

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

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THROUGH THE BIBLE

I supposed I knew my Bible,
Reading piecemeal, hit or miss—
Now a bit of John and Matthew,
Now a bit of Genesis;
Certain chapters of Isaiah,
Certain Psalms (the Twenty-third),
Twelfth of Romans, first of Proverbs,
Yes, I thought I knew God's Word!
But I found that thorough reading
Was a different thing to do,
And the way was unfamiliar
When I read the Bible through.

Oh, the massive, mighty volume!
Oh, the treasures manifold!
Oh, the beauty and the wisdom,
And the grace it proved to hold!
As the story of the Hebrews
Swept in majesty along,
As it leaped in waves prophetic,
As it burst to sacred song,
As it gleamed with Christly omens,
The Old Testament was new—
Strong, with cumulative power,
When I read the Bible through.

Oh, imperial Jeremiah,
With his keen, coruscant mind,
And the blunt old Nehemiah,
And Ezekiel refined!
Newly came the minor prophets,
Each with his distinctive robe;
Newly came the Song idyllic,
And the tragedy of Job;
Deuteronomy, the regal,
To a towering mountain grew,
With its comrade peaks around it,
When I read the Bible through.

What a radiant procession
As the pages rise and fall!
James, the sturdy; John, the tender;
And the myriad-minded Paul!
Vast apocalyptic glories
Wheel and thunder, flash and flame
While the Church triumphant rises
One incomparable Name:
Ah, the glory of the Saviour
Never glows supremely true
Till you read it whole and swiftly—
Till you read the Bible through.

You who like to play at Bible—
Dip and dabble, here and there,
Just before you kneel, a-weary,
And yawn thro' a hurried prayer;
You who treat the Crown of Writings
As you treat no other book,
Just a paragraph disjointed—
Just a crude, impatient look,
Try a worthier procedure,
Try a broad and steady view;
You will kneel in very rapture
When you read the Bible through

—AMOS R. WELLS

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

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REV. LLOYD T. JEFFREYS

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THE HONOR ROLL

This issue starts a new Honor Roll period that is to run through October 31, 1950. There are a host of solicitors on our file who have entered up to four subs during the past month. However, the rules have been to carry only the names of those with five or more. One of these may be your own. Below are those sending in their five.

A. W. Hartley, Wichita, Kan. 5
Rev. W. W. Winters, Vernon, Texas 5

Why not start now and prove a real competition for top honors all the way. You will enjoy it. And whether you are on top or not we need and appreciate every bit of help you can give in this matter.

—Editor

LAST MINUTE NOTES

Our sermon material is getting low again. Please pray about this and then send in your inspired messages. Also keep the other reports coming along.

We are carrying certain familiar price quotations on familiar books in this issue. When our present supply is exhausted the new shipment will force a revised price quotation moderately higher on a few of them. However, we are sticking to the old price as long as we can and give you the benefit of prices a few cents below present market quotations.

Though a member of Central Western Missouri Association we were not privileged to attend the Fifth Sunday meeting and League Rally at Hickory Grove Church near Harrisonville. Fragmentary reports indicate a fine day of inspiration and fellowship. Our youth engineered the plans and program that resulted in a fine cement block cabin at the Youth Camp and several of them plan to go up and use it during the coming session there. Much of the debt has been retired on the cabin and the furnishings and the folks are busy raising the rest of these funds.

Yesterday is gone; tomorrow is uncertain; today is here. Use it.

Men who sow wild oats during youth, usually reap tares in old age.

"PLEASURE?"

Rev. Roger Reeds, St. Louis

Jesus did more in a period of three years than most of us do in a life time. By that I mean His great preaching and healing and finally giving His life for these He loved so dearly. Of course, I don't believe any of us can equal His life, but we can give it a very good try. Let's look in on one of the scenes from His life.

We find Him very busily engaged in preaching "the tidings of God," and healing the afflicted in this particular scene I have in mind. This scene is found in the gospel according to Luke, the eight chapter, verses one through 15. Space does not permit me to quote this passage here but turn to it and read it now. He had quite a large congregation and probably astounded them all by speaking to them in this parable. The one that is known to us today as the parable of the sower. A parable that has down through the ages been a just classification of the hearers of God's word. I wonder if He didn't cause a great deal of the congregation to go home with their consciences bothering them. I believe He did.

The first type of hearer is those who have "fallen by the wayside." Those who have heard and then let Satan take the word out of their hearts. Have you ever been to church services and heard the word of the Lord preached and then you discarded it without heeding it? If so then you're the one Jesus was speaking of as having fallen. In this United States there is no excuse for not being a child of God. His word is proclaimed on every street corner, on radio, by gospel tracts and many other means. Are you a hearer and not a heeder of His word?

The second seems to be the lot which we today class as "backsliders." They have withered away because they lack moisture. Perhaps you have heard God's word and it seemed to be just what you were looking for. You received it joyfully but afterwards in time of temptation, you fell away. Jesus gives you the reason for your falling. Because you lacked moisture. You should have been on guard and praying when that temptation came along. And applying the moisture of

His word. With these you wouldn't have fallen.

Third are those who are "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." II Tim. 3:4. This is one of the largest groups of the four classifications. These are they which have fallen among thorns. This world contains things that are called pleasure. But only seasonal pleasures, not lasting pleasures. Moses receives honourable mention in the great "faith chapter of Hebrews". Why? Because he chose rather to suffer afflictions with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. He was the adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter and no doubt could have had riches and earthly pleasures of all kinds. But he chose the word of God and eternal pleasures rather than these. At this point I would like to speak to the young people. At the age of nine years I heard the word of God and accepted it for a short period. But I came to love the earthly pleasures more than Him and soon He was entirely out of my life. I grew up without Him. I picked up the habit of smoking, swearing. Even to the extent of using His name in vain. I drank some; attended dances, movies, etc., every place but church. Finally after much time was wasted at the age of nineteen, I came back to Him after hearing His word in a revival meeting. He took away all those earthly pleasures and I'm very glad He did. For He replaced them with an eternal pleasure. Now I have happiness that I have never had before because I love God more than those earthly pleasures. I give you this testimony in hopes you may profit by it and turn to Him while you are young. You will receive pleasure beyond description.

Fourth are those who are hearers, keepers, and doers of His word. This is the type that sprang up and bore fruit an hundredfold. They have received the word and are enjoying the pleasure of it. In fact, they are enjoying it so much they tell others about it and are leading sheep into the fold.

Which class has Jesus placed you in when He spake this parable? If you are any of the first three, then you can place yourself in the last class by hearing and obeying His word. By letting the seed be cast into good ground and bringing forth fruit.

STARS SHOW THE WAY

Mrs. John Ferguson, Nola, W. Va.

*There is an old, old story
That the light on the Milky Way
Is the path left by Jesus
On that Holy Ascension day.
Millions of starlets gathered
Our Risen Saviour to greet.
Leaving forever their orbit
To bow at His nail-pierced feet.
They were given a soft white glory
Undimmed by the brightest star
And left as a constant reminder
Of gates that will soon swing
ajar.*

*Stars led the way to the manger
The place of His Holy Birth.
He'll follow the Milky Way stars
Returning as King to our earth.*

FREE WILL BAPTIST TREATISE

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CONCERNING DESIGNATED MONEY FOR MISSIONS

In the recent setting of the Foreign Missions Board in its annual meeting, held in Nashville, Tennessee, the following resolution was adopted relating to money sent to the treasury earmarked for certain purposes:

"On motion we ask Bro. Davis to write to our church publications reminding our people that the Board is held responsible for the allocations of all funds, therefore the funds earmarked for special purposes will be used where, in the judgement of the Board, it is most needed."

We trust you will take special notice to this resolution. The Board is supposed to know where money is most needed and is responsible for placing it accordingly.

We are happy to report that we are now caught up with our obligations on both, fields, India and Cuba. However, in only a few days the regular allotments will be due again. We are hoping we can meet them. Thank you for all your support in the past, and for what we trust you will continue to do in the future.

Winford Davis,
Promotional Secy-Treas.

BUILDING FOR THE LORD

Timothy J. Ewing, Kirksville, Missouri

Why do God's people have no more influence over the unsaved people to cause them to do good instead of finding fault with our churches? I believe that too many of our so-called Christians of today are too much like the ungodly. They compromise too much with Satan. In building their building for God they take too many of their planks out of Satan's platform. If we are Christians, we are building a building for God. Then if this building be for God it must be our very best. When God gave us His gift, the gift of His Son, He gave us the brightest Jewel of Heaven, who died on the cruel cross, and shed His life's blood to redeem us from all our sins upon the condition that we repent and be baptized. Accept God's blueprint of this building which must be built on Christ the solid rock. This blueprint of our Christian life, which is recorded in God's Holy Word is the one by which this building is to be built. Knowing that this building is to be inspected by God Himself, we must have godly planks to have God's approval.

We now will lay a plank in this building. This plank we call "prayer" which we might say is the key to God's storehouse or His office. This plank God wants us to use often for we read in I Thess. 5:17, 18, "Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." Then in Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." And in Psalm 50:15, "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."

Now we will place another plank which we will call the Bible or God's Holy Word, the Book of Life, the book by which we will be judged in the day of judgment; which book we must read if we are to be Christians. How would a father or mother know how to teach their children the way of the Lord if they knew not the way themselves? If they do not read or study God's word, they do not know the way. John 5:39, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life;

and they are they which testify of me."

We will lay down another plank. This plank just doesn't seem to fit although it is in the homes of many people who belong to the church. It is called the "Deck of Cards" which so many church members use to play what they call the "no harm" game of pitch. We will lay this plank down right on the table on the left side of the Bible. It just won't fit any where in our building. Why doesn't it fit? Someone may say, "Well when we lay it down by the Word of God, we saw it was a plank out of Satan's platform. There on the right was God teaching us out of His Word to be honest and to not cheat or steal, to love one another, and to keep His commandments on the left side is old Satan teaching the primer class how to cheat in the "no harm" game of pitch. As they graduate, he will teach them to gamble and cheat in a big way. Well, we will not use this plank which is Satan's. If we did use it, we would break God's commandment which says, "Thou shalt not steal."

That plank didn't fit so we will try this one laying over here. Perhaps it will fit better. We call this plank the True Story. It does fit better though it doesn't fit perfect. Someone may say, "Why will it not fit perfect?" The only thing it does it to tell of some evil event happening in the life of some man or woman, girl or boy, but it doesn't tell how to keep this evil event from happening nor that God will punish them that do evil. Yet if we would read God's word, it would teach us how to keep these evil events from happening in our lives. So we might say the words of True Story or True Romance are idle words which do not help the Christians in any way. If the price of True Story and True Romance were put in the Foreign Mission Treasury, every girl and boy, every man and woman, that belong to the Free Will Baptist Church who read them, it might well mean a million more souls saved in the foreign countries. Then again we find that True Story is a thief. It steals you time that you owe God to read His word. You find yourself neglecting God's

word. I'm not saying you will go to hell if you read True Story and True Romance. I will say if your heart is so set on reading them that you do not read the Bible at all, you are on dangerous ground, and are building on sinking sand. So this plank does not fit very good either, and we will throw it away and try another.

We will call this plank "whiskey" or "alcoholic beverages." This plank for some reason just will not fit. What is wrong with it? It is suppose to be good medicine! After we have examined it we find 60% of all wrecks on the highways are caused by it. We find many killed under the influence of strong drink while crossing the street among the traffic and on railroads. Others get drunk and disgrace themselves. Some are serving time in the penitentiary for things they did while drinking. Perhaps we could say that every time liquor saves 25 lives, it kills 75. What would you do if on going to the doctor to get medicine he would tell you it was a good medicine and the one you needed, yet he would tell you that out of every 100 persons he gave it to 75 died? Would you want the medicine? I wonder what God's word says about it. We will read Isaiah 5:11-14, "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their hearts: but they regard not the work of the Lord, neither consider the operation of his hands. Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it." This scripture just about condemns the road houses and strong drinking parties. Luke 12:45, 46, "But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; the Lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbe-

lievers." This plank will not fit; so we will not use it.

Another plank is called the "get rich quick" plank. This plank does not fit either. We will examine it by God's word to see what is wrong with it. We read in I Tim. 6:5-12, "Perverse and destitute of the truth, supposing disputing of men of corrupt minds, that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." We will throw it away.

This plank will fit I know. It says "charity" on it. We read in I Cor. 13:4-6, "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth." So we will use this plank, for we couldn't do without it. No one can be a Christian without God's divine love in his heart.

Now we will try this plank. We will call it "tithes," which means we will give God ten percent of each dollar we make above expense. But it does not fit. It is a little short for it only pays God ten percent and that ten percent is already the Lord's money. We would not be giving anything ourselves. So we won't use this plank but we will try this one which seems to fit perfect. It pays the ten percent we owe God and pays interest on the ten percent. We will read what God has to say about the tithes in Malachi 3:8-10. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In

tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

We will close this letter at once. It will take a life time to finish this building anyway. No doubt if this letter goes to print in the Gem there will be some who will find fault and some may even say "If I want to take a little whiskey for a cold or for a fishing trip I am planning this summer, I will do so," or, "If I want to read True Story or True Romance instead of the Bible or play cards, I will do so, for it is my business." That is what the Devil wants you to think, that you are so big and so important and that you have a big business of your own. Yet if we study God's word, we find that God made man without a business of his own. God runs all the good business in this world. Satan is running all the evil business. All we have in this world is a privilege to choose which business we help to carry on while we live here on earth. God's business endureth forever and ever, but God tells us that Satan's business will fall and be no more and as many as will take their stand with Satan will fall also. If we choose to help God in His business, God says He will make us joint heirs with Christ at which time there will be only one business—God's business. What is this world any way? We might say it's only the dressing room for eternity to prepare ourselves to meet the Bridegroom when He cometh to gather His jewels home. We read in Mark 13:37, "and what I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch."

HOME MISSIONS ON MOVE

Your National Home Mission Board had a called meeting at the South Side Free Will Baptist Church, Rev. Harvey Hill, Pastor, March 1, 1950.

It was a wonderful, harmonious meeting with the presence of the Lord there in all of our deliberations. The entire Board was present. We also had our Executive Secretary-Treasurer with us, Rev. Damon Dodd.

We decided to move out for the Lord

with a real Home Mission Program. You will be hearing from us through the mail telling you of our aims. Now, of course, we can't do anything without your help, but we have launched out on this campaign with faith in our people. We believe you are going to help us put it over.

We have some nice plates with the inscription "A Member of the National Association of Free Will Baptists." We would like to see one of these on every car driven by Free Will Baptists. You may have one of these plates by sending your name and address, with one dollar, to Rev. J. B. Bloss, Route 5, Columbia, Tennessee. The money from these plates will go into the Treasury of the Home Mission Board to carry on our program of evangelistical work. You had better get your order in quickly as we only have a limited number of plates on hand at the present.

I think the greatest need of our Denomination is a program of Missions here at home, as it will solve many problems that confront us today concerning Foreign Missions, Christian Education, and Superannuation; and we might say, the entire program of the National Association.

As Chairman of the Home Mission Board, I am for putting it over and I am glad the entire Board is cooperating in this work. You can depend on us at least to try. I believe you will support us and give us a chance, won't you? "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields for they are white already to harvest" John 4:35. May we get the vision of a lost America and then I am sure we will do something about it.

Well, praise the Lord! By faith, I can hear the shouts of newborn souls in the cities, towns, and rural districts where there are at present no Free Will Baptist churches. There you will find hundreds of children not in Sunday School and their parents not attending church. Let us work while it is day for night is coming and our opportunities will be forever gone.

The Board covets an interest in your prayers that God will lead in all of our work.

Rev. J. B. Bloss, Chairman

Have YOU made your contribution to "Share the Gem?" Do so now—don't just "intend to."

AS IN SOLOMON'S DAY

Rev. J. E. Hodgens, Chelsea, Ala.

I wonder if you will let an old FWB preacher that is in his 85th year have a little corner in the Gem. I have been doing my best for the Lord for 53 years and I see this nation as in about the same condition as in Solomon's day when God had to rebuke the people for their sins by causing the east wind to blow and bring the mildew, the cankerworm and the caterpillar. What one did not destroy the other did. It appears that the people had got too high up and had to be brought down. God is able to do that very thing.

When Solomon had built the Lord's house and his own, the Lord had a little talk with him one night. The Lord appeared unto Solomon and said unto him, "I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for a house of sacrifice," and told him, "If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attend unto the prayer that is made in this place. For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there forever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually." II Chron. 7:11-16.

Dear people, our land is afflicted with several different kinds of complaints. One complaint is unbelief. Another is straight up and down disobedience. Another is drunkenness. Another is adultery. In Habakkuk 2:15 God says, "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him." For the last 15 or 20 years the majority of this nation has been looking to mortal man to cure the ills of our nation, and our nation says we must have plenty liquor to stop so much drunkenness. A few years ago we understand 28 nations met out west in this nation to draw up rules to govern, you might say, the entire world. Every belief and every religion on earth, I suppose, was there. For fear of cramping someone's feel-

ings they omitted any public prayer and decided to have a few moments meditation. No wonder to my mind that the world is in such a hub bub today. God says when you have respect to persons you commit sin. Read Jer. 17:5, "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man."

We understand there is today one and a half million girls between the age of 18 and 22 behind the grog shop bars issuing the fluid of hell to the rising nation of man. Don't you think it is time "that my people that are called by my name" should humble themselves and pray? Those millino and a half girls are a million and half mothers of tomorrow. What may we look for? Only a nation of drunkards. They call drunkenness a disease. It is alcoholic and we are told there are about as many women afflicted with it as men. What may we look for? Do you honestly believe that God will sit on his throne and see the Devil sink this nation with drunkenness and adultery? I do not. It is now time for we who are called by His name to humble ourselves. We need not pray until we get in an humble attitude and seek God's help.

I really believe if this entire nation would suspend business for two weeks and wrestle with God in humble and honest prayer from the heart God might do like He did to a little town when he sent it word by Jonah that it had just 40 days to get right. Jonah believed it himself and it had an effect on the whole town. We have so many preachers that really don't know whether to believe what they are preaching themselves. You had better find what God wants, and then ask Him to give you the power of a steam engine fired to capacity. Pull the throttle wide open and let her go.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob bless these few remarks to some poor soul and to His glory is my honest prayer.

HOLDS FLORIDA REVIVAL

I would like to send a greeting to all this morning in the name of the God we all love and serve. Our work here in Flat River is progressing nicely. As most of you will know our work here is new. That is the organization is new-the field in this end of Flat River is new to Free Will Baptist and the building is new. The church has been

organized a little over four years. Rev. Melvin Bingham served as the first pastor. Rev. S. A. Hand served for a time as supply pastor. Then Rev. Damon Dodd served three years leaving the first of this year. At which time I came to work. We are grateful to the Lord for all His rich blessings.

I would also like to report a wonderful revival at the Unity Free Will Baptist church in Jacksonville, Fla. I went for the meeting April 26, and stayed through May 7. This was their anniversary, and home coming day. The Lord worked in a mighty way in the meeting. There were 12 professions with eight of these uniting with the. It was truly a great meeting. Rev. C. J. Pitts is the pastor of the church there. Bro. Pitts expresses a great love for the Lord, and the entire work of the Free Will Baptist church. I feel sure there is a real future for work in Jacksonville.

Sincerely in Him,

Rev. Mark M. Lewis

GOD'S PRUNING

Some years ago I was going through the orchard districts in western Canada and saw a remarkable illustration of discipline as a condition of fruit bearing. It was an apricot orchard, and the trees had not been given proper attention, but now they were being cut back. It seemed, to an untrained eye, more like mutilation than pruning. But the workman was also the owner, and he only desired more fruit. That year he had a small crop, for new wood had to be grown. The following spring he pruned again, not so severely this time. When the fruit formed on those trees, the yield was so great the crop had to be thinned out, and only about one-third was allowed to ripen, and in the autumn the trees were covered with glorious fruit. The discipline of the husbandman had brought the fruitfulness.

Is this the reason for the Lord's chastening? "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

—Isaac Page

SUBSCRIBE FOR YOUR FRIENDS

PLANS FOR 1950 SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO CONVENE IN RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA JULY 11-14

The coming session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists to be held in Richmond, California will be one of the most important meetings of this kind to be held in recent years. Many items of importance to the pro-

ciation in session. The Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees will have some definite reports and proposals relative to expanding the College. The Promotional Department will present a unified five-year program of Spiritual Advance for Free Will Baptists. New fields for operating Home Mission enterprises will be presented and action taken when the Home Mission Board reports. All of this, plus much more, will be interspersed with preaching, singing, and Bible discussion based on the theme



Richmond F. W. B. Church

gram will be presented for consideration. The various Boards will propose their budgets for the coming year, the Stewardship Commission will report for the first time, the revived Christian Worker's Institute set-up will be introduced nationally, a new and workable Home Mission plan will be presented, the Foreign Mission Board will have a revitalized plan of work; in fact so many things of importance will be happening that every Free Will Baptist will want to be present.

The city of Richmond, California is situated on the east coast of San Francisco Bay and has a population of 104,000. Pastor George McLain of the Free Will Baptist church there has secured the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce and other Civic organs and the city is ready to officially extend a welcome hand to Free Will Baptist from everywhere. Special sight seeing tours are being arranged and other surprises are in store for those who attend.

The National Free Will Baptist Radio Commission will offer a thirty minute program which will be broadcast over one of the San Francisco stations directly to the National Asso-



Rev. George McLain, Pastor

"Stewardship." It is hoped that each department will prepare displays for the Association.

Delegates and visitors to the National Association will find accommodations in the following Motor Courts, Hotels, and homes. Motor Courts—El Rancho San Pablo, 3150 San Pablo Ave., Ph. Beacon 2-4102; Motel—Richmond on Highway 40, East Bay; Freeway Motel, 1907 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Calif., U.S. 40; 4.00 single, \$6.00 double, Ph. Beacon 4-5581. Natives of Missouri and Washington States phone Beacon 2-4102. Hotels—Hotel Don, \$3.00-4.00 single, 4.00-5.00 double; Travelers Hotel, 500 West McDonald, single \$2.00, double \$3.00. Homes—There will also be a limited number of homes available for those

who want them. Write to Rev. George McLain, 440 S. 24th, Apt. 1-B, Richmond, California for reservations in the homes. Meals—Arrangements have been made for meals to be served by the Methodist church at 85¢ per meal for the noon and evening. Breakfast can be had at one of the local cafeterias at a nominal cost.

If you plan to attend this session, please notify the pastor, Rev. George McLain. If you will let him know



Golden Gate Bridge

what of accommodations you want he will be glad to make arrangements for you. His address is listed above.

N. W. BRAZOS (TEXAS) QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

The Association convened at Salt Creek, Texas on Friday night, April 28. Each church of the Association was fully represented from the start of the meeting. The conference voted to omit the next Quarterly Conference, as each church and Pastor would be in revival work. July and August are revival months and the Yearly Association would be convening in late August.

One of the outstanding features was that Salt Creek is a community church and various denominations took part in the entertaining of the meeting. Outside the business of the conference a wonderful program of testimonies, prayers, songs, and preaching was enjoyed. Everyone enjoyed real fellowship with their Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

The Northwest Brazos Association endeavors to help in every opportunity that will help in the cause of Christ and in the spreading of the Gospel.

Mrs. Willie Bell Nall, Clerk



From The Editor's Desk



CONVENTIONS

Association and convention time is fast approaching. Several interesting and helpful ones are to meet soon.

The Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary organization will meet at the Camp near Niangua, Missouri, in a session of inspiration and instruction lasting from Tuesday evening, June 6 through Friday noon, June 9. Much planning and preparation has gone into this first meeting and many women and children plan to attend. Somehow we suspect several men are thinking up reasons to get in some of the sessions, too. Again on June 19-20 F.W.B. in Missouri will make their way to the Camp for the annual League and Sunday School conventions that end in a joint fellowship service in the evening. This will be followed by the Youth Encampment that opens June 21 to run through June 30 and a host of our younger generation plan to attend. Real blessings and sound Christian training is the history of this session, with every year producing many saved and several dedications to a special life service. Arrange for the children of your home and church to go. You can't afford to deny them this session.

On the National scene our youth and Leaguers are scheduled to convene in picturesque Norfolk, Virginia, on June 13-15, 1950, in their third nationwide session of inspiration and fellowship. Again much preparation and planning has gone into this meeting. It promises to prove a real blessing to those attending. Your's truly urges you to attend and feels Missouri should represent largely there. We think you will find spiritual uplift and much encouragement to our youth.

Early July brings another session of the popular National Association. A feature article appears elsewhere in this issue. The session will transact a heavy calendar of business, provide much fellowship, feature singing and spiritual messages, and make available sight seeing trips for relaxation. Another one you can't miss! Make your plans now on all these very fine sessions. F.W.B. certainly have much to look forward to in the next few weeks.

FORSAKING OR FORGETTING

We have hesitated to write on this subject but somehow feel compelled to do so. Let us just say it is a friendly chat about subscriptions.

Several current factors are forcing the sub list downward. We have tried to analyze this trend and offer these conclusions and reasonings.

Incomes have been reduced in many instances and several indicate an attempt to offset this by reducing their expenditures in every department. We cannot fully agree with such an idea for we feel sure you need the Gem in your home and we certainly need the sub. We think one dollar per year will not be disturbing to many. Only two that we recall have given personal reasons for not renewing. We are sincerely sorry we have failed to measure up to the expectations of these folks and reaffirm that we are trying as best we know to please the Lord and serve His people. Therefore this reason also seems to be negligible. No one has ever seemed to think the price is too high. Instead many folks feel we should raise the rate. Several include a little more than the stipulated price when they renew. In fact we have exhausted every reason we could think of. Yet the subs have gone down.

All this directs us to believe many folks of good intentions merely forget to renew and then just finally become disinterested. Actually we receive a great many subs together with the statement "I didn't intend to be late. I just forgot." No doubt many others have just merely "forgot" and then just never have renewed.

A short time ago we asked for 1,000 new subs. The need is now even more urgent and should be more than that number. Also we placed before you a plan to "Share the Gem." Only a few have used this plan. Others think it is a fine idea but have "forgot" to place their offering.

Won't you, personally, mail your own subscription, include your offering, send your amount for the "Share the Gem" plan, and solicit among all your church friends prompting them to rush their own subs and offerings to us. Please, Don't Forget.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Revised postal regulations are causing much inconvenience and considerable extra cost in postage here at the Gem office. These new regulations require the paper to be returned to this office in most instances if you have had ANY address change and it has not been corrected. This is true if you have only changed street numbers, changed from a box to a route, route to street, or other seemingly minor changes even though you may keep the same postoffice address. When your address changes any, back comes your Gem. The postal employee must affix an unbecoming label on the returned paper. We must pay a high return postage. Generally by the time it comes back our supply has been exhausted and in order for you to get your Gem we must put more postage on the old mutilated copy and send it out again. There is an easy way to avoid all this confusion and inconvenience. Simply ask your postal clerk or carrier for Form 22-S, "Notice To Publisher of Change of Address." Fill one out and mail it to us immediately when you have ANY ADDRESS CHANGE. You will get your Gem promptly then.

GIVING EXEMPLIFIED

Some staunch friends of the Lord's work, living in Lansing, Michigan, recently forwarded an offering to the support of this work. They expressed a desire to support us more often but explained they were supporting needy and worthy work there with a tithe of 15% of ALL their income. If we are correctly informed they are not even Free Will Baptists. We might do well to plan and practice our support of the Lord's work after a similar pattern of giving.

How desperately difficult it is to be honest with one's self. It is much easier to be honest with other people.

Subscribe to "The Gem"

1.00 per year

DO YOU PRAY FOR EDITORS?

The amount of good or evil accomplished by the press is incalculable. There may be half-a-dozen ministers on the globe who preach regularly to four or five thousand people; but there are comparatively few papers which do not reach this number, allowing an average of five persons in each home to which the paper goes; while in numerous cases the congregation of an editor amounts to hundreds of thousands of persons.

The minister speaks, perhaps, to two or three out of a family; the aged and infirmed, as a rule, having no part in his ministrations. The words of the editor go directly to the home, and reach every member of the family who reads. The minister's words are spoken hastily, and may fail to express adequately his thought; the words of an editor are likely to be more carefully considered, and his thoughts more accurately expressed. A minister's words may be forgotten, and he himself unable to recall them; but the words of the editor are written down, and may be considered and re-read until they are firmly fixed in the mind. How important that the words spoken be right words, even words of wisdom and truth!

How little we know of the sermons which the apostles preached; but the Epistles which they wrote have come down to us as an unfailing treasury of truth. In view of such facts, should not Christian men and women engage in earnest supplication for those on whom is laid the responsible charge of conducting the public press? Surely no Christian should hear with indifference the request of an editor when he says, "Brethren, pray for us."—Boston Christian.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Dear Youth for Christ Workers:

Just a line to talk to you about our work and activities at the Camp. The time is drawing near for our camp session, and I am sure every one is making preparations for it.

A number of pastors have told me their church, League, or Sunday School is gathering canned fruit and supplies for the entertainment. We surely appreciate this. We expect a much larger group this year. Any thing you have to give will be appre-

ciated.

We are doing everything we can to have the camp ready. We have one new cabin so far this year. Central Western Missouri Association has a fine cabin. If you intend to build a cabin, we would surely appreciate it if you would build it for this session.

We have the promise of a motor for our pump. Also the water glasses for the kitchen. We are badly in need of mattresses as we had only 2 or 3 extra mattresses and straw ticks last year. So we are depending on you for these things and feel everyone will do all that is possible to make it a great success this year.

We now have a beautiful home at the camp which your caretaker and family appreciate so much to live in and to help make our camp a blessing to all. The lumber company and lumber men, with others, have been so good to us in helping us and made it possible for us to build it, and we will express our heart felt thanks to them, and may God's richest blessings rest upon them. But that can only help them spiritually. Now, in return for their good help to us, let us do our part in giving to pay them that which we owe them.

The payment will be due July 1, 1950, only a short time from now. Just a few dollars from each church, League, Sunday School, and Auxiliary will take care of it. I cannot tell you the exact amount but it is about \$900, possibly a few dollars over or under. I am sorry I can't give you the exact figures as I am at Irondale, Mo., at this writing, and the statement is at the camp.

We now have some new pictures of our camp taken Easter Sunday for our projector and would be glad to show them to your church if it will help your people to know what our camp consists of.

May God bless you,

Rev. Wm. Reeves

**NEW MEXICO WORK GROWS;
PLAN NEEDED BUILDING**

Hobbs, N. Mex.
May 29, 1950

Dear Gem Readers:

I would like to take a few minutes to tell you of the wonderful blessings we are receiving here in New Mexico. It is impossible to tell how God has

blessed us, but this will give you an idea.

We are the first Free Will Baptist church in the State of New Mexico. We have only had services five Sundays and our attendance has grown to 65. We had Sunday School three Sundays with 48. We organized into a church May 17, 1950 and everyone is close to each other in the love of God. Everyone is humble and that is what pleases God. I do ask the prayers of all of God's people that I will stay humble where God can use me to His glory. I'm just a boy preacher and I need help. I've only been preaching a short time and this is my first church to pastor.

We are having services in a hall at present, with plans being made for our own building. If there are some who have donations they would like to help us with in building the church, it will really be appreciated and I know God would bless you. We need every penny we can get to put into our building.

Do remember our little church here in all your prayers and ask God to have His way in each of our lives.

We would enjoy a letter from everyone that reads this. God bless all of you.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. J. C. Armstrong
Box R,
Hobbs, New Mexico

EVANGELIST AVAILABLE

REV. WILLIAM BUSTER

FREE WILL BAPTIST EVANGELIST

Available after July 31, 1950

WRITE: THEBES, ILLINOIS,
R. F. D. 1

TERMS: Offering and entertainment
Write for Dates

NEW CATALOG PLANNED

We are planning a new catalog of supplies to be ready for release about July 1st that will offer about every article you will need in your home or church office in the way of Christian literature, Bibles, and other supplies. If you would like to have a catalog please drop us a card. They will be free but since they will cost us quite a sum we would like for them to go to those interested in such articles.

NEWSY BRIEFS

OBITUARIES - REPORTS LETTERS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

ILLINOIS SUNDAY SCHOOLS HOLD SEMI-ANNUAL MEET

We had another wondrous Sunday School convention on April 22 at the Harmony Free Will Baptist Church at Benton, Illinois. We were happy to have as visitors from the College, Rev. and Mrs. Charles A. Thigpen, Lucy Wisheart, Maurine Edwards, Billy Morris, and Ronald Creech. Roger Reeds, Norma Burcham, and Margaret Dodd were visiting from Missouri.

The program for the convention was as follows: 9:30—Devotional, Miss Lucy Wisheart; 10:00—Business session; 10:30—Building report, Rev. C. J. Kettelman; 10:45—Recess; 11:00—Morning message, Rev. Charles Thigpen; Noon; 1:00—Congregational singing, Ronald Creech; 1:30—Reading, Mrs. Charles Thigpen; 1:45—Program, Hazel Dell Sunday School. Evening Service: 7:30—Song, Roger Reeds; 7:45—Reading, Billy Morris; 8:30—Program; Oak Grove Sunday School.

For four years we have been talking about building a tabernacle. Now something is being done. Rev. C. J. Kettelman, chairman of the Building Committee, was given power to sign with a contractor and go ahead with the work. We expect to have enough done so that we may have a Youth Camp there this summer. I know this can be done if we trust the Lord. The lack of funds have held us back somewhat, but pray for us that we may say as the Apostle Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

Wallace Malone, Pres.
Patricia Norris, Clerk

ILLINOIS REVIVAL

The Glenwood Church of Noble, Illinois, has just closed a two-week revival. Rev. Bert Rogers, from Francis, Oklahoma, was the evangelist. We had a wonderful revival. Many souls were inspired and added to the church.

Rev. J. C. Kindred, Pastor

PIONEERS OF FAITH



Mr. and Mrs. John P. Blackwell

Above is a picture of our beloved and regular attending members, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Blackwell. Mrs. Blackwell has been in ill health for some time, and can not always attend, but Uncle John (as he is affectionately known) very seldom misses a Sunday. He is our Sunday School Superintendent and teacher of the Adult Class.

Mr. Blackwell has served our church for 40 years as church clerk. We consider that quite a record. Mr. Blackwell gives me this church history.

The Amity Free Will Baptist Church of Niangua, Missouri was organized on Saturday, April 13th, 1895. Lark Jones was the first pastor and Clay Warth, church clerk. Jim Johnston was the second clerk to serve. In April 1910, Mr. Blackwell was elected. The pastors serving during this time include Rev. Jim Halcomb, Rev. Geuvaner, Rev. M. B. Clift, Rev. J. L. Gearing, Rev. Delcour, and Rev. Seigel Moody. On Saturday July 11, 1925, Rev. Selph Jones was elected and served 10 years. Then Rev. Fay George was elected and served a little over a year before passing to the great beyond. After Fay those serving

were Walter George, John Swaffer, Frank Linton, and Winford Davis. Now serving is Bro. Dale Jones of Lebanon, Missouri, a very young and able preacher of whom we are proud.

Hazel McKeel

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH

St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

It is with thanks to God that I report the marvelous way He is blessing our activities at Southside Free Will Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo.

We held an Easter Sunrise Service at Belview Park. I believe that is one of the most beautiful services God's children can take part in.

We ask for the prayers of all Christian people that our revival which starts the last Sunday in April with Rev. Harry Staires from Bristow, Oklahoma as Evangelist, will be a great success.

Our young ministers have brought some stirring messages in our church and we are very proud of them and thank God that such fine young men will dedicate their lives to His cause. We are also proud of our quartet and pianist whom God has blessed with very fine talents for singing and playing His praises.

Our Sunday morning services are a great blessing to all. We receive great joy from our classes which are arranged to suit all age groups down to the tiniest tot. God is blessing every service.

Our Woman's Auxiliary is a great help to our little church. Much is learned from our Bibles through our League whose members join together on Sunday evening to study more about the Word of God. We ask your prayers that it will continue to grow. Are young people are always willing to do anything that is asked of them. We ask your prayers that God will especially guide them in everything.

In closing we again ask God's children to pray for us and our little church that it may forever be a sanctuary for precious souls.

Sis. Dorothy Beard, Cor. Secy.

HOLD FIFTH SUNDAY MEET IN NORTHEAST MISSOURI

The Northeast Missouri Fifth Sunday Meeting convened with Shibley's Point Church April 30, 1950, with Sunday School at 10:00 o'clock. The morning worship service began with the congregation singing, "Praise Him, Praise Him," "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus," "His Way With Thee," and "Heaven Holds All to Me." We were led in prayer by Bro. Ora Gates and Bro. A. R. Dare. The congregation sang "A Soul Winner for Jesus." Sis. Alta Mikel brought the morning message using for her Scripture lesson Luke 13:1-10; 6:35-49. Her subject was "Bearing Fruit for God." A very inspiring message was delivered. After the message the congregation sang "Will Jesus Find Us Watching?" We were dismissed by Bro. Harry Filkins. A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened under the leadership of the pastor, Sis. Alta Mikel, since the president and vice-president were both absent. The congregation sang "Blest Be the Tie." We were led in prayer by Bro. Charley Anderson. We then sang "Sweet By and By." The 133 Psalm was read for the scripture lesson. The minutes of last meeting were read and accepted. Letters from Hazel Creek Union, New Harmony and Green Grove auxiliaries were read and accepted. A card was read from Rev. Wm. Reeves concerning the Youth Camp and the announcement was made about the Woman's Auxiliary Conference to be held at the Youth Camp June 6-9. The following program was then given to a very large crowd. We were unable to seat them all and there was scarcely standing room. We are very thankful for such a large crowd.

Song, "When God's Chariot Comes," and "The Gospel Way," by the Jessie Peterson quartet. Reading by Linda Montgomery. Duet, "He's A Wonderful Saviour to Me," Leola and Shirley Parris. Reading—"The Jew," Christine Neff. Duet, "Dust on the Bible," Eula Fay and Howard Sevits. Song, "On and On We Walk Together," and "Down On My Knees," the Grace Tabernacle quartet of Centerville, Iowa. Song, "What Will Your Answer Be," by Green Grove quartet. The congregation sang, "Oh, Happy Day." We were led in prayer by Bro. Roads of

Worthington, Mo. Rev. Hugh Sawyer of Centerville, Iowa, brought the afternoon message. He read as a scripture lesson Isaiah 54:17 and brought his message from Ex. 2:1-10. A very inspiring message was delivered. We were dismissed by Rev. Orville Dobbs. We went to the waters edge for a baptismal service where three candidates were baptised by Rev. Hugh Sawyer. The next meeting will be with the Sublette Church with Rev. Archie Cooper bringing the 11:00 o'clock message. Rev. Rolla Smith, alternate.

OILTON, OKLAHOMA

April 26, 1950

I would like to report the following activities for the Free Will Baptist church of Oilton for the month of April. Rev. Faye Bookout conducted a week of prayer the week before Easter with an average of 14 women at each service. Rev. Harry E. Staires conducted the Sunrise service at 5:30 a.m. Easter morning, April 9, at the Free Will Baptist church with 29 present.

The Sunday morning service had a record of 102 in attendance and an offering of \$403.67. Rev. Harry E. Staires conducted the service. To continue the months record there have been three conversions, five new members and nine baptized.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Natalie Casey, Secy.

C. W. I. AT BETHEL CHURCH; McARTHUR, WEST VIRGINIA

A session of the Christian Worker's Institute, which is a work of the Promotional Department of the National Association, was completed at the Bethel Church, of MacArthur, West Virginia March 29, 1950. The course included instruction in the fields of Bible Doctrine, Personal Soul-Winning, Stewardship, F. W. B. Doctrine, Woman's Auxiliary, and Free Will Baptist League.

The instructors, who were Rev. J. L. Welch and Rev. Damon C. Dodd of Nashville, Tennessee and Mrs. Ruby Dunlap of Charleston, W. Virginia, certainly did a fine job in their respective fields.

Attendance and interest was fine, yet when compared with the number not attending, it is tragic to think that

so many of our people will let such a wonderful opportunity pass without taking advantage of it.

We have a promise from Brother Dodd of another session of the Institute, somewhere in the state, this fall. Free Will Baptists of West Virginia let us look forward to it with enthusiasm and a determination to attend.

Rev. W. C. Combs,
Crab Orchard, W. Va.

SOUTHSIDE (MO.) REVIVAL

Lemay 23, Mo.

I'm happy to report to you the wonderful revival recently conducted at the Southside Free Will Baptist church here in St. Louis, by Rev. Harry E. Staires of Bristow, Oklahoma. Truly we here thank God for such men as Bro. Staires who preach the Gospel in its fullness and who will work as Bro. Staires did to win the lost to Christ. We learned to love him and only hope that we will again have the privilege to have Brother and Sister Staires back with us in the near future.

We are happy to report that 15 precious souls found the Christ during this meeting. Fourteen of these were adults with 10 of them being men. The 12 who united with our church were six men and their wives, some with large families. So you can see what this revival has meant to our church. We also have fine prospects as to several others uniting with us in the near future, so pray with us that God may continue to have His way in our little church. Pray with us also that God may soon open up the way for us to enlarge our building or build, as our building is becoming too small for our congregation. During the meeting our building was filled each night and some nights we were overcrowded. God has blessed us in a wonderful way for which we say, "Thank you God."

To Bro. Staires I want to say as pastor of the Southside Church you will never know how much good was accomplished in this revival and the people here will never forget your work and will always hold you highly in our hearts. May God continue to bless you in your efforts.

Yours for Christ,

Rev. Harvey E. Hill



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

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



HUNTSVILLE (TEX.) F. W. B. WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Dear Gem Readers:

We have been greatly handicapped this year because of illness and bad weather but thank God we have not been completely idle. Our yearly report follows:

We entertained the Central Texas District Convention in March and had a glorious day in the Lord. We have had 15 meetings and have organized one "Go-Tell Band" with seven members. Present membership, 24; No. of new members, 8; one supper, \$42.25; Cash to orphanage, 14.00; Education, \$2.25; Foreign Missions, \$7.76; Value commodities to needy, \$299.85; amount of dues to convention, \$8.55; amount of dues collected, \$13.10; No members subscribing to papers, 5; No. members attending week of prayer, 11; new auxiliaries organized, 2; Convalescent cards sent, 30; gallons milk distributed, 12½; No. chapters read in Bible 11,342; No. religious services conducted, 15; No. visits to sick, 422; trays fruit, 161; flowers to sick, 26; miscellaneous offerings, \$14.94; Co-Laborer Fund, \$6.00; donation car for India, \$2.25; sale of chore girls, \$16.35; love offering, Miss Barnard, \$5.00; birthday shower given, \$10.00; 2 religious pictures given, \$3.58.

We wish the prayers of all the Christians that we may be able to do more in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Opal Koehl, Secy-Treas.

RESCUE AUXILIARY OF WHITTINGTON, ILLINOIS

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is: but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25.

What day? The same day Paul speaks of in Romans 13:11, 12. The day when Jesus comes for those who are faithful.

So our faithful women of Rescue F. W. B. Church met in their monthly

meeting April 21. The president, Zera Sneed, presided and directed the lesson on "Meeting the Needs of Our Youth." Scripture read by Emma Moore. Topical review of the outlined lesson from Year Book of Programs by Bertha Burton, Ethel Connor, Mae and Maxine Sneed and Juanita Smith. A box of cut flowers was sent to an aged member, Mrs. Nancy Fryar. A shower was announced of clothing and other needs for our Children's Home in Greenville, Tenn. A vote was taken to send \$25.00 to Foreign Missions.

The presence of the Lord was manifest and we went from this meeting strengthened, and with an earnest desire that all the women of our church membership might enlist with us in our very active service. We are praying for a revival determined to seek God's face, to humble ourselves and pray. We have the promise from God that He shall then hear from heaven and will heal our land. The next district meeting will be held at our church next October 19, 1950.

THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

Marie Hyatt, Director

Because of ill health, Miss Barnard will be unable to attend the conference. After the necessary changes were made the schedule is as follows.

Program

Tuesday Night-Friday Noon, June 6-9
6:30 Rising bell
7:00 Chapel devotions, Mrs. Mildred Gilliam
7:30 Breakfast
8:30 Cabin devotions
9:00 Personal Soul Winning, Miss Lucy Wisheart
9:30 Auxiliary hour, Mrs. J. E. Frazier
10:00 Recess
10:15 Stewardship, Mrs. Jewell Campbell
11:00 Missions, Mrs. Eunice Edwards
12:00 Lunch



Rev. Marie Hyatt

1:00 { Recreation and fellowship;
Thursday: Declamation Con-
test
5:30 {
6:00 Dinner
7:30 Evening Consecration Services,
Mrs. Marie Hyatt
Room and board—\$1.25 per day for
adult, \$1.00 per day for children.
Registration fee—\$2.00.

Cabin Devotional Leaders

Mrs. Lucille Beatty, Mrs. Roena Thomas, Mrs. Rolla Smith, Mrs. Evelyn Alyea, Mrs. Burnice Davis, Mrs. Georgia Hill.

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.

Auxiliary Editor's Report

Received:

Marie Hyatt\$1.00
Fredericktown Auxiliary 2.00
Third Auxiliary 1.00
First Auxiliary, Flat River 1.00
Total\$5.00

Disbursed:

Typewriter\$6.67
Postage36
Supplies30
Total\$7.33

YOUTH CAMP NEEDS FOR THIS SESSION

Pastors, Christian workers, prayer warriors, food, money, pots, pans, wash towels, mattresses and many other items. Auxiliary workers, have you done your share to supply these needs?

This is the last issue of the Gem before time for the Encampment so we will be unable to remind you again. Please take care of these things today. Send in your offerings, food, supplies, etc., to: Rev. Wm. Reeves, Niangua, Missouri.

Declamation Contest Rules of National Auxiliary Convention

At the 1949 session of the National Woman's Auxiliary convention the details of the Declamation Contest were placed under the supervision of the national second vice president. Therefore the following rules have been set forth.

Participants are to be between the ages of 12 to 18. Each state in our convention may represent with one speaker. The declamation must be on Stewardship. It may or may not be original. The time limit will be 10 minutes. Five points will be deducted for each minute or fraction thereof over the allotted time.

The contestants will be judged on the following basis: Presence (poise and sincerity), 25 points; Composition (accuracy and effectiveness), 50 points; Oratory (powers to thrill, quicken and compel), 25 points.

Attention state second vice presidents. Any state that will be represented should mail the contestants name and the title of the declamation to the national second vice president not later than June 15. A medal will be given to the winner and to the runner up.

Mrs. Verdun Bingham
National 2nd Vice Pres.
1922 North Lewis
Tulsa, Oklahoma

The Complete Authorized Edition
IN HIS STEPS
What Would Jesus Do?
By Charles M. Sheldon
245 Pages \$1.00

THANK YOU LORD

*Thank you Lord for a country church
And for the common folks,
For a preacher that preaches salvation
And omits the flowery jokes.*

*Thank you Lord, for a country church
Where people don't go for style,
But kneel in an old fashioned altar
And shout up and down the aisle.*

Wilbia Sell, Stockton, Mo.

ST. LOUIS REVIVAL

May 3, 1950

We are glad to report that our church has just had three weeks of services. There was one week of prayer. The young ministers of our church conducted these meetings the way the Lord lead them. The Lord poured out His blessings in this week of prayer. The two weeks following Bro. Zinn held us a revival. There were seven souls saved. There was evidence of the Holy Spirit working throughout the services, and has continue to work in our services. We feel sure some of these people will soon accept the Lord as their personal Saviour. We thank the Lord for men like Bro. Zinn, who are not afraid to stand up and preach the Gospel in a way that lost men and women may find peace in the Lord Jesus.

Truly we thank the Lord for all His blessings our church has enjoyed and the way the other churches came and helped out in this great work of the Lord.

Please remember our church in your prayers that it might continue to grow.

Yours in Christ,

Sis. Jerry Bullis, Reporter

ALCOHOL NARCOTIC POISON

Alcohol in beer, wine, and whiskey is a narcotic, a poison, a habit-forming drug. That's why it is "no good for our children."

Dr. Emil Bogen, noted toxicologist says: "The very first thing that alcohol does is to attack the highest abilities, the parts of the brain that have to do with judgment, reason and the control of behavior. Alcohol slows down the brain." Mankind never can have "the brains to use them the way liquor should be used," because alcohol destroys the kind of brain power needed to tell a drinker when he has had enough.

CHURCH GROWING

Berkley City, Mo.

We are glad to report that with the Lord's help our church at Berkley City is growing, with the Baptism of new members planned for the near future.

We are having our regular Sunday services, Junior and Adult League meetings on Sunday nights and Prayer Meeting on Wednesday nights. The Ladies Auxiliary meets on Tuesday night of every week.

We are happy to say that with the financial help of the Ladies Auxiliary, we have been able to make building improvements on the church. Their contribution being hardwood floors and runners for the aisles.

With the coming warm weather, many activities have been planned, the main feature at this time being our Youth Revival, which is scheduled for the latter part of May.

We ask the prayers of everyone that our church might continue to grow in the service of the Lord.

Doris Tucker, Cor.

CRUDEN'S COMPLETE CONCORDANCE

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783 Pages

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STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION

This is a last reminder of the State League Convention which will convene June 20, at the State Youth Camp grounds near Niangua, Mo. This year's session is being held following the Sunday School convention and should be well attended.

If your League is not associated with any local League Convention or Rally, it should report as an individual League. We would like to urge every League Convention in the state to report by letter and delegates.

Let's make this session of the League and Sunday School Convention a real success and a glory to the Lord.

Yours for Christ,

Benjamin R. Scott, Pres.

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY VISITS CUBA MISSION FIELD

Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Promotional Secretary

It was my privilege to visit the Cuban Mission Field during the Easter season for the purpose of speaking before the Cuban Association's convention and to bring the Commencement address at the third graduating exercise of the Seminary, "The Cedars of Lebanon." I was especially happy in that it was like a trip home for me for Cuba had been our home for some two and one half years.

Then and Now

I was struck by the phenomenal growth which the work has enjoyed during the past few years. When we left Cuba in 1947 the Girl's dormitory was not yet completed. Today this building is housing a number of girls, the old dining room has been torn down and a new one built in its place. In addition, a beautiful hurricane-proof, fire-proof, boy's dormitory has been erected and it is a credit to anybody's work. I was overjoyed when I saw this fine structure and realized that it was our own. It still needs to be painted on the inside and stuccoed on the outside and this can be done only as you, the Free Will Baptist people make it possible. The school with all its buildings is a city within itself and the powerful generator which furnished power for the buildings for light, etc., makes it veritably a city on a hill that cannot be hid. This another great improvement of the past three years. Miss Yeley's home and the Willey's home lend an air of coziness and home-likeness to the entire scene. Small pumps in strategic places supply water for the kitchen and the missionary houses without the necessity of hauling it up the hill in the barrels pulled on sleds by oxen. In short, everything is the very essence of order and arrangement. Everyone knows his or her responsibility and there is no delay in getting things done.

The Convention

The Convention was largely attended. Chartered buses brought the people from as far away as Havana and some even came from beyond Havana. I am sure that a conservative estimate of one thousand people in attendance would be safe. They came for the inspiration of the Convention

and they attended every service. I was struck by one outstanding fact. As the men stood around in groups visiting between sessions and services



Rev. Damon C. Dodd

their usual topic of discussion was religion. AND NONE OF THEM LIT UP A CIGARETTE OR STOOD CHEWING AND SPITTING. IT LOOKED LIKE A CHURCH GATHERING AND NOT A CIGARETTE FESTIVAL. WE WOULD DO WELL TO TAKE A LESSON HERE FROM OUR CUBAN BROTHERS. The Convention theme was "Be filled with the Spirit" and all the Convention messages had to do with this theme. The items of business were transacted with alacrity and interest and the Cuban Free Will Baptist are alert so far as their duties and responsibilities are concerned. I cannot praise the Administrative staff too highly for their arrangement and management of the convention and its affairs. Everything tanged of efficiency and planning.

Graduation Exercises

This was the third class to be graduate from the Cuban School of Missions and consisted of Oneilio Valle, Osmundo Corrales, Edelmiro Cuba, and Ofelia Sotero. The Commencement address was delivered Saturday afternoon and the actual graduation

was held Saturday night at 8:30. The young men were immaculately dressed in white flannel suits, with black boutonnieres and the one young lady was dressed in a white, floor-length formal. The procession was on the order of the usual march, with one young man leading the way, with the young lady and another young man coming next, and the other young man bringing up the rear. The class marched to the platform in the Temple, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The graduates themselves had charge of the program, with Senorita Ofelia reading the scripture and Senores Valle, Corrales, and Cuba giving thesis on the Holy Spirit, His attributes, works, being, place in the Godhead, and other pertinent facts. These were masterpieces and reflected much work on the part of both students and instructors. Following the giving of the thesis, the diplomas were presented by Mr. Willey. The graduating class then presented me with the class banner, which was inscribed with the words in Spanish, "Heralds of the Trinity." This completed the service and congratulations were in order.

The Outlook

The outlook for our Cuban Mission is indeed bright. We now have several graduates from the Cuban School of Missions on the field as well as a number of students who are on the field during the summer. Under the faithful direction and leadership of our American Missionary staff, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Willey, Miss Yeley, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wilfong, the work is growing by leaps and bounds. This work has been rightly branded as a "Miracle of Modern Missions," and we rejoice with the workers on the field in the great victories which God has given. We must rally to the support of this work and the work in India. God has given us marvelous opportunities and we must make the most of them by consistently supporting with both our prayers and our money.

PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

By Mrs. Eunice Edwards

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RAISE THE MERCURY ON MISSION CHARTS

You will please raise the mercury on your Foreign Mission charts according to the figures given below. These figures given as of April 30, 1950.

North Carolina	\$9,739.29
Missouri	5,530.67
Michigan	3,784.08
Oklahoma	3,625.23
Tennessee	3,477.82
South Carolina	1,639.70
Georgia	1,352.61
Illinois	967.86
Texas	778.99
Virginia	705.28
Alabama	682.99
West Virginia	475.97
Arkansas	324.45
Kentucky	291.70
Florida	273.14
Mississippi	156.06
New Mexico	65.00
California	51.69
Ohio	25.75

We greatly appreciate your co-operation with the missionary charts.

Thanking you,

Winford Davis,

Promotional Secy-Treas.

URGENTLY NEEDED

Twenty-five Thousand F.W.B.

Who will help us to glorify the name of Christ in Houston by sending \$1.00 (or more if you wish) for the construction of a new church building to serve your people and mine as they move to the fastest growing city in the South.

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Note (later word): The funds are now beginning to come in for that new building in Houston. Have you mailed your Dollar Bill yet?

Just send it to—

H. RAY BERRY
1031 East 14th St.,
Houston 9, Texas

The Lord will bless you.

Signed: The Board of Trustees

In our eagerness to impress others and influence their thinking, we often become self deceptionists without knowing it. It therefore behooves any man to go alone to do his honest thinking.

MICHIGAN ON THE MOVE

Rev. H. E. Willis, Th. G.

The third Quarterly Meeting of the Wolverine Association for this year met at the Highland Park Church March 30 through April 1. This was indeed a great service. All eight of our churches were represented. Dr. Clarence H. Benson, Executive Secretary of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association spoke on Thursday evening. Rev. Tom Malone, Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, of Pontiac, spoke on Friday night. Local pastors preached at other times during the sessions. Two men were ordained as deacons at the Saturday service. Rev. H. E. Willis was moderator.

Rev. Harold A. Pitts, Pastor of Brilliant, Alabama, is now preaching in a revival at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park. Interest is good and the messages are inspiring.

The Breckenridge Church, Rev. Everett D. Hellard, Pastor, will sponsor a Teachers' School beginning Monday, April 17. Rev. H. E. Willis will be in charge assisted by Rev. Raymond Riggs. A school closed on March 27 at the Hazel Park Church with 40 certificates of credit granted and two Teachers' Certificates.

Rev. Edgil Howard has resigned as Pastor of the Philadelphia Church, and his successor has not been selected. Mr. Howard is continuing to carry on the pastoral duties until the new pastor is called. Under Rev. Howard's leadership the church has grown in every respect. A building has been purchased, a new building site bought, and a fine program put into operation. May the blessings of the Lord be with Brother Howard in his new work.

Since Rev. Mark Lewis resigned as pastor of the First Church of Owensboro last January they have not been able to find a minister. This is a good opportunity for someone who is interested in the work.

The West Wayne Church is on the move! Rev. W. T. Newsome is pastor. Their Sunday School is growing by leaps and bounds. Mr. Claude Pinkston is the efficient superintendent.

The Highland Park Church has completed their \$33,000 addition and was crowded out at the Easter services. Rev. Raymond Riggs is pastor. The Lord has raised up a fine young preacher in this church recently, Van

Paschall.

Our church in River Rouge is planning to build soon. Rev. S. H. Lilly is pastor. The church in Flint is still operating with Rev. George Warren as Pastor. Rev. Warren has been in bad health for some time and is not able to carry on a full time program.

Our churches are over the top for missions! We have already gone beyond the \$3,500 assigned to be raised by July. Of course we hope to continue to give.

A fool may lead a noisy mob for a short while. But a wise man keeps his chosen companions all the way.

Many a man winds up in the gutter because he received a foul blow below the belt, when he badly needed a little moral pat on the back.

CHRISTIAN WORKER'S INSTITUTE REVIVED

West Virginia State Association, which is fast becoming one of the most progressive of our Free Will Baptist organizations, recently scored another first when she had the privilege and honor of entertaining the first of the revived sessions of the Christian Worker's Institute Sessions. The Free Will Baptist church at MacArthur, West Virginia was the scene of the Institute, which enrolled more than forty students, twenty of whom completed the course and received certificate.

Courses were offered in Free Will Baptist Doctrine, Principles of Preaching, The Doctrine of Christ, Personal Soul-winning, Sunday School Administration, Stewardship, Free Will Baptist League, Woman's Auxiliary, and Missions. A deep spiritual revival spirit was felt all during the session and there were five conversions attributed directly to the Institute Session. Revs. D. C. Dodd, National Promotional Secretary, and J. L. Welch, pastor of Cofer's Chapel Church, Nashville, Tenn., and Mrs. Harold Dunlap of Charleston, W. Va., were the instructors. Another session of the Institute will be held in that state in September. Any state association or local association interested in sponsoring an Institute Session may contact the National Promotional Department for further information.

THE DEVIL AND THE MOVIES

*The Devil, my he's a sly old fellow,
He's walking around seeking all who
will follow.*

*If he can't win them one way, he'll
try another.*

*And if we're not careful he'll get us
my sister, my brother.*

*One great vice which he has used for
years,*

*Is the movies which he presents with
laughter and tears;*

*Some are so sacred to those who go
They can't think a movie is their foe.*

*He presented them first in a moderate
way;*

*He said, "We'll present them just on
week days.*

*We'll leave God's day until the last,
For we don't want to go at this thing
too fast.*

*We'll take it gradually and lull them
to sleep,*

*Those that are sitting at Jesus' feet,
They study the Bible, and keep the
Sabbath day,*

*If we go too fast they'll not follow our
way.*

*So we'll start by degrees,
And we'll put some on free,
And it just might be*

*We'll get some of the Christians with
us to agree.*

*First we'll present those that are mild.
Something that couldn't possibly hurt
a child;*

*Then we'll gradually present to them.
Those that are very wicked and wild.*

*We'll begin by presenting things of
nature.*

*The beautiful handicraft of God's crea-
tion.*

*This way we'll get them all over the
nation,*

Then we'll feed them on our ration.

*We'll make them so beautiful they will
continue to come,*

*But we'll not forget to show them the
liquor in fun;*

*We'll make it so luring and tempting
to some*

*They will forget they are Christians
and join in the fun.*

*We'll show them cocktail parties in
beautiful homes,*

*Make it so beautiful they'll desire to
partake some.*

*Tell them there's no harm in a little
drink,*

Just be sure they partake moderate.

*We'll not show them the drunkards
it makes,*

*For then they would know it was all
a fake;*

*For I am sure they wouldn't want their
husbands and sons,*

*Mothers and daughters to become
bums.*

*We'll show them some Bible and Christ
like scenes,*

*'Tis the only way we can get the
Christians to become movie fiends,*

*After we get them in that way
They'll forget all about the Sabbath
day.*

*Then we'll present them on Sunday,
God's holy day,*

*We'll close the churches just this way;
Then the old world won't be hard to
sway,*

*We'll have them following my adul-
terous way."*

*Wake up! all you Christians that
slumbering there,*

*Raise your voices and kneel in prayer,
For truly Satan is dealing his blows,
And making many Christians God's
foes.*

*He is using the same old tactics yet,
Seeing how many more he can get;*

*The movies will give wisdom and
make you wise,*

*He approached Eve in the very same
guise.*

*Satan told Eve it would make her wise
If she would partake of the fruit God
had forbid,*

And he won her with his fib.

*They are teaching our children how to
dance, play cards,*

*Gamble, murder, and all kinds of sin;
Showing them how to tinkle glasses
of gin*

But he is never once hinting it is sin.

*Many are saying, "I can't see the
harm,"*

*So they are going from city and farm,
Never once thinking they are lending
the Devil a hand*

*Helping our young people build on the
sand.*

*Open your eyes and look at their fruit.
Do you think the things they are pro-
ducing are really of truth?*

*When the stars that play are always
in a fight,*

*Drinking, gambling, cursing, and di-
vorcing 'till it's a sight*

*To even think they can produce things
that are right.*

*One marriage out of every three,
Sue for divorce that they might be
free,*

*This is the fruit that is coming forth
you see*

*In this Christian nation, the home of
the brave and land of the free.*

*If we would give of our offering and
tithes*

*We could against this great sin arise;
We could present programs under
God's leading hand,*

*That would lead our boys and girls to
build on the Rock instead of sand.*

*Come on all you Christians that are in
this land,*

*Don't let our dear nation sink in the
sand;*

*Let us arise against sin and all of
God's foes,*

*God said if we would He would take
care of our woes.*

*God said if His people that are called
by His name*

*Would humble themselves and pray,
Seek His face and turn from their
wicked way,*

*That He would forgive their sin and
heal their land,*

And that means us TO-DAY.

By Mrs. Alta Mikel

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her sleeves rolled up.