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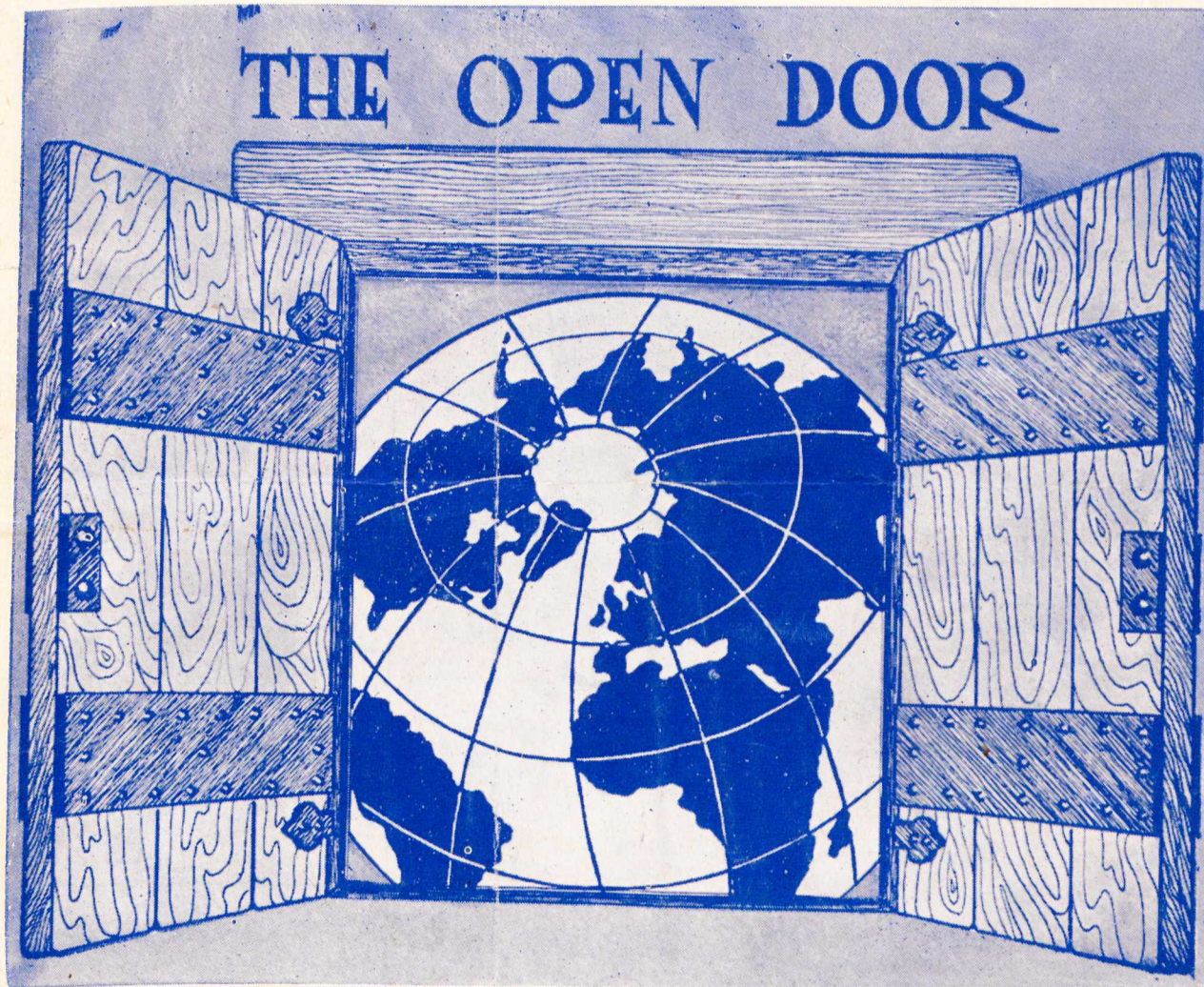
The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

Vol. 19 No. 6

Monett, Missouri, June, 1948

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"... A great door ... is opened ..." and "The field is the world ..."
—I Cor. 16:9; Matt. 13:38

Never before in the history of Free Will Baptists was the opportunity for doing good in the world greater than now. Every department of the work is challenged with a wide open door. It is true in the young people's department, the woman's auxiliary department, Christian education, benevolence, publication, evangelism, and last, but not least, the great challenge for activity in the field of both home and foreign missions. The world is before us. "... Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest". —Jesus in Samaria (John 4:35).

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We have received a nice lot of
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—oOo—

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THE CERTAINTY OF THE PERSONAL RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST

By J. R. Davidson

"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Acts 1:10-11.

In a former article I brought to you excerpts of what the Word of God has to say in promising the return of Jesus Christ in the air for His saints—those who compose the true church. In this one we will make an examination of some of the Word in promise of His coming with His saints; when, "Every Eye shall see Him, and, They also who pierced Him" Your attention is called to Jude 14 and 15, with Revelation 1:7 and 8. "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him". "Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty".

But where is the evidence of this approaching event, some may say. Our present-day world needs to stand at attention because of this very question being raised, as this type of skepticism is one way in which prophecy is being fulfilled before our eyes. Hear the word from the third chapter of Second Peter, verses 1 to 12. "This Second Epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: that ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken by the holy prophets, and the commandments of the apost-

les of the Lord and Savior: knowing this first that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, where is the promise of His coming: for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation. For this they willingly are



ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: but the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat"; So, the

Holy Spirit opened up to Peter a scene of the day in which we live, and one of the days of the wrath of Almighty God. Too sad, even to relate, but you may make an examination of men who teach our people from the pulpits only to find a similar attitude toward this glorious truth as described by Peter. I have had it said to me in various ways, such as, "He says all this talk is just a bunch of foolishness", and, "I have never preached on the Second Coming and never expect to". May I say, dear friends, God is not a foolish being, therefore, does not tamper with foolish jestings. Surely He would not deal lightly by the word of prophecy concerning the last things. If the Coming of Christ, the Second Time without sin unto salvation, as promised by the holy writers can be successfully contradicted, then we may denounce all prophecy. Look at Hebrews 9:26 to 28. "For then must He often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but now once in the end of the world hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: so Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin (apart from sin) unto salvation".

All fundamentalists seem to be perfectly agreed on the doctrine of the first advent of our Lord's to the earth, and on the purpose for which He came as expressed in the first verse quoted above; namely, "But, now once in the end of the world hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself". I am in one hundred per cent accord with the position myself. Yea, I bear in my bosom the evidence of cancelled sin through His vicarious sacrifice. He was once offered for the sins of many, and, it is just as true that unto them who look for Him shall He appear the second time apart from sin unto salvation as expressed in verse 28. Now, may we recur to the promise from the mouth of our Lord Jesus, but this time recorded by Matthew in

chapter 24, verses 29 to 30, with chapter 26, verse 64; also Mark 13:24 to 27 and 14:61 and 62.

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from the heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven: and then shall all tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory".

"Jesus saith unto him, thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven".

"But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory".

"And then shall He send His angels, and shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost of heaven".

"But He held His peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, and said unto Him, art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of glory".

I feel sure no one is able to successfully contradict these evidences witnessing to the truths of Christ's Second Coming in the order—In the first aspect for His saints, and, the second aspect with His saints. The witnessess are abundant in the foregone, and the testimony is authentic.

Now, may we look in on some evidences pointing to these rapidly approaching events. Spiritual coldness, falling away from the faith and lawlessness being very prominent are the first pointers. May we examine Matthew 24:12 with Second Thessalonians 2:3.

"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold". "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition".

By some translators the term, "lawlessness", and, "the man of sin" is rendered "lawless one". Whether the later translations are more nearly correct than the King James is not the question, inasmuch as all render the status to be the fruit of spiritual declension and lawlessness.

May we now look at a reference which more perfectly deals with the time element of the coming events, Second Timothy 3:1-9. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was."

Judging the time of the return of our Blessed Lord for His saints by the prolificness of the above described moral, spiritual, social, and economic conditions, surely He cometh quickly. But, before bringing these messages to their completion I wish to bring the final warnings and promises of the Blessed Old Book from Revelation, including the final prayer of the Bible. "And if any man shall take away from the words of the Book of this Prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the Holy City, and from the things which

are written in this Book. He that testifieth these things saith, surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen".

Lord help us to believe Thy Truth. Help Thou our unbelief, and do not allow the taking away from us Thy blessings, nor the falling of Thy judgments. Amen.

—oOo—

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

By John H. Wolfe
Pawnee City, Nebraska

What is preaching the Gospel? It is proclaiming the WORD of GOD with all the power possible. Never forget that. It is not what we THINK about the subject but what does God SAY.

The proclaiming must depend on the watchman who is chosen to watch for souls. What is a watchman's duty? To watch when the enemy comes; to wake sleeping ones up. Good Dr. Dunn said one day in his class, "When your neighbor's house or home is on fire, you don't go quietly and tap on his door and quietly say, neighbor, your house is on fire". NO, the first thing you do is to kick down the door and yell with all the power you have, "FIRE, FIRE." So must sinners who are asleep and are in danger be awakened.

Fifty one years ago when I first came into Nebraska, I was asked by our National Field Sup. to help in a ten day Bible Conference for our ministerial brethren in Missouri. I gave the opening address, and at its close the Supt. said, "Bro. Wolfe, that was good but if you could put a little more FORCE into it". I was young in pulpit work at that time but forty years later I supplied for a United Presbyterian brother who was ill and at its close, one of his good members said, "Bro. Wolfe, I thoroughly enjoyed the whole sermon, but if you could have been a little more CALM." I said what could a poor minister do as one said put more FORCE into the

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GOD'S INTERROGATION UNTO SINFUL MANKIND: "WHY WILL YE DIE?"

By Rev. O. Stalcup

Though the Lord be high, yet hath He respect unto the lowly." Psal. 138:6. "He looks to them who are poor and of a contrite spirit, and that tremble at His word." Isa. 57:15; 61:1; 66:2. "He regards His people as the apple of His eye." Deut. 32:1; Zech. 2:3. "Nor does He disregard these who are yet in their sins. He delights not in their sins; in their death; but grants them space for repentance, and gives them many invitations to return to Him and become reconciled. Ezk. 33:2. "Nor is this all. He condescends to reason with them, that they may be convinced of their danger and flee to the refuge provided, saying, Come, and let us reason together." Isa. 1:18. He deals in kind and tender expostulations: How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? How shall I deliver thee, Israel?" Hos. 2:8, and when every argument is exhausted, He still follows them with tender entreaties, saying, "Why will ye die?" Ezk. 18:31. Few passages in the word of God are more earnest and tender than this: "Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new Spirit: FOR WHY WILL YE DIE, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye." Ezk. 28:30-32. A question is here proposed which should come home to the heart of every reader, "Why will ye die?" Consider the death referred to. What death is it? Not temporal death. There could be no propriety in asking this question in regard to the death of the body, for all must die. It is not left to anyone's choice whether he will die or not. The decree has gone forth, and it is universal, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return". Gen. 3:19. The rich and

the poor, the great and the small, the high and the low, all must die and lie down in the grave (except those whose bodies shall be changed in a moment at Christ's appearing) all must pass through the struggles of death, and yield up their spirits unto God who gave them. All must die. Should we propose the question to our readers in this view—Why will ye die? They might answer, "It is not left optional with us; we are mortal because we are sinful; disease and death are our lot; the seeds of decay are sown in our systems, and sooner or later we must reap the fruit and return to our native earth". It is not temporal death then, to which the question refers. Whether you will or not, reader, this death you must die! Nor is it Spiritual Death. This, too, is universal. It is the native condition of all men. Infants and idiots as well as the old, all die. It is the native condition of all men; "For that which is born of the flesh is flesh". John 3:6. "And you hath he quickened saith an apostle who were DEAD in trespasses and sins, . . . By nature the children of wrath, even as others." Eph. 2:1-3. Spiritual Death is sin; it separates the soul from God, so that it has no communion with Him, no spiritual enjoyment, no life; it is dead to peace, to happiness, and to hope; dead to God and holiness. And as all men sinned in Adam and fell with him, and hence are born under the curse (Rom. chapter 5); and as all men have sinned by their own act, too; so all are spiritually dead—dead in sin. If in this view we put the question, Why will ye die? the reply might be, "We are dead already! We were born under the curse; we have been under it ever since we had an existence; we are under it still—Dead in trespasses and sins!" Yes, reader, you are dead! And it is not in regard to spiritual death that I ask, "Why wilt thou die?" You are dead already! But another question may

be put, Why continue in this state? Why have it perpetuated? Why continue dead when there is one who can quicken and give life? This is substantially the question proposed when it is asked, Why will ye die? For if men are not delivered from spiritual death, it will end in eternal death. Eternal death! This is the death especially referred to when it is asked, Why will ye die? It is eternal death, called in another place, the second death, which is the same as being cast into the lake of fire and brimstone. Rev. 20:8. The wages of sin is death—the same as everlasting punishment, for of the wicked Jesus Christ declares, "These shall go away into everlasting punishment." Rom. 6:23, Matt. 25:46. It is also written, "The soul, that sinneth it shall die; and this death is the same as the penalty of God's law, for it is written again, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them". Ezk. 18:4-20; Gal. 3:10. To be cursed of God is to be miserable forever, for He is the only source of happiness. The death to which the sinner is exposed is just the reverse of the life which is the inheritance of the righteous. Matt. 25:46. That life is eternal; for "the gift of God is eternal life", and he that believeth on the Son hath EVERLASTING LIFE. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that YE HAVE ETERNAL LIFE", I John 5:13. This death then, must be also eternal: "For he that believeth not the Son shall not see life but the wrath of God ABIDETH ON HIM"; ABIDETH FOR EVER! John 3:36; Rom. 6:23. The abiding wrath of God is eternal death.

ETERNAL DEATH

This death is not annihilation. There is no such word in the Christian vocabulary; there is no such thing in the universe of God. Annihilation! It is an idle dream, as vain as it is visionary. The wicked in the future world may wish for annihilation, but it can never be. They must exist forever.

God who gave them existence at the first, can sustain them in existence; and He will that He may manifest the severity of His justice for their abuse of His goodness. Reader, **YOU ARE IMMORTAL**; you must **LIVE FOREVER**, even though you die the second death.

ETERNAL DEATH

This death is not a limited punishment beyond the grave. We have already seen that it is eternal—**EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT**. Matt. 25:46. There is no such thing as a limited punishment hereafter. The only punishment of which the Bible speaks is without end, described by the Savior in these awful words, "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched". **NOT QUENCHED!** Then it must burn forever. Mark, 9:44.

ETERNAL DEATH

It is death to happiness. It cuts off all those sources of pleasure which this world furnishes, and excludes from Heaven, from the blessedness for which the soul was made, from the enjoyment of God in which the angels and the redeemed from among men delight, from the blessed inheritance above. Constituted as is the soul of man, the deprivation of happiness is misery; but they who die the second death, have no happiness; to every kind and degree of enjoyment they are dead. How miserable then must they be. Banished from God, the source of joy, there remains for them nought but an accumulation of sorrow and anguish. Eternal death is happiness.

ETERNAL DEATH

It is death to hope. In this world men are prisoners of hope; in the next, if they die in their sins, prisoners of despair. Zech. 9:12. While they live they are not without hope that they shall become prepared for death ere it arrive. They cherish the expectation that they shall be ready, or at least so prepared that they shall escape the miseries of the lost, and Heaven be their eternal dwelling place. But when once this mortal scene is closed, these hopes be fled,

the time of preparation will be gone, and with it all hope of obtaining the divine favour. Nor will there be any hope of escape from the place of woe. They may anxiously desire deliverance; they may look around for a way of escape; but it is in vain. In this world, however miserable we may be, there is still hope that it may be better with us, but in that world of sorrow all hope expires. They who die the second death, are dead to hope—there can be no hope of mercy, no hope of escape from sufferings, no hope that it will ever be better than it is. Dead to hope, they are the victims of despair.

ETERNAL DEATH

Eternal death is eternal misery. Not only will all hope and happiness be fled, not only will conscience reprove and torment, not only will there be remorse and despair, not only the lost increase each other's woe and be tormented by evil spirits; but there will be also, as a manifestation of the divine displeasure against sin, the direct infliction of misery. What that misery will be, it will be proportioned to their crimes and will be greater than we can now form any conception of. All the senses will be avenues of pain, and all the powers of the soul will serve to augment the wretchedness of the miserable. No tongue can tell their anguish. And after suffering ten thousand ages, there will still be an eternity of woe to be endured. After being in the agonies of death for myriads of centuries, there is still **ETERNAL DYING** to torture and agonize the soul. Eternal death is eternal dying, eternal anguish, remorse, and despair mingled with the fierceness of the wrath of Almighty God. This is eternal death.

ETERNAL DEATH is something awful and fearful; it is something which no one can love, no one can desire; something which should be dreaded and shunned by all. Hence the question has force and meaning—**WHY WILL YE DIE?** Why persevere in that course which must end in eternal death? Why choose a part which must exclude you from heaven and consign you

to endless despair? Reader, Why wilt **THOU** die. There is a way of escape; it is not of necessity, but of choice—"they will die; they choose death rather than life"—for provision is made. **JESUS CHRIST** took our place, and by dying in our stead He opened the door of hope to the world. Gal. 4:4-6. "He was delivered for our offences, and raised again for our justification". Rom. 4:25. "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with his stripes are we healed. . . . the Lord hath laid upon Him the iniquity of us all." Isa. 53:4-6. He is the Prince of life; yet He died that He might redeem us from death. In Him is life; and they who believe in Him shall never die. Acts 3:14,15. John 2:25,26. Having endured the penalty of the law for us—in our room and stead—we, by believing in Him, may be delivered from that penalty and have a title to everlasting life; for He has been made a curse for us, and He is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth. Rom. 5:6-10; 8:1-4; 10:4; Gal. 3:13,24. He is able to save them to the uttermost that come to God through Him; and he that cometh shall in no wise be cast out. Heb. 7:25; John 6:37. He is the way, the truth, and the life; and all who come unto the Father by Him shall meet with a gracious reception. John 14:6; Luke 15:2-24. The fountain which He hath opened for sin and uncleanness, can make the foulest clean; for His blood cleanseth from all sin. Zech. 13:1; 1 John 1:7. The redemption price is paid; the marriage supper is ready. 1 Peter 1:18-20. Matt. 22:1-10. And men are invited to partake of the provision which is made; they are invited to come to Christ that they may have life. Many and precious are the invitations given in the Gospel to perishing man. Come unto Me, and I will give you rest, says the Divine Redeemer. Matt. 2:28-30. If any man thirst, let him come unto Me and drink. Jno. 7:37. Look unto Me, and be ye saved. Isa. 45:22. Nor are invitations all that the

Continued on page 16, col. 3.

NOT A WORD

By Gweneth Talley, Aurora, Mo.

"He answered . . . never a word"

—Matt. 27:14.

Not railing for railing, not a word. How much is lost by a word! Be still; keep quiet. If they smite you on one cheek, turn the other also. Never retort. Hush, not a word. Never mind your reputation nor character; they are in His hands, and you mar them by trying to retain them.

Do not strive, nor try, nor cry. Open not your mouth. Silence, a word will grieve, disturb the gentle dove. Hush, not a word! Are you misunderstood? Never mind! Will it hurt your influence and weaken your power for good? Leave it to Him. His to care and take charge. Are you wronged and your good name tarnished? All right. Be it yours to be meek and lowly, simple and gentle. Not a word. Let Him keep you in perfect peace; keep your mind on Him; trust in Him. Hush! Be quiet before the world and rest in Him. Not a word of argument, debate, or controversy. Mind your own business; BE STILL.

Never judge or condemn. Never arraign nor censure. Not a word! Never an unclean nor unkind expression. Never a doubt nor a fear. Not a word. Never a disparaging remark of another. As ye would others should do to you, so do ye.

Pause, be still! Listen! Not a word emphatically; not even a look that will mar the sweet serenity of your soul. Get still; know God. Keep silent before Him. Stillness is better than noise.

Not a word of murmuring nor complaining in supplication; not a word of nagging nor persuading. Let language be simple, gentle, quiet; you utter not a word, but give Him opportunity to speak. Harken to hear His voice. This is the way to honor and to know Him. Not a word—not the last word! Listen to obey. Words make trouble. Be still—this is the voice of the Spirit. Take no thought for tomorrow; worry not about home, church, or business cares. Cast all on Him, and not a

word. We think so hard, pray so hard, and trust so hard that we become unrestful and disquieted and noisy. This grieves Him. Eph. 4:30.

Restlessness, fretfulness, and worry make the place of His abode unpleasant. Not a word to anyone of your worries, or your desires to know what to do. Take it not out of His hands. He is to keep in perfect peace; but do not go to another for wisdom or direction.

Not a word. If you have a severe trial, He knows and is able to help you. The counsel of another may not be the mind of the Spirit. Trust in Him.

Cease, beloved, from yourself; from your own things and works. Let the Holy Spirit have play. Get still from restless activity, and give Him a chance to speak and do.

Not a word. Witness in love. Just a word for Jesus. "Ye are my witnesses". But that is all. Surrender self to Him. Let your lips be closed, your tongue be tied, your voice be hushed, your look be love. Let Him control, and a sound of gentleness will permeate your very being, spreading the sweet aroma of peace and delight upon all around. And while your heart is hushed and your mouth is closed, in the sweet small voice, like the dew of the morning, the gentle light of sunshine, or the sweet breeze of eventide, you will be quietly-blessed by hearing Him in the hush of His presence and the joy of His delight, and you will be so glad that you uttered not a word.

Take for the motto of your spiritual life, "Not a Word".

In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin; but he that refraineth his lips is wise. (Prov. 10:9).

Fret not thyself because of evil-doers. (Psa. 37:1).

For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power. (I Cor. 4:20).

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. (Jas. 1:26).

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient. (I Tim. 2:24).

Be still, and know that I am God. (Psa. 46:10).

—oOo—

"LIFE IS LIKE A LADDER"

*Perhaps you've never thought of it quite this way,
But life is like a ladder,
Each careful step takes us higher and higher,*

And every serious mistake means a fall.

We help our children up those first few rungs,

We steady the ladder, we help them gain a firm footing, we show them how to climb higher;

*But then, the day comes when our children are on their own,
Mother and Dad can only watch and hope*

They cannot prevent a fall.

Wise parents equip their children with a religious faith, that can go with them up life's ladder.

Then when Mother and Dad can no longer guide their footsteps, they will know the way alone.

And should they falter, as most of us do—

They will have within them power to take a firm hold and go on higher and higher.

Contributed by
Roena Thomas
Hannon, Mo.

—oOo—

TROUBLED DAYS

*We are living in days of trouble,
When sorrow is on every hand
This world is in turmoil,
With war in the Holy Land.*

*Sin has ruined a beautiful garden
Made by God's own hand,
It started back when Adam
Broke only one command.*

*So let's try to keep the commandments,
And do everything we can
To restore peace and real salvation
To a lost and dying land.*

—Edna Strong,
Mount Vernon, Ill.

BUTLER-DUNN THEOLOGY
Price, Post Paid \$2.00

EDITORIAL

THE CAMPAIGN IS NOW ON FOR A FOLDING MACHINE

We are pleased to tell you at this time that the State Executive Board has given their approval of a campaign for funds with which to purchase another very needy piece of equipment for the Gem Publishing House, namely, a folding machine. They have also given us the permission to dispose of the old linotype, which is sitting here on the floor doing no good, and to use the price of the same in the purchase of the folder. We have one good linotype which we use continually, but this old one which we shall dispose of is practically worthless so far as ever doing the Gem establishment any good, therefore it is deemed wise to turn it in on a folding machine which is the most needed piece of machinery at this time.

We highly appreciate this cooperation of the State Executive Board in the launching of this campaign, and we hope ere long to have a folding machine in here which we will all be proud of.

Anything you can give on this new addition to the equipment will be greatly appreciated. Just send it in and tell us what it is

for. You will find an envelope in this issue for your convenience. Will you please not throw it aside, but sit right down and place your offering therein and return to us immediately. You will be receipted for it, and it will help so much. In fact some have already sent in and we appreciate it greatly. Next month we hope to give an itemized report of all who have given to this worthy cause.

You remember I told you in last issue that mass production is the secret to the financial success of this enterprise. I repeat that in this writing. We must get work in and get it out, and lots of it. A folding machine will step up production immensely. To be perfectly frank with you I will say it is something we have GOT to have. However, we are not at all apprehensive. We know you will send in the funds, but the thing we want you to do is to send in your offering RIGHT NOW. Don't delay.

Yours for spreading the truth on the printed page.

—The Editor

FIRST NATION-WIDE LEAGUE CONFERENCE IN NASHVILLE, TENN.

A revival of interest among, and concerning, our F. W. B. young people is becoming very noticeable, and indeed it is very gratifying. One of the most fruitful and concrete evidences of this rising interest among our youth is the first nation-wide league conference which will be held in the East Nashville Church June 15-17. The Secretary of the National League Board, Rev. Clarence Bowen, who is also the pastor of the host church, is certainly leaving no stone un-turned in preparation for this great event. As we take notice of the manifest zeal con-

cerning this conference, and with what acquaintance we have with the careful planning and preparation, it promises to be something very outstanding.

This will be the first meeting of its kind. At the National Association last year it was voted to give the National League Conference the privilege to hold their annual meeting at a time and place separate and apart from the National Association. This does not mean that it will cease to be an auxiliary to the National Ass'n. It continues to be auxiliary to the National as before; but it is deemed

best for both the National Association and the National League organization that the respective bodies meet separately.

It will be an outstanding privilege for anyone to be enabled to attend this conference. Such a nation-wide meeting, held exclusively in the interest of Free Will Baptist youth, has never before been held in the history of Free Will Baptists. Praise be to Him that our people are waking up to the fact that if we have a church tomorrow, we must do something for our youth today. May the Lord bless our young people from all over the states as they start down the various trails all of which will terminate at the first National-wide League Conference in Nashville, Tenn.

—oOo—

SO FAR THE FOLLOWING HAVE VOLUNTEERED

In a recent issue of the Gem we asked for volunteers in the various communities to be pushers and promoters of the Free Will Baptist Gem and the Gem Publishing House. To date those listed below have volunteered. We are very thankful for these and hope others will write us in acceptance of the same position. You can be of great help to us in your community in the matter of getting subscriptions, securing job work, and in the matter of acquainting the people of your church and community with the work of the Free Will Baptist Gem. Many folk have money they would be willing to donate to the furtherance of this good work if they but knew the need and the details. You can be the one to let them know. Come on, let us hear from you.

Volunteers to Date:

Miss Edna M. Davis
Norton, Virginia
Mrs. R. O. Baker
Niangua, Missouri
Mrs. Robie Strickland
Goldboro, N. C., Rt. 4
Mrs. Roena Thomas
Hannon, Missouri

—The Editor

THE APRIL 1ST MEETING OF THE REVISION COMMITTEE

So far as we have been able to learn the Treatise Revision Com., which met in Nashville Tenn. on April 1st, is coming to the National Association in July with very few proposals that would effect any change in the Treatise. Practically no material changes are being suggested we understand. However, we will know more definitely about it when we hear the report which will be given during the National Association at Pochontas, Ark. in July. We appreciate the efforts of these brethren, and we feel they surely let wisdom prevail. At least we trust they were divinely guided.

—oOo—

ONE OF OUR OLDER MINISTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA PASSES ON

We are deeply sorry to learn of the passing of Rev. W. B. Everett of New Bern, N. C. Bro. Everett has been a staunch supporter of the Free Will Baptist denomination for many, many years. It was the Editor's privilege to visit with this dear man a few minutes at his home in New Bern on one occasion as I was passing through that country. We have heard him spoken of very highly many times by our North Carolina brethren. I am sure he will be greatly missed in the denominational circles in North Carolina. We cannot speak too highly of our elder and deceased pioneers who have blazed the trail ahead of us thereby making it much easier for us who are carrying the load today. The Master said "other men have laboured and we have entered into their labors". How true are these words. The Apostle Paul said, "therefore brethren we are debtors". Help us, Lord, to ever realize the truth of this statement.

—oOo—

THE NAT'L. YEAR CLOSES WITH THE MONTH OF JUNE

This month finishes another National Asssociational Year. It

is hard to realize that another year has almost passed. All books pertaining to the National work will close with June 30th. All the departmental treasurers will be very busy balancing their books and preparing their reports between June 30th and the opening of the Nat'l. Ass'n. the week following the 2nd Sunday in July. We would like to urge all out over the field to get your finances in to the various departmental treasurers just as soon as possible as the month of June draws to a close. Some of us hold our books open just a few days after June 30th in order to give you a few days to play on; but we can't wait any length of time and then get our reports ready by the time of the National Meeting. Will you please remember to be prompt as our year again comes to a close?

—oOo—

GEMS

Those who have been helping with some of the folding work at the Gem Office, we feel sure, will give liberal donations on our proposed folding machine. We wish more had helped fold.

As we mail out the Gem each time, we notice it goes from Canada to the gulf and from the Atlantic to the Pacific; also to India and Cuba. Are you a subscriber?

The Free Will Baptist Gem is only \$1.00 per year. What about it neighbor?

Free Will Baptists are the best people on earth excepting one thing: they are just a "wee bit" stingy. (That is some of them are.) Not YOU, of course.

Free Will Baptists have not had the opportunity in fifty years that they have now. Brother, do you see it?

As we increase our missionary force on the foreign field, we at home become the more responsible. As we lengthen our cords, we must strengthen our stakes.

If you were a missionary in far away India, or some island of the sea, placed there as a representative of Free Will Baptists, wouldn't it hurt you to know of confusion and segregation at the home base and to know of a lot of aquabbling over things of lesser importance? Even for the sake of our missionaries let's cooperate fully and thoroughly.

The recent election in Italy, at which time red communism was voted out and facism staged a comeback, was a very significant thing in the light of Bible prophecy. Russian communism doesn't belong there because it is Roman territory. Keep watch for the revival of the Roman Empire. You will see it eventually.

Missouri, if you would make up that small delinquency on our missionary quota for this year, you must do it in the month of June. Come on now, make that offering to missions a little larger next Sunday.

Does it make you feel bad to know your state has fallen behind on some allotment given you by those who had great confidence you would do it? If it doesn't then you need fixing.

One of the largest crowds we have seen at a funeral service lately was at that of our good deacon at the Hannon Church, Bro. C. W. Ricketts. God bless the memory of good men gone on before.

"I have been profoundly impressed with the fact that the church-going people are the most substantial group of citizens in the nation".

—J. Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I.

Free Will Baptist youth are on the march. Just think, a NATION-WIDE gathering during this month of FREE WILL BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE.

A tract is laying on the Editor's desk which has on the front of it a picture of a crying baby. The heading of the tract is supposed to be the words of this broken hearted fellow, "I wish my mummy didn't smoke". Shame, shame, shame.

Have you made your contribution toward the preparation of the Missouri State Youth Camp?

You will notice in this issue a nice paid musical advertisement contributed by Mr. George Morawe of Chicago. I am sure it will interest you to know Mr. Morawe is a Free Will Baptist, and a brother-in-law to one of our missionaries in India, Miss Laura B. Barnard.

You have noticed in several issues past the nice book advertisement contributed by Rev. Geo. Waggoner of Mt. Vernon, Illinois. I am sure you will be interested to know Mr. Waggoner is a Free Will Baptist Minister, and a graduate from our Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn.



Missionary Department



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

A LOVE STORY FROM INDIA

By Laura Belle Barnard

"The whole world loves a lover", —and a love story! In this love story you will find an urgent call for prayer for a rather critical situation in our midst, as well as a little insight into one of the greater struggles that beloved India is experiencing in her slowly changing social economy. It is the conflict between the old and the new.

A few months ago there fell into my hands a letter which our John Raju had received from one of our lovely Christian girls. The letter clearly revealed a warm attachment between the two. This communication between them was a serious breach of India's age-old custom that man and woman should not communicate before marriage, and that all steps leading to marriage must be taken by the families and not by the ones concerned.

As soon as I saw this letter I called for Raju and Elizabeth, separately and dealt strictly with them, reminding them of their position in their own country and the calamity they would likely bring upon themselves by asserting their liberty in this way. I exhorted them to commit the matter to the Lord, to show respect to the rigid convention of their country, and to avoid enraging their conservative elders by carrying on this affair. God is surely the only one who can safely oppose such deeply rooted customs, but He would work for them if this was His will for them.

Raju (John) immediately replied to me, in tones of irreparable sorrow, "That family will never give this girl to me!" And I knew he was right, for Raju is outcaste, while Elizabeth is a caste girl, though very low caste. There was the crux of the matter, the same old story of hard and fast bondage to custom and caste, at an un-

speakable cost. But as Elizabeth was still very young, and far from marriageable age by our standards, I told Raju that in any case he must not think seriously of her at this time. Both of them promised they would not meet and that they would not write any more letters, although I knew so well that "many waters cannot quench love".



Frankly, I felt that both of them could have done much worse than to fall in love with each other. Both are fine, born-again Christians. What they had seen of each other had been chiefly in the Sunday School, and that is surely about the safest place to go looking for a life partner. I knew that these two young people had much in common that is vital for happiness, in fact, all the factors that their families would utterly ignore in their selection of a mate for either of them. But I knew as well as they that tradition as strong as the centuries was against them. And even as I pleaded with them to lay their affec-

tions down at Jesus' feet and not incur the anger of their people, my heart went out in deep sympathy for them.

Time passed, Christmas came went, all were occupied with the unprecedented joys of the season. (And I suppose now that the two lovers were secretly taking advantage of opportunities it lent for contacts.) I went on leave for six weeks, and things developed with bewildering speed.

Gossip-loving neighbors brought news to both families that there was an affair between these two. Neighbors are so handy! The tongue is such an unruly evil. Salomi recently said, "Gossip and tale-bearing are a fearful disease among our people." I could also add that it is a disease that is continually an epidemic! As soon as the parents heard this news, with the neighbors' evil flavor added to it, they set about madly to arrange a "suitable" marriage for their respective offspring. "A mate for you in our own caste", they advised, and mates were quickly found for them. Elizabeth's engagement has already been duly solemnized. Being a girl, and such a young girl at that (14 at the most), she was and is helpless before her family and the god of custom. Raju's story, however, is a bit different.

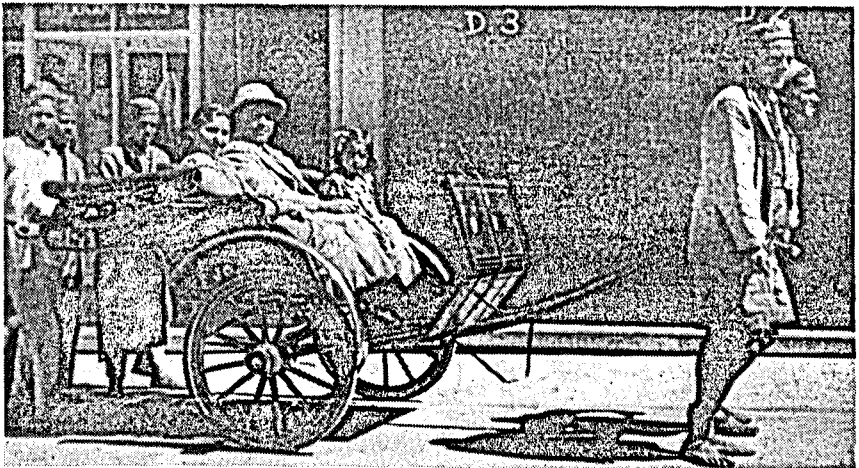
All felt that the matter was clinched and the trouble ended when Elizabeth's engagement was celebrated and the significant articles of jewelry placed on her hands and feet. But they had not reckoned on the power of human youth, which often rebels against nature nor on the courage of the tyranny of custom and superstition. Ancient India knows nothing of love's part in choosing a marital partner. Any desire of one sex for the companionship of the other is lust, and therefore necessarily and essentially evil. Conversation between a young girl and

young man could only have immorality in view. This, without variation or qualification, is the mind of conservative India. Elizabeth's mother (her father is dead) is illiterate, has breathed as her vital breath all the fettering beliefs of heathen traditions, and probably is among those who will never change. Last Sunday morning in her house I listened to this mother describe in disgusting language, in the presence of her daughter, the dangers of the physical changes that are taking place in the girl's life—all so natural, so beautiful, and wonderful from the Christian's viewpoint. The mother concluded that there was only one thing to do, and that was to get her married as soon as possible! While the mother talked, Elizabeth's face turned white and her lips quivered. She was not allowed to speak, but she did not need to speak to me in words. Her face spoke in thundertones.

Up to a point, John Raju's story runs parallel. His parents and relatives decided he must marry to save his character, and so a girl was selected. But Raju is a Christian, and his sex and age are in his favor. Also, we may safely conjecture that his love for Elizabeth gave him courage in his stand. He would not submit to their plans. He told them he could not disobey the command of God in marrying a girl who was not a Christian. (Would that our American young people might catch this spirit!) In any case, he told them, he must have something to say as to whether or not the girl was suitable. She must have a real experience and must be able to go all the way with Jesus, just as he had determined to do. For "how can two walk together, except they be agreed?" But how could heathen parents, utterly ignorant of the Bible, understand such talk? They didn't understand. To the contrary, they felt their son had committed an unpardonable sin in refusing to marry at their suggestion. It was a thing entirely unheard of, and they would lose face before their people. How could a son so turn against the mother who gave him birth, or

the father who had so sacrificed (???) for him? And how could he brush aside the customs practiced by them for centuries and approved by the gods? Raju's persistent answer to their persuasions was, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me." But as the Scripture says, "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him". Raju, being a saved person, is indwelt by the Spirit of God, and God's commands are precious to him; while his people, still

abeth have not kept their promise to refrain from communicating. I expect all that had just passed might have been wiped out had they not insisted on one more "chat" last Sunday, just two days after the engagement to the other man! This was an outrage against every good social precept! And you may be sure that neighbors, already grievously disappointed because it seemed the trouble was being settled without violence, would lose no time in bearing the news that the two lovers had been seen talking together! This would



glued to their heathen concepts, are strangers to all that is of the Spirit. It is foolishness to them indeed. (In writing this account I am not merely giving you what John Raju has reported to me, for only yesterday the mother came here and told me again, with her own slant, what I have written.) The parents are sincerely grieved and distressed. They are to be pitied. "I have no boy now", she wailed out to me a few nights ago, just as a bereaved mother would have mourned at a graveside. "My boy has said he has no parents and no family but God, and that this is all he needs!" she sobbed out of her broken heart. "Nothing but trouble have I seen since he became a Christian, and it is all because of you". (That meant me, of course.) These things hit them, oh, so hard. And they have no help and no comfort, for the only gods they know are those described in Psalms 115.

The regrettable feature of this affair is that John Raju and Eliz-

surely blow up dying embers, and maybe after all the neighborhood could enjoy a good fight! And so their morbid desires were satiated Sunday night when Elizabeth's mother, brother, and fiancé went down in all the heat of the insulted and injured, and waged a proper warfare with John Raju and his family.

Providence would have it that in returning home that night I found myself right in front of Raju's door as the fight was coming to a focus. For a few minutes I seemed to be the target, for both mothers (who had come to fight each other) now began to rail me. To them, of course I was the cause of all this trouble, and they were sure their gods were favoring them in sending me along just at that moment. But as I had been entirely unaware of any recent communication between Raju and Elizabeth, and, as I had been busy all day (it was then 9:00 p.m.), I appeared on this scene absolutely innocent of what was going on.

Raju, hearing his mother shouting at me, rushed out and diverted her accusations from me to himself.

Then followed the battle, only a few details of which I can afford to tell you. Elizabeth's mother is a cripple, her left leg and foot twisted, drawn, and shriveled so that ordinarily she can walk only by the help of a crutch around her own house and yard. If you could see the steep and dangerous path she had walked, you would find it hard to believe she did it. We with full use of our limbs find it a most difficult path at night. Satan gives incredible power to those who will serve him. While I stood in the midst of the frenzied mob, I saw this poor woman grab her crutch in her hand, and, drawing it back over her shoulder, make a running dash towards Raju as if she had no handicap at all. She struck at him with such might that, had not her son caught the crutch, it probably would have meant sudden death for Raju, because the aim was at his head. This woman is not capable in herself of such physical exertion.

The quarrel raged for some time. Then the same good neighbor who had been the tale bearer came to the scene and told the truth of what she had seen. So (while a few of us who had gone away prayed) the fight was quelled.

Perhaps you can see a little of what all India is going through in these days. Young people everywhere are moving out of the past, on into a future of greater freedom in every respect; while the old group still endeavor to wield the iron-hand of authority, even to the point of violence. Much as the younger generation must suffer for their new freedom, I feel that perhaps the pain it causes the conservatives is even greater. Theirs is a losing fight, and they have nothing to turn to for comfort. The progressives, especially if they know Christ, have everything! They can afford to suffer for it!

But there is a grave danger, and it is at this point that we are all greatly concerned. Many, yea,

most of India's youth are not at all prepared to exercise the social freedom which they know is theirs by right and for which they long. Untaught, either by precept or example, it is true that they cannot "take" this privilege of mingling freely with the opposite sex. Too often it does end in shameful failure. I see it happening, among our own young people as well as those farther afield, and, although I long to see this freedom achieved, I shudder at the ruined lives the conflict is producing. Is it inevitable? Or, is there a way of avoiding it? Meanwhile, I longed to take these two young people under my own immediate sponsorship and seek to direct their lives on to victory through their Lord and mine.

At the root of all, as you have seen, is the abominable system of caste, and this is one of the fetters that new India aims to throw off. To Elizabeth's family this was a difference which nothing in this life could ever bridge, and her attachment to this outcaste was an insult to her people. But to Elizabeth and Raju there is one Shepherd and one flock, all are one in Christ Jesus.

But now Elizabeth's life is snuffed out, and, unless God intervenes on her behalf, she will shortly be married to a man whom she will probably never love and will be as the millions of others. I cannot plead too earnestly for your prayers for this situation. With so much involved, and effects so far-reaching, only divine wisdom can touch it.

Meanwhile, Satan is rejoicing because by means of all this he has been able to interfere with the work of the Gospel. Elizabeth's mother had been coming to Sunday School regularly for a year, and had received awards from quarter to quarter for perfect attendance. She seemed to love the School and the Bible lessons. Now she not only has forbidden Elizabeth to come but she also refuses to come. It is such a pity. The only real joy she ever had was the Sunday School, and now overnight the enemy deceives her and wrests that from her.

Other parents, listening to the suggestions of Satan, have taken their big girls out of Sunday School for fear some one will speak to them. Although boys and girls never meet in the same class, parents are afraid for them to come to the same meetinghouse. Naturally, some feel we should forbid John Raju to come, and thus leave the way clear for the girls. Do pray our all-wise Father to step in and overrule in it all, and to vindicate the high and holy moral standards of the Gospel.

—oOo—

WHEN TO GIVE AWAY GOD'S MONEY:

1. When God has saved you from an accident—**then give thankfully.**
2. When you feel an attack of stingitis coming on—**then give quickly.**
3. When the Devil says, "you cannot afford it"—**then give trustfully.**
4. When your wages are raised—**then give hilariously.**
5. When God says, "Invest My money for Me in some soul winning work"—**then give obediently.**
6. When you are seized with a cancerous attack of "worryitis"—**then give freely.**
7. When God takes away your assets and leaves you liabilities—**then give in mighty faith.**
8. When God answers your prayers for an increase in wages—**then give unhesitatingly.**
9. When some great blessing has jeweled your life—**then give joyfully.**
10. When You come so near the city of God that you can see those "Glittering Towers the Sun Outshine"—**then give hilariously, give freely, and give quickly.**

Continued from page 4.

preaching, and you say, be more CALM. I think that perhaps it will be better to just let the Holy Spirit take charge and have full RIGHT of WAY. So above all things we MUST wake up those who are assleper ere it be too late.

REPORT

OF FOREIGN MISSION TREAS.

(Receipts during April, 1948)

Brought forward	\$5,839.98
Received by states as follows:	
North Carolina	\$1,254.11
West Virginia	696.86
Alabama	572.74
Missouri	564.55
Tennessee	318.70
Michigan	218.56
Illinois	142.75
South Carolina	120.00
Kentucky	88.61
Virginia	84.89
Oklahoma	67.69
Florida	62.50
Mississippi	48.96
Georgia	48.00
Texas	29.40
Kansas	13.00
Arkansas	9.00
Ohio	9.00
California	5.00
Donation from India	10.00
Offerings for Review	2.00
Refunds	285.00
Total	\$4,651.33
Grand total	\$10,491.31
Disbursements	\$4,797.55
Balance May 1, 1948	\$5,693.76
Winford Davis, Treas.	

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REPORT

OF TEXAS HOME MISSIONARY

(For April, 1948)

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

Our mission work is growing, the Lord is blessing, and we give Him the praise for it all. Most of our work is holding revivals. We have been in four meetings since March 15, and have a two month schedule until in Sept. With our half time church, we keep pretty busy. We are trying to go to the new and weak churches first (as we are called) because we feel the Home Mission work is needed there more to try and build up their churches.

On April 7 we drove to Salt creek Church near Paducah, Texas for a meeting. This is a union community, we only have a few Free Will Baptists there but they all work together wonderfully. In fact it is one of the best communities we were ever in. I told the people I believed they were all Free Will Baptist. We had a large crowd and good meetings. Two conversions, one a lady reclaimed, five came wanting a closer walk with God, and three middle aged men asked interest in our prayers. Bro. Winters and Bro. Haston carried the meeting on through the 3rd Sunday night as we had to leave to fill our regular appointment at New Salem Church. Sunday night we had one saved and one reclaimed at New Salem.

The following Monday we drove to Dallas to be with Bro. Nelson in a meeting at the Bonnie View Church. This little church is growing. We organized last summer with 12 members; now they have 25. With the co-

operation of Bro. Cox and his people from the First Church, and also from other churches, we had good crowds. It looked like the meeting would close with out a move made until Sunday night the Lord came down in His mighty power. Eighteen came to the altar, some reclaimed and some rededicating their lives. Two came for membership and one man surrendered to preach. Every one was happy, some shouting the praises of God. Pray for us, as we carry on our mission work, that we will just be humble servants of the Lord.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Money sent direct to	
Mr. Cole for March	
Central Tex. Q. M.	\$ 26.71
West Fork Q. M.	21.74
Rev. & Mrs. Halbrook	1.00
Mrs. K. Kelly50
Total	\$ 49.95
Home Missions Offerings For April	
New Salem C. Decatur, Tex. ..	\$ 7.00
Rev. W. W. Winters	1.50
Bonnie View C. Dallas, Tex. ..	18.00
North Zulch C.	8.00
Salt Creek C.	22.75
New Hope C.	5.00
A. F. Pierce & Son	25.00
Vernon C.	3.00
J. W. Brinson	2.00
Mrs. T. H. Gilchrest	1.00
Weatherford C.	3.50
Mrs. J. A. Brooks	1.00
First C. Dallas	4.50
Pleasant Mound C.	18.06
Clayton C.	4.40
Cross C.	3.39
Rev. & Mrs. R. E. Conner	10.00
Total	\$138.83

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MRS WILLEY TO SPEAK
AT NATION-WIDE LEAGUE
CONFERENCE

Mrs. T. H. Willey, one of our missionaries in Cuba, is returning to the states for a short stay in compliance with an invitation to appear as one of the speakers at the League Conference at the East Nashville Church June 15-17. We are very happy that one of our missionaries direct from the field will appear before the great body of F. W. B. youth in this conference to address them in the interest of our great Foreign Missionary program. We are so desirous that our young people grow up with a burning zeal in their hearts for the precious cause of missions. We are sure Mrs. Willey will prove to be a great inspiration and will add much spiritual blessing to this conference.

The Foreign Mission Board and the League Board are jointly taking care of the travel expense from Cuba over and return.

The Great Doctrines
of The Bible

By William Evans, D. D.

275 Pages

\$1.75

OUR MISSIONARY ITINERATE
WORK

Our field workers in the interest of Foreign Missions keep busy. As the Gem goes to press, Rev. Kenneth Turner is in the state of California touring among our Free Will Baptist Churches of this west coast state in the interest of missions. He is working this section under the direction of Rev. Dean Moore, who is Missions Director in California. We have not had as yet any report as to the progress of this itinerary, as he has been there only a few days.

Rev. and Mrs. Maurice W. Roach of Durham, N. C. are keeping quite busy touring the F. W. B. Churches in some of the eastern states. They have done extensive work in the states of Kentucky and Virginia; also some work in North Carolina. The response to their itinerate work has been good!

Bro. Bert F. Rogers of Drumright, Okla. has lately been making some contacts among the churches of Okla. The response so far has been good!

We are very thankful for all this continued effort, and for all the response. Our people are waking up more and more in the interest of the precious cause of missions.

We are also appreciative of some late moves in the interest of Home Missions. Some states, we notice, are stepping out more definitely in Home Mission activity, electing some Home Mission officials, etc. We are glad to see this. Strengthening the work at home means also added support for the work abroad. Keep the good work going.

Winford Davis
Pro. Secy.-Treas.

—oOo—

A BETTER WORLD

If you would build a better world
In which to live to-day,
You must be guided by the Lord
And daily trust and pray.
If you would build a better world,
A righteous place to live,
Of unselfish men and women
Who would love and honor give,
You must have the Christian grace
That lifts the soul up high
Above the passions of revenge and hate
And keeps the spirit high.
Christianity is the power
By which we gain it all
And keep in mind the common rights
Of all men great and small.
If you would build a better world,
Then surrender all to God
Live by faith and honest trust
and the reading of His word.

—Wilbia Sell

Stockton, Mo., Rt. 4

CHURCH ACTIVITY & EVANGELISM

REPORT OF HAZEL CREEK U. CHURCH (Northeast Mo. Ass'n.)

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son, cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:17).

The word "fellowship" describes the prevailing atmosphere of our church. Rev. O. T. Allred just closed a two week revival which was a real blessing to our church. His messages were inspirational, informative, and direct from God. Although unsaved didn't attend our services, God's people were strengthened. We are more zealous to "continue steadfast in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship".

Although we are a small band of Christian folk, we are doing our bit for the Master through the support of our denominational enterprises and the success of our church. God's blessings have been ours. We want to go on "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ". (Eph. 4:13).

Do pray for us as we "endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace".

Marie Hyatt., Pastor
Greentop, Mo.

—oOo—

Dear Gem Readers:

As pastor of the Southside Free Will Baptist Church here in St. Louis, I'm happy to report a very successful revival meeting just closed with Rev. Damon C. Dodd as our evangelist. With Rev. Dodd bringing great soul stirring messages there was never a dull night during the entire meeting. Fourteen precious souls were led to Christ and 5 united with the church with a possibility of others uniting soon. The house was full almost every night and on the last night some were even standing for lack of seating capacity.

There was great rejoicing among God's people as the word of God went out with power. We of the Southside Church thank God for sending Bro. Dodd our way.

Now just a few remarks about the progress of our church. We are going forward for God, and the church is growing in membership. The Sunday School has grown to where we are having from 70 to around 100 each Sunday. The League is coming along better and our prayer meetings are well attended with around 50 each week. We have just recently organized a woman's auxiliary work and we

feel it will be a great help to our church.

We have bought the building that we are worshipping in and have started some remodeling, so you see we have much for which to praise the Lord. We also have a string band and a fine group of young people who sing (Quartets, trios, etc.).

Pray for us that God may continue to bless us here and that we may see a still greater increase in our church. May the Lord bless each of you.

Rev. Harvey E. Hill

—oOo—

REPORT OF EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS DURING APRIL AND MAY

Rev. O. T. Allred

Monday following the fourth Sunday in March we began a meeting with Rev. Archie Cooper at the Jewell Church, near Kirksville, Mo. We found a splendid group of faithful workers and God gave us a good revival in the church; but the unsaved of the community didn't attend the services. We had one conversion in this meeting, a grandmother, who came with a group of folk from the Sublette and New Harmony Churches. We closed this meeting on Friday night before the second Sunday in April and went to Hazel Creek Union Church for a meeting. Sis. Marie Hyatt is pastor of this church. God gave us a fine time of fellowship and a splendid revival in the church. While in this meeting we were privileged to attend a baptismal service in the afternoon of the third Sunday in April where Rev. Archie Cooper baptized ten. These were converts from our meeting at Sublette in January and Rev. Harvey Hill's meeting at Sublette with Sis. Marie Hyatt at New Harmony last fall.

On May 10th we went to Myrtle for a meeting with Rev. Mark Lewis. They had conducted a week of youth revival before we arrived. This had paved the way for a real revival. We were with them for ten nights, and during this time we witnessed nine conversions and nine additions to the church. All nine were baptized May 23rd. This certainly was a marvelous victory. Of the ten revivals we have conducted since July this was among the best. Bro. Lewis will have a more complete report, and, perhaps, a picture taken during this meeting in the next issue of the Gem.

We are now ready to book revivals for this summer and fall if any church should desire our services.

May 3, 1948

Dear Bro. Davis & Gem Readers:

A line to say that we are just back from our Ass'n. and report a wonderful time. God being present throughout the conference. There were some dark clouds in Calif. in the Lord's work, but we, in His blessed Name, have broken through to the silver lining and the new day is dawning thank the Lord forever. The distance between the farthest points of our Ass'n. being so great (500 miles), we voted to have three Ass'ns. instead of one and also a state Ass'n. We had three new churches to come in this time. I have been staying very close to home for some time as my loving wife has been so sick, but she is some better now for which we thank God. We do thank God for the good people all over the states that were asking about her and praying for her.

I was elected State Home Mission President. We have Home Mission work and also Ladies Auxiliary. As President of Missions, our goal for this state to start with is one missionary in India and one in Cuba; so I take the liberty, Bro. Davis, of asking the cost of maintenance in each field. I will contact the churches of the state as fast as possible. I have asked our mission circles to tithe into the state treasury and believe they will for they want to put the work over for the Lord, and I am sure the churches will respond with a set amount or special offerings, God bless them. All they are asking is for someone to lead the way. So your Mission President says, "Come on, and let's reach the goal". O, I know you, God bless you. I know that you won't be satisfied till you have reached that mark in missions at home and abroad. Aren't we ashamed that we haven't done more? "Why, Bro. Waltman." Well, I know one other denomination that is spending Twelve million dollars each year. "No, no." Yes, it is true. That is an average of \$123.08 per member. Why? Because they love God and want to get the other nations saved and knowing God as well as us. Thank and praise His Holy Name, are you with me? Yes, I say you are. We shall be blessed together co-workers in Christ.

J. L. Waltman
Box 804, Turlock, Calif.

—oOo—

Dear Gem Readers and Youth for Christ workers:

Will give you a brief report of our Youth Program.

I was called to meet Mr. L. E. Newberry of Billings, Mo. at the Camp to start cleaning off the play ground and building the road into the camp.

He had a big Bull Dozer that could get the job done. He graded the road from the highway to the camp and took the trees and stumps off and then graded the play ground. We blasted the bad stumps lose for him. It looks like a new place. Except for a few loose rocks, roots, and some dust, our playground is ready for the summer session.

We plan to sow grass on the ground to help keep down the dust, and there are a number of things to be done and time is getting short. Our dinning hall needs a concrete floor in it, and a culvert or a 24 in. "Tin Horn" in the valley across our new road.

A number of new cabins are being promised soon, some are ready to build now. We are sending an order for 2 tomorrow. Come on, dear ones, we are going to need more cabins this year.

We received a nice box of dish towels from the Flat River Auxiliary which we are very thankful for. If you have something to give to the need of entertainment, or playground equipment, please send it to me or report it so we will know of it.

We are truly thankful to our people for their cooperation in our program. We are glad to thank God for our banking system that is proving to be a real blessing to our program. We have received 4 nice offerings from over the state. We failed to receive a report from a number of Sunday Schools in Southeast Mo, this month, but they will have a good one next month. If you send in a report and I fail to report it, please write me at once, for I am subject to mistakes or over sight. That will help me to keep my records correct.

Brethren, we are appealing to you for our needs this year. By the time you read this there will be but 2 months left before our session. If your S. S. or league is not working our program, talk to them about it. It belongs to our young people. If you want our financial system with your group, we would be glad to send it or bring it. We are ready to serve in any way we can. If you have a rally or convention and we can be of any help, we would be glad to come.

Yours for a greater
Youth Program,
Rev. Wm. Reeves, Secy.-Treas.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF YOUTH CAMP

(From April 15 to May 15, 1948)

Brought forward	\$165.44
Received	
W. E. Bowman Liberal	26.50
Harold Hoover Carterville ...	2.00
Golden Oak S. S.	1.61
3rd S. S. St. Louis	27.00
Southside S. S.	7.51
Verdella S. S.	21.75
Cross Roads	4.20
Fredericktown S. S.	16.07
Total	\$106.64
Borrowed from Mr. George	

Brown	500.00
Expenditures	
L. E. Newberry, building road and clearing camp	450.00
Wm. Reeves, labor	36.00
Champ Sells, labor	21.50
Subs. to Gem	3.00
Phone calls & postage	12.66
Total	\$523.16
Balance	\$248.92

—oOo—

LATE NOTICE CONCERNING THE YOUTH CAMP

As the Gem is in the act of going to press the Youth Encampment Board wishes you to have these statements placed before you. There is about \$400.00 needed in order to complete the arrangements for the camp session this year. Work at the grounds is progressing nicely, some are building cabins, the bull dozer work is done etc.; but more funds are needed for further preparation. Please pray about this matter. Have a talk with the Lord and then listen for His suggestions. Will you?

Send all funds for this work to Rev. Wm Reeves, Irondale, Mo.

—The Editor

—oOo—

OBITUARY

Charles Wesley Ricketts, son of Isaac and Mary Jane Ricketts, was born on October 21, 1865 near Danville, Indiana and departed this life April 25, 1948 at his home in Liberal, Mo. at the age of 82 years, 6 months, and 4 days.

He was married on September 23, 1888 to Martha Jane King who sur-



vives him. To this union were born eleven children, six sons and five daughters. They are: Everett Ricketts of Billings, Montana, Harry of Bronaugh, Mo., Glen of Liberal, Mo., Clifford of Los Angeles, California, Howard of Long Beach, California, Paul of Hannon, Mo., Mrs. May Dickey of Liberal, Mo., Mrs. Cora Jones of Durango, Colorado, Mrs. Eva Noel of Liberal, Mo., Mrs. Ethel Bell of Arnold, Kans., and Mrs. Jona Baker of Ar-

cadia, Kans.

He is survived by his wife, children, one sister, Mrs. Josephine Rabourne of Fresno, California, thirty grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn his passing, but our loss is heaven's gain.

He was converted in Jan., 1910 and joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Hannon, Mo. He was an ordained deacon of this church and a trustee and has always been a faithful attendant at both church and Sunday School as long as his health permitted. Bro. Ricketts hauled the first load of rock that went into the building of the present Hannon Church.

He came to Vernon County with his parents in a covered wagon at the age of three and settled near Deerfield, Mo. He was a successful farmer and stockman and a most outstanding citizen of his community.

In 1901 he came to Barton County and settled on a farm one mile west of Hannon, Mo. where he resided until five years ago when he and Mrs. Ricketts moved into Liberal.

Funeral services were conducted at the Hannon F. W. B. Church on Wednesday afternoon, April 28, by the Rev. Cecil Campbell assisted by Rev. Winford Davis.

Songs were rendered by Mrs. Mary Wade, Mrs. Olive Smith, and Rev. Winford Davis assisted at the piano by Mrs. Cecil Campbell.

Honorary pallbearers were: L. C. Wade, Edward Joe Webb, Fred Reed, T. R. Palmer, and Geo. Weaver.

Active pallbearers were the grandsons. The flower girls were granddaughters.

Interment was at the Worsley Cemetery under the direction of the Konantz Funeral Home of Lamar. Witnessed by a very large crowd of friends and neighbors.

—oOo—

OBITUARY

Oscar Dean Boyer was born Dec. 15, 1881 in Honey Grove Texas and passed away April 12, 1948 at the age of 66 years, 3 months, and 27 days.

He was united in marriage to Pearl Etchison in 1925. To this union one son was born.

He professed faith in Christ several years ago and united with the Merl's Chapel Church. He expressed his willingness to go and faith in a resurrection.

He is survived by his wife, Pearl, one son, Millard, two step sons, Jed and James Etchison, two sisters, Mrs. Oma Dummitt and Mrs. Flora Harvey, two brothers, Homer and Fred Boyer, all of Cassville, and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral service was conducted by Rev. Winford Davis in the Oak Ridge Church northeast of Cassville, Mo. Interment in the Oak Ridge Cemetery.

MISSOURI STATE TREASURER'S REPORT (April, 1948)

FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Verdella Church	\$ 34.00
Rock Chapel Church	21.89
Monett Church	17.71
Green Grove Church	21.83
Jewell Church	8.40
John W. Adkins	75.00
Union Third Fork S. S.	6.50
New Harmony Mission	10.00
Jewell Church	9.73
Monett Church	17.09
Mt. Olive Church	11.79
Golden Oak League	1.21
Golden Oak S. S.	4.64
Carterville Church	7.75
Amity Church	25.00
Sublette Church	9.85
Hannon Church	5.00
Hazel Creek Union Church ..	19.75
Hicory Grove Church	5.71
Pleasant Grove S. S.	10.75
Cross Roads Church	5.10
Clarence Dunn	10.00
Faith and Hope Church	10.50
C. A. Crooks	20.00
Stotts City Methodist Church .	31.29
Mrs. F. H. Richardson	1.00
I. Class of Mtn. Grove, L.	10.00
(Designated for Zalene Lloyd)	
Golden Oak League	1.31
Golden Oak S. S.	4.13
Rev. Harold Hoover	5.00
Rock Chapel Church	19.94
Flat River Church	11.24
St. Louis Third C. S. S.	26.99
Union Light S. S.	9.45
Total	\$499.55

CUBAN STUDENT SUPPORT

Hazel Creek U. Church	\$ 15.00
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EXPANSION PROGRAM

Hazel Creek U. Church	\$ 19.75
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TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE FUND

Hazel Creek U. Church	\$ 6.59
Sunbeam Class H. C. U. S. S. .	11.00
Total	\$ 17.59

STATE UNIFIED FUND

Monett Church	19.32
Fredericktown Home M.	3.00
Flat River Church	138.09
Fredericktown Church	118.50
Merl's Chapel S. S.	10.00
Monett Church	19.00
Carterville Church	12.21
Aurora Church	5.40
Merl's Chapel S. S.	10.00
St. Louis Third S. S.	26.99
Leadington Church	2.02
Total	\$364.53

Marie Hyatt, Treas.

—oOo—

REPORT CHILDREN'S HOME RINGLING, OKLA.

Expenses of Home for April, 1948

4-15 Rev. Weatherman	\$ 75.00
4-12 Rev. Bradford	25.70
4-21 Rev. Bradford	23.82
4-30 Delvert Gro. & Mar.	125.54
4-30 Tyler & Simpson	66.84
4-30 Schuler Fruit Co.	29.91
4-30 Allis Chalmer Dealer	23.12
4-30 Maker Implement Co.	13.62

4-30 W. D. Bodenheimer	24.27
4-30 Huston Lumber Co.	33.91
4-30 Hamilton Supply Co.	35.64
4-30 Rev. Weatherman	75.00
Total	\$552.37

Paid out by Rev. Weatherman

3-23 Sallie Stow	\$ 10.00
3-29 Laundry	2.00
3-30 Sallie Stow	10.00
4-2 Laundry	1.80
4-3 Childrens allowance	3.50
4-5 Laundry	2.00
4-6 Sallie Stow	10.00
4-6 Laundry	1.00
4-6 Expenses for children ..	12.20
4-10 Lewis Wilson	40.00
4-13 Sallie Stow	10.00
4-1 Tractor expense	6.62
4-17 Children's allowance	2.55
4-20 Sallie Stow	10.00
Total	\$121.67

Produce sold

Total paid out	\$ 92.07
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Grand Total

Money Received for April, 1948	\$6.44
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4-3 First C. Tulsa	\$ 15.00
4-2 Blue Bell C.	5.00
4-3 Goar Corner C.	5.00
4-3 Jackson C.	10.00
4-4 Iron Chapel C.	5.00
4-4 Spring Hill C.	2.97
4-8 Healdton C.	5.00
4-8 Canadian Ass'n.	15.00
4-8 Cedar Grove C.	5.00
4-8 Tecumseh C.	5.13
4-8 First C. Shawnee	7.50
4-8 Rev. W. V. Woods	4.00
4-8 Sulphur C.	26.00
4-8 First C. Comanche	5.00
4-8 Jas Holliday	1.00
4-11 Dibble Ass'n. L. Rally ..	73.00
4-12 Rev. Bradford	64.25
4-12 M. Ladies Drumright ...	5.00
4-12 League of Goar Corner ..	6.00
4-12 Central Ave. C.	15.00
4-15 Bistow C.	12.50
4-15 Clemscot C.	21.66
4-15 Spring Creek S. S.	6.75
4-15 First C. Wewoka	22.00
4-15 Dibble League	2.50
4-16 Okla. State Aux.	10.00
4-19 First C. Kerman, Calif. .	19.00
4-19 A. F. Peirce & Son	25.00
4-19 Pretty Water C.	10.00
4-19 Cushing M. Ladies	4.00
4-20 Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Cash ..	10.00
4-21 Duck Creek C.	5.00
4-21 Canadian Ass'n.	3.00
4-21 Ada C.	27.30
4-21 Rev. Bradford	59.95
4-21 Dibble S. S.	10.00
4-22 Stratford S. S.	4.60
4-26 Smomoe C.	5.00
4-26 Wirt C.	5.65
4-29 Mrs. E. W. Keiffer	3.00
4-29 Clayton C.	3.30
4-29 N. C. Ballew	15.00
Total	\$564.66

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REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER OF TEXAS ORPHANAGE BOARD

(For Feb., March, & April)

By R. E. Conner

February—

New Hope C. Henderson	\$ 5.00
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Clayton C., Clayton	3.30
Mrs. L. E. Harris, Auston	15.00

March—

Clayton C., Clayton	3.30
Clayton C., Clayton	3.30
First C., Comanche	5.00

April—

A. F. Pierce & Son, El Paso ..	25.00
Clayton C., Clayton	3.30
Rev. & Mrs. R. E. Conner Buf-	

falo Springs

Total	\$68.20
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This money was sent to Bro. Jack Hopkins for Okla. Children's Home.

—oOo—

REVIVAL AT THE 1ST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH FLAT RIVER

Sunday morning, April 18th, the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, Mo. began a revival meeting with Rev. Henry Melvin of Nashville, Tennessee as evangelist. Bro. Melvin's messages were inspiring and uplifting to the church, and sinners found themselves lost and came weeping their way to Christ.

We found Bro. Melvin great to work with and his messages were fundamental. We have heard it expressed by members since the meeting that they never heard such marvelous preaching, and never saw the spirit working in such a sin-condemning way as He did here. The church enjoyed Bro. Melvin very much and welcomes him back.

Aside from their gift to the education program they gave Bro. Melvin a nice traveling kit. There were twenty conversions in the meeting. May the Lord give us more men who will preach the truth without fear or favor.

Yours in Jesus' Name,
Rev. F. C. Zinn, Pastor

—oOo—

Continued from page 6.

Gospel contains. There are also expostulations and entreaties. The sinner is followed with warnings and solicitations; a voice from the Word is ever sounding in his ears, inviting to the cross, and saying, this is the way, walk in it and live; and when he turns from the straight and narrow way and presses on in the broad way to death, the voice of God comes, in melting tenderness and earnest entreaty and anxious expostulation, "WHY WILT THOU DIE?" WHY RUIN THY SOUL? WHY DESTROY THYSELF? Isa. 30: 21. How often dear reader have you heard that voice? And today you hear it again. God speaks to you in these lines. Pointing to the cross, He says, "WHY WILT THOU DIE?"

To be continued next month.

The Great
Commission
— Our Mission



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole
World
For Christ



Mt. Vernon, Ill. Vernon Church.

May 20, 1948

Dear Gem Readers:

We would appreciate a few lines in the Gem to let our sister auxiliaries know we are working and praying with them in the Lord's work. Our District President, Sis. Aileen Hanna, recently organized an auxiliary of the younger women of our church with eight charter members, some of them recent converts. Some members from both auxiliaries attended our district meeting at Pittsburg, Ill. The presence of the Lord was felt at the meeting. Our two societies are planning for a special day of prayer here in our church soon, inviting the auxiliaries from the entire district. Sis. Aileen Hanna will be in charge of the service.

Pray for our auxiliaries here, both older and younger women.

Yours in God's service,

Mt. Vernon Auxiliary
Mildred Gibson, Pres.
Iva M. Drennan, Corr. Secy.

P. S. We are enclosing a small offering for the Gem.

—oOo—

REPORT OF ILL. DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEETING

Met in Pittsburg, Ill. F. W. B. Church with eight churches representing on April 22.

Chesta Clampt of Scheller, Ill. conducted devotions.

Welcome by Iva Marks.

Response by Mary Lance.

Requests were made for prayer and a session of prayer was held.

Reports were made from district officer.

Recognition was given to the church having largest attendance. Bear Point had the honor with 24 present.

The officers were retained with the exceptions of the fourth and fifth vice-presidents who asked to be replaced after serving several years.

Hands were joined in circle around them, and prayer followed for this year's officers.

Plans were made for the Radio Broadcast the Sunday Following.

Delegates were selected for Nat'l. Convention.

Subscriptions were solicited for the Gem magazine.

Our beloved Eunice Edwards brought us greetings following the message by Bro. Little.

Rescue Church brought a message "The Lonsome Bible" as a play-let.

Reading by Mildred Gibson of Mt.

Vernon Church.

Reading by Freida Shirtz.

The day was climaxed by a praise service and an offering for the Tabernacle, an undertaking for God in Ill.

The meeting adjourned to meet in Oct. On Thursday before the 4th Sunday with Bear Point Church near Sesser, Ill.

Submitted by

Emma Moore
3200 Sheridan
Springfield, Ill.

—oOo—

INDIAN CREEK AUX. QUARTERLY MEETING

The Third Quarterly Meeting of the Indian Creek Woman's Auxiliary met at the Monett Church May 12, 1948 at 11:00 o'clock.

The meeting opened with songs, "Victory in Jesus" and "Heavenly Sunlight", led by Helen Mackey.

Sis. Jewell Campbell had charge of the meeting, reading as Scripture the 3rd chapter of 1st John 1-16.

Prayer was given by Sis. Zula Larison.

Sis. Campbell read an interesting poem and led a testimonial service.

The services were turned over to Bro. Campbell who gave a talk on "Living Lives for Christ" and Bro. Paul Williams who gave a talk on "How Men Rob God".

The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Bro. Williams for the noon hour.

The afternoon service opened with the song, "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go", followed by prayer by Dorothy Roller.

Officers gave their reports.

Talks on Stewardship were given as follows:

Lola Williams—"Christianity and Man's Business Life".

Dorothy Roller—"Christ Controls Our Tithes".

A special prayer was given in the interest of the revival at Cartersville by Sis. Eddie Jones.

A reading was given by Sis. Harrold "Memories of Mother".

A talk was given by Sis. Alta Powell on "Seven Marks on Stewardship".

Solo by Sis. Zula Larison.

Talk by Helen Mackey on "The ABC's on Stewardship".

A reading by Sis. Tina Mason.

A talk by Sis. Eddie Jones on "Stewardship".

A talk by Sis. Maxie Sterling on "You Are Obligated to Tithe".

Solo by Bro. Williams "Give of Your Best to the Master".

A talk was given by Sis. Campbell on "Missions Wait on Stewardship". She also read two interesting poems.

The song, "Where He Leads Me" was sung as the offering was taken up. The minutes were read.

Dismissed with prayer by Sis. Johnson.

The Indian Creek Ass'n. will meet with Cartersville August, 1948.

—oOo—

REPORT OF THE AUX. OF THE FLAT RIVER CHURCH

Psalms 116:1-2. "I love the Lord because he heard my voice and my supplication. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore, will I call upon him as long as I live."

Dear Gem Family and Aux. Workers:

We have had a 2 week's revival with Bro. Henry Melvin from Nashville, Tenn. as our evangelist. It was a grand and glorious revival. A number of Christians reclaimed and a number dedicated their lives for special service for the Master.

Let's go forward, auxiliary workers, and do what we can. We may not have the greatest auxiliary in numbers, but our motto is to serve the Lord and work for the welfare of the unsaved, to help the needy. "If I have seen any perish for want of clothing or any poor without clothing then let mine arms fall from my shoulder blade, and mine arm be broken from the bone." (Job, 31:19,22). If we had a lot more people to help in the auxiliary like Job, we could do many more wonderful things for the needy. Remember, good auxiliary workers, send me all the 5th Vice-president's reports this year before the State Meeting earlier than last year so we can have better reports since I am your 5th vice-president. We are happy about our auxiliary work. I know the Lord is pleased about it because the devil gave us so many hard knocks and tried to tear down our work. If the Lord delays His coming and lets us all live, let's be at the State Meeting with all our reports good and ready to hand into our service.

Mrs. Gussie Hamblin
Corr. Secy.

The Complete Authorized Edition

IN HIS STEPS

What Would Jesus Do?

By Charles M. Sheldon

245 Pages

\$1.00

WOMAN'S AUX. OF FIRST MISSION ASS'N.

The Woman's Auxiliary Convention of the First Mission Association met with the Free Will Baptist Church of Wewoka, Oklahoma, May 19, 1948. The Theme for the day was "Building for God".

The meeting opened at ten o'clock with singing directed by Mrs. Willard Day. Devotional Service by Mrs. Mildred Cash. Topic, "A Good Foundation".

A cordial welcome was extended by Mrs. O. H. Doss.

Response by Mrs. Lynn Hamilton.

The President's Message was delivered by Rev. Leona Mayfield.

A good report of Auxiliary work in First Oklahoma Association was given by Mrs. Verdun Bingham, State President, and Mrs. Nettie Barnett, Oklahoma City.

Rev. Hattie Newman conducted a praise service after which Rev. Willard C. Day brought an inspiring message from the text, "Let Us Rise Up and Build", Neh. 2:8.

Afternoon devotional was led by Mrs. Lynn Hamilton. Topic, "Hindrances to Building".

A ladies trio, arranged by Wewoka Church sang "Marvelous Grace".

"Building in Cuba" was the theme of an address by Rev. B. F. Rogers who reports both material and spiritual progress in that field.

Reports were given by the following officers:

"Building for God".

Through Finance—Mrs. Myrl Wilson.

Through Enlistment and Promotion—Mrs. Willard Day.

Through our Youth—Mrs. John H. West.

Through Mission and Stewardship Study Courses—Mrs. Bessie Staires.

Through Programs and Publicity—Rev. Cleo Pursell.

Through Benevolence—Mrs. Lula Kuykendall.

Treasurer, Mrs. Myrl Wilson reports disbursements for the quarter as follows: Foreign Missions, \$36.94; Orphanage, \$40.00. Bible College, \$27.00; Co-Laborer Band, \$5.00; Superannuation, \$6.00; Special Offerings, \$46.68.

Mrs. Cleo Pursell
Publicity Director

—oOo—

NOTICE

Will our Gem readers please send the names and addresses of relatives or friends who live in or near Kansas City who might be interested in a Free Will Baptist work in the city. Send all addresses immediately to Thora Arbogast, 3914 Norledge, Kansas City, Mo.

OBITUARY

James V. Fost, son of J. G. and Margaret Fost, was born August 8, 1917 in Cleveland, Ohio; departed this life May 7, 1948 at his home, 907 Bond Street Monett, Mo., being at the time of his passing 30 years and 9 months.

When he was only five months old his parents moved to the state of California where they have resided since that time. Mr. Fost had lived in Monett about seven months.

On March 4, 1946 he was married to Dorothy Hunter of Aurora. During the past two years they had traveled considerably, having made their home in Los Angeles, California, and in New York until settling in Monett seven months ago.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Dorothy, step-daughter, Melba Jean of Monett, his father J. G. Fost and two brothers, Ralph and Bob all of Los Angeles, his mother having preceded him in death. He also leaves his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bradley, of Aurora, two sisters and brothers-in-law, Rev. and Mrs. Winford Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gaines.

Early in life he united with the Baptist Church of Lynnwood, California. Jim was a very likeable person and made many friends wherever he went. He was never one to complain of his illness. He will be sadly missed in the family circle.

SORRY FOR OUR SELF

*The trouble with us folk today
We're sorry for our self.
We think some one else should do the work*

While we are on the shelf.

*We do not seem to stop and think
That the load is part our own.
Perhaps there's someone near you
Who is blue and sad and lone.*

*Perhaps you have the magic words
To replace those tears with smiles;
So let's all look around us,
And try to spread some cheer.
We're only going this way once;
Let's use the time while here.*

Mrs. Artie McClanahan
Niangua, Mo., Rt. 1

—oOo—

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

If you should move from your present location, **DON'T FAIL** to notify the Gem Office so we can change your address accordingly. Otherwise you will not receive your paper. Please give both old and new addresses. —The Editor.

Are you doing your part to help us reach our goal of THREE THOUSAND (3,000) SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Free Will Baptist Gem? Yours will help. Soliciting others will help. Come on now, don't fail us,



ZALEENE LLOYD



MRS. DAN CRONK



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These three will get out to India this summer. The appeal is being made for funds to cover their equipment and travel expense. Send all offerings to the Treasurer at 211 Bond Street, Monett, Mo.

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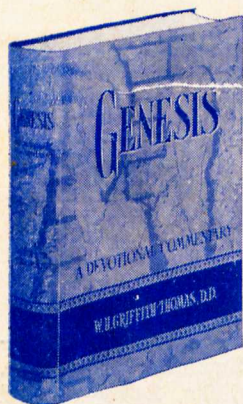
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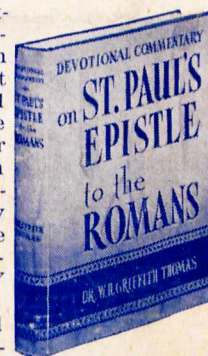


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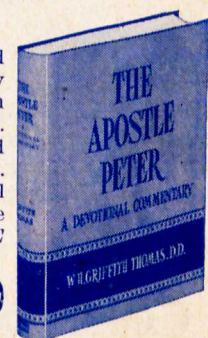
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