will close
April 30th. Five subscriptions,
either new or renewal, puts your
name on the honor roll—one may
be your own. At the close of the
period, the one having sent in the
highest number of subs. will re-
ceive 1st. prize, second highest, 2nd

prize, and the third highest 3rd
prize. Prizes will be kept secret
until the end of the period. Why
not enter the honor roll by becom-
ing a solicitor for the Gem. Help
us reach our goal which is **THREE
THOUSAND SUBSCRIBERS (3,000)**. We are very grateful to all
who are sending in subs. Just
keep the good work going.

The honor roll stood as follows
on Feb. 27th:

| | |
|---|----|
| Frank Linton, Tunas, Mo. | 22 |
| Belva Zinn, Flat River, Mo. | 21 |
| Arthur Bailey Plad, Mo. | 20 |
| Mrs. Chas. Moyers, Flat River, Mo. | 13 |
| W. Jernigan, Shawnee, Okla. | 13 |
| Mark Lewis, Myrtle, Mo. | 12 |
| Mary Lance, Waltonville, Ill. | 12 |
| Lewis Ave. Ch. by Mrs. Glenn Seaton, Tulsa, Okla. | 11 |
| J. R. Davidson, Davis, N. C. | 10 |
| Belle Coffey, Mill Creek, Mo. | 10 |
| Lula Spann, Mulkeytown, Ill. | 9 |
| Mrs. W. R. Burton, Whiting- ton, Ill. | 8 |
| Billy King, Fredericktown, Mo. | 8 |
| O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo. | 8 |
| James Barker, Farmington, Mo. | 7 |
| Fredericktown Church | 7 |
| George Scott, Mtn. Grove, Mo. | 7 |
| Archie Cooper, Kirksville, Mo. | 6 |
| Dale Jones, Lebanon, Mo. | 6 |
| Eunice Edwards, Desloge, Mo. | 6 |
| Mrs. R. A. Robbins, Norton, Va. | 5 |

—oOo—

OUR FRONT COVER PICTURE

One Sabbath morning in January,
1942 on the way to service at San
Ignacia Church we stopped the car and
focused our small kodak on this line
of Royal Palms. This beautiful pic-
ture was the result. Marvelous things
have taken place since that morning
relative to Free Will Baptist activity
in Cuba. —THE EDITOR.

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Ministers' Ordination Blanks . 10c
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OUR CROWNS OF REWARDS

By Mrs. Sophia Ackerson

We read in the Holy Bible of the sufferings of our blessed Savior; we know He wore a crown of thorns pressed upon His brow. He did this that we might receive many crowns of blessings. Let us see what these are. There are many mentioned in the Scripture.

1. "A Crown of Rejoicing"

In I Thess. we read, "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?" Our first true rejoicing comes when we repent of our sins and become a new creature in Christ Jesus. No one knows but ourselves, the joy we have down in our hearts when this change comes into our lives. We, ourselves, can't explain it to anyone so they can understand. So when we stay in the center of God's will, and live according to His word, we rejoice time after time with the angels in heaven when we help lead some poor, lost soul to Christ. I think of Phillip when he led the eunuch to Jesus. They both went on their way rejoicing.

2. "A Crown of Righteousness"

Paul speaks of a crown of righteousness in II Timothy 4:7-8. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. 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 who love his appearing".

We may all have this crown if we are faithful to the cause of Christ. Paul was called to preach and teach the Gentiles. He was a faithful servant and suffered many things for Jesus' sake and received a crown of righteousness. So let us fight a good fight against sin and Satan and be faithful in defending the truth until the end comes to our time that we may receive this crown of righteousness.

3. "A Crown of Victory"

I Cor. 9:24-25. "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? 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".

This crown is for those who are faithful in self-denial. Most of us fail when it comes to denying ourselves for Christ's sake. We are always complaining about our sufferings, thinking nothing of what others have to go through. We should love our selves last. A Christian life is a complete sacrificial life. We have to give all for the cause of Christ and the salvation of the lost. We will have to be temperate in all things. The Spirit is willing; the flesh is weak at all times. We, as Christians, have to fight hard to win this Crown of Victory.

I often think of some ministers who claim the call of God. They stay home idle. It seems they are afraid to go out except when it is convenient because they don't want to go through any hardships. I think the Divine Call is "go ye" into all the world and preach and teach all nations. We find churches without any pastors and people are starving for the Gospel. They have no one to feed the flock. Romans 12-1 says, "I Beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service". Without doing this, we will never win the victory over sin and Satan. Let us do our best from now on so we might receive the crown of victory. Let us be faithful in self-denial and with the help of God we can win the race that is set before us and receive this crown of blessing, "Victory".

4. "A Crown of Life"

James 1:12, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for

when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him".

We have many trials and temptations but God has promised us a way of escape that we can endure them all. A crown of life is promised to all who endure to the end. God's promises are true. He always keeps His promises to us, but we fail to keep our vows to God; that is why we do not receive the blessings. We take a small bag of tea. We know that it is no good until we put it in a cup and pour boiling water on it; then the real strength is brought out and it stimulates and serves its purpose. Christians are also like this. Their real strength is manifested only when they are thrown into the test of trials and temptations and persecutions for Christ's sake. If we endure and are faithful, we shall receive a crown of life.

5. "A Crown of Glory"

I 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 ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away".

Surely this is a crown of reward given to those who are faithful in teaching the word of God to the people of God. All of us can have a part in this task. We can all be faithful in helping by doing our part and praying and giving and serving others. I believe that the greatest of all is to let our lives be living testimonies to all of those about us. Let us search our hearts and be better Christians in the future than we have in the past, and with the help of God, we can be faithful, doing all He calls us to do. Lord help us that all who bear the name of Christ may not be stumbling blocks to sinners. Lord, help us do our best for thee that we may be worthy to receive these many Crowns of Blessings.

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THE TRUE SANCTUARY

By Rev. O. Stalcup
Oklahoma City, Okla.

to God - within His Sanctuary. "Praise God in His Sanctuary". Only the truly born again believer, one justified by faith (Rom. 5:1) in Christ is a worshiper. No man possesses the right to worship God in himself. Neither is it by virtue of any "perfection of his own". The only ground of merit is, "The perfection of the Christ and the one sacrifice which He made on Golgotha's lonely brow". Friends, you may be in a church building while worshipping God, but we worship God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Ghost. (Eph. 2:18). The person who has attained unto true happiness is the one that sits together with Christ in the heavenly places and "praises God in His Heavenly Sanctuary".

Dear reader, bear with me as I append these few highly important words. In the same verse (Psa. 150:1) David says, "Praise him in the firmament of his power". The word "firmament means "expanse". So David is saying "Praise God in the expansion of his power". In order to get some light on this exhortation let's turn to the New Testament, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: For it is the power (The expansion of God's power.) of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek". (Rom. 1:16). The expanse of His power is the Gospel. It over-leaped the national boundary lines of Israel. It has no boundaries. Its depth cannot be plummed. It is vast and immeasurable. It is illimitable and uncomprehensible. It over-leaped racial barriers, tore down the middle wall of partition, and created a kingdom where there is neither Jew nor Gentile. There is no restricting the power of God - it is - "whosoever will may come". The expansion of God's wonderful power broke the jaws of death, raised Christ from the dead, and cause Him to ascend into God's presence. Dear reader, God is to be praised for the expansion of His power because He is ready now to extend to you the expansion of His power, "Un-

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The sweet psalmist of Israel, Paul contrasts the Aaronic priesthood and the priesthood of Christ. In the 8th chapter He sums up what he had previously written by saying, "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; a minister of the sanctuary, and the tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man". (Heb. 8:1,2).

In the 9th chapter, he declares that under the old covenant (Mosaic economy) there were ordinances of divine service and an earthly sanctuary (9:1,2), but he goes on to say, "Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us". (9:11,12).

Then he says that if our Lord were on earth, He could not be a priest, for he was not of the tribe of Levi. "But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises". (8:4,6). Do you understand, dear friends, the teaching of the Holy Spirit here? The Holy Spirit says that Christ is now entered into the Holy Place, the true Heavenly Sanctuary where He, as the Great High Priest intercedes for His people and presents to God the worship of His people. That is the reason Paul says, "When we were dead in trespasses and sins, God hath quickened us together with Christ and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus". (Eph. 2:1-5,6). Therefore, the place in which the believer now sits is the only true Heavenly Sanctuary. Incidentally, my friends, it is only there that praise is acceptable un-

People commonly speak of a church building as being a sanctuary, but such belief is without warrant. There is no New Testament scripture to sustain such belief. God's Sanctuary was in Jerusalem. When Israel rejected the "Anointed One" of God, Jesus Christ, the sanctuary became their house, not the Father's. His Sanctuary is no longer on earth. There is only one true sanctuary in which God accepts the praise of His people, and it is located in heaven. We propose to prove that by scripture.

In the letter to the Hebrews,

YOUR PRIESTHOOD AS CHRISTIANS

By Rev. Robert B. Crawford

"By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifices of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased". (Hebrews 13:15-16).

March is the National Revival Month for Free Will Baptists. We want you to see and know of a vital part every person can have during this month and at all times as priests of the Lord.

In the New Testament there is no particular class who get nearer to God than His brothers in the Lord. All Christians are priests in this grace and Gospel dispensation. In Revelation 1:6, John says that "He hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Fathers". The us used means all Christians. Peter uses the expression - we are "holy priests" and "royal priests". Paul here tells us to offer up "spiritual sacrifices".

In the Old Testament times the people of God were divided into three classes: There were some priests, others ministers or Levites, and the rest were warriors. The priest goes in to God on behalf of the people; the Levite goes out to the people on behalf of God. The warrior was called upon to contend for the right of the people of God. In the New Testament every Christian is a warrior - contending earnestly for the faith which was delivered unto the saints", (Jude 3.) We are all ministers. We have some gift - "as every man hath received the gift even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God", (I Peter 4:10). Then we are all priests. We are all worshippers. We can come in all the value of the precious atoning blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Worship is the finest and highest exercise of the soul. Jesus told that "God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit, and in truth", (John 4:24). "For the Father seeketh such to worship him. (verse 23). The Father is a seeker of true worshippers. We speak of public worship. Most congregations are of the world and where worship is yet they are objects of praise with

done, it is rendered by the individual redeemed soul. Oh, so few of us rise to the heights of our privilege and responsibility as worshipful priests before God. Thank the Lord we are born into the priestly family through the Lord Jesus Christ the Head of the Church.

As priest, we must come to the door. "I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved". (John 10:9). The priest must know the Lord. "No man cometh unto the Father but by me". We can be dressed correctly as "wearing the righteousness of God". Not our righteousness, "but that which is through faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith". (Phil. 3:9).

The priest was to be stripped of his garments and bathed all over, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you". (John 15:3). The Word tells of Calvary, the resurrection, the forgiveness of sins, I am not only made clean but clothed; now it is that God puts upon me this robe, a divine righteousness, and I say with Isaiah, "He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness". (Isaiah 61:10). Is there need for your being stripped of selfishness, greed or any other known sin. You might need to have some cleaning up of your past deeds, if so, the Lord is anxious. He wants you to have the robe of a priest, when you can offer sacrifices. "But come along and bring your gifts and sacrifice them to the Lord". "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifices of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name".

During these days of revival, we want people to worship God with their lips for what we already have as a denomination. There are objects for our prayer; yet they are objects of praise with

our hearts and lips. We are also to praise Him with our substance, our means. We can come to God, praising Him for grace that led Jesus to stoop so low as to save us. We bring Christ, His Church, His Cause to God as the praise of our hearts.

Christ is the "first fruits". One day we will be like Him for we shall see Him as He is. Notice, if we are going home with Him when He comes for us. We need to be bringing forth fruits, and being fruits ourselves for His sake.

Peter says that we are holy priests and royal priests. "Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God by Jesus Christ". (1 Peter 2:5). We are to build up a spiritual house, a spiritual denomination, and a spiritual people. We must be one of those stones to allow the Lord to build, for "except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it". Also in I Peter 2:9 we read, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people: that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light".

Are we a royal people, a holy denomination? We have our own peculiar characteristics, and thank God, we will pull, pray, and pay together as ones who walk in His marvelous light. We can come as a worshiper of the Lord, with our hearts filled and thrilled with Christ, and take Christ out to men and show others what God hath given us.

"But to do good and to communicate, forget not; for with such sacrifice God is well pleased". We will share (Communion) with others our praises, help them bear their burdens, and be true to God and our fellowman. If so, God will be well pleased with our sacrifices. Yes, as a Christian, you have a priesthood. God help us to make the very best of it. The least things you can do and one of the greatest is to pray for the success of this revival effort.

WHY PRAY?

by Rev. Archie Cooper

"Pray without ceasing". I Thess. 5: 17.

"And He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint". Luke 21:36.

These are but two of the many commands from God's word enjoining us to pray. Sad but true the greatest neglect of God's people is the privilege of prayer. Our aim in this message is to encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity of prayer and thus know the blessings of God in such fellowship.

When I speak about prayer, I am not talking about saying prayers or repeating (as is so often said) the Lord's Prayer or even praying in public, but honest to goodness praying, that which gets something from God and does something to you. We say we do not have time to read the Bible. Of course, that is just an excuse but we can offer no legitimate reason for not praying. We can pray while we work. We can pray while riding down the road. We can pray when we cannot do anything else. But do we? I am afraid not. If you want to know when to pray, how to pray, and what to pray for, begin now to read his word and seek his will and ask God to give you a burden of prayer. Prayer is not only bringing God down to man, but bringing man up to God. It is talking to God. It is the avenue by which we may come to God. Prayer opens the door into His presence.

Why pray? Because of the opposition Christians have. It is a continual warfare against the flesh, the world, and the devil. Jesus was confronted with the same enemies and He gained the victory after forty days of fasting and prayer. Brother, if you ever expect to be an overcoming, victorious servant of the Lord Jesus, you must pray. The Bible tells over and over again the results of prayer.

Why pray? Because of our weakness. In ourselves we are

weak, but when we take nourishment from God in prayer, we are made strong, and when we pray, we get close to God. Thus Christ stands between us and our enemies.

Why pray? Because God says so. In Jer. 33:3 we have a definite command together with what seems to be a plea for God's people to pray and my what a promise is attached thereto. Read it! II Cron. 7:14 is another command to pray with a definite answer. Since becoming a Christian it has been the earnest desire of my heart to be obedient to the one who loved me enough to come down and save my soul, so I feel the need of prayer. The devil has crippled, spiritually, many a Christian because they failed to pray. Anyone who has ever gotten anything from God that was worth while received it after earnest, agonizing prayer. Christian friend, if you are living a defeated life, if you have doubts and fears, if you are not sure of your salvation, and you are not winning souls, go to God in prayer. He will perform a miracle in your life. Honor God enough by beginning a consistent prayer habit. Have a definite time for prayer. Have a definite place for prayer. Someone has said, "Short prayers in public, long prayers in private".

Why pray? To seek forgiveness. I am so full of mistakes and failures and thus displease my heavenly Father that I feel my need to pray for forgiveness. I would not dare to sleep at night without seeking God for forgiveness for my transgressions of the day. I would not eat a meal any time or place without prayer. Many of you who read this message eat three meals daily and never bow your head in humble thanksgiving for your daily bread. Still many of you get into bed every night and never take time or thought to pray. Shame on you.

Why pray? To overcome temptations and resist the devil. When I put a wall of prayer between me and temptation, I am in much less

danger of defeat. Let each of us establish a morning watch with God in prayer. Prayer is the tried weapon to put to nought the purposes of Satan.

Why pray? Because it is the only way of getting things done for God. Anything done for God must be done in the center of prayer if it is to be victorious.

Why pray? Because it works. God dares you and I to try it. Many are the testimonies of prayer. Through the years revivals have come by the way of prevailing, believing prayer. They will come again when Christians believe and engage in such prayer. Prayer has worked miracles in transforming lives. Drunkards have been made sober, harlots have been made clean, sinners have been made to quit their sinning when God was prevailed upon in prayer. Many are the men and women who have been flaming evangelists for God who were so used because of earnest believing prayer. I do not wish to be sensational, but I contend that he who loves God with all his heart and will submit himself to Him may pray and get things from God.

Pray for a revival to sweep our land and rescue souls from hell. Pray for those who are turning from the true faith, that they may see the end thereof and turn back to God. Pray for the return of the Lord. And what I say unto you, I say unto all. Pray without ceasing.

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PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

by William Evans

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EDITORIAL

VERY IMPORTANT COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL FIRST

The Treatise Revision Committee, which was elected by the National Association during its annual session in Detroit last summer, is planning to meet in Cofers Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn. April 1, 1948. The purpose of this committee meeting is a general examination of the Free Will Baptist Treatise relative to revising the same at places where deemed necessary and wise. It is generally thought throughout our leadership that some revising of the treatise is needful. This no doubt is true in some places. As we grow and make progress in our denominational work, it is quite natural that we would be compelled to make some changes and amendments in our treatise occasionally. The fact that changes and amendments become necessary is clear evidence of denominational activity. We are happy to note marked progress in every department of our beloved denomination.

We understand that a revision, or rather an amendment of the Treatise concerning the millennial doctrine of the Bible is to be considered in this meeting. We note quite a bit of interest being manifested over the field concerning this particular point as pertaining to this committee meeting.

This aroused interest is due largely to the diversity of opinion over our denomination relative to the millennium. It is true that minds of our people, especially our ministry, are somewhat divided along this line of thought. The majority, however, are pre-millennial, though we have those who are of the post-millennial belief, and those whose belief might well be referred to as non-millennial. In fact, I think that most of our brethren who are usually referred to as post-millennial might more properly be called non-millennial. I really think we have very few who are truly post-millennial in their belief when their belief is viewed in the light of the actual statements of post-millennialism. The question naturally arises in the minds of many as follows: What are these three beliefs as concerning the millennium? To answer this question thoroughly it would take pages on pages and much time. We will only attempt to state a few brief points. The term, "millennium", means one thousand years. The term, "post", as used in this connection, means after. That is, Christ will return to this earth AFTER the millennium. Man, by

his own ingenuity, ability, and culture will bring himself out of this terrible state of affairs, will by the signing of peace treaties, out-law war thus ushering in the millennium or period of prevailing righteousness (sometimes called the "Golden Age"). After this man-made utopia, Christ will come in His second advent. This belief, I think, is held by comparatively few of our people. This is the gist of Post-Millennialism.

The non-millennialist recognizes no millennium whatsoever; either before or after the return of Christ. He believes Christ will never set His foot on this earth again, that the coming of Christ in the air will be the end of all things as they now are, at the same time will be the judgement, the end of time, and the turning away into the two places of eternal destiny. This, I think, is the general view of most of the element of our people who are not pre-millennial. They are commonly spoken of as being post-millennial; but, I think, as a rule the reference would be more correctly spoken by the term, "Non-Millennial".

The pre-millennialist believes Christ will come before the millennium, "pre", of course, meaning before. It believes it will take the return of Christ in person and power to straighten things out. He believes the nations will continue to war among themselves until the return of Him who is the Prince of Peace. He believes that Christ at His return will climax armageddon, will slay the antichrist and his following, will bind Satan, will judge the living nations, will take over the throne of David in Jerusalem, and will reign upon the earth a thousand years. During this time, restored and converted Israel will be at the head of the nations while at the same time the Gentile nations will be universally blessed. The Church, having been raptured out previous to the tribulation period (some believe during the tribulation) will return with Christ and will reign with Him during the millennium. This is the outline in general of the "Pre-Millennial" belief.

As the Treatise now reads, it is silent concerning the millennium. It is non-committal on all three viewpoints. So far the millennium has been a matter of opinion and not a point of doctrine among Free Will Baptists. I can quite naturally speak with

more certainty concerning our people in Missouri than in any other section due to the fact I have always resided here. I am persuaded the people of this section are content to leave the Treatise as is, so far as the millennium is concerned. I am sure that is true of all we who are pre-millennial in our view of the Bible. I feel this attitude prevails in the minds of many sections besides Missouri. There is an old saying which is true, "A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still". Neither the "Pre", "Post", or "Non" will be changed by what ever is done about the matter in Nashville in April. All will continue to preach, I suppose, as we have been. Neither are these statements made with the least spirit of resentment toward or apprehension of this committee of fine Christian men who are to meet and weigh these important matters. They have our prayers, our full cooperation, and our mutual understanding. We have all confidence in them and they were surely well chosen. We feel sure they will deal with these matters with open hearts and unbiased minds. We are sure their faith will take hold of great wisdom from above as they go into session in Nashville, Tennessee at 10:00 o'clock a.m. the morning of April 1st.

It has been the responsibility as well as the privilege of your unworthy to serve on the Treatise Revision Committee two different times during the last number of years. I am, therefore, in a position to be in full sympathy with the sense of responsibility these brethren will feel as they enter into this very important work. One feels on such occasions as if he were weighing gold; yea, and even more than that.

While in this section, most generally we are avowed pre-millennials, and the Free Will Baptist Gem is on a pre-millennial basis, yet our greatest interest is the continued advancement of our denomination in its entirety. We have made marvelous progress in every phase of our work in the last twenty years. It has been done as a result of a united effort. Even with all the opportunities of the past which have been afforded us, I have never yet seen a time when Free Will Baptists were in a position to go forward as they are now. In fact, we are just now ready to really do things for the Lord. Our greatest desire is to see our denomination with a solid front move into this open door. May this committee meeting in April result in shaping things so as to enable us to more effectively and speedily move in and

possess the land which lays before us. Many minds with keen interest will be turned toward this meeting April 1st. Our prayers should all be with the brethren as they meet to assume this responsibility for which they were chosen.

—oOo—

THE GREATEST NEED AMONG FREE WILL BAPTISTS

If it were possible to obtain a statement from every Free Will Baptist in an expression of their mind as to our greatest denominational need, it would likely be very interesting to note the many and different answers which would be given to the question. Answers something like the following would probably be heard: More money; more power; more membership; more fellowship; more love; more Christian education, more church loyalty; a broader vision; more mutual understanding; better cooperation; etc., etc. True, everyone of these is a noticeable need in our denomination; but in my mind none of these stand out as the greatest or first need among Free Will Baptists. "Then, what is the greatest need?" you ask. Brethren, our answer is given in one word; namely, "consecration". Concentrate upon all the above named necessities in the light of this one outstanding necessity, and you will, I am sure, agree with me that the solution to each need named above is found in the exclusive, yet all inclusive experience of entire consecration of life.

Considering our denomination as a whole we are not a sufficiently consecrated people. In general we live too loose. Too many of our people are too much taken up with secondary matters of life and living. If our people in general were fully and wholly consecrated to the directive and perfect will of the Lord, the financial side of this great church work would automatically and naturally adjust itself. If our people at large were sufficiently consecrated, we would have more power. Indeed, we would. The same is true as pertains to our need of love, fellowship, broadness of vision, church loyalty, mutual understanding, more perfect cooperation, yes, and as to additional membership and what ever else you might want to mention. I say again that everyone of these crying needs would be immediately satisfied if there would take place throughout the rank and file of our denomination a great and sudden presentation to the Lord of lives in perfect and entire consecration. Truly we would experience a marvelous awakening if such would take place.

It means something to consecrate one's life to the Lord in the all-true sense of the term. It is no easy matter and it is no child's play. When Elisha asked for a double portion of the spirit of Elijah, the answer the old prophet gave him was, you have asked a

hard thing; yet upon certain conditions it shall be so. Ah, yes, how true it is. Today, if we would have that fullness of power, that abundant life, that complete crucifixion of self, that inward impelling and victorious experience with Him, then there are conditions to be met and it is no easy matter. It means giving up ALL.

Many fleshly desires and habits take their flight from us as a result of the act of entire consecration. The fullness of Christ moves in so abundantly that the "old man" is greatly subdued. I would not say that the inbred sin is taken out; but such is then held in subjection and ceases making that constant appearance in our everyday life and activity. Then we can say with Paul, "I am crucified with Christ". We become buried with Him in the baptism of death to sin. (Read Romans 6:1-13 and Galatians 2:20).

Just because one professes Christ is no proof that he is a consecrated soul. Just because one renders definite public service in the church is no proof of consecration. One may even preach the Gospel and not be consecrated entirely. I fear too many times such is the case even in our own rank and file. To state the truth further this grim and ugly fact of the lack of consecration among ministers is our greatest hurt. However, this greatest of all our needs is evident from the lowest to the highest. Wherein we have enmity, jealousy, rebellious spirits, stubbornness, financial stinginess, desires for self-glory and selfish promotion, the perpendicular I too much in prominence, or any other of those serpent-like characteristics, they are all clear-cut and undeniable evidences of a definite lack in consecration of life to the Lord.

Yes, the first need among Free Will Baptists is more consecration of lives to the Lord. If we had sufficient of this, we would be surprised in our selves at the increase in financial giving, power, and influence among men.

—oOo—

CORRECTION

We have been asked to correct the statement on page nine, col. 1 of the Feb. issue of the Gem which reads, "Free Will Baptist Church of Soper, Okla.". We have been informed that it should have read Free Will Baptist Church of Sulphur, Okla. We understand Bro. McKee's address was Soper; but the church which contributed the article of respect was of Sulphur, Okla. We are happy to make this correction.

TREATISE SUPPLY EXHAUSTED

Until more are printed, F. W. B. Treatises are unavailable. The Gem will tell when they are again available.

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER FOR THIS?

We want a Promoter for the Free Will Baptist Gem in every church. Someone to take subscriptions, keep the interest of the paper before the people, secure job work for us, etc. We will furnish you with literature, price statements, coin envelopes, sample copies of the Gem, and whatever you need in this line. We are deeply in earnest as we make this appeal to you. Will you take the appointment? Let us hear from you.

Sincerely,

—The Editor

—oOo—

AN EXPLANATION

You will, perhaps, wonder why we are using so much eight point type in this issue. The type, we realize, being smaller, is not so easy to read; but we are compelled to do it because of the over amount of manuscript. Last month we resorted to 24 pages in order to catch up, but we cannot maintain that number of pages as yet. The expense of it is too great. So this time we are using quite a bit of smaller type so as to take care of more manuscript. Some of the reports, etc. are unusually lengthy. We do not want you to cease sending them in because we realize we must have manuscript; but you could help us a lot by making your reports as brief as possible. Where it is possible to shorten them by the elimination of words or even entire phrases, we will greatly appreciate it. We want to be of service, but we can only go so far because the Gem is only a monthly publication. We will appreciate your cooperation and your bearing with us.

—THE EDITOR

—oOo—

A WORD OF THANKS TO REV. RALPH STATEN

We are grateful to Rev. Ralph Staten of Walnut Ridge, Ark., who has for some time been publishing the "Free Will Baptist Land Mark", for his resorting to the Gem to supply his subscribers since he feels he cannot continue putting out the Land Mark because of so many other duties. You perhaps noticed his statement concerning this in the Feb. issue of the Gem. We are humbly grateful for this consideration of the Gem on his part.

—The Editor

FREE WILL BAPTIST NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION GOES TO GLENNVILLE, GEORGIA AUGUST 10-12, 1948

By Miss Gertrude Bowe, Secretary-Treasurer

On December 3, 1947, the Executive Board of Free Will Baptist National Sunday School Convention and the Free Will Baptist National Sunday School Board met in joint session at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. After delaying the meeting for thirty minutes in order for the members of the two boards to attend chapel at the Bible College, the meeting was called to order by the president of the Free Will Baptist National Sunday School Convention, Rev. Paul J. Kettelman.

A program committee was appointed to plan the program for the National Sunday School Convention which will meet in Glennville, Georgia, beginning with the evening service August 10, and continuing through the afternoon session August 12, 1948. Every local Sunday School is urged to begin planning now to send representatives to this session of the Convention. You are going to make this Convention!

The Boards voted that each local Sunday School shall represent with the superintendent, the secretary, and two delegates appointed from the laity, and with the pastor. State Conventions are to represent with five delegates and district Conventions three delegates. As to finances, each local Sunday School will send \$3; each District Convention, \$5; and each State Convention, \$10. Each delegate will pay a \$2 registration fee on arrival at the Convention to help defray the expense of entertainment.

Important plans are underway for presentation at this Convention. Every Sunday School should have a part in the business; and certainly you will go from it encouraged and inspired by the program being planned. We want to see you there!

A revision committee was appointed to revise the Constitution and By-Laws and the Standard of Efficiency for the Convention. Plans are now underway for an adequate manual in Sunday School Administration for Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools to be written. Serious discussion was entered into regarding plans for adequate Sunday School literature to be prepared, and other matters of importance. A very important matter was the approving of the Preliminary Course of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association for the Sunday School teachers in the local church.

The following is quoted from a pamphlet of the Association explaining the Preliminary Course for Sunday School teachers and officers.

Even before the outbreak of the last war, the United States was declared to be the most lawless nation on earth with a record for murder and juvenile delinquency which even Germany and Japan could not approximate. In a single decade more Americans were killed by assassins than were slain in a century and a half of battles, while the cost of this mania of crime expressed in dollar bills would have been sufficient for one hundred currency rings around the earth.

Before the war, finger prints of 3,890,000 criminals were registered. Today there are in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington no less than 6,000,000 finger prints with records of respective arrests. This army, larger even than that which took part in the actual fighting against Germany and Japan, is being reinforced daily by an alarming number of juvenile delinquents. The menace of these potential gangsters of tomorrow will not be felt until they join the ranks of organized crime. There were 32 percent more murders and 38 percent more robberies in 1945 than in 1944. This upward swing of lawlessness is a mere ripple of the tidal wave of crime that threatens to roll upon us. "This country is in deadly peril", says J. Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "A creeping rot of moral disintegration is eating into our nation. The arrests of teen age boys and girls are staggering and some of the crimes that youngsters commit are almost unspeakable".

The blame for the present lamentable condition cannot be laid upon the public school system. America has attained to great intellectual heights. This nation has the finest public school system in the world and it is nobly doing its part in contributing to the support of a democracy. But it is not the business of the State to provide character. This all-important element for the success of a republic must be supplied by the home and the Church. The tragedy of America is that those who believe that the Bible lies at the very foundation of national stability have so woefully neglected to teach it in the home and in the Church.

The framers of the Constitution of

the United States wished to guarantee to the American people religious liberty as well as political freedom. At the price of their religious liberty they committed themselves to a dual system of schools.

1. A system of public schools under State control would guarantee the intelligence of the people.
2. A system of religious schools under Church control which would guarantee the character of the people.

The State has fully assumed its responsibility and done its work well. Elementary education has practically become universal in this country and since 1900 the increase in the enrollment in high schools has been twelve times the increase in population. On the other hand, the Protestant Church has never taken its educational task seriously. It has failed to reach two-thirds of its constituency and has not been very successful in teaching the remaining third. Its Sunday Schools have been in charge of untrained workers who have labored with meager equipment in buildings unsuited for educational purposes.

Herein lies the colossal failure of American education. Christian instruction and restraint have almost entirely disappeared, not only from the schools, but also from the homes. The parents of today are the children of a former generation who were neglected by the Church.

What can be done about it?

The strategy of tomorrow is to win the children of today.

1. Every Church Should Be Fortified With a Training School.

If religion rather than rowdiness is to be the rule of the land, the American people must be taught the Bible, and there is no place where it can be more expediently done than in the *Sunday School*. It creates no problem with the public schools. The State reserves five days in the week for secular instruction, but vacates Sunday for the education. The Sunday School permits all-important supplementary religious instruction from every possible viewpoint which would never be possible in a public school. "Crime in America would be practically negligible if the young people attended Sunday School in their formative years", says J. Edgar Hoover.

The hope of the nation, then, lies in making the Sunday School an indispensable part of its educational system. But before Sunday Schools can be improved and enlarged, a vast army of teachers will have to be recruited. The urgent call is not for a battalion of policemen to cope with the desperate crime situation, but the multiplication of teachers for 38,000,000 Godless, prayerless, Bibleless boys and girls in America. Half a million more teachers will be required this year

and every subsequent year until this stupendous task can be overtaken.

2. Every Christian Home Should Be Garrisoned With Teaching Parents.

Ninety per cent of a child's life is spent in the atmosphere of the home. During these early impressionable years, the parent is the child's first and most important teacher. But does he teach? Can he teach? Is his failure not due more to ignorance than unwillingness? Certainly young people must be prepared to teach the things of God before they assume the responsibility of parenthood. Every young man and woman, therefore, should be enrolled in the training school of the church.

How is this to be done?

To meet this appalling situation and to provide for this national need, the Evangelical Teacher Training Association has been at work for more than fifteen years. Thousands of young people have been prepared in its cooperating normal schools to be teachers of teachers in the Sunday School and home, and now millions of children throughout the world are being reached through this endless chain of instruction. But even this splendid effort is only a beginning of that which must be recognized as the greatest task that has ever challenged the Christian Church. As America goes, so goes the world, and national stability and security will largely depend upon the ability of the Church to revitalize the Sunday School and make every home a training institution. The Association, therefore, has not only a course for preparation of parents and Sunday School teachers, but has multiplied the number of those who will be competent to conduct training. For the highest award, institutional training is required.

In the early history of America the ability of the average Sunday School teacher was not far below that of the average public teacher. The great difference came when normal schools in the face of much opposition vindicated themselves in the eyes of the American people. When after the Civil War, normal schools were fully adopted by the State, the improvement of the public school was rapid.

It is one of the tragedies of American history that for three-quarters of a century the Church has failed to respond to the noble efforts of Bishop Vincent and other far-sighted leaders who vainly struggled to have the training of the Sunday School teacher kept on an equal plane with that of the public school teacher.

The founding of the Bible Institute and the launching of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association were the beginning of a movement now destined to revolutionize the training of Sunday School Teachers. The one hun-

dred and thirty-seven Bible institutes and other Christian training schools which now constitute the Evangelical Teacher Training Association represent a cooperative movement in Christian education that not only provides institutional training, but a course of instruction that in its content and completeness approximates that which the State is requiring for its public school teachers.

While more than one hundred Bible institutes and Christian educational institutions are now engaged in training Sunday School teachers as thoroughly as public school teachers, the total number that are graduated each year is but a drop in the bucket for supplying 175,000 Sunday Schools in their program for reaching and teaching 38,000,000 children and adolescents. Graduates of the Standard Training Course, pastors, and public school teachers who may be qualified to teach certain subjects are therefore urged to organize and conduct church and community classes for the benefit of a multitude of students who are unable to enroll in one of the cooperating schools of the Association. For this purpose a *Preliminary Training Course* consisting of six units of twelve hours each has been prepared, the subjects of which are distributed as follows:

1. Old Testament Law and History
2. Old Testament Poetry and Prophecy
3. New Testament
4. Child Study
5. Pedagogy
6. Sunday School Administration.

A special manual for each of the six units has been prepared for the use of the students. The manuals in Child Study and Sunday School Administration are abridged from *An Introduction to Child Study* and *The Sunday School in Action*, approved textbooks of the Standard Training Course. These manuals are not sold, but are issued to accredited classes conducted by teachers approved by the Association. The standards of the Association require that the students attend at least nine of the twelve sessions of each unit of study, spend at least one hour in preparation of each lesson, and make a satisfactory grade in the final examination.

A certificate of credit is awarded at the completion of each unit of study. These can either be exchanged for the Teacher's Certificate when the six units are completed, or applied as completed work toward the Standard Training Course in many of the schools of the Ass'n. An excellent start can thus be made in church and community classes toward the highest award of the Association.

Twenty-five graduates of Free Will Baptist Bible College hold the Standard Diploma of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association, evidencing their qualification to present this to your Sunday School teachers and officers, and especially to prospective teachers and officers. Others at Free Will Baptist Bible College will be receiving this diploma at the close of this school year, and so the number increases. The following are those who now hold the diploma, and the names of those who will receive it this year may be secured from the office of Free Will Baptist Bible College: Thora Arbogast, Allen Bryan, Hazel Cook, James E. Davidson, Rev. and Mrs. Harold Dunlop, Hazel Dawkins, Rev. and Mrs. Luther Gibson, Rev. and Mrs. Huey Gower, Everett Hellard, Gertrude Bowe, T. G. Hamilton, Wade Jernigan, O. D. Matthews, Mrs. La Verne Miley, John McLeon, John Rich, Rev. and Mrs. Adam Scott, Rev. and Mrs. Luther Sanders, Homer Willis, and Mrs. Reford Wilson.

Many of you who will be reading this have supported the Free Will Baptist Bible College from its beginning. Doubtless, you have wanted to see in action the product into which God has directed you to place His money. Here is your opportunity! It is suggested that a Sunday School plan for a two-week Sunday School institute wherein two of the subjects of this preliminary Course can be taught; or, in a community where several churches are in reach of each other, they may work together. This way, in three years every officer and teacher in your Sunday School will hold a Teacher's Certificate; and with the training of prospective teachers and officers, you will have adequate substitute teachers and a trained staff of workers for your vacation Bible School each summer. To get in touch with any of those named above, you may write the secretary of the Free Will Baptist National Sunday School Convention for addresses: Miss Gertrude Bowe, Columbia Bible College, Columbia, South Carolina.

Pastor, are you one who has been wondering and exclaiming at the apparent indifference of present-day America in regard to spiritual values? Are you one of those who talks of the "old-time religion" being something of the past, only to come to the conclusion that people of today are waxing worse and worse and apparently you can do nothing about it? Then this particular part of this article is for you.

No church rises above its leadership. I seriously doubt that we shall experience revival in this nation of ours until our children are firmly grounded in the truths of God's Word.

Real revival results when the truths of God's Word are instilled into the individual. Only when this basic work is done can the Holy Spirit do His office work of convicting of sin and leading one to accept Christ. God's plan has always been know, yield, and obey. Many people today do not believe in sin. They say it is only a mental conception. This is the result of a former generation neglecting God's program of training children (Deut. 4:9,10).

It was the experienced Paul writing to the young pastor Timothy, who said, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also". (II Timothy 2:2). Pastor, do you see your place in this work of training Sunday School teachers?

The efficient and effective teacher is the trained teacher. He is sold on the importance of the teaching ministry. He understands and accepts the ultimate aim of Christian teaching as distinguished from mere religious teaching. He knows something of what a real Christian teacher should be, and something of the means of preparation for that teacher. He knows the methods of the Master Teacher - all this leads the child to see he is a sinner and needs to accept Christ as his Savior; to lead him to make a decision for Christ; to grow in grace; and to consecrate his life for service. When there are trained Sunday School teachers to accomplish this, then will we experience a nation-wide, yea, a world-wide revival; for people will know they are lost and will seek Him who gives salvation - even our Lord Jesus Christ.

But, how is any untaught person to come upon the advantages of a knowledge of teaching methods without special study? Pastor, whose task do you suppose it is to see that the teacher secures this training? The pastor's call carries with it an obligation to teach those in his congregation who are in turn to teach others - "and the things that thou hast heard . . . , the same commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also". It is a part of your task as pastor to see that these advantages and devices are put within the reach of your teaching force.

The pastor who fails to do this service for Christ and his Sunday School teachers has no justifiable reason for charging his church with spiritual indifference, lethargy, and worldiness. Often these charges are heralded at conscientious seekers of spiritual light and counsel in revival meetings, and parents add their indictments against the young people for the delinquency of youth and their desertion of the church. But if sin abounds because truth has been withheld by those who have been called of God and ordained to the ministry of His Word, I

must stand in defense of the youth to say that their waywardness and ignorance of Christ and His Gospel is not solely their fault.

—oOo—

OBITUARY

Lenora A. Crabtree was born near Liberal, Mo. on March 4, 1875 and passed away at the home of her son Lorren near Verdella, Mo. on January 5, 1948 at the age of 72 years, 10 months and 1 day.

She was the daughter of the late John Fast and wife of the Verdella neighborhood.

She was a member of Verdella Free Will Baptist Church since childhood, was born 1 1/4 mile west of this church and spent her entire life in the immediate community.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her son, Lorren, with whom she has lived since the passing of her husband, the late Oscar Crabtree, in 1936; and a daughter, Mrs. Beulah Miller of near Verdella; also two grand-children, Sammy and Sally Crabtree; a brother, O. T. Fast, and sister, Amy Thomas, both of Liberal, Mo. besides a host of friends.

The very large crowd that gathered at the church of her childhood on Wednesday, January 7th, 1948 to pay their last tribute of respect to this great and good woman expressed beyond words the love and esteem in which she was held by the community where she had lived her entire life.

Services were conducted by Sis. Roena Thomas of Hannon, Mo., an old friend of the family. Interment was in the Barton City Cemetery under the direction of Berkey Funeral Service of Liberal, Mo. Pall Bearers were Paul Fast, Wm. Fast, Marion Fast, Monta Fast, Harry Fast, and Homer Thomas, all nephews of the deceased.

Sent in by Roena Thomas
Hannon, Mo.

—oOo—

OBITUARY

George Harvey Bingham, the son of a pioneer minister of Laclede Co., Ed and Martha Bingham, was born December 18, 1866, and departed this life on January 26 at 2 a.m. at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Jim Elam of Lebanon, Mo. He was 81 years, 1 month and 8 days old.

On July 17, 1895 he united in marriage to Nancy Susan Beal. To this union 4 children were born.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Susan, 2 daughters, Mrs. Jim Elam, Lebanon, Mrs. Charlie Wilson, Brownfield and 2 sons, Leonard and Lonnie Bingham of Tulsa Okla.; also 1 brother, Rev. Walter Bingham of Brownfield, Mo.; 16 grand-children, and 7 great grand-children, and a host of other relatives. Four brothers pre-

ceded him in death; they were: John Elie, Jim, and Rev. Will Bingham.

He was converted over 50 years ago, later putting his membership with the Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church.

He lived a faithful, Christian life for over a half century. He was a loving companion, faithful father and grand father.

Uncle George, as he was called by his friends and neighbors, will be sadly missed by all who knew him; for he always had a word of kindness to speak to all he met.

It could be said of him as was spoken in the Bible. He was a good man.

He spent his entire life in Laclede County.

We feel our earthly loss is heaven's gain.

Bro. Bingham's father was a minister as were two brothers, Walter and William, one Grandson, Curtis Wilson; and one nephew, Melvin.

Funeral Services were conducted at Cross Roads Church by Eld. Arthur Bailey.

—oOo—

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SARA LOUISE ALYEA-MIZER

Who passed away Feb. 10, 1942

*Just a memory, fond and true, of
you, dear Sara Louise*

*We miss you so, your smiling face,
A voice we loved is stilled
We miss you from your place.*

*Precious darling, oh, how we loved
you*

*No one will ever know.
We weep for you, darling, you left
us broken hearted.*

Well, we know you are at rest.

*We loved you - but God loved you
best.*

*He called you, and you answered
Now heaven is more bright
since you've taken your heavenly
flight.*

Sadly missed by

Your little son, Dale Mizer
Father & Mother, Mr.
& Mrs. Jim Alvey
Brothers, Clarence &
Roy Alvey
Sisters, Effie Nickeloff &
Eva LaShum

—oOo—

CRUDEN'S COMPLETE CONCORDANCE New Clear-Type Edition

Includes references to both the King James Version and the Revised Version and lists Scripture proper names and the full content of Alexander Cruden's work in one alphabetical arrangement.

783 Pages

\$3.00

CHURCH ACTIVITY & EVANGELISM

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I have been thinking of writing a letter for some time. I have been in some wonderful meetings since the State Association. I think of the wonderful meeting we had at the Ass'n. and wonder how many have tried to get subs. for the paper. You know that we pledged ourselves to send in ten or more. I sure have gotten lots of good from the paper, and all of you who haven't one of the Books, "His Name Among All Nations", should get one, read it prayerfully, and I believe it will give you a greater vision in the work of the Lord. It will make us all want to work for our Sunday School and League and for the Youth Encampment too. May God give us a greater vision for our young people than ever before.

As ever,

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Arthur Bailey
Plad, Mo.

—oOo—

724 Rinker Ave.
Aurora, Mo.
February 2, 1948

Dear Editor:

I'm sending in a report from our ordination service for the Gem.

A meeting was called by the pastor, Rev. J. A. Mace, at the Aurora F. W. B. Church on January 31st, for the purpose of licensing Bro. Elbert Haley to preach for one year, and ordaining two candidates for deacons. Bro. Woodrow Benton was ordained, but Bro. Pon Haley, our other candidate, decided to wait further before taking the vows.

Bro. Mace opened the services, and after hymn singing and prayer, Bro. Winford Davis, acting chairman of the Ordination Committee, gave an opening talk and instructions to the congregation and candidates.

The services proceeded with questions addressed to the candidates by Bro. Davis. Upon satisfactory answers, the committee, Bro. Davis, Bro. Weston, and Bro. LaShum, voted to elect the candidates. All motions being carried, they were duly elected with Bro. Haley licensed to preach for one year and Bro. Benton ordained as deacon.

Bro. Davis then gave the charge to the minister and Bro. Weston gave the charge to the congregation after a touching ordination service of praying and laying on of hands. All were blessed and spiritually uplifted.

Services were concluded by a request number from Bro. Davis, "Precious Memories", which was rendered with much feeling.

Reported by Mrs. O. B. Hughes

Monett, Mo.
February 13, 1948

Dear Gem Readers:

Just a few lines concerning the Gem. As you can see, it is gradually growing more interesting with each issue, and its progress is very noticeable, especially is this so to those who call at the office frequently.

We are indeed thankful for our little paper and to know the work has been taken up and the future outlook so very promising. Of course, our own brother in charge, it naturally causes us to have an even greater interest in its progress. As he stated in the Feb. issue, it is indeed a busy place. We stop in quite frequently and none of the staff are ever found idle. All three: Winford, Roy, and Donald, are always at their post of duty and really striving to make a go of it all, but they always welcome each caller with a friendly smile and manage to chat a little along with their work.

Up to the present time they have kept the work up well, although there have been times when it began to pile up on them, and they had to have an extra helper for a day or two.

It is quite interesting to watch them at work, and I always leave there after each call with a happy air about me just to know that the office is open again after standing in idleness for so many, many months, and I for one am really strong for the continued progress of our paper. I only wish I was able financially to donate \$100 to the cause, but since I am not, there is one thing I can do, I can pray. Let us all, as God's people, continue to pray and I believe that the goal of 3,000 subscriptions can and will be reached before many months.

We know God is back of it all and is so willing and ready to help.

"Having, therefore, obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses say should come". (Acts 26:22).

Mrs. Opal Frazier

—oOo—

Cameron, Okla.
February 14, 1948

Dear Gem Reader:

I've just finished reading the February issue and sure have enjoyed it as I never get to go to church now. My husband has been bed-ridden for 3 years and we have been deprived of our Christian work except in our home. It is very hard as we have been leaders here in our community over 46 years. He has been preaching over

30 years. We have driven the team in a covered wagon many miles in bad weather and have raised a family of six children to be grown and married. It sure gets lonesome, and we long to go to church. We really do enjoy reading the Gem. for it is like a letter from my dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

Let us all help the Editor.

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. Esper Easton

—oOo—

Huntsville, Texas
February 3, 1948

Dear Co-Laborers:

Greetings in the name of our blessed Master. Since we last wrote you through the Gem, we have had a number of wonderful experiences in the service of our Lord. One of the outstanding happenings was the conversion of a Jew, a traveling salesman out of New York City. He was here visiting relatives and was converted during Christmas week, in his mother-in-law's home. We were called on to come and talk with him and God wonderfully saved him. He also gave us \$50.00 on our new house and at this time in our letter we wish to thank Sisters Franklin and Parker for the nice letter that they sent out through the Gem and Baptist. We also want to thank those who received a letter personally. Up to date, we have received \$400 and we thank each one that has given and those who will give yet. We have never had much of this world's goods, about the only thing we have been able to do is help a few students at different times and give small amounts to missions besides the church offerings, but how true the blessed word of God is. Here comes back through our dear friends at this time the lovely offerings on our house. This does not mean that we have retired; for we are working harder than we ever have since we have been in the ministry. We do a lot of personal work and when the weather is good enough, we have prayer services every night in the week except Saturday.

Building a church is hard work—especially building up the congregation—so pray for us to have strength to go on and build up this work.

Now, if any one has sent an offering and hasn't received a card or letter of thanks, please drop us a card for it has been lost in the mail. We don't want to miss thanking everyone and may God richly bless each one that is having a part in helping at this time. How we wish we could write each one of you a loving letter

and also drop into your dear homes and take you by the hand and say God bless you.

We will not forget our many dear friends that we have met and loved through the years. Many have gone on to their heavenly home and many are yet waiting. Last week we stood by the bedside of dear mother McAdams as she passed into the beautiful beyond. She was such a precious soul and now we have both mothers and fathers waiting for us in the sweet home of the soul. Mother had been waiting a long time for the Master's call. She was 94 years of age and had been a Christian for over 70 years.

May God bless Bro. and Sis. Dav- is and their staff of workers who are sending us such a wonderful paper, filled with good articles and reports from the various fields of labor. We are praying that this will be a great year for all and that many souls will be saved.

Yours for Jesus,
H. M. & Lizzie McAdams

—oOo—

IN LOVING MEMORY Of My Mother

who passed away Feb. 9th, 1948 at her home, Piedmont, Mo., Rt. 1.

THE WATCHER - MOTHER

*She always leaned to watch for us,
Anxious if we were late,
In winter by the window,
In summer by the gate;*

*And though we mocked her tend-
erly,*

*Who had such foolish care,
The Long way home would seem
more safe*

Because she waited there.

*Her thoughts were all so full of
us—*

*She never could forget!
And so I think that's where she is
She must be watching yet,*

*Waiting till we come home to her,
Anxious if we are late
Watching from Heaven's window
Leaning from Heaven's gate.*

Annie C. Lewis was born May the 20th, 1880 at Marquand, Mo., and passed from this life February 9th, 1948: being 67 years, 9 months, and 19 days of age.

She is survived by nine children, three step-children, one sister, and one brother; also 33 grand children, and 32 great grand-children together with a host of other relatives and a multitude of friends.

She professed a hope in Christ at the age of 18. Later she united with the Big Creek United Baptist Church at Glover, Mo. She remained a faithful servant of the Lord until He called her home. She served many, many years as the wife of a minister. She served graciously in this honorable capacity; never did she complain a-

bout her part of the cross. She lived the beautiful Wood Cemetery to await to see three of her sons called into the Resurrection.

We, the loved ones, bow our heads, and say with the one of old, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord".

Yours to serve,
Rev. Mark Lewis

—oOo—

IN LOVING MEMORY. Of My Brother,

Tolliver Milton McCollough

Our hearts were grieved when the message came that our dear brother had passed on to that land from which no traveler has ever returned. We had sent the usual birthday letter and had exchanged the Christmas greetings and thought that all was well. We were wholly unprepared for the shock when we received word that our dear brother had died.

This seems rather late for an obituary or a memorial as this has happened more than two years ago, but all this time I have been planning to do so.

Those who know the sadness of losing a loved one know it's hard to say just the things they would like to say about one they all loved so much. The sentence in the old Ried and Kellogg Grammar, "Those whom the Gods love die young", is ever reoccurring; for as we watch those who are most beloved of their family and friends, we seem to see that statement verified. For I can truly say, "To know him was to love him".

He was born to Rev. and Mrs. S. C. McCollough November 16, 1895 in Carroll County, Ark., was converted at an early age, and joined the First Missionary Baptist Church in Blue Eye.

He was a volunteer in the navy in World War I, was mustered out of service in June, 1919, just in time to visit our mother before her home-going. He re-enlisted in the navy and served several years in the Pacific. He had many thrilling experiences, and retired from the navy a life Reserve.

He was married to Helen Morris March the 2nd, 1929. To this union were born two children; a son, Bruce Brashears, and a daughter, Mary Cathaline.

After he retired from the navy, he resided at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the city where his wife lived before their marriage. A few years ago, he had an operation, the gall bladder removed, from which he almost failed to recover.

As he faced death, he requested that he be buried in the Wood Cemetery in Milwaukee, a National Cemetery where thousands of comrades of other wars are sleeping. As Taps was sounded, he was lowered to rest with full military honors by his comrades in

the beautiful Wood Cemetery to await the Resurrection.
Written by his sister,
Mrs. Dorcas McCollough Tharp

—oOo—

LUMEN (The Light)

The school year 1947-48 at the Free Will Baptist Bible College is fast drawing to a close and the task of preparing our "Lumen" has begun. We believe that our people in the various states will want our college yearbook to be the best ever published, and, as a staff, that is truly our goal. To make it such we are going to need your support: first, your prayers; second, your financial support. We are sending letters to each of our churches with information regarding the listing of them in the "Lumen".

The following spaces are listed for your choice:

1. A full size page, 10½ by 7½ with picture of church included, date of organization, and pastor's name, etc. \$40.00
2. One-half page with same information included as in number one \$25.00
3. One-fourth page without picture but same information as number one \$15.00
4. One-eighth page without picture but including other information. \$7.50

Individual copies of the "Lumen" will be \$5.00 each.

This has been a grand and glorious year of sweet fellowship in the Lord here at the F. W. B. C., and we know our people who were unable to visit with us personally will want us to visit them through the pages of our "Lumen".

If you are an individual and wish to contribute to the printing of this annual, your gift will also be appreciated.

Yours for the furtherance of the Gospel,

Lumen Staff
3609 Richland Ave.
Nashville 5, Tenn.

—oOo—

RUTLER-DUNN THEOLOGY
Price, Post Paid \$2.00

Lebanon, Mo.

Dear Gem Readers:

A recent sermon, written in the Gem by Sis. Opal Jeffreys, took my memory back to an incident that did happen in my home town a short while ago. I walked into a restaurant for the noon meal. I sat down at a table and on the left of my table were a man, his wife, and son. Directly in front were three ladies. When the food was served, the man bowed his head to offer thanks to God. One of the ladies said to the others, "What is he doing?". The other said, "I don't know". They watched him like he was insane, and as I sat there and watched, I just thought how far away from God this nation is! If men would be thankful for what God has given them, how good it would be. When we sit down at our table to food and water, may we show that it comes from the bountiful hand of God. How we pray for God to help us when we are in trouble; then, when it is over, we often forget God until we need Him again. There are so many vows made to God that are broken. If it were now like it was a few years ago, when men prayed and depended on Him, our church houses would be full, and the pastor would not travel for miles to his appointment and find no one at church. If we are led by the Spirit of God, we are the sons of God. I think too many Christians are trying to lead God around. Let us remember, God is in the lead. May God help us to show what real Christians are. It is easy to go to church on Sunday morning and be up doing good, but God is looking for someone who will be the same on Monday as Sunday. I recall a preacher saying once what a great world it would be if men would take their stand, either for God or against Him, and not act the hypocrite about it. Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth". If we are not ashamed of the Gospel, let us speak to men about their relationship to God. There will be too many lost at the best we can do. Certainly we do not want to be the cause of someone being lost by our neglect to speak to them about salvation.

Rev. Dale Jones

—oOo—

HOW TO PREPARE SERMONS AND GOSPEL ADDRESSES

By William Evans

A volume of practical help for ministers and theological students, and also Christian laymen who are called to the blessed work of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

174 Pages, Cloth, \$1.25

FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN 1948

By L. C. Johnson

In July, 1945, a \$100,000 expansion program for the Free Will Baptist Bible College was launched. It was to run through the year, 1948. If this goal is realized, we must raise this year \$53,000. This means that if we could contact every Free Will Baptist, we would have to receive less than fifty cents from each one to raise this amount. When we compare \$53,000 with 300,000 Free Will Baptists, the task seems very easy. The fact is, however, that if we receive this amount in the next few months, it will be so much more than we have ever done that the victory could only be the Lord's. That is the way we should like for it to be. **WE DEFINITELY BELIEVE THE TASK IS POSSIBLE.**

We are asking Free Will Baptists in every state to join with us in this the greatest campaign ever undertaken by any phase of our denominational work - \$53,000 in 1948. It can be done if we pray and work without ceasing.

We are convinced that there is enough of the Lord's money in the

hands of Free Will Baptists to meet this amount before the National Association in July. This would be a victory unsurpassed in Free Will Baptist history. Do you feel the challenge?

Will you not pray about it and ask the Lord how much He would have you give? Maybe you cannot give all you would like to at one time. Give what you can and let us know how much to count on from you. Send in your money to your state treasurer or directly to the College. If you send it through your church or state, write the College and let us know that you are behind us in praying as well as in giving. We want your personal address.

If we can be of help in your church or community in getting this before your people, let us know. If every Free Will Baptist who loves the Lord and who is interested in a greater institution in which to train our young people will do his best, this amount **WILL BE RAISED** by the meeting of the National Association.

—oOo—

FREE WILL BAPTIST YOUTH FOR CHRIST PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM OF MISSOURI

By Rev. Wm. Reeves, Treasurer

Dear Gem Readers and Youth For Christ Workers:

It is with gratitude in my heart that I write a few lines to you in the interest of our youth program.

I have been reading and studying the program arranged by our Field Secretary of the State Youth for Christ Promotional Program, Rev. O. T. Allred of Monett, Mo. The Booklet entitled, "Free will Baptist Youth for Christ Promotional Program", that is being mailed free to all the pastors and workers over the state (if your pastor has not received his number of booklets, write for them) has the program of our State League and Sunday School Convention and the Youth Encampment lined out and also has the Promotional Program.

This Booklet is indeed a treasure for every home that is interested in the youth for Christ, especially our League and Sunday School workers. We also enjoyed reading the articles in the paper this month. I just lifted my face up and thanked God for our good Christian brothers and sisters, and asked him to continue to inspire their hearts and bless their efforts.

We appreciate the response of our people to the support of the program as we are already receiving offerings

from over the state.

Our Youth Camp Program described in the February issue of the Gem is being received with good interest as you will see by the report in this issue of the Gem.

—oOo—

PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM REPORT

(Sept. 18, 1947 to Feb. 15, 1948)

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Money brought forward | \$147.79 |
| Received— | |
| Rev. O. T. Allred & family ... | 5.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Ross Thomas ... | 2.00 |
| Miss Melba & M. H. White ... | 5.00 |
| Ladies Aid, Mt. Zion C. | 5.00 |
| Expenditures— | |
| Printing & mailing | \$ 58.50 |
| Traveling expenses | 4.50 |
| Total | \$63.00 |
| Balance | \$106.79 |

REPORT

OF YOUTH CAMP TREASURER

This report is from Jan. 5, 1947 to Feb. 15, 1948.

The report begins Jan. 5, after paying Bro. Helms \$500.00 for note of last year.

Money borrowed from Bro. Everett Allred for \$500 note \$150.00
Money brought forward \$ 25.04

Continued on next page

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Received— | |
| Triumphant S. S. Con. | 25.00 |
| Burkley S. S. | 25.00 |
| S. E. Mo. League Con. | 25.00 |
| 3rd St. Louis C. S. S. | 25.00 |
| 3rd St. Louis League | 10.00 |
| Fellowship S. S. (Offering) . | 31.00 |
| Total | \$166.04 |
| Expenditures— | |
| Traveling expenses | \$36.00 |
| Postage, supplies, & cts. | 14.00 |
| Total | \$ 50.00 |
| Balance | \$116.04 |
| Rev. Wm. Reeves Treasurer | |

—oOo—

REPORT OF RECENT MEETING OF YOUTH ENCAMPMENT BOARD

Dear Gem Readers:

The Missouri State Youth Encampment Board met Feb. 19th at the fellowship Church, Flat River, Mo. The purpose of this meeting was to lay plans for the youth encampment this coming summer.

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Rev. Harvey Hill of St. Louis. Prayer by Rev. Mark Lewis. Two other members of the board present were Rev. Wm. Reeves and Deacon Ira Walton. Bro. Elsworth Wilson was not present, and Rev. O. T. Allred was seated as his proxy.

Among other transactions in this meeting, it was decided to make improvements at the camp to the extent of a concrete floor in the dining hall, a road from the highway to the camp, cleaning the playground, and putting a pump in the well. These improvements are to be made, of course, as sufficient money comes in, and it was voted that if it becomes necessary to do so to get a loan to cover the cost of these improvements.

Rev. Allred and Bro. Walton were charged with the responsibility of contacting local contractors as to the cost of building cabins, and to furnish the public with such information as they may secure.

The resignation of Bro. Elsworth Wilson as board member was accepted, and Rev. Geo. LaShum of Monett was elected to fill the unexpired term.

It was decided the encampment this summer be a Missouri State project; local talent to be used. Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Flat River, Mo. was elected General Director for the session; Rev. Lewis and Rev. Hill to work with him in arranging the program and securing teachers. The encampment to be held July 26 to Aug. 6 inclusive. As to

cooks and provisions for the session, MO. STATE TREASURER'S REPORT the board is charged with that responsibility.

A financial plan was presented by Bro. Reeves which received the endorsement of the board. We want to remind you that it was voted at the last session of the Missouri State Association to hold the State Sunday School and State League Conventions this year at the youth camp during the encampment session. The board voted the Sunday School Convention to be held the 5th and the League Convention the 6th of August; which will be the last two days of the encampment.

A local man has been secured to build cabins for any one desiring his service. The total labor cost on one cabin will be \$75.00; built on the same order as those which are already built on the grounds. For further information on this matter, please contact Rev. O. T. Allred or Rev. Wm. Reeves.

The board adjourned with great hopes for the 1948 encampment.

Adjournment prayer was led by Rev. Dodd.

Rev. Harvey Hill, Chairman
Rev. Wm. Reeves, Sec.-Treas.

—oOo—

A WORD

FROM THE PROMOTIONAL SEC'Y.

We are happy for the plan of improvement at our Youth Camp for this year, also the plan for three encampment this session as is being arranged by our Encampment Board, State Sunday School and League Officers.

As Promotional Secretary of this work, we earnestly ask three things of our people:

First.—

We solicit those who will to begin now and pray daily for this year's session.

1. Praying God will make it possible for the necessary improvements to be made.

2. Praying God will stir hearts of the youth of our state and give them a vision of this work.

3. That the revival may be of such power and greatness all phases of our work will be strengthened and many souls saved.

Second.—

Pastors, S. S. Supt's. and League Presidents keep this work always before your people.

Third.—

Give financially.

Our Triumphant S. S. Convention, composed of 4 Sunday Schools, 3 in St. Louis and Richwoods, has given \$25.00 each and adopted the financial plan that our State S. S. Officers have suggested, namely: the Penny Bank for the smaller classes and the older members pledging to give \$1.00 per month to this work.

If every church in the State would do this, we would be able to do great things for God. Will we do it?

Yours for Christ,

Rev. O. T. Allred

MO. STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

(January)

STATE UNIFIED FUND

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Merl's Chapel S. S. | \$ 10.00 |
| Flat River Church | 169.43 |
| Leadington S. S. | 2.34 |
| Mine LaMotte Church | 6.20 |
| Carterville Church | 15.40 |
| Myrtle Church | 16.82 |
| Ross R. Thomas, Hannon, Mo. | 5.00 |
| Verdella Church | 4.63 |
| Fredericktown Ladies H. M. . | 2.00 |
| Aurora Church | 6.90 |
| Sublette Church | 3.00 |
| Monett Church | 23.60 |
| Merl's Chapel S. S. | 10.00 |
| Total | \$275.32 |

EXPANSION PROGRAM FUND

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Hazel Creek Union Church .. | \$ 16.67 |
|-----------------------------|----------|

TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE FUND

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Hazel Creek Union Church .. | \$ 5.55 |
| Sunbeam Class, H. C. U. S. S. . | 10.00 |
| Total | \$ 15.00 |

CUBAN STUDENT SUPPORT

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Boyde Filkins, Kirksville, Mo | \$ 15.00 |
|-------------------------------|----------|

FOREIGN MISSION FUND

| | |
|--|----------|
| Happy Circle Class H. C. U. S. S. | \$ 12.00 |
| Hazel Creek Union Church .. | 22.22 |
| Rock Chapel Church | 22.00 |
| Mtn. Grove League | 10.00 |
| Clarence Dunn, Hartville, Mo | 10.00 |
| Mrs. Orene Radar, Niangua .. | 1.00 |
| Macedonia Church | 26.00 |
| Flat River Church | 19.34 |
| Mine LaMotte Church | 5.00 |
| Aulsbury Chapel Church | 5.00 |
| Sublett Church & S. S. | 11.00 |
| Carterville Church | 10.91 |
| Ross R. Thomas, Hannon .. | 15.00 |
| Flat River Church | 14.18 |
| Amity Church | 10.00 |
| Jewel Church | 7.18 |
| Hannon Church | 5.00 |
| Providence Church | 13.89 |
| New Harmony S. S. | 18.27 |
| Pleasant Ridge Church | 4.23 |
| Neola F. W. B. Church | 6.05 |
| Union Light S. S. | 13.84 |
| Rev. Kenneth Turner, Monett | 5.05 |
| Hickory Grove Church | 6.66 |
| Mrs. Goldie Elsea, Novinger . | 5.00 |
| Monett Church | 20.66 |
| Rock Chapel Church | 15.58 |
| Golden Oak S. S. | 9.73 |
| Golden Oak League | 3.61 |
| Pleasant Grove S. S. | 5.76 |
| St. Louis Southside Church .. | 5.63 |
| Rev. John Johnston, St. Louis | 3.41 |
| Timothy J. Ewing, Kirksville | 5.00 |
| Total | \$348.20 |

Marie Hyatt, Clerk-Treasurer

—oOo—

Continued from page three

"Lord, put some soul upon
my heart

And love that soul through
me.

Lord, help me do my part
To win that soul for Thee.

Mrs. Sophia Ackerson
Richwoods, Mo.

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, 8¼ X 5¼ inches, printed in two colors, beautiful border, and suitable for framing. Every Church needs these for a record.

These certificates are in books of 25, and stubbed, check book style.
Price, Post Paid \$1.00

The Great
Commission
— Our Mission



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole
World
For Christ



CONQUERORS WITH CHRIST

By Rev. Alta Mikel

Dear Aux. Workers & Gem Readers:

As we think of the work of our dear Master and realize the great responsibility that we have, let us think of shouldering that responsibility and going forth to do our part in helping to conquer the great forces of evil that are filling the world.

As we think of the mighty forces of evil in our land alone, it is bewildering and very discouraging if we look through man's sight; but dear fellow workers do not look through the weakness of man's sight but let us look through God's sight with faith. Turn with me to Rom. 8:37, "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us". As we look at this marvelous verse of scripture, we must believe it. We all lack faith today. Faith in the working power of God. As we study the teaching of Jesus, we find many times when He rebuked the apostles because they lacked faith. Without faith it is impossible to please him. "... for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him". Heb. 11:6. We must have unwavering faith in God and His working power if we have a part in winning the victory over the forces of evil.

Another great hindrance in conquering today is self. We are too afraid to put self on the altar of service for our blessed Master. We are too proud of these old bodies of clay to present them as a living sacrifice unto God. "I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service". Rom. 12:1. I love to study the scriptures that give the account of David slaying Goliath and by so doing, saving his people. Let us study together this wonderful victory as recorded in the 17th chapter of 1st Samuel. Surely, as we study it and see the

marvelous power of God it will give us all new courage to go forth and be conquerors. The Philistines gathered together their armies to battle against Saul and the men of Israel. The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, and there was a valley between them. There went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, who was a giant in physical build and strength, and his armor was the very best. He stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, "Why are you come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? If ye be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants; but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants". Then the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day". Let us halt here and see the comparison of today, can't you see the devil and his armies in this day and age defying the armies of the living God. Certainly we can. Can we conquer? Certainly we can if we have faith in God, and are willing to be used of Him. Let us look back into God's precious word and see what takes place. When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. We find that there was a lad whose name was David, a son of Jesse. Jesse's three eldest sons went and followed Saul to the battle, but David, being the youngest, returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep. David's father said unto him, "David, you take food to thy brethren and see how they are getting along". Now Saul and Jesse's elder sons, and all the men of Israel were in the valley fighting with the Philistines. David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with the keeper and went as Jesse had commanded him. David came for the battle. For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

Continued in the April issue

JUNIOR LEAGUE REPORT F. W. B. CHURCH, AURORA, MO

A junior league with 12 members was organized in January, 1948. Mrs. O. B. Hughes, teacher, is teaching the twenty-third Psalm, Bible Alphabet and using Object lessons for visual aids. We have had opening prayer, Lord's Prayer, children's hymns, our Bible Story, and Object Lessons on, "Hidden Sin", "The Eternal Word", and John 3:16 so far this year.

Each child is given a colored star for attendance, and good interest has been displayed so far. This junior work is our preparation for the senior league. Our children's ages range from 5 to 11 years and it's surprising to know the reasonable spiritual answers the children can give to the questions asked along spiritual lines. Let us pray for our children and youth of today.

I would like also to add that Temperance Lessons on healthful drinks are used for activity work in games. Little folks quickly sense the need for action and the right kind should be stressed in early life.

Yours to save children for Christ,

Mrs. O. B. Hughes

—oOo—

INDIAN CREEK AUX. MEETS

The Second Quarterly Meeting of the Indian Creek Woman's Auxiliary met with the Aurora Church on Feb. 11, 1948 at 11:20 a.m. The President, Sis. Imogene Dunklin, was in charge of the meeting.

The morning was spent in singing and a testimony service led by Rev. Paul Williams.

The afternoon service opened with singing led by Sis. Pearl Thomas.

Sis. Jean Allred read the Scripture; a program was presented by Sis. Opal Williams. Talks were given as follows:

Bro. Williams — on Hospitality
Sis. Helen Macky — on Kindness to the poor.

Sis. Hughes — on Humility.

Sis. Opal Williams — on Devotional Spirit.

Sis. Lola Williams — on Serving the Church.

Bro. Williams sang, "The Christ of the Cross".

Sis. Dorcas Wiseman gave a reading, "Sometimes".

The Vice Presidents gave their reports.

Reading of minutes.

Next meeting will be held at the Mount Church on May 12.

Thelma Hilton
Secretary-Treasurer

LADIES AUXILIARY
FLAT RIVER, Mo.

.. "For as much then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same minds for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin". (I Peter 4:1).

Dear Sisters in Christ:

I am happy to have the privilege to tell you the Lord is blessing our work in Flat River. The Lord is always near to bless those who are ready and willing to work and serve Him. Feb. 18 was the date for the election of officers for the year.

They were elected as follows:

President Sis. Juneta Moore
1st Vice Pres. Sis. Lucy Schaffer
2nd Vice Pres. Sis. Hazel Scott
3rd Vice Pres. Sis. Christine Fryman
4th Vice Pres. Sis. Alberta Davis
5th Vice Pres. Sis. Dorothy Burchan
Treasurer Sis. Christine Dees
Corr. Sec. Sis. Gussie Hamblin

Dear ones, don't forget your Easter program or the week of prayer before we report to the Gem next month. Our week of prayer will be in history with the Lord. St. Luke 14:18, "And they all with one consent began to make excuses. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused".

My good sisters, don't get worried about inviting the women of your town to the Aux. We are living in a day of excuses. I never let a week come to a close that I haven't invited someone to the Aux. I have heard so many weak excuses. It makes my heart ache, but how much more it grieves our blessed Lord. Don't let the Devil get a step ahead; just keep on inviting the ladies to come and help carry on the good auxiliary work. Pray for our work that we might see a great engathering of souls this year.

Pastor, Rev. F. C. Zinn
President, Juneta Moore
Corr. Sec., Gussie Hamblin

—oOo—

ANNOUNCEMENT

Rev. Bert F. Rogers, Drumright, Okla., Recording Secretary of the National Foreign Mission Board of Free Will Baptists, has sold his business in Drumright and is now available for evangelistic meetings anywhere in the denominational connection. Rev. Rogers plans to devote his entire time to the evangelistic work. He reports some recent, successful revivals in Wewoka and Okla. City. Anyone desiring the services of an evangelist who is able in both the ministry of sermon and of song will not be disappointed in Rev. Rogers. His address is, as stated above, Drumright, Okla.,

REPORT OF ORPHANS' HOME
RINGLING, OKLAHOMA

Money Received for Jan., 1948

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1-1 Balance in Treas. Dec. 31 | \$207.76 |
| 1-1 Bridge Creek C. | 8.00 |
| 1-3 Earlsboro C. | 2.50 |
| 1-3 Blue Bell C. | 5.00 |
| 1-3 State Auxiliary | 15.00 |
| 1-3 Healdton C. | 6.00 |
| 1-3 West Fork Q. M. of Tex. | 31.66 |
| 1-5 Hopewell A. No. 2. L. R. | 2.00 |
| 1-6 Iron Chapel C. | 5.00 |
| 1-7 Spring Hill C. | 3.97 |
| 1-9 Dibble League | 2.50 |
| 1-9 Bryant C. | 7.81 |
| 1-9 Nursery to Beginner D. | |
| Tulsa 1st C. | 2.16 |
| 1-12 Paden C. | 1.25 |
| 1-12 Cedar Grove C. | 5.00 |
| 1-12 New Bethlehem C. | 2.15 |
| 1-12 Central Ave. C. Okla. C. | 15.00 |
| 1-13 James A. Holliday, Ft. | |
| Worth, Texas | 1.00 |
| 1-13 Mrs. Dorothy Goble, Okla. | |
| City, Okla. | 20.00 |
| 1-13 Mrs. Clara Coton, Wewo- | |
| ka, Okla. | 3.35 |
| 1-13 Duck Creek C., Mound, O. | 15.00 |
| 1-13 New Hope C. Buffalo S. | 10.00 |
| 1-14 Clemseot C. | 18.80 |
| 1-14 Shawnee 1st C. | 7.50 |
| 1-16 Cushing 1st C. | 19.52 |
| 1-17 Wewoka 1st C. | 22.00 |
| 1-20 Pretty Watter C. State A. | 5.00 |
| 1-20 Mission, Drumright C. .. | 5.00 |
| 1-22 Turner, Stratford | 2.50 |
| 1-22 M. D. Percifield, Monroe | 3.00 |
| 1-22 Rev. W. V. Woods, Shaw- | |
| nee, Okla. | 12.00 |
| 1-22 Rev. W. O. Mongham ... | 1.00 |
| 1-22 Dibble C. | 10.00 |
| 1-28 Little 5 yr. old Linda Gay | |
| Brazeal | 35.00 |
| 1-31 Wirt C. | 5.59 |
| 1-31 Prairie C., Texas | 3.00 |
| 1-31 Clayton C. Clayton, Tex. | 9.90 |
| 1-31 Blue Bell C. | 5.00 |
| Total | \$551.92 |
| Total expenses for Jan. | \$527.62 |
| Balance | \$22.62 |

Expenses of Home for Jan., 1948

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Rev. & Mrs. R. Weatherman | \$ 75.00 |
| 12-30 Tyler & Simpson | 2.64 |
| 1-14 Tyler & Simpson | 17.93 |
| 12-29 Schuler Fruit Co. | 12.45 |
| 12-29 Delbert Gro. & Market | 104.25 |
| 12-31 W. D. Bodenheimer gas | 61.00 |
| 12-28 Allen's Feed Store | 53.75 |
| 12-30 Hudson-Husten Lum. Co. | 7.95 |
| 12-31 Reed Kayler | 52.88 |
| 1-15 Rev. & Mrs. R. Weather- | |
| man, Salary | 75.00 |
| Total | \$472.85 |

Paid out by Rev. Rex Weatherman

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| 12-22 Boots | \$ 9.90; |
| 12-22 Laundry | 1.10 |
| 12-23 Vessie Ledbetter, Labor | 10.00 |
| 12-30 Laundry | 1.00 |
| 12-30 Sallie Stow, Labor | 10.00 |
| 1-6 Laundry | 1.00 |
| 1-6 Sallie Stow, Labor | 10.00 |
| 1-8 Tops on Boys' boots | 2.50 |
| 1-9 Hair cuts | 4.85 |
| 1-10 Children's allowance ... | 2.25 |
| 1-13 Sallie Stow, Labor | 10.00 |
| 1-14 State Ed. Program | 13.50 |
| Total | \$ 66.10 |

Eggs & Butter sold 11.65
Balance \$ 54.45
Total expenses for Jan. \$527.30

Jack Hopkins, Treasurer

Let us hear from you today. May the Lord bless you.

—oOo—

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Once there was a church in robes
of white
Born of the Spirit and hearts made
right;
They knelt at an altar in fervent
prayer,
Please, Lord, do keep us from
Satan's snare.

But, oh, how sad when the world
came in
Her snowy white robes now spotted
with sin
Drink and dance and shows are no
harm;
Now the church and the world go
arm in arm.

She changed her role at the Devil's
call
Together they go to the modern
dance hall,
To holiness and God they bid fair-
well
The lives they are living will take
them to hell.

Now dressed in scarlet, the robes
of sin,
It changed their color when the
world came in.
Come on, says the Devil, it's my heart's
desire
I will land you in a lake of fire.

Where the heathen rage and de-
mons yell,
Ah, we are tormented in these
flames of hell.
They will cry for the rocks and the
mountains to fall,
But God will never answer their
call.

Come out of her, my people, saith
God,
And walk in the path that Jesus
trod;
He will dress you in robes so rich
and fair
And fill you with glory His image
to bear,
The way of the cross will lead you
home,
To God and heaven and the great
white throne.

Composed by
Rev. Alfred M. King
Marshfield, Mo. Box 202

—oOo—

The Great Doctrines
of The Bible

By William Evans, D. D.
275 Pages \$1.50



Missionary Department



Rev. Winford Davis, Promotional Secy.-Treas. National Board

A NEW CHURCH IN CUBA

By Thomas H. Willey

We want to share with you the good news of our newest church, Playuelas. The Free Will Baptist Church of Playuelas nestles in a large coconut grove on the north coast of our field. Coming out on a low-lying hill you get the full view of the ocean with the sails of our fishermen gracefully making their trips out to sea with them.

We wish we had many more fearless, Christian laymen like our Bro., Pedrito Betancourt. A little over a year ago Pedrito was forced to move, and God gave him the present farm at Playuelas, a much larger scope of land, thickly populated. Pedro at once dedicated a church building and gave the witch doctors orders to leave.

Just about six months ago I organized the church with 16 members, baptizing 12. The next trip over, one dear woman and her son walked a great distance and on one of the cold days in Cuba insisted on being buried with Christ in baptism. Then, just last week, with jeep loaded we returned for another baptism, a sister of Pedrito and and her son, also Pedrito's daughter was baptized, making 21 folk in all that have been baptized.

Pedrito's old mother wanted so much to be baptized (she had been saved from Catholicism just a short time) but due to sickness she deferred it until the summer months.

What a joy to minister to this kind, warm-hearted group of folk down on the coast, who have the Gospel because some of you have been faithful in your part to foreign missions.

I am definitely of the opinion that

many of you in that final day will share with us who have been privileged to be on the field.

There are other families like Pedro's that need to be reached. We can find five hundred communities similar to this one I have described to you who are as destitute as was Playuelas. If these five hundred hear the Gospel, it will be because others of our people will get a larger vision and help send it. The only way we can expect to evangelize is that God shall send us a group of called and consecrated Cuban young people and that we shall be enabled to care for a larger group. We are now in the season when building must be done. The school is entirely inadequate to care for students. We haven't been able for almost a year to add one brick to this fine, unfinished girl's dormitory. Then there is the necessity of Mrs. Willey and I having a home on the farm, also the need of a boys' dormitory. The boys are grouped, barracks fashion, in a crude building. We have been informed that the first large building we built will not withstand another strong wind such as we are subjected to during the cyclone season. Our desire is to build a dining hall with a tile roof within the present building when the school is out. Will you help us realize this objective? We want a plant here that will be a real credit to our denomination. We are praying and counting on you to make it possible to get all the materials on the school grounds before the tropical down pour of rain is upon us.

with blessings and reality. We graduate the first class and commission them to their field. They will be permanently stationed as our own missionaries trained at quite a cost to us. We are proud of them. They could with the greatest of ease stand before any great company of people in the world and show the evidence of thorough training and culture. They preach with eloquence and fire; they produce results, souls converted, and churches established.

We wish we could have you, our people, before us 350,000 strong and say we present to you the first class of the Free Will Baptist School of Missions.

Your hearts would swell with pride at having done faithfully your part, especially our Free Will Baptist Board of Missions, those who out of personal sacrifice have gone east, west, north, and south, pushing pulling begging, and at the same time rejoicing, you share with us, our brethren, in the achievement of these five years as we present to you the class of 1948 of the School of Missions in Cuba.

—oOo—

REPORT TEX. HOME MISSIONARY

(For January, 1948)

By Rev. R. E. Conner
Buffalo Springs, Texas

January 6, 1948 we went to the Central Texas Ass'n. It was a pleasure to visit the churches and our friends again. We once worked in this Ass'n., serving Bright Light, Evergreen, N. Zulch, Edge, and Willow Hoe Churches. We were very sorry that Edge, Plainview, and Willow Hoe Churches are not having services now. It breaks our heart to see our churches go out of business. This should challenge us to get Home Mission work on our hearts that this might not happen to others. The people seemed interested in our mission work. I believe they will support our monthly plan, and cooperate in every way.

Rev. and Mrs. Alvin Halbrook are very interested in Home Mission work and planned our itinerary for which we are grateful. They are not only doing good work in this Ass'n. but in the State as well. We were with his church at Bright Light, near Bryan, Tue. night, Jan. 6. Their offering, though their membership isn't large, was \$25.00.

Jan. 7 Bro. Halbrook took us over to Evergreen Church, Keith, Texas, where he pastors. Had a good service and an offering of \$25.00. We have some good friends here who are not Free Will Baptists, whom we were very happy to see.

THE CUBAN NAT'L. CONVENTION

By Thomas H. Willey

The great event of the year among our Cuban Christians is the Cuban National Convention.

Our converts will come from three provinces, Havana, Matanzas, and Santa Clara. What an effectual greeting there will be between men and women of like faith who haven't seen each other for a year, but are now coming to share together a rich feast of spiritual blessings. Three days of preaching, singing, and testifying. Rice will be cooked in large wash tubs, beans to flavor it in like manner. They will consume an ox.

They happily stretch their hammocks wherever they can find space and spread their cotton blankets on the palm leaves.

How it lifts our hearts to see a great

company of five to seven-hundred people singing gospel hymns and think five years ago they had never heard a hymn.

To look into the faces of these students, who, six years ago, were ragged, poorest of the poor without promise of the future, but because some of you were faithful to the supreme command of our Lord, the last marching orders, you were obedient to the extent that you made it possible for us to come down. The farm was bought, building erected, teaching staff assembled, and horses provided to penetrate the fastnesses of the hills.

Oh! how we wish the whole Free Will Baptist Constituency could sit with us in the fellowship April 2, 3, and 4th of this year. The event is big

Jan. 11 we went with Bro. Halbrook to his other church at Blue Lake. We enjoyed the visit very much; received an offering of \$20.00.

Jan. 12 we were with the Cross Church. Rev. W. F. McDuffie, pastor. We are very happy to have Bro. McDuffie and family in our State. We had a good service, two raised their hands for prayer, and an offering of \$8.81.

Jan. 13 we drove to Houston for service on Sunday Morning. Without a pastor, this church is a challenge to some man of God in this large city. Let us pray God will send a good shepherd. This is the first time we've had the privilege of visiting here. We enjoyed it very much. The offering was \$17.17.

That afternoon we drove to Pine Prairie, near Huntsville, to be with Rev. T. W. Smith, in service. They have a nice group of young people. We enjoyed their part of the service. After the service, several hands were raised for prayer. An offering of \$20.00 was given.

Jan. 15 we were supposed to be in Huntsville Church, but misunderstanding the dates, we missed the service. The Home Mission helped make possible the organization and building of this church of which Rev. and Mrs. H. M. McAdams are pastors. They gave an offering of \$6.00.

Jan. 16 we went to North Zulch Church and were happy to be back with these people again. They have been without a pastor for sometime. Bro. McDuffie has accepted it. We feel that the church will grow under his leadership. They gave a nice offering of \$31.75.

Jan. 17 we drove to the Edge Community and visited some friends. Although services are discontinued, they are interested in the work. Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Davidson gave \$6.00; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Payne, \$10.00; and Mr. & Mrs. Ford Martin, \$2.00. We hope they get a pastor soon and hold services again.

Wed. night at Bryan Church we had a nice crowd and enjoyed the service. We're happy to welcome Rev. Bruce Barrow and family to Texas. I'm sure we will hear of his good work in Bryan. The offering here was \$19.82.

Jan. 18 we were with the Dott Church, Chilton, Texas. This church, in the West Fork Ass'n., was one we were unable to visit in Dec. when visiting the Ass'n. The offering was \$12.50.

This finishes our work for Jan. We didn't get to visit some of the places we had planned because of sickness and bad weather.

Because some get confused over our two addresses, Buffalo Springs, Tex. and Belleview, Tex., Rt. 2, we offer this word of explanation. We get the mail either way; but it is best to send it to Buffalo Springs because we may be away on the field. If you who send money do not get your receipt at once, it will be mailed upon our returning home.

We are praying that all who promised to support our monthly plan (and those who didn't) will send in their offerings. I know God will bless you for it.

RECEIPTS FOR JANUARY—

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Central Texas Ass'n. | \$193.00 |
| Dott C., Chilton | 12.50 |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Estes | 10.00 |

MONTHLY PLAN—

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Gartman View C. | \$ 6.00 |
| Trinity Church | 16.50 |
| Bonnie View Church | 7.00 |
| Rev. & Mrs. C. C. Lamb | 1.00 |
| Mrs. Emma Brown | 1.00 |
| Pleasant Mound Church | 10.50 |
| Total | \$257.50 |

—oOo—

REPORT

NAT'L. FOREIGN MISSION TREAS.

(Given by states for Jan., 1948)

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Brought forward | \$5,789.18 |
|-----------------------|------------|

Given by states during Jan.
as follows:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Missouri | \$415.70 |
| North Carolina | 272.14 |
| Virginia | 231.22 |
| Michigan | 196.14 |
| Illinois | 156.95 |
| Georgia | 95.55 |
| California | 80.00 |
| Oklahoma | 75.12 |
| Tennessee | 72.68 |
| West Virginia | 64.00 |
| Alabama | 54.57 |
| Texas | 48.38 |
| Arkansas | 35.00 |
| Ohio | 23.35 |
| South Carolina | 20.00 |
| Kentucky | 15.07 |
| Mississippi | 6.40 |
| National Aux. Con. | 29.37 |
| Sale, "His Name Among All Nations" | 10.00 |
| Refund (Express Co.) | .15 |
| Total | \$1,910.72 |
| Grand Total | \$7,699.90 |
| Total Disbursements | \$2,819.88 |
| Balance Feb. 1, 1948 | \$4,880.02 |

Winford Davis, Treasurer

—oOo—

Continued from page five

to as many as received Him (Christ) to them (He extended his power and they became son's of God) gave he power to become the son's of God". John 1:12). We praise God in His Sanctuary when we embrace the Gospel of Christ. We praise Him when we preach the true Gospel (I Cor. 15:1-4) when we live it.

CONTINUED PROGRESS IN FOREIGN MISSION INTERESTS

The season of the year during which we generally suffer our greatest slump in foreign mission funds, that is, from the holiday season untill spring, has gone by this time with a nicely filled treasury. We do not have a financial emergency to declare, thank the Lord. Most of you know that we have suffered such in the past; but it is not so now. All the praise is to Him. To be sure, we need more money than what we have. Yes, indeed, but what I mean to say is that we are about up to our ordinary level. While that level is much higher than some years ago, we have a long way to go yet in order to do what we ought to be doing in this business of spreading the gospel.

Missouri, you have done wonderfully well. Feb. 1st found you ahead on your \$6,000.00 yearly quota by the amount of \$179.50. Now don't that sound better than to have to say we are in arrears? Thanks to Bro. Dodd, Missouri's Director of Missions, and all others who have helped so wonderfully in the work.

The month of March is Special Missionary Month in Kentucky, Alabama, and North Carolina. North Carolina also carries on over through April. We are hoping that much may be done for the dear cause of Missions in these states the next couple of months. Bro. G. E. Ratliff of Ashland is Director in Ky., Rev. J. J. Staab of Birmingham is Director in Ala., and Rev. Rashie Kennedy of Goldsboro is Director in N. C. We know these three brethren are going to be doing their best during these special campaigns. Some are having special itinerate work during these months. We will be anticipating the outcome.

Our Foreign Mission Board will convene in its annual meeting April 5th at the Bible College in Nashville. Many important things are to be discussed and decided upon. We desire your prayers for this important meeting. Pray that God will give wisdom in each matter. Things with which we must deal will be: sending out new missionaries, enlarging the work already established in Cuba and India, that continual problem of further enlistment of our people on the home field for foreign mission support, etc.

May the Lord bless every one who is contributing in any way thereby making this great missionary work possible.

Yours for the extension of His cause
among men,

Winford Davis, Sec'y-Treas.

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| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
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|Information Card (Six Point System), Form 9..... | 20c each \$..... |
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|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..... | |
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|Visiting Report Card, Form 17..... | 25c per 50 \$..... |

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—oOo—

REPORT OF SEC. TREAS.
 OF TEXAS ORPHANAGE BOARD
 (January, 1948)

By R. E. Conner

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| New Hope C., Henderson, | \$10.00 |
| Pine Prairie C., Huntsville .. | 3.00 |
| Clayton C., Clayton | 9.90 |
| Total | \$22.90 |

This money went to the Okla. Children's Home.

Churches of Texas, please send all funds for Children's Home to Rev. R. E. Conner, Buffalo Springs, Texas.

—oOo—

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