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Route 2, Box 94
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Jan '51

The Free Will Baptist Gem

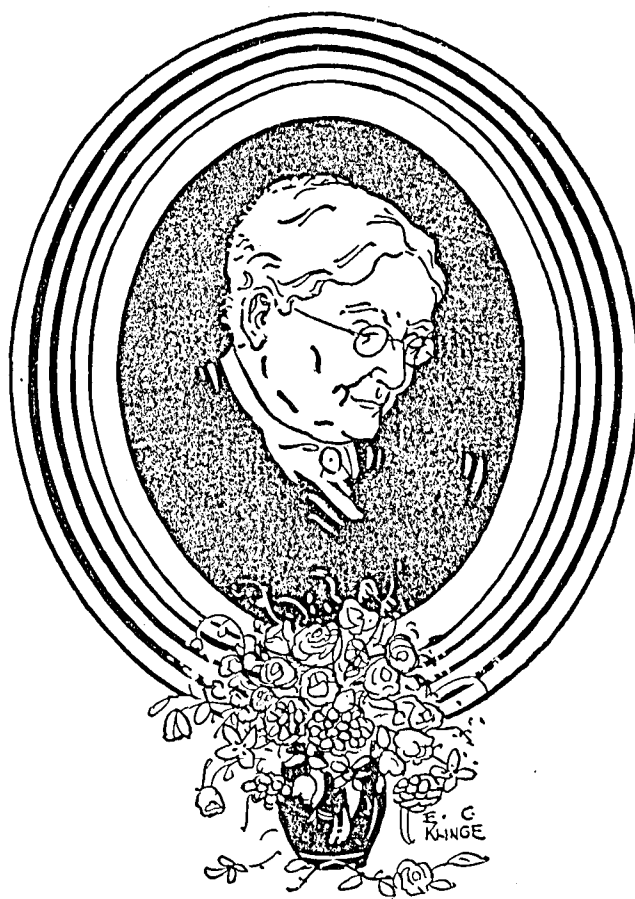
ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Vol. 21—No. 5

Monett, Missouri — May, 1950

\$1.00 per year

HER CHILDREN ARISE UP, AND CALL HER
BLESSED; HER HUSBAND ALSO, AND HE
PRAISETH HER. — PROVERB 30:28.



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM
ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASS'N.

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THE HONOR ROLL

Below is the final standing of the current Honor Roll as of the close of the day April 29, 1950. Many others not listed here have contributed materially. We sincerely appreciate every effort for the success of the Gem.

The Honor Roll system has been in operation over a long period of time now. We have seriously considered discontinuing it. However, several have indicated their enjoyment of the system and have manifest an active interest in competing on this freindly basis. Since we also enjoy trying to show our appreciation for those who are ardent boosters in our behalf we will again start an Honor Roll to continue through October 31, 1950. Start now among your brethren and be on top of the list all the way.

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A personal "thank you" to all who have helped in any way. We hope you can continue this good work.

—Editor



MOTHER'S DAY

MOTHERHOOD AT ITS BEST

Rev. Opal E. Jeffreys, Monett, Mo.

PROVERBS 31

"Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." Proverb 31:30.

As we study this chapter, we find the praise and properties of a good wife and mother. How valuable she is to the home. Many of us can recall the sweet childhood memories of a Godly, praying mother while there are many who have no such memories. Instead, they remember unwholesome living and influences on the home. Such has produced broken homes, juvenile delinquency, broken bodies, and lost souls. As we look back upon our drinking, smoking young mothers of this generation, we wonder what kind of homes their children will make.

Let us consider the qualities of true motherhood. Care in the sense of love, loyalty, and service to her family. Foregoing her own pleasures because of the pure love that fills her heart for the family that God has blessed her with. Not the limited love that causes her to yield to a child's childish desires and wishes, but a love filled with vision for her children whom she desires taught the Word, and chasteneth accordingly. "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." Pro. 13:25. "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." Proverbs 22:15. Now that I'm a mother, I know how much it hurts to chastise. I am sure I speak the feeling of the fathers in the homes also.

She is a comrade and a comfort to each member of her family. What

child does not find comfort in his mother. In Isa. 66:13 He says (in speaking to Jerusalem), "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you."

Her Godly counsel and advice is priceless to her home. When she has had communion with God each day, her words of instruction shall lead her little flock into righteous paths of living.

Our Ideal Mother—She is a virtuous woman, "her price is far above rubies," Prov. 3:10. She is of admirable, upright quality, filled with patience and longsuffering. She is a child of God. She is a good manager and is industrious. "She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household..." "She considereth a field, and buyeth it; with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard." Proverb 31:15, 16. It is not within a child to know the anxious, sleepless hours oftentimes spent over their welfare. She is charitable. "She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy." Proverb 31:20. Her love and helping hand do not stop at the family boundary line, but reaches out to those in need of motherly love, advice, counsel, and understanding. She gives her husband prestige. If he is a minister of the Gospel, her life is a great influence. She bears his pastoral problems with him. They find the answer on their knees together in prayer. She is in hearty agreement with all God calls him to do. This is an example of how it should be whatever the vocation of the husband is, as long as it is honest and upright in God's sight. She is intelligent. She openeth her mouth with wisdom: and in her tongue is the law of kindness." Pro. 31:26. She is trusted by all.

No words of slander, and revilings proceed out of her mouth. She is a substantial member to her home, church, and her nation.

Let us be God-fearing mothers, teaching our children the Word, living its teaching before them. As mothers, we have a great responsibility. Let us do our duty well, that our children may find pleasure in us. "Her children rise up and call her blessed." Prov. 31:28.

We have a bountiful ministry. Someone has said, "Mother conducts a university, a clothing establishment, a laundry, a restaurant; at the same time, she is a police officer. She is president of the little state called the home, where she has to face all problems of economy. As president of a bank she must study how to make ends meet, and often faces financial panics, shortages, and depressions. She is God's greatest priest on earth, the most effective teacher and companion."

Paul calls to remembrance the unfeigned faith in Timothy which dwelt first in his grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice. (II Tim. 1:5).

Mothers, is our blessing of motherhood a blessing to our homes?

SONG OF THE HILLS

Mrs. John Ferguson, Nola, W. Va.

*The hills sing of God's great power;
Of His wonderful love and care.
Their psalm of praise and gladness
Is born on the wings of the air.*

*They sing of the Great Creator
And how He made the hills and
dales.*

*Dressed them with trees and blossoms
And draped them in misty veils.*

*He hung fleecy clouds above them;
Living jewels upon their breast
Then blest them with sunshine and
dew*

And a star-dusted robe for rest.

*Their song will ring through the ages;
As long as the earth shall stand.
Praising God's unchanging goodness
And His gentle protecting hand.*

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THAT LAST PRAYER MEETING

Rev. J. W. Handy, Houston, Texas

As a starting point for our discourse, let us direct your mind to the language of the Apostle Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 2, beginning with the first verse. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard lest at any time we should let them slip." But first, let us briefly refer to Hebrews 1:1, 2. Paul says here that "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets hath in these last days spoken to us by His Son." And it is this message by His Son that Paul would warn us lest we should let them slip, and too by referring to the last verse in the preceding chapter we discover that He is directing the message to those who are heirs of salvation. And not only were they heirs of salvation at that time but some shall be heirs of salvation down here in these last days under the Gospel age and it seems from the Apostle's warning that there must be danger under the conditions which existed at that time of letting some or possibly all of the Gospel admonitions slip from our minds and of our becoming entangled in the things of the world. I am persuaded that whereas such danger did exist at that time that the danger is far greater in this our day. I live in one of the largest producing, manufacturing, and shipping centers in the southwest. Come with me and let us make a visit to the business section of this large city. The time is Saturday night and the streets are fairly teeming with people; some going this way and some that way; some are shopping, others are on their way to places of amusement, while others are here just to join in the excitement of the surging throng. This last day of the week is pay day. Great payrolls have been met and now they are being spent lavishly. And this condition does not apply just to this one city only. Saturday night is a great time of recreation all over the world, but there is to my mind one condition existing which renders it sad in the extreme. Most of the churches in this large city are closed on Saturday night. However, it is a big night in town, and as I stand here and view

the surging throng, I am inclined to use the occasion as a symbol of something of greater magnitude. I am pondering in my mind a picture of the great day of the Lord which will no doubt be the world's last Saturday night. We find a terse description of this event in Matthew 24:30. "AND THEN shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." We see by this Scripture that just such conditions as we have described in our large city will at some future day suddenly turn into the greatest prayer meeting in all history. They will begin to pray but their prayers will be petitions of despair. The old are going to pray, the young are going to pray. And would you believe it, little as they may be thinking about it now, the rich men are going to pray and what will be their prayer? "And said to the mountains and the rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne" (Rev. 6:16). Yes, they will join in this awful prayer meeting, and the poor who have either neglected or rejected God are going to join in this prayer. And listen, OH, listen, will you? Lost church members are going to participate in this awful prayer meeting. Oh, what a sad wail that is sure to be to hear one who has known God and has enjoyed communion with Him now to beg to be hidden from His presence. And why? They have let slip the sweet presence of the Son of God out of their lives. The infidel will be there and he, too, will pray. Both the deceived and the deceiver will pray. Millions will pray out loud. They will not care then who is looking on nor if they hear what they are saying. There is no doubt in my mind but the very rocks and crags of the mountains will vibrate with confessions of the condemned. They are going to pray publicly; they are going to pray on their knees in the streets of our cities, on the public highways, everywhere as they feel the very earth shaking beneath their feet and hear the trumpet sounding in the clouds over their

heads which is only to presage their utter separation from God. They will surge forth in consternation from crowded theaters, night clubs, palatial residences, costly apartments, and business houses—everywhere that they may prostrate themselves and plead not for salvation but that they may be hidden from the presence of a sin-avenging God.

Now let us read again from Revelation 6:14-17, "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Never in all previous history has the world witnessed such a day of retribution as this and why this unusual occasion for prayer?

They had continually said in their hearts and in their wanton boldness no such time would ever come. But God's Word has it different. "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 the creation" (2 Peter 3:3, 4). But here it has come suddenly and altogether unexpectedly just as a thief in the night and now we hear them crying out in their utter despair. Who shall be able to stand? And there is not a semblance in this narrative of another or a second chance after death for those who are not ready when that day shall come. Then in the language of the Apostle Paul to the Hebrews: "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation" (Hebrews 2:3)? No chance then to go back and live life over again, but the great and most important thing for us to consider is what is my influence today? Am I putting God's cause first? Or have I let slip some golden opportunity of life and by so doing have endangered my own safety and that of some one else who may be dependent upon me?

A great southern evangelist used to tell the story of a father who went down to a nearby river for a swim with his two young sons. "Now, boys, we will swim together," said the father as they left the shore. And the swimming was fine, but by and by they came to their limit. They had reached the main current. "And now," said the father, "this is as far as we had better go. We will go back." But the current was too strong and the distance too great, and the two boys went down. And only by the greatest exertion was the father able to reach the shore. In the deepest agony of soul he cried out, "My boys are gone. My boys are gone. We swam out too far." Listen to me, father, mother, are you venturing out too far into the whirlpool of worldliness, of self indulgence, of pleasure seeking, of neglecting God? Have you swum out too far into the stream of time? Have you at last become overpowered by the swift moving tide of this fast day? Are your children or your companion swimming out with you? Or if you are swimming alone, let me warn you, there is danger ahead. You may be nearing the main current which will be too strong for you when that great and notable day of the Lord shall come and that sad prayer meeting shall convene. It will be too late then to seek the Lord, speaking of that great day of doom and desolation for every man who has not made his peace with God. The prophet Zephaniah says, "The great day of the Lord is near and hasteth greatly even the voice of the day of the Lord the mighty man shall cry there bitterly." That is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities and against the high towers and I will bring distress upon men that they shall walk like blind men because they have sinned against the Lord and their blood shall be poured out as dust and their flesh as the dung. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath. But in the Word we have a Scripture that holds our souls steadfast and sure. "But ye brethren are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light and the children of the day, we are not of the

night nor of darkness, therefore let us not sleep as do others, but let us watch and be sober; for they that sleep sleep in the night, and they that be drunken are drunken in the night, but let us who are of the day be sober putting on the breastplate of faith and love and for an helmet the hope of salvation" (I Thess. 5:4-8).

BE NOT DECEIVED

Jesus said: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father, which is in heaven.

"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

"And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7:21-23.

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matt. 24:24.

Paul said: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

"Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things to draw away disciples after them." Acts 20:28-30.

"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

"For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." Rom. 16:17, 18.

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." I Tim. 4:16.

"I charge thee therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke,

exhort, with all longsuffering and doctrine.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

"And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." II Tim. 4:14.

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

"Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you, let him be accursed." Gal. 1:6-8.

"And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

"Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother." II Thes. 3:14, 15.

Yet some of our ministers say, "We are all headed for the same place" and they act as though other doctrines are just as good as what we preach and some even attend and support sects that preach against what we believe.

Do you want to go to heaven? If so, you had better preach and support the truth.

In Revelation we read: "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14.

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

"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." Rev. 22:18, 19.

May God bless all those that preach the Truth.

Your servant,

Rev. A. B. Talbert
Claremore, Oklahoma

A child of God can see more on his knees than a philosopher on his tiptoes.

THE POWER OF CHOICE

Rev. R. K. Franklin, Gardendale, Ala.

WHAT IS THE FIRST PROMISE OF THE PLAN OF SALVATION? WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

"I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Genesis 3:15.

This promise made to Satan (in the serpent) in the presence of Adam and Eve includes at least the following:

1—God's imparting in the heart of man a divine discontent with the slavery to Satan and the bondage of sin.

2—A conflict between the forces of good and those of evil, with the eventual triumph of the good and the complete destruction of the evil.

After he had yielded to Satan, how hopeless would have been man's condition without God's intervention to rescue him?

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? Romans 6:16

The word here translated "servant" really means "slave." Man became the bondsman of Satan and was without hope of rescue. God had to awaken man to his need of rescue.

On what condition only will God give a man righteousness and deliverance from sin?

and thirst after righteousness: for "Blessed are they which do hunger they shall be filled." Matthew 5:6.

Who implants this desire and conviction in man's heart?

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." John 16:7, 8.

The Holy Spirit speaks with pleading tones, saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it..." Isaiah 30:21. He urgently invites the sinner to the marriage supper of the Lamb. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." Rev. 22:17.

In this what does God set before us?

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and

cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deut. 30:19.

How many are thus privileged to receive the benefits of the living gift of God in the death of His Son?

"For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have ever lasting life." John 3:16.

God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but He presses the invitation to choose the right way. Eze. 18:31, 32. He urges whosoever will to come. Revelation 22:17. God wills that all should be saved. Timothy 2:4. About 35 times in the New Testament salvation is offered to "whosoever." Salvation is open to all backed by an enabling invitation.

What faculty has God implanted in man for the purpose of helping him in his recognition and choice of righteousness?

When the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the thing contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another. Romans 2:14,15.

We need to guard the conscience carefully so that it can always be void of offense toward God and man. Acts 24:16. Continually violated, it becomes calloused and seared as with a hot iron. I Timothy 4:2.

As illustrated in Jesus' warning to Peter, what effort does Satan constantly make to get us to resist God and our conscience?

"The Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat." Luke 22:31.

The ancient method of winnowing was to toss the mixture of grain and chaff into the air by means of a scoop or fan. Thus Satan tosses up the tempted and tried soul. He will do all in his power to prevent the soul from yielding to God or remaining true to Him. Study the story of Joushua, the high priest. Zechariah 3:1-5.

What indicates that a man's free-

dom of choice will not be continued indefinitely but will come to an end if that man persistently chooses sin?

"The Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh." Genesis 6:3.

The warning of God to the people just before the flood resounds through the ages. When the spirit of God leaves man to strive with him no more, man's choice of sin becomes permanent. He loses his perception of sin and his desire for righteousness. He is a complacent slave of Satan. God has to say of him as He did of Ephraim of old, he "is joined to idols: let him alone." Hosea 4:17. Too many individuals will come to the heartbreaking realization at the last day, the harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved. Jeremiah 8:20. Like Esau of old, they could find no way to choose to serve God, for even the path itself had vanished. Hebrews 12:16, 17.

In view of the opportunities thus to break the power of sin, what does the Lord counsel us to day?

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve. Joshua 24:15. The Hebrews at this time wisely chose to serve the Lord. Will You? Not only can man choose, but if he is ever to be delivered from the bondage and guilt of sin, he must choose. Then, and only then, will God back up his decision with the power of heaven. God will not save a man against his will or unsupported by his intelligent choice.

Because of man's inclination to dally with the invitation and try to serve both God and the Devil, what is Elijah's challenge?

Elijah came unto all the people and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him." I Kings 18:21.

Jesus warned of the impossibility of serving two masters. The value of human relations more vividly than in divided allegiance is seen in no field of one's Christian life.

Because of the danger in delay, what warning is given us?

The Holy Ghost saith, to day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness." Hebrews 3:7, 8. Also see verses 17, 18.

God holds us responsible for our choices. We must accept the results

of our deceptions. The rebellious Hebrews are here held up as a tragic example of making the wrong choice.

What is the only safe time to make this vital choice?

"He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. II Cor. 6:2.

We have no assurance of life tomorrow, much less of the continuance of the power to choose. Today only is granted us. So choose Now! See John 12:35, 36.

Desire for goodness and holiness are right as far as they go; but if you stop here, they will avail nothing. Many will be lost while hoping and desiring to be Christians. They do not come to the point of yielding the will to God. They do not now choose to be Christians.

Through the right exercise of the will, an entire change may be made in your life. By yielding up your will to Christ, you ally yourself with the power that is above all principalities and power. You will have strength from above to hold you steadfast and, thus, through constant surrender to God, you will be enabled to live the new life, even the life of faith.

Friends, will you choose right now to serve the Lord and let Him work in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure?

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Rev. Glen A. Jones, Lebanon, Mo.

"That in the dispensation of the fullness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ..." Ephesians 1:10.

A dispensation is a period of time in which God deals with His people. Through the Bible we find different dispensations. God is dealing with His people in that dispensation and He is dealing with them according to their conception of God. God was always working to bring the people out of a wrong conception of the true God,

but God permitted many things on a human level because the people could not understand God apart from that. The true God, His purpose, and His eternal laws all run through the Bible like a silver thread. We find in I John 1:1 that which was true from the beginning. There has been from the beginning laws of God which are eternal, but God is working to make the people know that His power does not lay in religious ritual or ceremonial formalities. But it is a long road to that day when the knowledge of the Lord will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea. We are surely coming to that place. Through this long journey we shall at last commune with the eternal God.

We find God in the old Bible revealing Himself to the people in a very crude way, and this crude way was not on God's part but because the people could not conceive of God apart from formalities and relics. God hopes to bring them to the truth. At first we find God walking in the garden as a man trying to find Adam as though He didn't know where the man was. We see God farther on dealing with His people so much on a human plane that we hardly recognize Him as the God we know. We see God coming to Moses in the burning bush saying, "I am the God of your fathers," although before now the fathers' conception of God was different to this of Moses, I am their God. Moses' conception of God had been so different yet he must accept God in this new light. God wanted this leader to see Him apart from all their ceremony and traditions.

We see in Acts, chapter 7, God appeared to Abraham and said, "Get out of thy country and from thy people and come into the country that I will afterward show you." He went into a strange land and to his surprise God was there. God is trying to lead His people into a glorious state but He must get them away from every idol God. For we read in Romans 8:19-23, that the hope of God is through all long suffering of God we shall at last commune with Him. Until we see God on the "horses bell" and on the "pots of the kitchen," as much as we see Him in the church with all its religious ceremonials, we will land at last in the ditch with the blind. How far have we advanced in the search for God? Almost the whole world, until this day, makes religious cere-

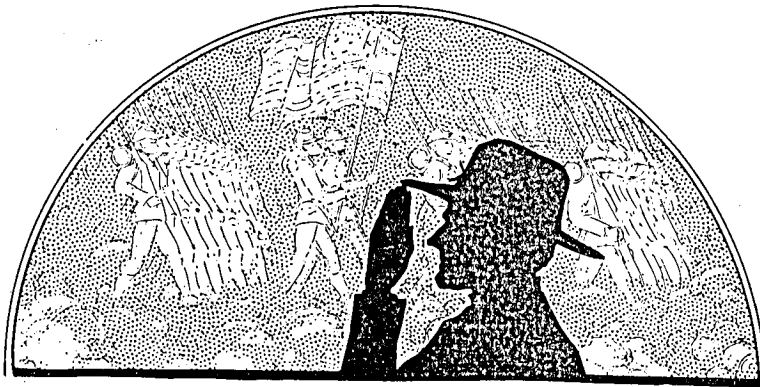
monies a test of fellowship.

Religion is a man's life, his every act of life in relation to God, and not an influence that comes and goes at our religious services. But whether you are preaching or praying or chopping wood, we are happy in God because God is in all of these alike. The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. When we find God in every act of life we will surely be on our way to the kingdom. We find afterwards that God had no pleasure in sacrifices but only permitted them that He might lead the people on to the truth.

We have come to the last dispensation when we are to leave all and follow Him. People of every faith are trying to live in some past dispensation. We might say here as Paul said, one of you say I am of one man and another of another. Are ye not carnal? If we look at the world today, can't we see that God is lost to it? One is saying, "I am a Christian because I believe in the church I belong to. I am a Christian because I have been baptised. I am a Christian because I have the right name. I have complied with some religious formality. It would surely make us to see that God is weary with it all. There are people who try to live in the dispensation of Moses and say, "I am a Christian because I keep the day." Others try to live in the apostolic age. They believe they are Christian because in the apostolic age the apostles were to forgive sins. They still try to live in the dispensation of the apostles and they go to their minister and confess their sins to him. Others try to live in the apostolic age and try to do the physical things they did in that age. God has dispensations for the purpose of leading us finally to the knowledge of the truth where we are in harmony with every law of God, where God is all and in all. But when we try to apply religion of another age to our day the result is confusion, and confusion it is in this our day. In regard to this, let us read Hebrews 6:1, 2. This God permitted that He might lead them into greater truths. Also read Ephesians 3:1, 2. This is a spiritual dispensation, this day of grace, where every man is his own priest, his own preacher, where every man deals with God, where there is neither Jew nor Greek, where there is neither bond nor free, but we all are one in Him for we are His people.



From The Editor's Desk



Memorial Day

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you..." Phil. 3:1.

May 30 has been set aside as Memorial Day or a "day of remembrance." This was originally done to assist and comfort parents, wives, and children of valient men who had died on the field of battle and who were buried in strange and remote places not accessible to them, that a remembrance might be placed on their resting place this one day in the year.

Since its inception, it has come to mean even more and now most people observe the day trying in some way to pay respect to all departed loved ones.

As I take my place yearly with the vast throng making their way to the house of worship and then on to the graveside of departed loved ones and friends, I always solemnly think and reason with myself, "Why?". Why have Memorial Day? Why attend its services? Why shed new tears for those long departed?

In such reasoning I have often thought "Is this just because these have died and it was a sad experience?" "Are these things prompted by sympathy?" "Is the answer devotion?" No, I feel the answer is far more sacred. Deep and greivous injuries usually heal sufficiently in time so as to not be very noticeable. Likewise our saddest experiences usually mend considerably as time goes on. Sympathy is a grand thing when such is needed, but it cannot extend far enough to reach those now departed. Devotion seems even more noble, and perhaps many feel it is their reason for this annual pilgrimage. Yet I wonder if devotion doesn't come from things worthy to be cherished in the storehouse of memory. When loved ones and others befriend you time after time, when they sympathize with you and share both your good and bad experiences, when they help you in time of need, when they pray for your welfare and urge you to a righteous life, when they are all that YOU can ask of them, are these not qualities in their lives that move you to their tomb when they are gone?

If the above is true or even only true in a small per cent of the cases, then I feel we are justified to expand Memorial Day and speak not only by a remembrance to the dead, but also as Paul did to his living friends when he said in the text, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

VISITORS WELCOMED

During April several out of town visitors have called at the Gem office. Among these was Rev. Damon C. Dodd from Nashville, Tenn. Rev. Dodd is National Executive Secretary and a very busy one. He reports encouraging progress in many fields of our work. Rev. and Mrs. John West stopped briefly April 17 on their way to a Sunday School Convention at Indianapolis, Ind., and on to the Bible Conference at Nashville. Bro. West is pastor of a very progressive church in Tulsa, Okla. On April 26 Rev. and Mrs. Noel Greenway and family visited in the office. Rev. Greenway is pastor of the church at Desloge, Mo. He plans to be available for some evangelistic work soon. Bro. Greenway is also an excellent song leader and soloist and Mrs. Greenway is an exceptionally fine pianist.

We have enjoyed these and all other visitors. You are urged to stop at the office when coming through this section of Missouri.

CHURCH REORGANIZED

Early in the month of April the Executive Board of Indian Creek together with Rev. O. T. Allred and the Editor visited the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church near Seneca, Missouri. This church had lost many of its members through the years by death and because of several families moving away. Due to a lack of active membership it had become unorganized.

Since the war Bro. Norman Green, a fine young man on God with a Divine call to preach the Gospel, returned to this community and started the work anew. The church and the Christians of the community do much praying and work hard and God has blessed. Their Sunday School attendance would put to shame a great per cent of our churches, including those in the city.

The Board proceeded to reorganize the church. Bro. Green was called as pastor and was licensed at the same service. We feel there are great things in store for these good folks.

MANY ASK FOR SAMPLES

The month of April was an unusual one here at the office in so far as requests for samples are concerned. The demand has been heavy. We always print several extra copies for this purpose. This month they were all gone in a few days. One good worker in North Carolina wanted 50 extras there. We could not furnish even one for him. We are always sorry to fail anyone this way but trust you will not be discouraged. We do thank God for you and for this widespread interest. Your help means very much to us here. Write us when you can use samples. We will send them if at all possible.

BIBLE CONFERENCE

As we go to press, the Bible Conference at Nashville, Tennessee has just closed. We have not had time for a report from there but basing our expectations on past conferences, we are confident that God has again blessed His children in that fellowship. Sis. Laura B. Barnard, recently returned from India, Bro. J. L. Welch, and Dr. F. B. Cherry were outstanding workers scheduled to speak during the session. The conference is held annually in conjunction with the approaching close of the school year at the Bible College and has become a very popular event.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Quarterly reports of our Foreign Missions Secretary, State Secretary, and Youth Camp Secretary are contained in this issue. Analyze them carefully and let us make an even better report next quarter. Your Editor surrendered space needed for other articles and will hold the first quarter's report out at least this issue. It will be on hand here for those interested before we find adequate publishing space.

MANUSCRIPT LEFT OVER

It has been necessary to set aside several articles this issue. Some will be carried over in the next Gem. We are glad for every article and every writer. An abundance of manuscript is necessary for a successful paper. Keep your articles coming in.

OUR YOUTH CAMP NEEDS

Time is swiftly passing and June 21, the time designated to begin our 1950 session of the Free Will Baptist Youth Encampment, will soon be here. Therefore, we take this means of calling the attention of God's children to the needs of our camp. We will list as number one the need of pastors, parents, and Christian workers who will encourage our youth who are interested in Christian work to attend. Ten days spent in this camp under Spirit-filled, consecrated teachers and in association with others of our youth who love the Lord may determine the life and the eternity of your child.

Second, being mindful of the great responsibility which rests upon both instructors and students, we need a band of prayer warriors who will spend definite time in prayer daily for God to so lead every person who is in attendance this year that His love and power may be manifested in such a manner that men may say, "We never saw it on this fashion before." Third, food. Boys and girls who attend camp where there is plenty of both work and play are noted for having good healthy appetites for good wholesome food. Then, by churches and individuals donating articles of food the cost per student is kept at a minimum.

Fourth, we have a lumber bill for materials used in building the cottage where the caretaker may live that will be due soon, and we as the Youth Camp Board would appreciate your offering to help meet this bill by the time it is due. We have one man and his wife who have promised us \$100 by the time this lumber bill is due in June. If enough of our people will respond with liberal offerings, we will be able to clear this obligation when due and have enough money to make whatever minor improvements that will be necessary for this year's encampment.

I would also like to say that we have a good Delco motor and batteries complete which we are now offering for sale since we now have electricity and do not need to use the Delco. If any reader of this article knows of anyone interested in purchasing this plant contact Rev. William Reeves, Niangua, Missouri.

Rev. O. T. Allred

YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Dear Gem Readers:

It is again I come to you in behalf of our Youth Camp work of which I'm sure you are anxious to hear. I just received a letter this morning from our caretaker, and he informs me things are moving along good with the exception of the offerings which are coming in slowly. We recently built a five-room cottage on our camp grounds for the caretaker which cost nearly \$1,100.00. So you see with the time for the session so near and finances coming in so slowly, it is going to hinder our work if our people over the state do not come to the front for us with their financial help. The time for our session is getting very near, so come on churches, Leagues, Sunday Schools, and other auxiliaries of the church and send in your offerings and other items of need. Last year a large number of churches sent in many other things along with their offerings such as food, which kept our food cost down considerably. Also pots, pans, wash towels, mattresses, and many other such items. **WILL YOU AGAIN GET BEHIND US WITH YOUR GIFTS?** Remember as I've told you many, many times, your Youth Camp Board can only do what you make possible for us to do. The youth of our state need this Camp; so let's do all we can for them. Remember the time, June 21st through 30th. You are welcome to come both young and old so make your plans now to attend this session. May God bless and you will be blessed by it.

Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Chairman

PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

By Mrs. Eunice Edwards

Single Copy	\$.40
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50 Copies	16.00
100 Copies	30.00

EVANGELIST AVAILABLE

REV. WILLIAM BUSTER

FREE WILL BAPTIST EVANGELIST

Available after July 31, 1950

WRITE: THEBES, ILLINOIS,
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TERMS: Offering and entertainment

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NEWSY BRIEFS

OBITUARIES - REPORTS LETTERS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. C. R. DICK PASSES

Charles Randolph Dick, son of John and Rachel C. Dick, was born May 24, 1869, in Champaign County, Illinois. He passed away April 10, 1950. He was to the youngest of 10 children. All have preceded him in death except the youngest, Thomas H. of Los Angeles, California.

He was married to Martha Bell Vandevanter on September 22, 1895, who preceded him in death June 20, 1945. He was again united in marriage to Addie May Romesburg June 26, 1946. He was converted at the age of 16 years and was ordained a minister of the Gospel of the Free Will Baptist church in February, 1935. He was Pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church of El Dorado Springs, Missouri and did other work for the Master while health permitted.

To we who knew him, his character and his every day life was a living quotation from the Book he loved. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

Funeral services were conducted at El Dorado Springs, Missouri by Rev. Callie Achord.

LEAGUE CONFERENCE SET

NOTICE to all Free Will Baptist Leagues of the Central Conference of South Carolina. You are urged to attend the League Convention which is to be held at White Savannah Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, May 7, 1950. Please be present.

Mrs. Franklin Eaddy, Cor. Sec'y

NOTICE

We are in the need of some new church pews for our church, and if there is a church anywhere planning on new ones and would like to sell their old ones, please give us a chance to bid on them first by getting in contact with pastor of the 3rd Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis, Missouri, 4238 Swan Ave., or call FR-0565.

Sls. Jerry Bullis, Reporter

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

Dear Sunday School Workers:

The time for our annual Sunday School convention is drawing very near; therefore this letter to you. Recently your officers met along with the officers of the State League convention and set a time and place for this year's session. The State Sunday School and League will hold a joint session on the opening night of the meeting which will convene Monday night, June 19. The business session of the Sunday School will be on Tuesday morning, followed by the League business session on Tuesday afternoon. These sessions will be climaxed by an evangelistic service in the evening and the Youth Camp will open their session on Wednesday morning, June 21.

Come on Sunday Schools and Leagues. Make this the best convention that we have ever had. Send in your reports and offerings, and let's put this work over the top. Send your Sunday School reports to Rev. Wm. Reeves, Niangua, Mo., and your League reports to Mrs. Jewell Campbell, Wheaton, Mo.

The place of these meetings is the Missouri State Youth Camp near Niangua, Mo.

May the good Lord bless each of you and may we see you at the annual session of these conventions.

Yours for the cause of Christ,

Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Pres.

TO BUY CHURCH BUS

Betsy Layne, Ky.

Dear Friends in Christ:

Enclosed find \$1.00 for a sub. to our paper, the Gem. Please send me some sample copies of the Gem and I will try to get some subs. I think every Free Will Baptist in every state should subscribe for the Gem, as the Gem is our voice and our paper and we, the Free Will Baptists, can make it a bigger and better paper. Speaking for myself I am ashamed that I have not been taking this paper in the six years that I have been a Christian.

Our church at Betsy Layne in co-operation with our Sunday School is making a drive to raise money for the purpose of buying a new church bus. I must not leave out our women in the church as they have just organized a Woman's Auxiliary, and I must state they are a fine group of Christian women who have a mind to work. So they are all wrapped up in their new venture for the work of the Lord. Their first act is to sell 500 tickets at \$1.00 each and each ticket holder will receive a chicken dinner, which will be prepared by the women. So we all together with the blessings of the Lord hope to raise the money required to buy our bus.

Pray for us as we march forward with the Lord in our midst.

Our pastor is the Rev. Carl Senters, a devout Christian leader.

Yours in Him

L. E. Walters, Supt.

CENTRAL S. S. CONFERENCE OF SOUTH CAROLINA MEET

The second session of the Sunday School Convention of the Central Conference of South Carolina convened with Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, April 8, 1950. Five churches were represented with each church rendering a program. Most of the programs were very appropriately based on the resurrection since it was the Easter Season.

Oak Grove showed their hospitality by their hearty welcome to the guest churches and also by the luscious dinner that was served.

The Sunday Schools taking part in this event were Happy Home, Little Star, Little Bethel, Mt. Aerial, and Oak Grove. Please pray for us that the organization will do much for the up-building of His kingdom "through Christ which strengtheneth us."

The next Convention is scheduled to meet with Happy Home on Saturday, October 7, 1950. We wish to urge all Sunday Schools of the Central Conference to be present and take part in this Convention.

Mrs. Iris Eaddy, Sec'y

REVIVAL HELD; PROGRAM ADVANCES ABOVE REQUESTS

Dear Editor:

May I just step into your Gem office this morning to give you a report of our church. First we want to tell you what a wonderful revival we have just had. Bro. Raymond Riggs was our evangelist, and he truly is a man of God. He brought some wonderful messages. We greatly rejoiced to see nine precious souls saved. We didn't only see souls saved, but we also enjoyed a fellowship among our sister churches as we have never before. We appreciate that fellowship as we think that is the way the Lord would have it.

We thank God for our church. We thank Him so much for giving it to us, and for its growth as we have watched how He has worked through the hearts of our people to give to make it what it is. Sometimes we just stop and wonder how we have gone so far in such a short time. We "can do all things through Christ who strengthens us" is the answer. On January 29 our pastor asked that God give us \$200 to equip our office with new furniture. He did more than that. He gave us \$204.20. Now we have a lovely office and pastor's study. We are so thankful for it. Then on February 12 our pastor asked for \$500 to furnish our basement. When the money was counted, we had \$530.80. It's just like God to give us more than we ask for, isn't it? Our basement is almost finished. We met last night for a business meeting to decide on the purchase of our new pews, and what kind. Bro. Lewis and Bro. Pruett left this morning to place our order. Some have said, "How do you raise the money?" We let the Lord give it to us. We prayed for the Lord to open a way; so He just laid it upon the heart of one of our members to give the down payment, which was \$600. We thank God first for answering prayer, and then we thank the good member for being led by the Spirit of God. One man in St. Louis plans to give \$100 on them and he is not a Christian. But we are earnestly praying for him that he will be. We need good men that are willing to give to the cause of Christ in all our churches and men that are not afraid to trust God when things need to be done. We covet your prayers that we

may always be led by the Spirit of God in all we do, and as we count our blessings. May we give God the praise for them all.

Pray for our youth revival and our Vacation Bible School that are coming in June.

Let's all remember our missionaries as we pray that God will in some way or somehow lay the burden on our Free Will Baptist membership that it is just as precious in God's sight to lead those heathen souls to Him as it is here in America. May God bless our work everywhere. Let's unite our prayers together that people will awaken to the fact that time is not much longer, and we haven't much more time to win the lost to Christ.

In the Lord's service,

Marie Sherrill, Reporter

MODESTO (CALIF.) CHURCH

Free Will Baptist Gem:

I wish to report for the Free Will Baptist Church of Modesto, California. The church was organized in February, 1949 with 34 members. The Lord has wonderfully blessed, and the church has grown. We now have about 160 members and a church building of our own. The building is 70 by 30 feet with three class rooms and a study. The study is also used as a class room. The building is well constructed of sturdy material, beautifully decorated, inside, has a nice Baptistry with a beautiful painted picture on it, and is also furnished with nice pews and a beautiful piano. We just about have everything completed. Our dedication service is set for Sunday, April 23. Our good pastor, Rev. F. A. McCage, will deliver the dedicatory message. We have a very fine pastor. We are all proud of him and his family. Bro. McCage brings some soul stirring messages. At almost every weekend service, some soul is saved. Last Sunday (Easter) at the eleven o'clock service six souls were gloriously saved, and one more was saved at the evening service. Six united with the church. We thank the Lord for them. The Woman's Auxiliary was organized about two months ago, and have already raised enough money to buy drapes for the church. We hope to grow and keep doing things for the Lord. We have a good Sunday School; Bro. Orville Downs is

superintendent. Our record attendance is 160. We think our Leaguers are about the best in the state. They brought home the banner from the League rally at Firebaugh last Sunday. Bro. and Sis. Floyd are their sponsors. We have prayer meeting every Wednesday night. We have seven deacons. I want to say that this church is not asleep but is working in the vineyard of the Lord. By the Grace of God we hope to do more. We know that it is through Him that all good things are accomplished. Pray for us that we will ever do His will.

Mrs. Beulah Percifield, Sec'y.

REPORT FOREIGN MISSIONS FOR NINE MONTH PERIOD

July 1, 1949 - March 31, 1950

Brought for'd June, 1949.....	\$2,914.38
Received during nine months:	
North Carolina	\$8,461.12
Missouri	5,229.94
Oklahoma	3,369.13
Tennessee	3,030.96
Michigan	2,998.47
South Carolina	1,499.14
Georgia	1,292.69
Illinois	824.11
Texas	725.93
Virginia	705.28
Alabama	625.21
West Virginia	426.59
Arkansas	324.45
Kentucky	275.70
Mississippi	156.06
Florida	142.29
New Mexico	55.00
California	46.60
Kansas	28.00
Ohio	23.75
Indiana	15.00
Nebraska	4.00
Louisiana	2.00
W. N. A. Convention	288.42
Cuban Ass'n on loan	150.00
Subs to the Review	21.00
Sale of "His Name	
Among All Nations"	70.25
Mo. Home Mission Board on	
Roach's Itinerary	143.19

Total for Nine Months.....\$30,934.28

Grand Total\$33,848.66

Total Disbursements 31,327.76

Balance April 1, 1950..... \$2,520.90

Rev. Winford Davis, Treas.



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

WOMEN'S EDITOR: MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS—DESLOGE, Mo.



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

Marie Hyatt, Director

We're trusting that your plans are made to attend our first session of Missouri State Woman's Conference at our Youth Encampment near Niangua June 6-9, 1950. We're praying that this period of Conference will be the means of strengthening our faith in Christ, making us better servants for Him and the means by which our Churches will become greater influences for the Lord. Please keep these dates open and spend this time at camp. It will be well worth whatever sacrifice or effort made on your part. We definitely know God is leading in the planning for our conference. He is holding a store of untold blessings for us. We are looking forward to His manifold blessings at camp.

These items should be brought by those attending our Conference: Bible, notebook and pencil, two sheets, one pillow and case, one quilt or blanket, towel, washcloth, soap, personal articles, etc.

Make plans to attend our first Mis-

souri State Woman's Conference!

Program

Tuesday Night, June 6—Friday Noon
June 9, 1950

6:30	Rising Bell	
7:00	Chapel Devotions—Mrs. Mildred Gilliam	
7:30	Breakfast	
8:30	Cabin Devotions	
9:00	Personal Soul Winning—Mrs. Lucy Wisehart	
9:30	Auxiliary Hour—Mrs. Lucille Beatty	
10:00	Recess	
10:15	Stewardship—Mrs. Jewell Campbell	
11:00	Missions—Mrs. Laura Belle Barnard	
12:00	Lunch	
1:00	{ Recreation and Fellowship	
5:30		
	Thursday: Declamation Contest	
6:00	Dinner	
7:30	Evening Consecration Service—Mrs. Eunice Edwards	
	Room & Board—\$1.25 per day (Adult)	
	\$1.00 per day (Children)	
	Registration Fee—\$2.00	

evening worship, and the league, they will have spent only four hours each week in religious education and possibly one-fourth of that is not missionary education. Compare that four hours with the time given to their mental and physical education. Are four hours enough time to give to the soul culture and the world vision of future Free Will Baptist leaders and workers? If no more than this is done, is it any wonder that our average church member is so unconcerned and indifferent about giving so little to the support of missions? If no more than this is done, is it any wonder, or any just cause for complaint that our young people grow up feeling that religion is just for Sunday? When will Free Will Baptists wake up to the fact that young people hold the key position in the modern strategy of missions here and everywhere? When will we wake up to the fact that young people can and will do their work with spiritual dignity and efficiency whenever they are properly enlisted, and given an opportunity to serve in their church? Can you recall the joy, the challenge, and the seriousness with which the young people accepted the various responsibilities in your church? Or are you still in that group which believes in the young ones being seen and not heard in the church services?

The deep loyalty young people can have and their sincere willingness to help carry the church burden is only revealed when the church makes a place for her young people to receive missionary education and training. Young People's Auxiliaries held on some week day can mean so much in promoting God's kingdom and in enlisting people for the work of the Lord.

May every member of the Woman's Auxiliary help gladly in Advancing April Ambition number one—organizing a Y.P.A. in every church where there is now an adult auxiliary. A Woman's Auxiliary that is adult-minded and takes no thought of the missionary education of the young people in her church is an auxiliary with a past but no future. Certainly there can be no real appreciation of our be-

ADVANCING APRIL'S AMBITION

Mrs. J. E. Frazier, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

THOUGHT: YOUTH—CONSECRATED...
TRAINED...ON FIRE!

"If someone were to give me a sum of money that he wanted to be used for real missionary work, and asked me whether it should be sent directly to the foreign field or used in a Christian school for the training of missionaries, I would without any hesitation place the money in the school for the training of young lives that it might later be multiplied in consecrated missionary service through the years," said A. B. Simpson.

If you would like to have a part in this worthy plan of advancement with Christ through young Christian wo-

men enlisted and trained in missionary education, then volunteer your services to the second vice president of the Woman's Auxiliary in your church to organize a Young People's Auxiliary. In this way you can help her and all the young women and girls in your church Advance April's Ambition. This is a golden opportunity for age to invest in youth with a message of life!

It is so easy for us to be complacent and satisfied with past or present attainments and fail to be awake to the opportunities that are before us. If ALL our young people attend every service—Sunday School, morning and

ing "Laborers together" on the Jesus Way if the young people are not traveling with the women.

The hope of the world for peace and good will among men depends upon the Christians of the world. The young people of today, as men and women of tomorrow, will lead in the way they are being directed today. So the fulfillment of the hope for a Christian world of tomorrow lies in the hands of Christian men and women TODAY. It is not a matter of chance, but a matter of choice, a choice for each Woman's Auxiliary.

On missionary education depends the future of missions, and not on drives or campaigns for money goals. Because formation of habits begin at baby's birth and the development of attitudes toward principles and people begins in the home with the tot who reflects what he sees and hears, missionary education must begin there, too. It is so important, therefore, that all the young mothers be enlisted in the Woman's Auxiliary activities in the church, for all Christian mothers must realize that the fundamentals of prayer, the study of God's Word and world, the practice of stewardship of possessions and missionary services rendered personally in one's own community must be expressed through their daily lives, must be allowed "to glow with character" for the teaching and example in the home from the beginning of the missionary education of the child which is further promoted by the women of the church through the Auxiliary which by its plan of work encourages the young people to follow the Christ whom they have accepted as Lord and Saviour, in service around the world.

To that end prayer will be faithfully observed at home and everywhere opportunity is given, missionary literature subscribed to and READ in the home, missionary giving taught and practiced in the home as each is taught to tithe. Missionary witnessing in all the experiences of daily life, and missionary encouragement will be given by co-operation in every activity for growth provided by the Woman's Auxiliary through auxiliary organizations for young people.

"Together" is a wonderful word, and Woman's Auxiliary members working together with the second vice president whose personal responsibility it is to direct young people's auxiliaries,

can in a truth set forward missions by enthusiastic activities that put FIRST things FIRST.

As the young people meet week after week, they will be listening to stories of people who have never heard of Jesus, praying earnestly for the missionaries, giving that others may know Christ, helping WILLINGLY to reach the needy in their own community, planning and training for service when they grow up. You, then, will also surely be advancing your ambition number one, dear Auxiliary Members.

Auxiliary Editor's Report

Received:

Flat River Aux.....	\$1.00
Third Aux.....	1.00
Total	\$2.00

Disbursed:

Typewriter	\$6.67
Supplies20
Postage33
Total	\$7.20

MT. GROVE AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Mountain Grove Free Will Baptist Church met at its regular meeting on Friday night, April 7 at 7:30. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Velma Elliott. The congregation sang "Onward Christian Soldiers." Scripture reading, Deut. 6:6-8; 11:10-21; 33:46; 4:9, 10 by Mary Halliburton. Prayer by Zenien Altis. Topics were given as follows: "Reason for Training our Youth," Cinda Vandivort; "Means of Training our Youth," Mary Halliburton; "Subject Matter for Training our Youth," Mrs. Verba Smith; "Results of Training our Youth," Mrs. Graham. Two poems were read in connection with the subject by the president.

The next meeting will be May 5. Lesson, "Advancing with Christ Through Stewardship Study." Topics will be given by Mrs. Alta Hanna, Mrs. Chambers, and Mrs. Oma Scott. The public is invited to attend each Auxiliary meeting and help carry on this important work.

Reporter

Lean prayers and fat purses make poor Christians.

W. A. OF THIRD F. W. B. CHURCH, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Number of members, 12; number of new members, 2; total membership, 12; number of manual classes held, 3; number of tithers, 9; number of members doing personal work, 11; number of prayer meetings held, 1; number of subscribers to church papers, 10.

Receipts: Dues, \$3.40; offerings, \$4.75; amount raised by other means, \$99.80; balance brought forward, \$13.45. Disbursements: Building fund, \$75.00; Christian education, \$4.05; orphanages, \$14.00; benevolences, \$7.50. Balance in treasury, \$10.05.

Sis. Jerry Bullis, Sec'y.-Treas.

W. A. PLANS PROGRAMS; DOUBLES ATTENDANCE

Tulsa, Oklahoma
April 17, 1950

Dear Readers:

I am reporting for the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tulsa. Our enrollment is 46 which is almost double the enrollment a year ago. We have a fine group of young women for whom we are very thankful. We have a meeting every week and all our programs are planned weeks in advance. Our attendance is very good.

During Holy Week we used Alice Lupton's book, "Footprints of Jesus In His Last Week." I must say it is a wonderful little book and we got a blessing from it each day of our week of Prayer. We had an average attendance of 22 and our offering for missions was \$16.65.

Mrs. S. L. Hancock, 4th Vice-Pres.

AUXILIARY SESSION

Dear Auxiliary Workers:

Arrangements are being made for the entertainment of your session June 6-9. We are expecting you. Come and help make your first session a real blessing to your organization and the church.

Bring your blankets, pillows, personal supplies, and enjoy a time of fellowship together.

Rev. Wm. Reeves, Cartaker

Daily prayers lessen daily cares.

CUBAN GRADUATING CLASS; NATIONAL CONVENTION BESPEAK GOD'S BLESSINGS ON MISSIONARY LABORS

Rev. Thomas H. Willey, Pinar del Rio, Cuba

We have just brought to a close the seventh National Convention of the Free Will Baptist Church of Cuba. We can safely say it was the greatest in our history. By a conservative estimate there were fully 1,500 people in attendance during the three-day session. The people came by bus loads, horseback, and on foot. They came in spite of the fearful financial crisis. Some had only enough money for transportation. They came in a spirit of love for the church in which they had found their Saviour. They were motivated by a hunger for spiritual fellowship and assembled from far and near.

Among these humble, redeemed Free Will Baptists coming from the sandy plains and the hidden, rocky valleys of Cuba, there were distinguished visitors—a Senator prominent in the Cuban Assembly; the Representative in the Cuban Assembly for the Province of Pinar del Rio; the Provincial Inspector of Schools; the mayor of the city of Pinar; and one of our converts who is a candidate for City Councilman. These are men who have observed the growth of our work and sympathize with us. These men are in position to aid and defend when such is needed. They know our church is a moral force that evil and ignorance must reckon with in the lives of the people. They know there is a decided improvement in the moral and spiritual condition of the Province due to the ministry of our Free Will Baptist missionaries.

Our boys and girls are known and respected for their honorable deportment upon the streets of our cities and towns. These students know they are the objects of scrutiny and would not dishonor us by any unbecoming conduct. From our Seminary there has been a steady stream of young men and women, Cuban Nationalists, speaking the language of the native sons and daughters. They have come from the homes of the humble people and do not have to adapt themselves to the meager food of the poor. They are an effective testimony to the power of the Gospel of Christ to transform.

We have so prepared our students from the standpoint of the practical class work, along with actual experience in first hand contact with the people, that as they step forth into the field they are already men and women of action.

Our church is not a loosely assembled assortment of little groups, but a solidly organized unit of activity. Our council of workers now consists of nineteen full-time native workers with five Americans. Twenty-four missionaries represent you as a people in Cuba—God has wrought this over the space of seven years.

There are hundreds of towns and villages in Cuba that have absolutely no spiritual force at work among them. There is no church of any sort. Our students have gone to some places and found there were not even public schools. Under such conditions they have taught the people, adults and children, to read the Bible. The people themselves have built chapels. These unreached villages are awaiting workers who will never reach them unless you, my Free Will Baptist brother, are interested enough to help support them.

The dream of your representatives here in Cuba is that students passing through the portals of our School of Missions, your Cuban sons and daughters, shall also go to their Latin brothers of Mexico, San Salvador, Guatemala, and on to Panama. How much better they can do this than we Americans with our Gringo Spanish! These young people are now ready and willing to go, but we must send them.

Just a few more words concerning closed. Those of you who had some the Conference and graduation just thing to do with arranging for a State or National Association can sympathize with us in having only fifty beds for three hundred visitors. How were we to house them? The only answer was an abandoned building and trailer loads of banana leaves. All the students and men visitors, giving the beds to the women, slept on the one great bed of banana leaves on the floor and shared their thin blankets.

Our services were times of great spiritual blessings. In order for them to be so, all business and committee meetings were taken care of a day before the Convention began. During the Convention the full time was given to prayer and the hearing of the Word.

Friday afternoon the Convention was opened with the messages of welcome by the directors of the Cuban field of missions, Rev. Thomas Willey and Rev. Rafael Josue, sub-director of the Seminary. From the first service the temple was filled with people. Among our visiting speakers Rev. Damon C. Dodd was our representative of the mother church of the United States. It is customary also to have a Spanish speaking person of importance on the Convention program. Rev. Secundino Bermudez, missionary under the West Indian Mission to Santa Domingo, brought the principal evangelistic message under the power of the Spirit.

In the Convention there were also other American missionaries who represent different mission groups laboring in the Island: Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Phenicie from the Practical Missionary Training Institute; Mrs. Olga Fast and another missionary from the World Missions; Rev. Paul Wilson of the American Jewish Mission; and Rev. Eduardo Rodriguez from a Cuban Independent Mission in Havana.

Saturday morning Rev. Dodd brought a stirring spiritual message from the Word. Our people rejoiced to see Brother Dodd again and consider him a strong tie between our body of the North and our Cuban people.

Saturday night was an occasion that thrilled all our hearts. A large number of people crowded into the temple and a great many stood outside. Amplifiers made it possible for voices to carry all over the surrounding country side. The temple was freshly painted white and glowed with fluorescent lights. The platform was beautifully decorated with tropical palms and vases of white cut flowers. The teachers, officers, and graduates seated on the platform were all dressed in white and presented a scene long to be remembered. Each of the graduates presented a message on a different aspect of the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. How our hearts longed for the great company of our Free Will Baptists who have been faithful

over the years in making possible the crowning service of the school to be here. The diplomas of the graduates were presented by Mr. and Mrs. Willey and to each student a brief message of commendation. There was a great time afterwards as our people invaded the platform to congratulate the graduates.

Sunday was the crowning day. Bro. Dodd brought the morning message and had to leave immediately following it to return to the states for other important meetings. The afternoon message by Rev. Bermudez had as its final objective the consecration of our Cuban people and resulted in a revival. A number of souls were saved and young people answered the call to service. One of the outstanding marks of advance was made by our Christian laymen from all the fields when they pledged to do everything possible to bear the financial burden of the students in their summer work.

Four new full-time workers in the person of three young men and one young woman are taking a field. Their support must be forthcoming. This naturally is an added financial responsibility. There might be some church or individual who would be interested in the support of one of these. If so, contact the treasurer of our Foreign Mission Board. Finally, we need your prayers.

FELLOWSHIP F W B MISSION

Wilburton, Oklahoma
April 10, 1950

Dear Gem Readers:

We of the Fellowship Mission wish to thank all of you who have sent clothing to be distributed here to the needy about Wilburton. The clothing has brought untold joy to many persons. Thus far over 60 persons have received benefit from the clothing sent from Missouri and we still have a few pieces to be distributed. We are suffering somewhat from lack of workers, and we don't manage to get everything done as rapidly as we would like to. Our mission has no deacons as yet, and the pastor and his wife are obliged to undertake the distribution of clothing which is manifestly the duty of deacons.

We also wish to thank all who have sent Christian literature to be distributed at the U. S. Indian Hospital at

Talihina. If our people could be aware of the joy these people receive from good Christian literature, they would realize how we Free Will Baptists have failed to extend our ministry to the sick by giving them godly literature to read.

May I give an account of one incident I encountered a few weeks ago. Rev. Jeffreys had sent a bundle of back issues of the Gem which I took over to the Indian Hospital to hand out. I took most of these to the tubercular patients because they have such a long lonely stay in the hospital. One Indian boy in the tuberculosis ward who is part Flathead and part Creek, and who I had noticed on previous visits spent a great part of his time reading the Bible, when given one of the Gems said, "Oh! A Free Will Baptist paper. I am a Free Will Baptist. My parents and I belong to a Free Will Baptist church near Weleetka. I sure am glad to get some Free Will Baptist literature." I had been going through there giving literature to him for some time, but it had always been undenominational or of other denominations. I did not know he was a Free Will Baptist until I gave him some Free Will Baptist literature. He asked me to bring him some more Free Will Baptist literature when I should come again, and I told him that I would.

Besides preaching the Gospel here at the mission we try to minister to those in the community who are in need, even though they don't attend our mission. We find that people can be won to Christ more readily by manifesting Christian attitudes toward them than by any other means.

We praise the Lord the mission is growing. We have an average of 25 in Sunday School and 40 in the evening services. We have a very active Woman's Auxiliary with nine members. We have both a Junior and a Senior League group.

On Easter Sunday, April 9, 1950, we took our group up in the mountains near a lake for our all day service. We had a wonderful time. We had Sunday School, Church, and a picnic dinner for all after which there was an egg hunt for the children. Then on Easter Sunday evening we had communion and feet washing services with 11 washing feet. For many of them it was the first time they had participated in such a service. The Lord was present in power and we had a blessed

service.

In closing we wish to say thanks again to the kind people of Missouri, and to the Editor of the Gem, for their help with clothing and literature. I am sure God will richly bless each of you and I trust this will be the beginning of a wider field of service being opened to all of us. I look forward hopefully to the day when Jesus shall say to us, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and ye gave me meat; I was sick and ye ministered unto me; I was in prison, and ye visited me... For as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me." May God bless all of you.

Yours in hope of eternal salvation,

John B. Elliston, Pastor

THE SOWER

Rev. Austin Wright, Ava, Mo.

"A sower went forth to sow" Matt. 13:3

A sower went forth to sow the Seed which is the Word of God. We notice some seed came forth but soon died. Some fell on good ground and brought forth fruit. We read in Luke 6:47, 48, "Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will show you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock." This kind of a man the seed is remaining in him.

So then we find faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Then we find the Word is called the sword of the Spirit. There is no power in it without the Spirit.

"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46. So the Spirit of the Lord is upon me to preach the Gospel. I believe the Word of God is being talked too much instead of being preached in the power of the Spirit. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty. So let us remember when we sow seed in the field we fill the seeder but it takes power to turn the crank on the seeder. So, Brother preachers, take care of all good ground and fill it with good seed.

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

January, February, March, 1950

STATE UNIFIED FUND

Leadington, S. S.	\$ 28.35
Myrtle Church	23.00
Fredericktown Home Mission..	5.00
Mrs. Goldie Elsea, Novinger...	10.00
Fredericktown Church	146.30
Merl's Chapel Church	25.23
St. Louis 3rd Church	30.82
Flat River Church	357.77
Mine La Motte Church	21.56
Leadington Church	8.76
Monett Church	41.36
Southside Church	40.00
Green Grove Church	10.00
Verdella Church	10.10
Desloge Church	19.00

Total\$777.25

EXPANSION PROGRAM FUND

Hazel Creek Union Church\$ 32.32

JEHOIDA CHEST FUND

Coper Mines Church\$ 4.00
 Hannon Mission Circle 6.00

Total\$ 10.00

TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE FUND

Hazel Creek Union S. S.,
 Sunbeam Class\$ 15.00
 Hazel Creek Union Church ... 9.02

Total\$24.02

YOUTH CAMP FUND

Green Grove Church\$ 10.00

FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Hickory Grove Church\$ 10.78
 Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Montgomery,
 Carl Junction 20.00
 Ray D. Martin, Greentop 20.00
 Leroy & Fay Housley, Hartville 25.00
 Buffalo Church 30.39
 Sublett Church 29.00
 Union Light S. S. 29.99
 Verdella Church 34.62
 Hazel Creek Union Church 41.33
 Amity Church 21.00
 Golden Oak League & S. S.... 23.34
 Hartville Church 25.00
 Fellowship Church 150.00
 Leadington Church 30.00
 Mrs. Coy Rader, Niangua 3.00
 Number One Church, Huggins 5.61
 Faith & Hope League
 & Junior Class 2.36
 Mr. & Mrs. Harley Chandler,
 Niangua 5.00
 G. W. Sturdevant, Buffalo 6.00

Mr. & Mrs. C. F. Dunn, Hartville 25.00
 Richwoods Church 22.26
 Hannon Church 15.00
 Hickory Grove League, Kan... 1.35
 Hickory Grove, Kansas 10.00
 Green Grove Church 10.00
 Twin Oak Church 7.66
 Mission Ass'n by K. Turner .. 235.00
 Rev. Harold Hoover, C'ville ... 5.00
 Aulsbury Chapel Church 47.65

Total\$891.25

MISSIONS FUND

Blue Eye Church 14.75
 Aulsbury Chapel Church 13.06
 Monett Church 24.32
 Mine La Motte Church 41.51
 Jewel Church 16.53
 Mountain Grove Church 20.10
 Fredericktown Church 19.50
 Neola Church 12.80
 Flat River Church 162.62
 Macedonia Church 50.73
 Copper Mines Church 35.50
 Golden Oak S. S. & League ... 4.80
 Stahl Church 6.50
 Morning Meditation, Archie
 Cooper, Director 10.00
 Rock Chapel 79.75
 C. W. Missouri 5th Sunday Mtg 12.32
 Independence 25.04
 St. Louis 3rd S. S. 22.23
 Carterville 26.07
 Walnut Grove 11.00
 Shibley's Point S. S. 12.00
 Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Deweese,
 Easton 4.00
 Pleasant Grove S. S. 18.00
 Pleasant Grove League 1.30
 C. A. Crooks, Worthington 20.00
 Waggoner 4.00

Total\$668.48

MISS BARNARD FUND

Indian Creek W. A.\$ 12.45
 Fellowship W. A. 28.00
 Monett W. A. 18.20
 Fredericktown S. S. 67.05
 Verdella Woman's Bible Class.. 10.00
 Hickory Grove Church 9.24
 Leadington Church & Aux. 50.00
 Green Grove Church 10.00
 Hannon League 5.00
 Hannon Church 20.00
 Hannon Mission Circle No. 1 .. 5.00

Total\$234.94

Grand Total, Jan. 1, 1950 to
 March 31, 1950\$2,648.26

Marie Hyatt, State Treasurer

Calvary is God's blood bank for a sick world.

**FREE WILL BAPTIST
TREATISE**

Price Post Paid.....30cents each

YOUTH CAMP REPORT

January 15—April 15, 1950

Blance brought forward.....\$ 58.39
 Flat River League.....\$ 20.00
 Flat River S. S..... 28.50
 Sublette 10.00
 Leadington 3.00
 South Side 40.00
 Fredericktown 95.30
 Richwoods 10.00
 Niangua 17.18
 Myrtle 7.51
 Mill Creek 8.25
 Mo. State Ass'n..... 58.30
 Carterville 15.00
 Rev. & Mrs. Archie
 Cooper 4.00
 Mt. Grove 7.30
 Merl's Chapel 10.00
 Idn. Creek W. A. Con... 5.95
 3rd St. Louis..... 16.41

Total Receipts.....\$343.79

Grand Total\$402.18

Expenditures:

Homer Sells (Electric
 Supplies)\$ 14.51
 Webster Electric 6.90
 Wm. Reeves (Salary).. 162.50
 C. R. Johnston House
 Insurance) 16.40
 Harvey Hill (Travel
 Expense) 10.00
 Gem Office 7.15
 Paul Williams (Pump
 Jack) 25.00
 Flowers for camp..... 3.77
 Farmers Exchange
 (Seed) 6.78
 Champ Sells (dragging
 play ground) 8.00
 Marshfield Mail 1.80
 Flowers & Postage..... 3.80
 Farmers Exchange
 (grass seed) 8.00
 Postage & supplies.... 12.00
 Kenneth Reeves (clean-
 grounds) 14.00

Total Expense.....\$300.35

Balance on Hand.....\$114.78