

Mrs. Chas. Franklin
Greenfield, Missouri
Sep 53

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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MOMENTOUS DAYS

Momentous days are on us! Our eyes may soon behold
A mighty clash of nations, which prophets have foretold:
A clashing and a cleaving of unmatched magnitude,
Wrought by some super being with evil power endued.

Momentous! Yes, momentous! But shall we be afraid?
The mighty conflict cometh, yet may our hearts be stayed:
The Lord from glory cometh—His coming draweth nigh;
Earth's most colossal conflict—we'll see yet from on high.

The nations all are arming! The worst is yet to be!
For Armageddon cometh not far from Galilee;
But brothers, Christian brothers, fear not of being there;
Before that awful carnage—Christ cometh to the air.

The days of tribulation are truly near at hand;
"Perplexity of nations" e'en now invades each land;
Yet not for woes and terrors, and earth's onrushing might
Look we for, but the morning of cloudless glory bright.

—J. Danson Smith

TWENTY-THIRD PSALM

Rev. Emma Moore - Springfield, Ill.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD;

Who? The Lord, the Almighty One, the Omnipotent, Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. This Great Creator became my Saviour! That's how He came to be my Shepherd. And He became my Lord, as I learned His voice and followed Him.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6.

Like sheep we needed a Shepherd. So the Lord God gave us His Son, and brought Him as an innocent Lamb—yes, *The Lamb of God*—to the slaughter. Yes, our salvation is a "slaughter house" salvation, "For as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." "He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him..." Yes, the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep. Jesus, as a shepherd, is the door, and by Him if any man enter in he shall be saved. Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

It cost Him that precious life that was poured out on Calvary in the blood—holy, pure, sinless blood. That is how He came to be my Shepherd. He laid down His life: "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." Power to lay it down? Power to take it again? Yes, that's the All-Powerful One. The Lord is my shepherd.

I SHALL NOT WANT.

But you say, "I do want many things." Not if the Lord is your Shepherd. Not want anything? No! In Philippians 4:19, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice... and they follow me." If you are His sheep you will follow Him. "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd." Isaiah 40:11.

HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES:

Can't you just see His sheep in flocks, lying down in green pastures, filled with His provisions—His precious Holy Spirit—content in Him, satisfied with Him, dependent upon the Great Shepherd that slumbereth not to keep watch over us. Our rest is in Him. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.

HE LEADETH ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS.

Waters of quietness! "Be still, and know that I am God." O, this restless world knows nothing of Holy quietness, which is not that continuous over talkativeness like the world—that great hinderance to deep spirituality. He that stilled the storm on the sea can and will still the turbulent, restless longing soul if you will allow Him to.

HE RESTORETH MY SOUL:

I don't know all the meaning of this. But David wrote this, so let's see what he means. "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." Psalm 51:12. Yes, I remember similar experiences of falling and needing restoration, of coming like David in confession of sin, and receiving restoration. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9. That's the kind of a compassionate merciful Shepherd He is. He restoreth my soul.

HE LEADETH ME IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE.

Oh, we could make many sermons on the paths of His righteous leading.

"And when he putteth forth his sheep, he goeth before them." Jn. 10:4. "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." John 17:18-19. "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." This for His *name's sake*; not just that I might enjoy it, but for His *Name's sake*. Paths of righteousness leads to services of many divisions for the walk of the believer. Righteousness is the character of the follower of Christ, and not what people

say, not just good reputation, but Christ's image—His seal on the heart. Prayer! How important is that path. And study, real heart study of God's Word. Then the important path—"Follow me," said Jesus, "and I will make you fishers of men." If you're not fishing for souls you are not being led of Jesus, for this is where the path of righteousness for His Name's sake will lead. It will lead to sacrifice, separation from the world, and death to self. Jesus went before us and made that possible, too. We died with Him. Reckon on this fact—dead indeed to sin, alive unto God in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. He came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give His life a ransom for many. "What Made U Cross?" is a little booklet I have read of how the human inclination is not to minister, but rather waits for the ministering. It's the life of Christ—the Spirit of Christ in us—that ministers.

YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH,

I do not believe that this valley of the shadow of death refers exclusively to a physical death, though its application is perfect in this respect. Only if the Lord is the Shepherd of your soul will you be fearless of death. I believe, too, that we can apply this passage to death to the self-life.

Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." If you walk with Christ as He leads you in paths of righteousness, He will lead you through valleys—a valley of the shadow of death, a testing in the valley, nearly death, so dark, the very shadow of death. Could I begin here to tell you of His valley experiences in my life, how could I express it but as a valley of the shadow of death.

I WILL FEAR NO EVIL:

Satan will come in here on this earth to make fearful. What a sustaining power is our Great Shepherd.

THOU ART WITH ME;

"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

\$164,000 to the Church Program in Missouri in the last year. Only \$714 of this to the F.W.B. Gem!

THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME.

The shepherd's rod fights off the enemies. Yes, and some times has to cripple one of the sheep to teach it obedience. You may be under His rod of chastening now. Thank God for it, for because of it you are assured that you are His own and not an illegitimate. He must correct you, for He loves you too much to let you go on to your hurt and everlasting destruction. So His rod and staff, they comfort me.

THOU PREPAREST A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES:

The blessed Book of books, and Jesus the Living Bread are ours in the presence of this world. Also we eat His flesh and drink His blood, becoming more and more like Him.

THOU ANOINTEST MY HEAD WITH OIL;

Yes, unless our heads are anointed with the Holy Spirit we will get a spiritual big head and be self exalted, etc. But Christ can anoint the mind of man with oil as he fully surrenders every thought moment by moment.

MY CUP RUNNETH OVER.

Here is the atmosphere in which others get blessed, souls get saved, renewed, and strengthened, and Christians filled with the Spirit so that there is not room enough to receive it all. There is just not capacity to retain Him, and so the flowing out to others. David says, "Then will I teach transgressors their ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee."

SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE:

Yes, this is true if Christ is living in me.

AND I SHALL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

He lives with me here in Spirit. In full revelation of Himself I shall dwell with Him forever in the House of the Lord.

"Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will." Hebrews 13:20-21a.

God has a will for you. He will work in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, if you will co-operate, through Jesus Christ our Lord. "And when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory." Acts 5:4. What for? For feeding the flock of God. Jesus said, "Feed my sheep"—Peter, if you love me. Will you do it?

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want—for power to do His will. When the Holy Spirit is come upon you, ye shall receive power: ye shall witness. Amen.

HAD LONG WISH TO WRITE

Dear Friends:

I have felt for years that I would like to write an article for publication in some religious periodical.

I sat reading on Christmas eve the words: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life," (Rev. 2:10) and the words struck me with a force that I had never felt before. Then when I continued to read the following passages: "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels," (Rev. 3:5) also, "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name," (Rev. 3:12) I thought what wonderful, wonderful promises.

Why, oh! why! can we not be faithful for the short time—day, month, or year—that we are permitted to live in this world of sin when the reward is so great. Our Saviour came to this earth and gave His life for us, that we through Him might live.

Then I read: "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Rev. 3:21. Is it possible for us to have a more wonderful promise? Just think of sitting on the Throne with Jesus our Saviour when

"Just one glimpse of him in glory will the toils of life repay."

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." How can we fall by the wayside, when Jesus supports and comforts us if we will only "trust and obey," and are faithful until death?

May we all be faithful stewards in the year 1953.

God bless us all,

A Contributor

P.S. This is Christ's birthday anniversary. Are we celebrating as we should?

LEAGUERS ELECT OFFICERS

The Monett Free Will Baptist League has now been active the past several months, and hopes to do more in the coming new year. We have held our regular meeting every Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock at the church. We have gained in our attendance in the last month, as well as more knowledge of our Saviour. The meeting generally consists of the roll call, Bible reading and the program text. We have had many good lessons in our quarterly. The Leaguers give the lesson from time to time, and get much good out of the topics.

We also have our social events in our League. We observed the Christmas holidays with a party at the Hills' residence on December 13. The party consisted of exchanging gifts drawn in the League, games, and refreshments. The party closed by all singing a Christmas song and then a prayer. The League also took part in the Christmas program held December 21 at the church at 7:30 in the evening. They gave a very impressive play entitled "Home for Christmas."

The League elected new officers for the next six months. These officers are as follows:

President Lewis E. Campbell
Vice Pres. .. Helen Parlone Johnson
Secretary Carol M. Hill
Quiz Leader Tommy Carlson
Program Chairman .. Elanor Johnson
Reporter Sue Ann Hill

—Reporter

8,751 F.W.B. in Missouri X 10¢ each per month X 12 months equals \$10,501.20—Will you do it for us?

A VESSEL UNTO HONOR

December 17, 1952

Dear Friends:

I invite you to study with me Paul's teaching of the Gospel unto Timothy. Notice, if you please, that Paul addresses himself unto Timothy as "an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope." So you see Paul's theme is Jesus Christ who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.

From the studying of Paul's epistle to Timothy, Timothy must have been a timid soldier of the cross, and must have been slow to preach the doctrine in face of opposition. Paul loved Timothy very much; he called him his son in the Gospel.

Paul must have known his departure was near at hand and was troubled about how the Gospel would be abused and neglected after he was gone. Paul said the glorious Gospel of the blessed God was committed to his trust, and that Jesus Christ our Lord enabled him, for that he counted him (Paul) faithful, putting him into the ministry.

Paul instructed Timothy "to be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." Paul charged Timothy to "keep the commandment without spot." "To flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness: Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life."

Friends, are we today teaching the things we have learned of Paul, or has the Lord revealed to this generation a new gospel? Remember, if we are saved, according to the Gospel the Lord is our Master, and "no man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." Let us that be soldiers of the cross strive lawfully that we may be crowned by our Master, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul said that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead according to His Gospel. He told Timothy that he obtained mercy, that in him "first Jesus

Christ might show forth all long-suffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him (Jesus Christ) to life everlasting."

Friends, have we made ship wreck of our faith, or does Jesus Christ shine forth in us, as a pattern to them that should believe on Him here after? If a sinner sees no more in us than he can see in the unbeliever, how can we expect him to be drawn into the fold.

"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

Paul told Timothy that "the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient; in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth."

Friends, it is good for us to take heed unto our own self, and the doctrine and continue in them, and not forsake them because of our love of this present world. Certainly it is easy for us to examine ourself, and see where our heart is; for you know that where our heart is there our treasures are also. Had we rather go to a picture show than to prayer meeting, or to a ball game than to church, or will we tune in a blood curdling murder mystery instead of some radio preacher who might drop a golden crumb that would be food to the soul? If so, well, a blind man can see where our heart is.

Remember what happened to Hymenaeus and Alexander. Did I hear some one say, "Why! Listen to that guy. He don't preach what I believe." Peter said, "No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation." II Peter 1:20. Paul told Timothy, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." Surely we have got as much sense as an old turkey hen; she will always pick up the golden grain regardless of who throws down the corn. I think some times it is good for us to hear the opposite side.

Then we know better where we belong. I have subscribed to and bought religious literature other than F.W.B., trying to see the Scripture through the other fellow's eyes, thinking maybe

I might join some other church. A few times I have almost been persuaded, but the more I search the Scripture and try to see it through the other fellows interpretation, the firmer I am what I am. So you see I can't betray my ownself. If I can't be true to my own heart, how could I be trusted as a Missionary Baptist, Methodist, or in any of the other churches?

If the real true Gospel makes me squirm, right then I know that I've been fiddling around with the old Devil. And let me say now that a big number on the roll may make a big church, but just a few real born-again, regenerated, working Christians that are willing to serve in their respective place, can make a great church, through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am sure from Paul's instruction to Timothy that many in his day desired the uppermost seat or office in the church. Maybe we had better see what Jesus Christ had to say to those that strive to be greatest. Look to Luke 22:24-26, Jesus said, "He that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he that is chief, as he that doeth serve." Jesus told the twelve apostles that he was among them as He that serveth.

Christ is our chief, and He commands us to love one another.

Christ is the head of the church. He died that we might live. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:13-14. Jesus set an example before us that we might follow in His footsteps. He is the head of the Church. So is the man head of the home. Man should follow Christ, and set the example before his wife and children that they might follow him. If man, the head of the home, fails to lead us right, how can we, the weaker sex, know how to turn, or what to shun? Ladies, here is the answer: "Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." (Jesus Christ).

Sometimes when I see a woman out scarcely dressed and a man by her side in full attire, I am made to wonder if his soul is as bare as her body. Remember it is from him she is to get her instruction. Did I hear

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some man say, "Instruct a woman! Why, that's impossible." Sir, did you ever try to instruct her according to God's will? Try it sometime and see how quick she will become obedient as your help mate. In other words, she will agree and unite with you because it is God's will that she should.

You know, Jesus Christ told His disciples, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me." John 4:34. I am sure it would be good for us all to occasionally listen and see if we could hear the Lord say unto us as He did to Cain, "If thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door." Gen. 4:7. I have heard it argued that if a woman was obedient unto her husband, she would be saved in child bearing. What ignorance! You know there is also an "If" in the sentence of the 15th verse of the second chapter of First Timothy.

Paul told Timothy, "If a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully." "The husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits."

Friends, read First and Second Timothy and learn from Paul how to be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meat for the Master's use.

Yours in Christ,

Bertha Chappell,
Mer Rouge, Louisiana

CAMP CHAPEL STARTED; NEW WORK DATES SET

Dear Gem Readers:

Just a few lines to report the good work that was accomplished here at the camp December 11-13. As a result of this working we now have the foundation in and quite a lot of the framing cut.

Those who came to work were as follows: Thursday—Rev. Willard Day, Mountain Grove; Rev. Benjamin Scott, St. Louis; Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, and Bro. Kenny Blaylock, Cassville. Friday—Brothers Day, Allred and Blaylock stayed over. Others were: Rev. Harvey Hill, St. Louis; Rev. Lesley Logsdon, Richwoods; Bro. Erman Walton, Nangua; Bro. Ross Thomas, Hannon; Brothers Harold and Don Smith, Hannon. Rev. Hill and Rev. Logsdon stayed until noon Saturday.

You should have been here to see

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Ministers' Ordination Blanks ..20
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these men work, eat and enjoy the fine fellowship through out. Meals were furnished at the camp. Mrs. Reeves was the cook, assisted by Mother Reeves of Irondale, who was visiting here at the time.

It was agreed upon while every one was here, to set January 19, 20, 21 as the time for the next working, and if the weather is too bad at that time, then come the following week on the same days of the week (or both times).

We are hoping to be able to raise the framing next time, and we are trying to get as much material cut out and ready as we can by that time. We have all the lumber on the ground and all materials paid for up to date except 30 bags of cement.

We have received on the pledges and by offerings\$567.68

Paid out:

Lumber\$491.95

Hauling 53.00

Gravel 20.00

Balance 2.73

We want to thank every one for your pledges and offerings, and hope that by the time you read this, every one will be paid in full.

The overseer of the Church of God, Rev. Boyd Thornton, who conducted a camp here last year, has offered to bring a group of men to assist in erecting the chapel. We do appreciate his offer.

We will be looking for every one who can come, stay, work and fellowship with us January 19, 20, 21. May God bless and prosper His work every where.

Rev. Wm. Reeves

LET US PRAY

THAT amidst Christmas celebration, we may not dishonor our Lord by revelry, unseemly luxury, or selfishness, forgetting that there are those who are hungry, homeless, and distraught in mind.

FOR the hungry and destitute, the lonely, and forsaken, that such shall be the outpouring of Christian love that the needy may know that "God is love."

THAT the Lord may supply our spiritual and material needs so that we may be enabled to enter open doors where souls are waiting to be won for Christ.

THAT God may pour out a spirit of intercession for the lost.

FOR an increase of vision, of love, and of sacrifice among Christians.

FOR the newly born babes in Christ that their faith may increase, and that they may be steadfast and unafraid of men.

FOR all missionaries of the cross that they may be given wisdom, patience, love and perseverance in the winning of souls.

FOR a spirit of grace and wisdom to rest upon our ministry in 1953 that we may go forward with the Lord in spite of all hinderances, believing that "with God nothing shall be impossible."

FOR our home constituency, that we may have a broader vision of the needs of the World.

FOR our Missionary Candidates as they prepare for service.

FOR definite leadership in choosing a full-time man to work in the Department of Foreign Missions.

For our Home Mission Board as they continue to advance in the states, that their efforts may prove an undergirding of our whole program.

THAT the year of 1953 might be the greatest year ever in winning the lost for Christ.

Rev. Raymond Riggs

Every Free Will Baptist family should read the Gem! Every Christian will enjoy the messages in it!

ASK AND YE SHALL RECEIVE

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7.

It is amazing that we have so little and are so satisfied without much, since in the Book of God we have such great promises of receiving, simply by asking. However, there is a condition that must be met on our part to be the recipients of the promises of receiving. He said that if we abide in Him—may that mean more than having a supper date, or of spending an evening with Him. We must be rooted and grounded in Him, established, builded, planted in Him. Then, too, we must let His Word abide in us. The word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His Glory, the Glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of Grace and Truth. John 1:14.

Paul, that great hero of the faith, said, "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." He knew that the source of supply was in the Power of God, and that by patience, assurance and giving of thanks for what He has already given, we are to ask and receive. Again Paul said, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19. All our need is met in Christ who is the Victory over all want and desire.

As a denomination God has met our need as the need arose, and He will continue to do so if we abide and let His Word abide, and then ask. There came a time when we needed a foreign missionary program. Some of our faithful leaders began to ask, and to give themselves wholly to the task of doing what they could on their part, and as a result we have a very good foreign mission program with missionaries on the field. Someone was willing to abide and to ask. I remember well how our own Bro. Winford Davis labored so hard and without any salary or very much appreciation, to give the denomination the program of work that we now have. It is to our shame that our leaders who labored so hard to give us what we now have, have been so soon forgotten without any

notice or appreciation. When the foreign mission program started, Bro. Davis went to the bank more times than once and borrowed money to send the missionaries their salary.

The need arose for an educational institution, and immediately men of God set about to ask God and tell His people what the need was. Well do I remember the labors of men like Bro.



J. R. Davidson, Bro. L. R. Ennis, Bro. Melvin Bingham, Bro. L. C. Johnson, Bro. J. F. Miller, Bro. J. L. Welch, and many others. Today we have what we needed and God supplied the need according to His riches by Christ Jesus.

The need was discovered that something should be done for the old ministers, who had given their active life in service to the church, and as a result we have the superannuation program set up by men who gave themselves to the work. We are making it possible that all insurable ministers can carry insurance, the national superannuation board paying half the premiums. A benevolent fund is being made available for the ministers who are no longer able because of years to serve the church and the Gospel. We have retired ministers who are old, sick, some are blind, and many not able to support themselves and who are worthy of this service. I am thinking of men like our Rev. B. F. Brown, who has with his wife, given the best they had for the Cause of Christ in the field of ministry, both in the pulpit and in the printing of the

Free Will Baptist Gem. I have visited in their home when the press was located there, when they had many needs, but they faithfully and without murmuring gave all they could for the Cause. They are worthy of being remembered for their life of service. Dr. John E. Wolf, of Pawnee City, Nebraska, who has in his active ministry given to us a rich heritage of books and Bible study courses. Today, in the sunset of life, I am told (by others who know) that he is in need of many of the necessary things of life. He gave all he had. Even recently he has directed this office to send to the Bible College his part for the sale of the book, Systematic Theology. God rest his weary body and give him much peace in seeing the work grow, which he so faithfully gave himself for. We have had more recent communication from him concerning the editorial (December, 1952) on the new Bible, stating that he is in agreement with the article and encouraging us to keep on in the good work of spreading the truth.

With the marvelous growth of the Free Will Baptist denomination, another need has been realized. With our work being scattered over more than thirty of the forty-eight states of the U.S. and extending to three foreign countries, we are in need of a means of communication. This need was recognized years ago, and attempts were made to supply that communication by means of the printed page. Two presses resulted—the Free Will Baptist Press, at Ayden, North Carolina, and the Free Will Baptist Gem, now at Monett, Missouri.

With all phases of the work on good footing financially, and in the way of interest, we feel that now it is time for the publications to be fortified both by finance (subscriptions) and in the concern of the people over the field in sending articles, news and sermons. This truly is the day of reading, and there are not many homes where one cannot find from one to three or four daily and weekly papers. And many of these papers are not preaching the Gospel of Christ. These papers will average in price about seven dollars per year. No Free Will Baptist paper that I know of will cost over two dollars per year. We have other smaller publications that are worthy of our

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being acquainted with and supporting.

With 8,751 Free Will Baptists in the State of Missouri, we should have at least from two to three thousand subscribers in or state beside all the other states represented. The Gem is going to thirty-one states and three foreign countries. We have 199 ministers and 356 deacons, or a total of 555 officer members of Free Will Baptist churches in the State of Missouri, and not that many subscriptions going to the whole state. Missouri gave over \$164,000.00 to the program of the work of the Church last year. Only \$714.00 was to the printing of the Gem.

If every Free Will Baptist in the State of Missouri will send in one subscription—for himself or some one else—this year, it will bring to this office more than thirteen thousand dollars with which we could give a larger and better magazine with ample space for each department of work, letters, sermons, and other news, which would strengthen the work of the Lord in our day. It would cost no one more than one dollar fifty cents per year or twelve and one-half cents per month. The price of one cigar, less than a pack of cigarettes, less than one movie (of which we do not approve), about one bar of candy. Could we not do that much for Him whose birth we have just celebrated?

With this amount of money for the work we could print books of the life of these men of God who have given their all for us. Biography could be included of men who pioneered the work we enjoy today. We could have a history of the associations—National, States, and Locals, while men are living who helped organize them. When our children are the leaders it would be good to have such books for their enjoyment.

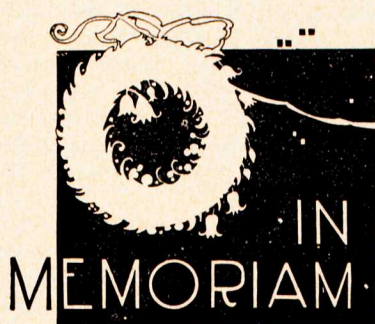
We know of nothing but to ask God

and tell His people. Yes, He said "to ask largely," and "Ask and ye shall receive." We are asking for fifteen hundred new subscriptions in the next six months.

We are offering, in clubs of five, one subscription at half price, and in clubs of ten one free sub. Also a nice present will go to the one who sends in the most each quarter this year.

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7.

Rev. Cecil H. Campbell, Mgr.



WILLIAM H. POTTS

William Henry Potts, son of John W. and Rosa Jane Potts, was born in Polk county, Missouri, near Fair Play and passed away following a lingering illness, borne with great patience, at his home in Stockton, Missouri, on October 29, 1952 at the age of 80 years, 10 months and 12 days. Except for a few years his entire life was spent in Cedar county. His higher schooling was obtained at Appleton City and Ash Grove. After finishing school he taught in Cedar county schools for seven years, then engaged in farming until August, 1914 when he moved to his present home in Stockton. After moving to Stockton he served as Deputy County Clerk for eight years and also worked at the Stockton Exchange Bank. He was affiliated with the Odd Fellows and Masonic Lodges of Stockton.

He was united in marriage to Minnie Mae Frieze on February 28, 1897 at the home of the bride's parents.

In August, 1911 he was converted in an outdoor meeting being conducted

by Bro. and Sis. T. C. Ferguson near the Wagoner school house. He was instrumental in the erection of the Wagoner Free Will Baptist Church, of which he became a charter member and being ordained as a deacon at it's organization in 1911 and had served loyally and well throughout the years in that capacity. He served as a Moderator of the Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists for some years.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Minnie; two sisters, Mrs. Herman and Mrs. Mollie Hudson of Stockton; one niece, Mrs. Goings of Louisville, Ky., and one great niece, Rosemary Jean Goings. Seventeen years ago Ida Belle Gordon came to make her home with Mr. and Mrs. Potts, and took the place of a loving daughter to them, being married in their home to Floyd Clifford; their little daughter, Linda Mae, was a great joy to him in his last years. They too survive, as well as other relatives and a host of friends. His place in the hearts of all is attested to by the many calls and loving care given him in his last illness. His life was a living testimony for his Lord to be read of all men. Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church in Stockton on October 31, 1952, at 2:00 o'clock by Sister Lowell Martin, with graveside rites by the Odd Fellow Lodge. Interment in Stockton Cemetery.

KENNETH DEAN BURGIN

Kenneth Dean Burgin was born in Adair county, Missouri on September 10, 1940 and died at his home November 8, 1952.

He was a student at the Mulberry School and a member of the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Alice Pearl Neff; his father, Andrew Thomas Burgin of Trenton, Missouri; his stepfather, John Neff; two brothers James and Arthur, of the home, and three sisters: Miss William (Marie) Johnson of Kirksville, Wanda and Bernice, both of the home. Also surviving is his grandmother, Mrs. Grace Stafford of Kirksville. One brother preceded him in death.

Funeral services were conducted at the Hazel Creek Church November 11 by Rev. Rolla Smith, assisted by the pastor, Rev. Wayne Parsons.

Personal visits, prayers, letters, sermons, articles, reports, comments—are other ways to help the Gem.



From The Editor's Desk



JUST THIS AND THAT

Instead of concentrating on a particular theme this time, your editor feels more disposed to just visit with you. And I hope that you will consider the visit very personal.

Another year is now history. What we have written by our lives in 1952 cannot now be changed. To be sure in cases where we need to forgive, we can still do so. In the event we need forgiveness, we can ask for such forgiveness, and will likely be truly forgiven. If our need of forgiveness is for sins against God, certainly repentance will effect forgiveness, for God is still a God of love. And so a poorly written chapter of our life under the caption "1952" need not distress us to despair.

Along with the year goes many of our activities. Some of these activities have been profitable, while others have been wasted either accidentally or because of poor judgement and planning. Our activities here have fallen into both categories. Entirely too much of our effort and energy, it seems, has fallen into the last list. However, in some instances our shortcomings have not been entirely avoidable.

Long Illness

Mrs. Jeffreys had the recent unpleasant experience of being confined to her bed for some ten weeks. While not always extremely ill during this time, yet she was constantly in distress. Needless to say this diverted much of our energy and attention from the office work. Especially did it interrupt the practice of doing correspondence and estimates in the evening. As a result, we are away off stride in some of our obligations and commitments. For this we apologize, and do hope to soon get back to the full swing of things again. Certainly we do appreciate you and have not forgotten you.

Something New

On December 4 a tiny little fellow came to make his home with us. He only weighed five pounds, eleven ounces and seemed so very fragile.

Still he responded at once and started to make up for this by showing approval from the first, for which we were thankful. Then with lightening-like suddenness we discovered he was very sick. Diagnosis revealed pneumonia in a severe stage. Being only three weeks of age and so tiny made it even more serious. A long vigil of caring for him ensued. God heard the prayers of all who prayed and blessed the treatments administered. Miraculously he has survived and seems now almost well, is taking normal nourishment and again is gaining. To those who came to help us, and to those who brought food so that we would not have to prepare it during the vigil, and to those who interceded in prayer, we thank you and thank God for you. We ask His blessings for you.

Oh yes, I almost forgot to say that the little fellow has been given the name of Gary Lee. Of course Marvin thinks he is about it, and the parents sort of agree.

A Very Nice Christmas

Christmas is past and perhaps it is a little late to discuss it. However, we would like to mention that we had a very enjoyable Christmas. Somehow, after the long illness of Mrs. Jeffreys it seemed impossible to turn with any terror to the Christmas time. She did manage to send out a few cards and found the task too great, so had to stop short of what she wished to do. But as friends from everywhere heartily wished us a Merry Christmas and expressed their spirit in so many ways, we soon found ourselves rejoicing more than we at first thought possible. We received so many beautiful greeting cards and wish to express our sincere thanks for each one of them. Also, some enclosed a little remembrance to help defray the heavy expense of the long illness. Certainly this warmed our hearts and now our "thank you" seems so inadequate. Marvin summed up in his own 5-year-old way just how nice our Christmas was when he looked at his little brother and then said, "Daddy, we've done pretty good this Christmas. We got a baby and presents under the tree." I think you will agree

with him that it was a good Christmas, and we hope that you equally enjoyed your Christmas.

Happy New Year

Our wish is more than an idle statement. We mean it. There is so much in the world to claim our concern. Idleness never fosters contentment. A busy schedule of worth while work, when accomplished, brings the greatest satisfaction. There is so much to be accomplished. The work schedule of the church was never heavier or harder. The clarion call to duty was never clearer. Tenacity of purpose was never more needed. The new year is a new and greater challenge. For it to be a happy year for you will mean that it will necessarily be a busy one. We expect to ask things of you that only you can accomplish. The year 1952 found us so busy that we lost track of time and we now wonder where the year escaped too. Yet we are happy in knowing that our labor was for the Lord and His children. We realize we have failed both so often. To you we apologize and plan to try even harder to serve you efficiently in 1953. To our loving Lord, we ask for forgiveness of our imperfections and ask for strength and wisdom for the task ahead.

In closing we challenge you to work for the advancement of the Free Will Baptist Gem; to pray objectively for the work and the workers here, and we invite you to come our way every chance you get. May God bless you richly according to His riches in glory.

OFFICIALS ASK FOR BONDS

Past unpleasant experiences both in the ranks of Free Will Baptists and in other religious bodies, in which custodians of funds were selected only to later—by ineptness or purposely—misappropriate funds entrusted to them, the treasurers of the several funds in Missouri State Association are requesting bonds to protect both the donors and the officials.

First to seek such bond was the State Treasurer, Rev. Marie Hyatt.

The Gem is strictly church owned and operated. It belongs to you! Do you appreciate it? Do you help it?

This was granted some few years ago in the amount of \$1,000. Last year the amount was doubled in order to more than cover any amount accumulated at any one period during the year.

During the reorganization meeting of the Board of Superannuation in September Rev. Cecil H. Campbell was named as its treasurer. He immediately asked for bonding, and this was granted. The bond has been effected in sufficient amount for the protection of all.

More recently Rev. Wm. Reeves, our Youth Camp custodian and treasurer of that fund, also asked for and received a bond in the amount of \$1,000.

We have never heard a single instance of anyone questioning the integrity of these officials. Still the inevitable could happen, and so it is a commendable thing that each of these have asked voluntarily for the bond. You certainly have no reason to fail to support the work supplied with funds flowing through the hands of any or all of these officials. Please do not neglect their department or bypass their treasury.

AROUND AND ABOUT

By L. E. C.

Enclosed find \$1.50 for my sub to the GEM. We like the Gem and pray for you, the editor, and all who help get the paper out.

M. B. Hutchinson

The Russellville F. W. B. Church broadcasts their Sunday morning worship services over the local station, KXRJ, beginning at 11:20.

Rev. O. T. Dixon

I heartily agree with every word you said about the new Bible. It is Modernistic.

Dr. John H. Wolf

The National F.W.B. Hour may be heard over KPOC—FM, Pocahontas, Arkansas.

Rev. Reford Wilson

Central Avenue Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, completes a new \$25,000 brick building.

Rev. G. W. Scott, pastor

We need—we must have—1,500 new subscriptions IN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

The friendly Parson is on Station KGBX, Springfield, Missouri, 7:15 a.m., each Sunday morning.

The one who gets the most subs to the Gem in the next three months gets a prize. Send them in my name:

Cecil H. Campbell, mgr.,
or Lloyd T. Jeffreys, editor
or Lewis E. Campbell

I would like to supply or do evangelistic service within driving distance of Monett, Missouri.

Rev. Roy Alyea

The Executive Board of the Central Western Missouri Association will meet with the Kansas City Church on the Third Sunday for an ordination service.

John E. Bough, Chm.

Help me get the most subscriptions to the Gem in our drive. Don't let my Dad get ahead of me. Send your subs in my name.

Lewis E. Campbell

We have voted to change the site of the National Association to Mt. Vernon, Illinois. I have been appointed Publicity Director.

Rev. George Waggoner
Okawville, Illinois

Everything looks good. We had 221 in Sunday School the first Sunday in December. We are getting ready to build a new educational building.

Rev. Willard Day, Mtn. Grove, Mo.

CRUDEN'S COMPLETE CONCORDANCE

New Clear-Type Edition

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

783 Pages

\$3.00

FREE WILL BAPTIST TREATISE

Price Post Paid 35 cents ea.

A local F.W.B. Hour, sponsored by the Indian Creek Association, is heard over KRMO, Monett, Missouri, 8:00 a.m., each Sunday.

Rev. O. T. Allred, Mgr.

Please change my address as I do not want to miss a single issue. It has been a spiritual uplift since we have been taking it.

Mrs. Darrell Whittington

The next Ministers and Deacons Conference of the Cave Springs Association will be held at the Pleasant Ridge Church, six miles east of Alton, Missouri, and one mile north of Highway 14 on Friday, March 20, 1953.

Rev. Keith Johnson

I thank God for what you said in the December issue of the Gem "From the Editor's Desk" about the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible. I hope more of our learned men will speak out about this book. You know a young babe in Christ could study this book and not know that man has substituted man's words for the inspired Word of God. I have not bought one of these new books and don't think I shall. But instead I think I shall buy one red letter edition of the King James Version for each of my children and hold it as the last gift for them, and then leave the rest to the Lord.

Mrs. Bertha Chappell, Louisiana

The Linotype used in producing this paper is over 35 years old! How old is your car, tractor or planter?



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

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



AUXILIARY SPONSORED THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Myrtle, Missouri
December 8, 1952

The Woman's Auxiliary of Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church met at the church for the regular meeting December 3. There were 11 members present.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Sis. Julia Hill. Sis. Mary Alice Wisehart led the group in singing, after which all gathered at the altar for prayer.

The devotional period was led by Sis. Mary Alice Wisehart. Scripture readings were given by Sis. Francis Harbison, Sis. Ora Wisehart and Sis. Ora Clark. The program topic, "Victorious Witness of Christian Youth," was discussed by the group.

After the meeting adjourned, gifts were given one of the members. Mrs. Robert Gene Sorrell, who is a new bride, but just joined the auxiliary recently. Refreshments consisting of coffee, hot chocolate and cookies were served.

The Auxiliary sponsored a Thanksgiving service, with Bro. Willard Day, of Mountain Grove, Missouri, bringing the messages Thursday evening and Friday evening. We wish to report that we were blessed through these services.

Corresponding Secretary

HAZEL CREEK AUXILIARY NAMES OFFICERS FOR 1953

The Ladies of the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church met Thursday, December 4 with Emma VanLaningham for an all day Auxiliary meeting. There were eight members, one visitor and five children present. Piecing quilt blocks was the work for the day.

The devotional period began with all singing, "Christ for the World We Sing." Oletha Parsons led in prayer, after which we sang, "Silent Night." The Scripture reading was Jer. 15:1,

I Sam. 3:1-5, 10-20. Oletha Parsons gave the devotional comments on our lesson "The Hour is Come... for the Victorious Witness of Christian Youth." Topics were given by Lola Filkins, Emma VanLaningham, Lizzie Filkins, Maizie Sevits and Mary Filkins.

We voted to send \$5.00 to the Hammond Organ Fund at the Bible College.

Officers elected for the new year are: President, Oletha Parsons; 1st vice, Ethel Thompson; 2nd vice, Mary Filkins; 3rd vice, Dora Sponsler; 3rd vice, Emma VanLaningham; 5th vice, Lizzie Filkins, and secretary-treasurer, Lola Filkins.

The Co-Laborer Fund offering was \$1.86. Four hundred seventy eight Bible chapters, 35 good will calls and four cards sent out were reported.

A gift exchange was enjoyed at this time by both kiddies and adults.

Lola Filkins, Secretary

IRONING FASTER AND EASY

Pinar del Rio, Cuba
October 31, 1952

S.E. Missouri Auxiliary Conv.
Mrs. Robert Hill, Sec'y-Treas.
8914 Springdale
Berkeley 21, Missouri

Dear Mrs. Hill:

I regret that we have been this long acknowledging your kind letter and the gift for irons and two dining room chairs which came from the Southeast Missouri Auxiliary Convention. You will never know what a blessing these irons have been to us, primarily for the girls, as they are able to do the work more rapidly, and it is much easier for them. Then, too, it has cut down greatly on fuel expenses. Before, we had to buy carbon which cost us about \$2.00 a week to do the ironing, and now with one gallon of white gas which is 60¢ we are able to do the clothes for the whole school. This over a period of time really amounts up to quite an item. So on behalf of the housekeeper and the girls, we do want to express our deepest apprecia-

tion for the effort on your part. I am sure the Lord will richly bless each one who has had a part in it and we trust that by your sharing with us you shall have an even greater vision for the need of the work.

Yesterday, I was looking at the chairs in the dining room and it made my heart rejoice to see how the Lord is providing. It is such an improvement over the old benches that we had.

We appreciate Mrs. Edwards efforts in getting the project before the women, and we know that we can always count on them to help in every way possible. Thank you again for writing and please give our hearty thanks and Christian love to your women.

Yours in His glad service,

Mabel B. Willey

ILLINOIS AUXILIARY GIVES FOOD TO A NEEDY FAMILY

The Woman's Auxiliary of Union Free Will Baptist Church of near Thompsonville (Illinois) met Thursday afternoon, December 4 at the home of Mrs. Marion Bonucchi, with eight members and three visitors present. Group singing and prayer opened the meeting, after which Mrs. Arthur Jones conducted the business period. During the business period it was voted to give a grocery shower for a needy family for Christmas.

Mrs. Charlie McClerren, program chairman, directed the lesson entitled, "The Hour is Come for the Victorious Witness of Christian Youth."

After the program, Christmas gifts were exchanged. Members present were: Mrs. Muriel Jones, Mrs. Herbert McClerren, Mrs. Charlie McClerren, Mrs. Ocie McClerren, Mrs. Wendell Dillon, Mrs. Marion Bonucchi, Mrs. Arthur Jones, and Miss Joyce McClerren. Visitors were: Mrs. Wm. Ice, Mrs. Logan Bowyer, and Mrs. Paul Davis.

As the year ends, looking back, we feel God has richly blessed us in our

Previous to now we have enjoyed the splendid help of our Co-Workers in the Woman's Auxiliary—

T - R - E - A - T - I - S - E

Single Copy	\$.35
Six or more, ea.30
Per Dozen	3.50
Per Hundred	25.00

endeavor to carry out the watchword of our Auxiliary for 1952, "The Hour is Come that the Son Should be Glorified." We feel that through the Woman's Auxiliary each of us has been drawn closer to God and closer together.

Let us pray together that our Auxiliary and your Auxiliary will grow in grace and knowledge and number.

—Contributed

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM HELD

Fellowship Church
Flat River, Mo.

December 18, 1952

The ladies of the Auxiliary met in the home of Mrs. Marvin Milburn for our Christmas program. There were 13 members and four visitors present. The following program was given:

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas Story	Dorothy McCoy
Song "Silent Night, Holy Night"	
Prayer	Edith Brooks
Scripture reading	Sis. Lackie
	Luke 2:1-21
Topic..The Shepherd Who Did Not Go	
	Sis. Agnes Smith
Poem .. "The Shepherd Who Stayed"	
Topic	Jesus, Wonderful Saviour
	Marie Sherrell
Song	"Praise Him, Praise Him"
Poem "The Shepherd of the Hills"	
	Ida Wilfong
Poem	"Christmas Prayers"
	Della Getz
Song	"Joy to the World"
Prayer	Sis. Milburn

The hostess served sandwiches, cake and cocoa. All spent a happy evening with fellowship and good wishes to all. Pray for us that we will ever be humble in the service of our Master.

God bless every one is my prayers. May we all go forward together for the Master.

Mrs. M. Hilderbrand, Cor.

CUBA CHRISTIAN WEDDING

Our Dearest Friends:

So many times I have longed to share with you the blessings of our Lord upon our everyday life here in Cuba in the little everyday happenings.

She did not walk down a carpeted aisle, it was just a mud floor. The roof overhead was thatch, the walls of board sawn out of a tree uprooted from the same spot on which the little chapel was built. They were white-washed and shone brightly in the late afternoon sun. A temporary platform was built and covered with a plastic cloth. I trembled when my husband stepped upon it—would it hold him while he performed the ceremony? It did. The aisle was boardered with palms and on the platform were freshly picked flowers. Beside it they had placed Miss Yeley's little folding organ, and as they who participated in the ceremony came in, I played Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus, and because of the bumpy floor I almost felt as if I were marching also.

The pastor of this remarkable work up in the hills is Pedro Rojo, he had labored so hard to have everything in order. When we arrived, about two-thirty, he told us that the families were having a big fiesta in the new son-in-law's home. We had eaten our lunch at noon before leaving the school, but when my husband heard "roast pig" we had to go. Finally, they made a place for us at the table. There were black beans, rice, malanga, yuca, and roast pig. While I was thoroughly enjoying the black beans, which have been so scarce of late, I felt something rubbing against my legs. I thought it might be a dog, but looked under the table to see a big black pig trying to scratch his hairy hide against my precious nylons—if that pig only knew what a hard time I have getting them! He must have been looking for his brother. My husband seeing my dilemma (I should be accustomed to it now) threw a piece of meat away from the table and out scrambles the pig with his grunts of gratitude.

Finally, the whole family, and a few more, climb into the bus and off we go to the church for the ceremony. Someone starts a chorus, and the singing does not stop until we reach the

She is a lovely Christian girl, and he is one of our finest Christian boys in that community. Pedro preached, as is the custom, then I sang (since there was no one else to do it). There are so few hymns in Spanish that are appropriate, I had to sing, "Saviour, Like A Shepherd Lead Us." After the song, my husband performed the ceremony. In the morning they had been married by a notary, as that is the only marriage recognized in Cuba. As he spoke those beautiful solemn words that joined together these two lives in the bonds of Holy Matrimony, the humble mountain Chapel was illuminated with the presence of Him Who had transformed their lives and their homes. As I sat there and witnessed this manifestation of the result of His transforming power, I said within my own heart, "If they had not known the Gospel, what a different story we would have to tell."

The brother of this girl is one of our finest and most spiritual students. In the towns, cities, out-of-the-way places, and back in the hills there are still hundreds of Angels and Mauras that as yet have not been reached as these two have been. Jesus has come—His birthday we shall celebrate soon now, and while we rejoice over the large number who have found Him and know Him, and the strong native church that we have, we are not satisfied, for the millions yet unreached beckon us to give them at least one opportunity to hear.

We wish that it might be possible to wish you a personal merry, merry Christmas, but since that is impossible, please accept this means of greeting as a very personal one from our hearts to yours. We shall be thinking of you on Christmas day, and wishing that we might join you for a little while around your family fireside and tell you personally how grateful we are that you have stood with us during this year, that you have prayed, that you have given that others might go with the News that "a Saviour is born." If you had never heard—what then? There would be no Christmas. In many lands today there is no Christmas. God grant us another year to make Him known.

With love and gratitude,

Mable Willey

We invite you to turn part of your efficient efforts to us again in strong support of the printed page!

HEADQUARTERS DRIVE SET MOUNTAIN GROVE PASTOR IN WEEKLY RADIO BROADCAST

Designed to put enough money into the treasury to assure success in our Headquarters venture, the National Headquarters Campaign will get under way January 11 and continue through March 31, 1953. A goal of \$7,500 has been set, according to the Promotional Secretary, Rev. Damon C. Dodd, of Nashville, Tennessee.

At the present time, there is approximately \$2,000 in the National Headquarters Fund. This additional amount will enable us to purchase a building close in to the downtown area of Nashville and will also provide sufficient surplus to carry out any remodeling which may have to be done.

This Headquarters Building is one of our most pressing needs at this phase of our denominational program. Three of our agencies—the W.N.A.C., the Board of Home Missions, and the Board of Foreign Missions—have expressed their need of office space to accommodate full-time workers and operations. The Promotional Department has long since outgrown the space which it has occupied at 433 East Bend Drive.

The Promotional Secretary will contact as many of the churches as possible in person during the campaign. Others will be contacted by correspondence and by field men in their respective localities.

A list of churches has been compiled in the Promotional Office. Each of these churches will be asked to give at least \$50.00 on the Headquarters Fund. All these churches will receive a direct request for this offering by mail and will have 75 days in which to raise the money.

The campaign will work up to H-Day, which will be Sunday, March 15. This will be observed as Headquarters Sunday all over the Denomination. On this day all the churches will be asked to make a special offering for the Headquarters drive.

If this campaign is successful, it is the plan of the purchasing committee to meet in Nashville during the Annual Bible Conference and complete the transaction for the Headquarters building. This will enable us to have everything set up and in operation by the time of the National Association meeting in July.

Young Christians—we would like to hear from you. You can be a great help and an encouragement.



Hear!

WILLARD C. DAY

EACH SUNDAY MORNING

At 7:15

Station K.G.B.X.

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

1260 on your dial

This program is designed to send out the Gospel of Christ, and to promote our denominational work in the State of Missouri, and is made possible by donations from churches and interested individuals. If you wish to help spread the "Good News" send your contributions and your revival or special service announcements to—

Willard C. Day
Box 421
Mountain Grove, Missouri

The success of the campaign depends, of course, on loyal Free Will Baptist pastors and people everywhere. Let us urge you to begin now to plan for your own part in this great drive. Set your sights high for H-Day and be ready to go over the top when the time comes.

OVERLOOKED

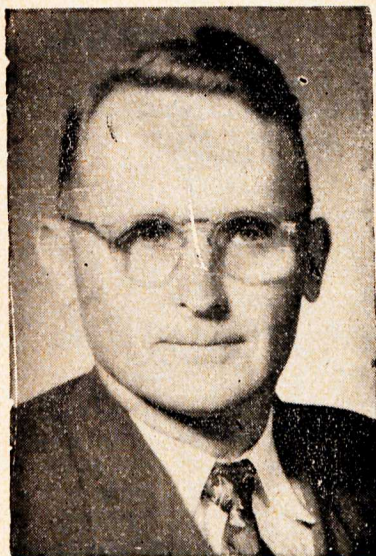
In the haste of things at the office and amidst recent sickness, we have overlooked important news concerning two of our very fine young folks of Missouri.

Wedding bells sounded at the New Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church when Rev. Roger C. Reeds, formerly of Richwoods, took as his bride Miss Myrtle Pembroke, well-known Christian worker of Bendavis, Missouri.

Both of these young folks have been active in the work of the Lord among

Free Will Baptists. Rev. Reeds has for some time been the well loved pastor of the fine Richwoods church. His concern and energy was ever for the church. Mrs. Reeds also has been active and recently has been an instructor in the D.V.B.S. at the Youth Camp. Both are consecrated young Christians and highly appreciated in Missouri.

Their address at present is 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee, where they are enrolled in our Bible College. Rev. Reeds says that after they are finished they will "go on as the Lord leads. We are both concerned about good old Missouri, and we hope that some day the Lord leads us back there to work for Him." So do we of course. However, we unselfishly wish you well wherever your labors may take you. We all join in wishing a long and happy life together for Rev. and Mrs. Roger C. Reeds.

BUSY EVANGELIST

Rev. William Buster, Thebes, Illinois, continues very busy in full-time evangelism. He recently completed a revival in Pontiac, Michigan which resulted in 23 conversions and reclaims. Bro. Buster devotes his full time to evangelism and the winning of the lost. If you have need for his services write him at Thebes, Illinois. He has a little time yet in January and February. He doesn't like to be idle, so if you need a revival, now is the time.

CHURCH HAS SOME OF ITS SERVICE MEN FOR HOLIDAY

South Side Church
3124 Mt. Pleasant
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

As I have been asked to fill in for Sis. Jeanne Whittington, who has left to be with her husband stationed in Florida, I wish the prayers of all that I may do as well as she has done.

We at the South Side Church have so much to be thankful for. Our Sunday School and Church are growing and souls are being saved.

We also have a young man who has answered the call to preach the gospel. He is Bro. Harry Asher.

We know the Lord is still hearing and answering prayers, as we have Rev. Jack Randall, Rev. Johnny Vick and Bro. Bud Arnold home for Christ-

mas; also Rev. Don Hill was home preached in the evening service with the quartet singing in all services. And, Bro. Don, we want you to know we are praying for you and the rest of our boys in service.

We at South Side wish the prayers of all the Christians that we may always go forward for the Lord.

We also wish to thank the Lord for our pastor who does so much for his people, and wish him and his family a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Sis. Olive M. Reed, Corresp.
Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Pastor

preached in the evening service with the quartet singing in all services.

Bro. Sterling Tucker from the College was also present for the services. Being from Flat River, he came with the quartet.

We received a wonderful blessing from the Lord and look forward to the day when we will meet our Lord and Saviour.

Yours in Christ,

Shirley Holdman,
Chair. of Committee

MODERNISM NOT NEW

Pawnee City, Nebraska
December 19, 1952

Dear Brother Jeffreys:

The Gem just came and I have read carefully and prayerfully your article on the Revised Version of the Bible and can endorse every word. How needful it is that our people should know these facts! Give us more and the Lord lead and guide you in it all. I took Hebrew with one whose name appears on the list of writers and it was known then that he was a thorough Modernist, and after spending some time in Europe, came back thoroughly settled in his modernism. I had to fight higher criticism (Moderns) all the way through my eight years in College and University, and feel that I am able to understand your view point. So stand fast and give us more.

Cordially Yours,

John H. Wolf

COLLEGE QUARTET SING, PREACH AT YOUTH SERVICE

On December 7, 1952, the Lord was truly with the people of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, Missouri.

This day was set aside for the young people to take charge of the services. We young people invited the Boy's Quartet from the Bible College to be with us.

James Earl Raper, the bass singer of the quartet, preached in the morning worship hour. Every one enjoyed the message along with the dinner that was served in the basement after the message.

In the afternoon a Youth Rally was held, with the quartet singing and Bobbie Jackson preaching. He preached on the "Warning God gave Noah to build the Ark." Five precious souls were saved in this service. All were young people that were saved.

Not only the people from the First Church, but also those from the Desloge, Fellowship, Berkeley City, Leadington, Fredericktown, and Copper Mines churches also enjoyed the services.

Eugene Waddell preached over the radio program and Bobbie Picirilli

When the state is most corrupt, the laws are most multiplied.

I'D LIKE TO BE A FRIEND

I'd like to be the kindly friend
That you have been to me;
I'd like to be the help that you
Have always been glad to be.

I'd like to mean as much to you,
Each moment of the day;
As you have been, old friend of mine,
To me along the way!

Mrs. Bernice Lawson,
Green Castle, Mo.

If you would like to help your Gem, but don't know just how—write us, we'll tell you how to help.

ONE MUST DIE

Rev. G. R. Hayse

My heart beat hard within me as I came home. I had seen the work of the devil. A thousand Blaauwberd mountains weighed on my heart. A million deamons screamed in unison in my ears. "One must die! The people must have rain; without rain the people will die. One will die."

It all began one Sunday evening after church as I sat in my room studying. I suddenly became aware of someone crying as if his heart would break. One hears much crying and trouble in this country that sometimes you pass it by, for there is little that an individual can do to lift the load of Africa.

On going to the door, I was surprised to find my herdboy, Ramone, leaning against the protection of my garage, crying as if he could die. Finally he told me of a man who had been hiding in the bush and wanted to kill him to make "rain medicine."

I followed him to the place. Certainly someone had been there. There were the tracks of a person and broken down grass where he had hidden awaiting his chance to spring upon the boy.

I tried to encourage the boy that he was perhaps mistaken; surely no one would want to kill him. In my heart I knew that it was so. Had not there been a famine this year? Had not the witch doctor, Paswanna, called for a small boy who had only been one year out of school? "A boy must die," he had said, "to make medicine, to bring rain." Though everyone was afraid, of course, no one would object. The people believed he could bring an evil influence over them and cause a spirit to burn their house on the first night of the next rain. He had power to cause the seed not to grow—power to cause the children to get sick or the goats to die.

Sensing the seriousness of the situation, I urged Ramone to hurry home before dark and to be careful in the way. I put the cattle away and started back for the house.

Soon he was back. "Someone chased me in the way with a knife; he wanted to kill me for medicine; I don't want to die," he cried.

I took him in the truck. His parents stood scared and deathly quiet as we related the story. They knew all about it. "But what can we do?" they asked. "They will kill him for medicine. They must have it to make the rain come." Though they loved their child as dearly as any parents in the world, they asked again, "What can we do?" Vainly, I tried to sleep that night. When I did at last, I could hear a boy calling. "Moruti, they will kill me with a knife to make medicine for rain. I don't want to die."

Before morning, I knew what I would do.

My blood was hot as I walked into the kraal, with little time for greeting the women who were already grinding the morning meal of mabella. That minute I would have loved nothing better than a fight with a witch doctor. The women were suspicious when I demanded where Paswanna was, but nevertheless called him, then sat down in true native style, slapped their hands together, and greeted me.

As soon as he appeared through the door, I started the worst tirade of accusations and questioning that he had no doubt ever heard. Immediately we could see that we had truly found the guilty man, for one minute he would laugh like a demon and deny the whole thing; the next minute he would go into a fit of anger, pace up and down the kraal like a caged animal, demanding who had told me—who was I to come here trying to start evil things in his kraal? Again we took the initiative, declaring that, now that the mission had come, this type of thing was of the past and if ever heard of again we would bring the police.

He refused to kneel for prayer when we had finished speaking, declaring that never had there been prayer in his house and never would there be. Nevertheless, he was thoroughly frightened at the boldness and threatening of this new missionary.

This was the burden of my heart as I went home again. What a gulf from the small light that they have received to the glorious truth that One has died for all, that they may be blessed and not die, but live! One has died for Paswanna and Ramone and all of their people that sit in darkness. There is a Blood that has power

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to do more than appease spirits—to destroy the power of evil spirits and set the helpless captive free.

Selected from *The Other Sheep*

THIRD CHURCH TO HELP SPONSOR BILLY GRAHAM REVIVAL IN ST. LOUIS

A city-wide revival campaign will begin next April 18 in St. Louis, Missouri. The noted evangelist, Billy Graham, will preach each night during the revival which will continue for thirty days. The revival is being sponsored through the cooperation of several churches from different denominations. The Third Free Will Baptist Church is one of the many churches cooperating in the evangelistic campaign.

According to the pastor of the Third Church, Rev. Benjamin R. Scott, the meeting will be held in Kiel Auditorium which is located on Market Street a few blocks from downtown St. Louis. The huge auditorium has a seating capacity of several thousand and it is expected that the meetings will draw crowds from all over the states of Missouri and Illinois, as well as the local St. Louis area.

Converts from the meeting will be given opportunity to unite with the denomination and church of their own choice. The first object of the revival is to win souls for Christ. No city in the country needs a shaking revival any more than does St. Louis. This city is the beer capital of the world, and as such, all the evils that are associated with strong drink are very much in evidence all over the city. Recently the sheriff of the city gave a Christmas party in the city hall for his employees and associates. During the merry making affair 24 cases of whiskey and 120 cases of beer were consumed. Everyone who is interested in the salvation of souls is asked to pray for the success of this revival.

—Contributed

Now, let us hear from you. We like to hear from you. Include your suggestions for a better Gem.