

Thora Grider
Star Route
Greenfield, Missouri

Jan 53

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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PROPHECY

For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the vision of the world, and all the wonders that would be;
Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,
Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales;

Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rain'd a ghastly dew
From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue;
Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm,
With the standards of the peoples plunging thro' the thunder storm;

Till the war-drum throb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd
In Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.
There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law.

—From "Locksley Hall," by Alfred Tennyson, 1842



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE
ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS.
SERVING THE CHURCH EVERYWHERE.
ENDORSED BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

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EDITOR AND MANAGER
REV. LLOYD T. JEFFREYS

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ADDRESSES OF MISSIONARIES

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Miss Bessie Yeley
Miss Lucy Wischart
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Phenicie
Apartado 27
Pinar del Rio, Cuba

Miss Laura B. Barnard
Miss Volena Wilson
"Westfield"
The Nilgiris,
Kotagiri, South India

Rev. and Mrs. Daniel R. Cronk
Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna
Kishanganj,
Purnea District,
Bihar, North India

Flat River First 74.81
Green Ridge 15.00
Rock Chapel 46.36
Bethel 15.51
Jewell 14.00
Jones Chapel 15.00

Total \$497.38

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Desloge Mission \$ 7.50
Desloge Church 25.15
Wolf Creek 15.00
Independence D.V.B.S. 5.23
Buffalo 23.20
Garfield 8.50
Hartville 23.51
Fredericktown 106.35
Fellowship Auxiliary 35.00
Fellowship 165.00
Flat River First 174.37
Green Ridge 15.00
Union Light S.S. 22.13
Verdella 75.61

Total \$701.55

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Monett \$5.59

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Southside St. Louis \$20.00
Monett 5.57

Total \$25.57

TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE

Hazel Creek S.S. (beginners and
primary class) \$ 7.05
Coppermines 10.90
Garfield 8.50

Total \$25.55

CO-LABORER FUND

Monett Auxiliary \$37.96

HANNA FUND

St. Louis Third \$155.00

WANDA EDWARDS FUND

Wagoner D.V.B.S. \$ 5.94
Fellowship D.V.B.S. 38.50

Total \$44.44

YOUTH CAMP FUND

Jones Chapel \$10.00

STATE ENTERTAINMENT

New Harmony S.S. \$12.50

Total All Offerings \$3,609.45

STATE TREASURERS REPORT

April - May - June, 1954

CO-OPERATIVE FUND

Hazel Creek \$ 44.96
Mt. Pisgah 11.70
Southside St. Louis 180.00
Third St. Louis 58.12
Leadington 147.00
Hickory Grove 41.75
Richwoods 77.78
Hannon 31.36
Cartersville 36.00
Desloge 45.82
Mill Creek 16.00
Mt. Valley 23.48
Myrtle 24.63
Myrtle D.V.B.S. 17.50
Sublette 34.00
Salem 47.00
Wagoner 111.71
Mine LaMotte 20.54
Pleasant Grove 21.00
Kansas City First 30.00
Black Oak 14.15
Faith and Hope 31.50
Verdella 6.75
Aulsbury Chapel 36.52
Fellowship Auxiliary 229.00
Fellowship 319.82
Merl's Chapel 62.70
St. Louis Fourth 68.36
Flat River First 237.38
Fredericktown Home Mission . 10.00
Coppermines 57.68

Total \$2,093.91

MISSIONS FUND

St. Louis Third \$ 92.08
Shibley's Point S.S. 25.74
New Harmony S.S. 198.88

Light Over Darkness; Love Over Hate

Genesis 1:26, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Man is made in the image of God, in that he has a soul, a spirit and a body (I Thess. 5:23). Man is conscious of God. He has attributes to love and power to hate, power to invent (create), power to choose good or evil, power to choose life or death, hell or heaven, a mind to think, and power to speak and understand.

Man can only rise as high as his mind. If his mind is on base things, so will he be: if on noble things, so will he be. Prov. 23:7, "For as he thinketh in himself, so is he."

God commands us to love—Luke 6:27, "Love your enemies." John 13:34, "That ye love one another as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." But we dispute, wrangle, hate, and slay each other because we can't be of one opinion as to God's attributes, or His nature—all because we do not have peace within ourselves. James 4:1, "From whence comes war and fighting among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members."

Light over Darkness

John 1:4-5, "In him (Jesus) was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." Jesus says, "I am light," "I am life." Darkness did its work, but light did a far greater work. Darkness and sin brought death: light and righteousness brought life. Hate produced chaos; love brought unity and peace. The light could not unite with darkness. Christ, like all souls, was of the same substance with God, a manifestation of the Divinity. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God." He was the Divinity in the form of man, an absolute existence, wholly immaterial, in no way within our comprehension. A cause but not an effect,

that never was, but existed during in infinity of eternities, before there was anything else except time and space, is wholly beyond the reach of our conception.

Only by faith can we assign the work of creation. I Jno. 5:4, "And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." Heb. 11:3, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God." Injustice, unkindness and evil will be dethroned by the infinite justice and benevolence of God, the good, the truth, and the beautiful—over error and evil. Faith, hope, love and immortality over all. If all professed Christians would obey with all their heart the Bible's mild and gentle teachings, the world would be a paradise. But disbelief and disobedience with intolerance and persecution make of it a hell. As Christians we must learn to be tolerant and practice toleration.

There is that state and realm of light, truth and perfection which is absolutely certain, and there is a state of darkness, death falsehood and punishment which is also absolutely certain. The necessity of practising the moral truths is absolute. Every act contrary to right and justice is punished. Every Christian feels without being taught, that it is wrong for vice to be rewarded or go unpunished, and for virtue to be punished or left unrewarded. We praise virtue, but condemn vice. Satan told man in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:5) if he (man) ate of a certain tree, he (man) would be as gods, knowing good from evil; there man was capable of comprehending the distinction between good and evil, justice and injustice. Man is capable of receiving power, and can receive power from God to resist temptations which urge him toward evil and injustice. I Cor. 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that

ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Man is not governed by a resistless fate, but is to choose between evil and good. He must of necessity have the power of not doing so, or he would not be a free man, liken unto God, but a slave and as an animal. This bears record that God is infinitely just and good, that sin is wrong and should be punished, not for vengeance but for justice, for Jehovah is a God of justice (Isa. 30:18).

Love against Hate

Christ taught a lofty morality. Luke 6:27, 28, "Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you, bless them that curse you, pray for them that despitefully use you." John 13:34, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Be pure in heart, meek, humble, contented, and become like these little children, or you cannot be saved, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven. Matt. 19:14, "But Jesus said, Suffer little children... for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Lay not up riches on earth, but in heaven. Matt. 6:19-20, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."

Submit yourselves to the powers lawfully over you. Rom. 13:1, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers." We should love the repentant, and cast no stones at the sinner, if you too have sinned. John 8:7-11, "...And said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. ...Hath no man condemned thee? No man, Lord." "Jesus said (Luke 6:31), "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise," and I say Do not unto others as you wish others not to do unto you. This was Christ's theology and His simple and sublime

(Continued on page 14, please)

MISSIONARY COUPLE PROUD PARENTS OF FINE BABY GIRL!

Following is an excerpt of a recent letter from Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna in India.

"Dear Bro. Riggs:

"Just a note this morning to say our baby, Brenda Kay, arrived at 2:08 yesterday afternoon. She weighs 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and is 21 inches long. We think she looks a lot like Sheila at first sight. Both she and Marie are fine. Dr. Steiner says the baby is perfect in every way and that Marie is fine.

I am sure that everyone in the States will be delighted to see this news from India. Since the passing of their first baby, this, no doubt, is the Lord's provision of consolation to these young parents. Those who would like to send congratulations or write to the Hannas may address them as follows: Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna, New Sisters, Sisters Bazaar, Landour, Mussoorie, U.P. India.

Rev. Raymond Riggs

(Note. We already had the following excerpt from the diary of Rev. Riggs ready to go when we received the above. We think you will greatly rejoice in both this testimony and the above announcement. Editor.)

The Hannas Give Testimony

The squeak of brakes on a loaded bus as it stopped in front of the Mission Compound reminded us that it was time for us to leave Sonapurhat and accompany our junior missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna to their station in Kishanganj, some 36 miles away. It was well after dark but the dusty road was still dotted with dark figures and an occasional white "sari" and several "doties" as the people were on their way home from the market. In most communities in India, Sunday is the main market day. As the bus rattled along the rough road, I began to think of this young couple with whom we were riding. I remembered the telegram telling of the death of their baby girl. Now, here they were in this strange land. They have been here two years. I wondered if they

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were happy. As yet I had not been able to detect a single note of discontent. Were they covering up, just for my benefit? I was determined to find out. The bus "lumbered" on. We stopped at a village to unload passengers and a few new ones got on. Finally we arrived in Kishanganj and our bus stopped at the end of the line in the midst of a very narrow street in the heart of a little city of some ten or twelve thousand people. The city is without electricity of any kind, and the only lights that could be seen were kerosene lanterns, flickering candles, flashlights and an occasional gasoline light. We rode in a cycle rickshaw down the narrow "spooky" streets until we reached the bungalow where the Hannas live. The rickshaw ride through the city after dark was most interesting as we dodged the cows and goats and inhaled many strange odors afloat in the night breeze. It was well past 9:00 o'clock and supper was hastily prepared for us, which by this time was a welcome event. Bro Hanna had lighted the gasoline lantern and as he exercised the air pump it gave off a hissing sound which is so characteristic to such a gadget. It was while we were eating supper in the light rays of the swaying lantern that I frankly asked the question to the Hannas, "Are you happy here in your work?" Without hesitation Bro. Hanna told me to tell everyone at home that they are extremely happy for they are definitely in the Lord's will. The wound of Sheila's death is not completely healed, but God's grace is being supplied and they are being equipped for more effective service. Pray for them as they are now in Landour finishing their language study. Also be much in prayer for the three young men who are being kept on our mission compound in Kishanganj, that their training will enable them to carry the Gospel Message to their own people.

A NEW HOUSE FOR CUBAN MISSIONARIES

At the recent meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions, an appropriation of \$800.00 was made from the general fund to help build living quarters for Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Phenicie, our missionaries in Cuba. They have been living in improvised quarters adjacent to the kitchen and dining hall on the school campus.

We are most grateful to be able to make this appropriation but would appreciate gifts from our people to replace the money as soon as possible.

Following is a letter from the Phenicies telling of their work; also a note of appreciation.

These missionaries are still in need of donors to help underwrite their support. They have two teen age boys who are attending high school in the States, and of course this also is expensive. We have included their support in the overall budget for Cuba, but we must have donors to help meet the budget.

Apartado 27
Pinar del Rio, Cuba
July 1, 1954

Dear Friends:

We have many things for which to praise the Lord. We are rejoicing that Richard and Roger arrived safely on June 4 and will be with us for the remainder of the summer. Provision has been made so that we can begin the construction on our house immediately. The Lord has faithfully supplied our daily needs and we are indeed happy to have a small part in this great work which is reaching out into the highways and byways, bringing many into a saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Last week I had the privilege of conducting a Daily Vacation Bible School in Cabezas, where we go each Sunday for Sunday School and evening service. I stayed in the home of the student pastor, Anhel Martinez. Herbert and the boys did their own cooking and took care of things here at home. Anhel's family are very poor as far as material things are

concerned, but a family rich in faith and a living testimony to their neighbors and to all with whom they come in contact. It was a very happy and profitable week and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Although the classes were from 8:30 to 11:30, about half of the children arrived before 7.00 a.m. The children so responsive, learn so quickly and are very enthusiastic—it surely is a joy to teach them. At our closing program on Saturday night, we had to move outside as the house wouldn't hold all the people. The parents were so appreciative and grateful for what the children had learned during the week.

The week was a full one, with visitation every afternoon, returning just in time for dinner, then leaving again for a service. We held a service every night in a different place. The field is large and not thickly populated in any one section so one has to cover quite some distance between settlements. Sometimes we walked, other times we went on horseback. Each service was well attended. There seems to be a real spiritual awakening throughout the entire field.

Please pray for Anhel as he works day by day in these places. He is a fine boy and has a real passion for souls. Pray for his physical strength as his body isn't too strong. Above all—pray that the Lord will give a rich harvest of souls in these days, not only in this field but also in all of our fields where the Word is being faithfully proclaimed. Pray also for the summer camp which will be held here at the school from July 16-23 and also for the group of young people from our Bible College in Nashville, who will be spending the month of July with us.

We are deeply grateful to each one of you who have so faithfully remembered us in prayer and have given that we might serve the Lord here.

"Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the long-

ing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." Psa. 107.8,9.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Edith and Herbert Phenicie

P.S.—Dear Mr. Riggs, We surely are deeply appreciative of the action of the Board in sending the money for our house. You don't know how much we appreciate the decision about our support. These past months have tested our faith but the Lord is always faithful and we rejoice in the privilege which is ours in serving Him here. My mother, whom the Lord called home last January, left a small fund for the boys and that helped to meet some of their expenses.

NEW CHURCH ENJOYING GROWTH AND BLESSINGS

512 W. Elizabeth St.
Kirkville, Missouri

To the Gem Family:

Nine months ago today (June 30) our church here in Kirkville was organized by Rev. Damon C. Dodd and Rev. Rolla Smith, at a tent revival following our North-east Missouri Yearly Meeting.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us by sending Rev. Lester Jones and his good wife to work with us.

We had 32 charter members who voted unanimously to tithe, one member saying he would try it for a year. I am sure when the year is up he will continue, as the Lord has "opened the windows of heaven" and poured us out such blessings, at times our hearts could hardly receive them.

Five lots were purchased at a cost of \$3,000, all donated. On November 3, 1953, the work was started on our new church building. Almost all of the labor was donated.

On Sunday afternoon, March 14, our opening service was held with between 400 and 500 present.

The last three months our Sunday School average attendance has been 91. On May 31 a two-weeks D.V.B.S. opened with 66

enrolled. On June 13 commencement exercises were held, followed by a program by the children. This was followed by a baptismal service in which nine were baptized. There has been 21 professions of faith and 13 additions to the church. More are to be baptized. We lost one member by death, Sis. Stella Anderson.

We have an active Auxiliary with 18 members. Also a good League with a fair attendance.

Each Wednesday evening we have a Spirit-filled, soul-stirring prayer meeting.

On August 2nd Rev. Joseph Ange of Durham, North Carolina will be here to start a two weeks revival. Pray for us that we may have a great harvest of souls.

On Sunday afternoon, June 27, our annual meeting for the election of officers was held. The following were elected to serve the church. Pianist, Julia Mollick; song director, Betty Swisher; clerk, Betty Swisher; treasurer, Junior Evans; reporter, Elsie Dare; education director, Myrtle Jones.

The League officers are: General director, Myrtle Jones; president, Gene Swisher; secretary, Freda Evans; pianist, Esther Hediger; chorister, Mrs. Lester Jones; quiz leader, Elsie Dare; Intermediate-Senior superintendent, Lola Matthews; Junior superintendent, Mildred Schoop; Story Hour, Mrs. Kenneth Peterson.

Sunday School superintendent is Dwane Matthew; pianist, Esther Hediger; song director, Velma Wellman, and secretary is Esther Hediger. Teachers include Ivan Peterson, Velma Sevits, Elsie Dare, Kenneth Peterson, Dwane Matthew, Lillian Wood, Myrtle Jones, Reta Mullanix, Betty Swisher, and Julia Mallick.

We have been reading the Gem for about twenty years. It is like a letter from home. We miss some of the older ones who used to write.

We thank and praise the Lord for His wonderful works.

Elsie Dare, reporter

THE DREAMING PASTOR

I read of a minister, pastor of a large church. He was brilliant and eloquent and popular. One week he found it unusually difficult to prepare his Sunday morning sermon. It was not finished until late Saturday night. Tired out with the effort, he fell asleep and had an unusual dream. He dreamed he was in his pulpit and ready to begin his sermon to a congregation that filled the church when a stranger entered and moved slowly up the aisle, looking first to one side and then the other with an expression that silently asked someone to give him a seat. Finally a man stepped out and offered him a place in his pew. The stranger listened attentively and the speaker found it difficult to take his eyes off him. He said to himself, "Who can this man be?" He resolved to find out at the close of the service. But the stranger did not go out the front door. He asked the man who had shared his pew who the man was. The man answered, "Why, do you not know that man? It was Jesus of Nazareth." With a feeling of disappointment the pastor said, "Why did you you let Him go without introducing Him to me?" The man replied, "Oh, do not be troubled. He has been here today; He will come again." Then the minister in his dream began to think of the service, wondering whether Jesus approved of it. What did He think of the ritual, the music, the sanctuary, the order of worship, and the sermon. Was it Christ-centered? He hoped Jesus would come back again. Then he awoke and it was only a dream.

But was it just a dream, or was it an actual experience which takes place on every occasion of divine worship. I believe we should think this over seriously. Is God pleased with our services? We look around and see so much of the world in the churches today. Then the preacher remembered what Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the

world."

Yes, Christ does meet his appointments with his people at the altar of worship. But there is a requirement. He will not meet with a bunch of half-hearted Christians holding onto the world and trying to hold on to Christ. Brother, it will not work. Christ wants a surrendered life or else.

I think so much about a certain brother who has now gone to be with the Lord. So many times when he was occupying the pulpit he felt like he was standing in Christ's stead as a spokesman for God. That must be a wonderful feeling to stand before God with that feeling of justification, free from the world.

The preacher had never before had a dream that he felt had any significance—this one was different. He found it difficult to go to sleep again. He spent hours in serious thought and decided that there would be some changes in his life and services. His sermons would be more Christ centered and spiritual. Dignified simplicity would take the place of the elaborate ritual. His choir would be made up of converted men and women instead of the hired singers that composed his present choir, many of whom made no profession of Christianity. Do you suppose this dreaming preacher could have been a General Baptist (may we think in terms of Free Will Baptist preachers)?

Said God to Moses, "Get your shoes off and out of the way, this is holy ground. I have a job for you to do." Preacher, did God call you that way, Ex. 3:5. Paul said to get rid of every weight that would hinder (Heb. 12:1). This pastor's dream was the beginning of a spiritual awakening and revival in his own life. His members began to wonder. He was more serious and humble than usual. He preached in the spirit of quiet assurance. He began to emphasize the mission of the Holy Spirit and the second advent of Christ. The greatest need for these evil days is Christ centered preachers, not self-centered. Preachers that will preach the Word without fear or favor, will preach a separated life according

to the gospel. I am afraid we are not digging the things out of the Bible that we need to know or else we are ignoring some of God's requirements. It would be well if a lot of the ministers and deacons could get a vision in a dream as this preacher did.

I think we could have some questions to ask ourselves. We read in Daniel where some of the old kings had warning dreams. We had better give very serious thought to God's requirements. You remember this dreaming pastor said there would be some changes in his life and service. There are a lot of honest hearted ministers who see through a glass darkly. Listen to Paul and what he says, "And I, brethren, when I come to you, come not with excellency of speech of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determine not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and him crucified." I Cor. 2:1-2. Can we get the point in this? "To have a God is to worship Him," said Martin Luther. The searching test of the worth of any religious service is, "Does it enhance the spirit of worship? Does it inspire reverence for the eternal and for holy things and places? Does it reveal Christ and increase your love for Him and our desire to serve Him? Does it impel the worshippers to say, as they leave the sanctuary, 'God was in His temple today and He spoke to my heart?'" All worshippers should feel that they are in an atmosphere of heaven, and act as if in the visible presence of the Master of assemblies.

The true spirit of worship demands a deeply spiritual environment—one in which Christ is present through His Holy Spirit, and one in which the service is beautiful and glorified by grace and a dignified simplicity. It must be the pastor's supreme aim to see that the service of worship is invested with the garments of beauty and to make it appeal to the worshipping instincts of the human heart. The assemblies of people who are bent on prayer is something singularly beautiful. There is here a nobleness and elevation of soul which have no

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE ATTENDANCES

| | JA | FE | MR | AP | MA | JU |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Richwoods | 55.. | 68.. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>Leslie Logsdon, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Hannon (Barton Co.)..... | 44.. | 48.. | 50.. | 48.. | .. | 44 |
| <i>Conrad Williford, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Copper Mines (S.E. Mo.)... | 92.. | 90.. | 93.. | 105.. | 103.. | 93 |
| <i>Woodrow Matthews, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Third St. Louis | 92.. | 93.. | 106.. | 110.. | .. | .. |
| <i>James Barker, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Fourth St. Louis..... | 53.. | 48.. | 50.. | 54.. | 42.. | 46 |
| <i>Wm. Turnbough, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Salem, St. Louis | 56.. | .. | 50.. | 51.. | .. | .. |
| <i>Lawrence Thompson, Pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Fredericktown | 158.. | 172.. | 183.. | .. | .. | .. |
| League | ..104.. | 74.. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>W. T. Newsome, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| First Church, Springfield .. | 135.. | ..136.. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>Henry Long, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Jones Chapel, Stella..... | 53.. | 54.. | 65.. | 77.. | 58.. | 62 |
| <i>Winford Davis, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Monett | 78.. | 78.. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>James Davis, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Southside, St. Louis..... | 156.. | ..156.. | 185.. | 170.. | .. | .. |
| <i>James Franklin, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Mountain Grove | 176.. | 193.. | 195.. | 238.. | 200.. | 210 |
| <i>Willard C. Day, pastor</i> | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-----|
| Elizabethton, Tenn. 1st..... | 206.. | 217.. | 204.. | 242.. | 218.. | 212 |
| <i>Harvey E. Hill, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Oilton, Oklahoma | 116.. | 133.. | 129.. | 182.. | .. | .. |
| <i>Benjamin Scott, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Lawnwood, Tulsa | 157.. | 165.. | 166.. | 229.. | 175.. | 173 |
| <i>H. E. Staires, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Phillips Chapel, Arkansas .. | 170.. | 165.. | 163.. | 176.. | 172.. | 174 |
| <i>Tommy Day, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Mt. Pisgah, Cabool | .. 44.. | 40.. | 51.. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>Homer Smith, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| First Church, Joplin | ..50.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>Paul Williams, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Parkview, Desloge | 86.. | 90.. | 96.. | 103.. | .. | .. |
| <i>John Long, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Berkley First, St. Louis | ..166.. | 168.. | 202.. | 138.. | .. | .. |
| League | .. 76.. | 64.. | 69.. | 59.. | .. | .. |
| <i>Don Ellis, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Wolf Creek, Mansfield..... | 42.. | 39.. | 37.. | .. 33.. | 31 | .. |
| <i>Charles Findley, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Union Third Fork, N.E. Mo. 25.. | 25.. | 24.. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>Edward H. Corn, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Fellowship, Flat River | 140.. | 141.. | 170.. | 185.. | 167.. | .. |
| <i>Rolla Smith, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Leadington | .. | ..111.. | 132.. | 116.. | .. | .. |
| <i>Eunice Edwards, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| Mt. Zion 3, Cuba | .. | .. | .. 47.. | .. | .. | .. |
| <i>Leo Curtis, pastor</i> | | | | | | |
| St. Mary's, New Berne, N.C. . | .. | .. | ..325.. | 317.. | 303 | .. |
| <i>Cecil H. Campbell, pastor</i> | | | | | | |

counterpart in any other gathering in the world. With such a worshipful attitude every believer would be able to say with Jacob at the base of the ladder of his dream, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it. How awesome is this place? This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." Gen. 28:16-17.

How wonderful it would be if we could keep our houses of worship free from the things of the world.

—From the Messenger
by M. C. Houston
Tahlequah, Okla.

WHY I JOINED THE FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Dear Readers of the Gem:

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

This is my first letter to the Gem, after having joined the Free Will Bap-

tist church at Sublett, Missouri in January. We enjoy reading the Gem; especially the letters from the brothers and sisters in the different churches.

I have been asked by a number of people why we joined the Free Will Baptist Church, when the closest one to us is at Kirksville, Missouri, some 60 miles away. And there are a number of other churches all around us. But I have found in my 22 years in the ministry, in order to worship God in spirit and in truth, and to receive a blessings, the people have to be in one accord. After we had held two revivals for the Free Will Baptists in Northeast Missouri, and had studied their doctrine, I found they stood for just what I had been preaching ever since I left one of the modernistic churches some seven years ago.

I love the old fashioned altar. I delight to see people humble themselves before God. Then we love the friendly spirit that our church shows to outsiders. I think one of the outstanding things that caused us to join was the fact that the people and offi-

cers treated us as a brother and sister in Christ. We will never build up the church by high-hatting or smirching those who do not belong. I want to thank Bro. Jeffreys, Bro. Barker, and last but not least, Bro. Dobbs for their friendliness and interest they took in us.

While we do not get to attend services very often in our church, as we are pastoring two union churches over in Illinois, but on the 20th of June we are starting on a trip to get acquainted with more of our people. (Note: there followed a tentative itinerary of Bro. Corey, which we failed to receive in time for the appropriate publication. We're sorry. Editor.)

We will go to Kansas City where I will receive my Bachelor of Theology Degree.

May God bless His people everywhere.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. J. E. Corey
Maywood, Mo.



PADLOCK OFF DOOR: NORTHEAST CHURCH MOVING AHEAD; SUCCESSFUL D.V.B.S.

Greentop, Mo.
July 3, 1954

Dear Bro. and Sis. Jeffreys and
Gem Family:

Greetings in the name of our wonderful Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ. We're truly praising God for victory through Christ.

We want to send you a report of the Graysville Free Will Baptist Church. This church was closed and I felt God's definite leadership to go to that community and see what could be accomplished. Nothing grieves my heart more than to see God's house with a padlock on the door and no services being conducted. This little village had truly saw the bitter results of it: as one of our loyal deacons said the other night, "Sis. Alta, before the church was opened Graysville was a village of harlots and drunkards." God has

marvelously come on the scene, and has given them victory over the evil that had damned their lives. Now they are testifying to the wonderful saving power of the Lord Jesus Christ and praising God for the precious blood of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, that cleanseth from all sin.

Rev. Lester Jones and his good wife have been a wonderful blessing to that community. Bro. Jones conducted two successful revivals with victory in both revivals. Nine souls were saved in the first revival, and five souls in the other revival which was conducted at another church 2 1/2 miles from Graysville (in the Martinstown Free Will Baptist Church). Four of these converts were from the Graysville community. We also pastor the Martinstown Church. It was also closed when we went

there, except for Sunday School conducted by another denomination. The work has not progressed at Martinstown as it has at Graysville. We do have very good spiritual services, and I believe yet there will be victory there. I don't believe God would bless us with His precious presence as He does without sending visible victory. We are gaining a few more in attendance which gives encouragement.

I am enclosing a picture cut of the D.V.B.S. conducted at Graysville Church from June 14 to 25, with an enrollment of 72. Twenty-six children had 100% perfect attendance record, eight had 90% attendance record. Fifteen of the boys and girls professed faith in Christ, for which we truly praise God. Never have I worked with a more loyal group of workers

than those who came and helped with the school—both men and women. Grain, ready to harvest, was left in the field until after the Bible School was completed, so that the progress of the school would not be hindered.

Bro. and Sis. Charles Moyers and children, from Farmington, Missouri, came to help with the Bible School the last week, and they were a real blessing to us. We thank God for them and for what they have meant to us. We have had a wonderful fellowship with them each time they have come this way to help out in services. My good companion and I look on them as our children and grandchildren. Their children are so precious, wonderful Christian boys and girls. We pray that God's blessings will always be with them.

We are now in tent revival at Graysville. Last night two precious souls professed faith in Christ a husband and wife, parents of children. How our hearts rejoice when Christ moves into homes and makes them complete Christian homes. There have been 37 souls professed faith in Christ since the church opened in September. We have had 26 additions to the church and a number more good prospects.

Bro. and Sis. H. M. McAdams were with us at Graysville at the beginning of our ministry there. During those few nights the altar fires started burning and they are continuing to burn regardless of how hard Satan has tried to destroy them. Oh yes, we encounter many adversaries, but we trust in God for the victory over the adversary, for He has said "Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." We sincerely desire the prayers of God's people that we will continue with an unwavering faith and be lead of God as we continue in the work of our blessed Saviour.

May God bless, strengthen and encourage all His people in this evil day, and may we—His people—redeem the time, is the sincere prayer of His unworthy handmaiden.

I trust that the coming church year will mean real victory to all who are working for God to the advancement of His blessed cause, regardless of creed or denomination, for if we belong to God we are all His workmanship created in Christ Jesus.

Yours for Jesus,

Mrs. Alta Mikel

PLANS ALTERED; TO BUILD

Gallion, Louisiana

Dear Christian Readers:

Do you remember me telling you, in the Gem, about the Free Will Baptist here trying to buy the old Missionary Baptist church building in Mer Rouge?

At that time it was for sale for thirty-two hundred dollars. They refused to sell it to us for a Free Will Baptist Church. Since then we have bought land to build on. At this time (June 1) we are still having Sunday School and worship services out in the open, and God's blue sky is our roof.

The same business man in Mer Rouge, 'Mr. Joe Davenport,' that was going to back us in buying the old Southern Missionary Baptist church, has now offered to back us dollar for dollar in building our new church, but we have to get our money first.

Our 10 members are farmers, and have taken from our resources to buy the land, until it looks as if we are at our rows end.

I know many people are wondering why we started this work if we didn't have the money to finish it. Friends, I am glad we started this work *by faith*. When it is finished God will be glorified, and the sooner it is accomplished the more glory to God. Could we have seen the ending at the beginning, then of a truth it would have been of words only. Paul said, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

We hope for the Hill View Free Will Baptist Church to soon be a reality. We intend to mix our faith with our giving until it hurts, and to add our works as long as God gives strength. Yes, we shall do the labor in building our church. Our pastor is a very good architect and a contractor. He has offered to supervise our work. He puts every cent we give him back into our building fund. He is a young

minister and has only pastored three churches. He helped Olive Dale pay the mortgage on their church by putting the whole of his offerings to that cause. By his doing the same at Sardis they have beautifully finished their church. I know that some say he is just trying to feather his nest for later on. Well, it looks like he is doing a pretty good job. Financially, God has blessed him above all other Free Will Baptists in Louisiana. He says he wants to be like Paul, offer the Gospel without charge, and labor for his meat with his own hands. In him it is proven that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

By now I know you have already perceived the purpose of this letter. Yes, friends we need help. Please help us get enough together to get a loan to build our church. At this writing we have two hundred five dollars in our building fund. If each and every Free Will Baptist who reads this will send us 25 cents, we could use it as the down payment and get a loan to build a three thousand dollar church by doing our own labor.

When the children of Israel cried unto God for an inheritance in the land wherein they were strangers, God heard their cry and told Moses how to build the tent. You know the story how the people gave for that purpose and how God was glorified. The Free Will Baptist are strangers in Louisiana and we are crying for an inheritance in God's Kingdom here in Louisiana. Who would miss 25 cents? Wouldn't you like to know you helped your denomination to build to the glory of God in a strange land?

Long ago I could have joined the Southern Baptist and been at ease in their house. Instead I have chosen to remain true to my God, my Church, and my heart and fight for the cause of Christ in the name of a Free Will Baptist here in my adopted state. Thank God for the freedom of choice. Please, friends of my own faith, don't let me down. Make a 71 year old man happy by sending your gifts to Mr. J. A. Moore, Mer Rouge, Louisiana. He is our oldest member, one of our deacons, and a committee member on our building program.

God bless you all!

Yours to serve in Christ,

Mrs. Bertha Chappell
R1, Gallion, Louisiana



PAULINE WARREN

Carrie Pauline Hite, daughter of John and Myrtle Hite, was born at Freeman, Missouri, October 14, 1900. She departed this life on June 21, 1954 at the age of 53 years, eight months and seven days. She was united in marriage to Lloyd Warren of Everett Community on March 30, 1938 at Butler, Missouri. Mrs. Warren has been in ill health for a number of years. She was cared for by her devoted husband in the home where her every need was administered by him. The last week her condition became so critical that she was hospitalized at Memorial Hospital, where the end came.

Pauline was converted as a girl in the Freeman Presbyterian Church. Later (about 1940) she was baptized and moved her membership to the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church. During her active years she was always seen at her post of duty in the service of her Master. For a long period of time she taught the Junior Class. The results of her labor was seen in the conversion of each of her pupils. For a number of years she served very efficiently as the Church Clerk.

Though Pauline is gone from our midst, her kind and encouraging words to the discouraged, her beautiful smile and personality and her faith and devotion to the service of the King shall always be remembered by all who knew her.

She leaves in passing—the husband, of the home; four sisters, Mrs. Leona Anderson of Freeman, Mrs. Margaret Kingcade of Freeman, Mrs. Mabel Blevins of Lee's Summit, and Mrs. Mary Jones of Lee's Summit, several nieces and nephews and a host of

friends who will mourn her passing. and visit us if ever the opportunity affords you.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Memorial services for Sis. Warren were conducted June 23 at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church by the Pastor, Rev. Conrad Williford, and his wife Rev. Mrs. Williford. Comforting hymns were by the Willifords and by the church choir.

May God richly bless each of you,

Rev. Harvey E. Hill

WHERE — WHEN — HOW

This is a reminder to each one in the Missouri State Association, who reads this issue of the Gem, to remind you of the time and place of this year's session of the Association.

In-as-much as the time has been set up to Tuesday night following the Third Sunday in August (and the State Sunday School and the League Conventions are to begin on Monday night—this will be August 16) the Association proper will begin on Tuesday night, August 17. The change in time of meeting was made in order that more of our young people, who would ordinarily be in school in September, may attend at this earlier date. The State Sunday School and League Conventions should be well attended by our young people.

The place of meeting this year is with the Jones' Chapel Church near Stella (about 18 miles south west of Monett). I would like for all who can come to make your plans now to attend, as there will be several items of business to consider which are very important to our denominational work.

Also, I would like for each of the churches to remember your responsibility in sending in a liberal offering to help defray the expense of entertaining the Association.

May we pray with an humble heart and look forward in faith to a great session of the Missouri State Association, that God may be glorified and His cause advanced among us.

Rev. O. T. Allerd, moderator

SOUTHERN CHURCH GROWS; PLANS EDUCATIONAL UNIT

Dear Gem Readers:

It is with pleasure that I again wish to report our work here at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Elizabethton, Tennessee. God has richly blessed us the past few months for which we wish to give Him all of the praise.

We just recently closed a very successful D.V.B.S. and Youth Revival under the direction of Rev. Bob Hill of Nashville, Tennessee. Our enrollment in the Bible School was very gratifying, for it reached near the 175 mark.

We also enjoyed a wonderful revival when we saw 10 precious souls come to the Lord and most of them were adults. We do want God to have the praise, and we ask your prayers that God may continue to give us souls for our labors.

We here at First Church are also taking steps in a building program. We have just sold our old parsonage and purchased a larger and better one right next door to our church. My address hereafter will be 702 First St., Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Also at a recent business meeting the church voted to take pledges for the construction of a beautiful seven to nine-room educational building to be built on the rear of our church with the front facing another beautiful street.

We have also been redecorating and rewiring our church auditorium and have recently installed a modern kitchen and a pastors study. All in all God is richly blessing us and we do need your prayers that He may continue to do so.

Pray for us as it goes well with you and may my many friends over the State of Missouri write us some time

No person ever develops mastership who doesn't indulge in what may appear to be drudgery. Whether it really is drudgery or something finer depends upon the thinking and feeling that accompanies the action.



The above picture is of the Free Will Baptist Church in Carterville, Missouri. Carterville is on Highway 66 between Carthage and Joplin in the heart of a once rich mining district. However, most of the residents now commute to nearby places of labor. The church, strategically located near the center of population, serves a decided need in the field of Christian religion there.

For the past few years, Rev. Harold D. Hoover and his wife have served the church faithfully. Though there has been no great growth in number, a high spiritual plane has been maintained and the Truth regularly preached from the pulpit there. Many projects for present efficiency and future growth have been accomplished. New Sunday school class rooms have been added, the rostrum extended and beautified, a water-cooled air conditioner installed, and several other projects finished or contemplated. A co-operative system of finance is being used that has proven a great blessing to the church.

The church recently inaugurated a week-night youth program after several younger Christians and other young people started making this their place of worship.

Dwarfed in size, but important to the church, is the little fellow in front of the building. He is David Hoover, son of the pastor and wife.

When by Carterville, stop in for a rest and a fine time of fellowship built

around the sound teaching and worship in the church there.

WHEN THEY WILL MEET

The 41st Annual Session of the Northeast Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists will convene with the Martinstown Church, Worthington, Missouri, on Thursday evening, July 29 and continue through August 1st. The introductory message will be by Rev. Wayne Parsons; alternate, Rev. Alta Mikel. The communion message on Friday evening will be by Rev. Orville Dobbs, with Rev. Mildred Gilham alternate.

Ethel Thompson, clerk
Greentop, Missouri

The Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists will meet with the Philadelphia Church near Pattonsburg, Missouri on Thursday night before the Second Sunday in August (the 5th). Rev. W. R. Rush will bring the introductory message; Rev. John McKown alternate.

Rev. Mary Wellbaum, clerk
Haddam, Kansas

The next Fifth Sunday meeting of the Northwest Missouri and Northeast

Kansas Association will be at Mt. Zion Church. The speaker is yet to be chosen.

The Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists will meet with the Independence Church near Stockton, Missouri, commencing Tuesday night, August 3rd. The introductory message will be by Rev. Lowell Martin, with Rev. Alice Dickey the alternate. Message for the Ministers Conference will be by Rev. Lloyd T. Jeffreys, and speaker for the League Convention is Rev. Conrad Williford.

Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys, clerk
Monett, Missouri

The Forty-First Annual Session of Missouri State Association will convene with the Jones' Chapel Church in Indian Creek Association near Stella, Missouri, beginning Tuesday night, August 17. Rev. James Barker will be the introductory speaker, with Rev. Fred Kirby his alternate. The State League Convention, Sunday School Convention, and Woman's Auxiliary Convention will precede the Association, with services starting in Monday evening, August 16.

Rev. Lorene Williford, clerk
Freeman, Missouri

The Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting will convene with the Mill Creek Free Will Baptist Church, August 5-7, 1954. Rev. James Franklin, St. Louis, will deliver the introductory message, with Rev. W. T. Newsome of Fredricktown, alternate.

Rev. Albert Halbrook, clerk
Mine LaMotte, Missouri

Indian Creek Association of Free Will Baptists will convene August 3 with the Mt. Olivet Church at Blue Eye, Missouri. Moderator is Rev. O. T. Allred.

Evelyn Alyea, clerk
Monett, Missouri

Surmounting difficulties makes heroes.



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

EDITOR: REV. MRS. OPAL JEFFREYS, 304 EUCLID, MONETT, MO.



CONVENTION TIME SOON

I trust we are all planning and praying now for our soon coming convention. Remember we meet one month earlier this year, our Convention date being August 18, to meet with the Jones' Chapel Church during the week of the State Association. We are expecting to meet you all there. A good program is being planned and we will have our Auxiliary badges as last year. State Convention time also means report time. Local Auxiliaries, get your reports to your local associational officers, and they in turn make their reports to the State officers. Here is a list of the State officers:

President, Mrs. Agnes Smith, 601 Buckley, Flat River.

Enlistment, Mrs. Violet Newsome, 103 Murta, Fredericktown.

Youth, Rev. Alice Diekey, 5516 Appleton, Kansas City.

Study Course, Mrs. Oletha Parsons, R 2, Kirksville.

Program-Publicity, vacant (suggest these reports be sent to the president).

Benevolence, Mrs. Lee DeWitt, 3434 Park Ave., St. Louis.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Norma Kennedy, 915 Pardella, Le-may.

Mrs. Russell Weisman, president, conducted the business session, which was opened with roll call being answered with favorite Bible verses. Reports of the vice-presidents were given.

Election of officers who will serve during the coming year resulted in the following officers being elected: President, Mrs. Nolan Thomas; first vice, Mrs. Will Gates; second vice, Mrs. Wayne Terrill; third vice, Mrs. Haskell Hultgren; fourth vice, Mrs. Lyle Roller; fifth vice, Mrs. W. K. Weston; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Ed Jones; game and song leader, Mrs. James Davis; flower chairman, Mrs. Nettie Harrell.

Mrs. James Davis and Miss Rosalie McCully were welcomed as new members of the auxiliary. The next regular meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Will Gates.

fied to 'bear record' of Christ. It is always a joy to my heart to hear one say, "I know what Christ has done and is doing." John was sent as a forerunner to Christ, to prepare the way, and to bear record of Him.

John 5:36, "But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. John was a witness, but Jesus had greater witness than that of John. His miracles were His first witness. These were gifts of the Father to Jesus, and yet works of Jesus Himself. They were signs to authenticate Christ as Divine. Although Christ was doing many wonderful things, not all accepted them. Jesus had done two things that had shocked and horrified the Jews. He had healed an impotent man on the Sabbath day. He had also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. All this was contradictory to their own traditions and prejudices, and they judged Christ accordingly. Although confronted by their prejudices and narrow-mindedness, Christ went on with His work and witnessing. To tell about all the miracles which Christ performed would be impossible in this little heart to heart talk. But even though Christ came face to face with adversity in the beginning and all along the way, He did not stop His doing good.

Shall we speak of another Divine witness, that of the Father. John 3:37, "And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape." No doubt, Jesus is referring to the Father's testimony of Him at the time of His baptism, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Later the Father bears testimony of Him at the precious scene of the Transfiguration. Some-

WITNESSING

Witnessing is an important matter with us as followers of Christ. I often ask myself, "Does my daily living witness to my friends and neighbors, of a true relationship to my Saviour?" I'm sure we all want it to be so. Do we ask the Spirit to lead us as we endeavor to witness for Him? Do we ask Christ at the dawning of a new day to lead us in our daily life and in any special witnessing efforts that may be our privilege?

When Christ was perfecting His purpose on earth, He not only gave witness to Himself, but there were also other very important witnesses to Him. John 1:34, "And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God." Notice John said, "I saw." We immediately believe he was a truthful witness bearing a clear record of Christ. It's true that the things we see are more easily contained in our memory and sight is always the means of truthful witness. Only those that have had a real 'born again' experience are quali-

MONETT AUXILIARY IN ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mrs. Burl Thomas, Jr., was hostess to members of the Monett Woman's Auxiliary, at their last regular meeting held in her home.

The meeting came to order with the group singing, "More Like the Master." Prayer was by Mrs. C. L. Atwell.

Mrs. Lyle Roller conducted the lesson, taken from the yearbook entitled, "His Command... My Task to Go."

Mrs. Roy Nichols read the devotional. Topics were discussed by Mrs. Nolan Thomas, Mrs. Ed. Jones, Miss Rosalie McCully and Mrs. Wayne Terrill.

one has said, "These voices and these sounds need opened ears and unsealed eyes."

Another witness was the Old Testament. Jesus said, "Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which do testify of me." John 5:39. Scriptures are not given for mere casual reading but are to be made the object of deep search. They contain the knowledge of salvation that is offered to all. It is possible for a man to study and memorize Scripture and still be lost, for man possesses the power of rejecting life. The blessed Word gives us sufficient witness that Christ is the Son of God, that came freely to the earth and finished the plan of salvation, died on the cross, rose again the third day and is now with the Father, pleading the case of every lost sinner.

Jesus also bore witness of Himself. John 8:14, "Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go." Jesus presented Himself, and not some dogma or creed. Christ is perhaps thinking and telling the Pharisees of His coming from His heavenly home to perfect a plan that would effect for them many blessings, if they would accept them. But they did not understand the purpose of His coming. Whatever the circumstances, Christ bears His record. He did so when being tried before Pilate in the judgment hall. John 19:37, "Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice."

After Christ had finished His work and had taken leave, He sent the Holy Spirit which continually testified of Him. John 15:26, "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me." After the sinner has

heard the word it is the Spirit that reproves and convicts of sin and draws individuals to Christ. The Holy Spirit acts as arresting officer to the sinner and brings him to Christ.

The believers also bear witness of Christ. John 15:27, "And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." Christ was speaking to His disciples and it was up to them to guide the faith of the new church. The business of witnessing has been given to us today. As believers it is our responsibility to bear a true record of Him. The poet has said that we are the world's Bible and we are read and known of men. Christ has a right to expect our tongues to witness for Him, our hands to do things that please Him, our feet to go only to places that glorify Him.

May we as Christian women always be busy for Him, who has done all for us. What the world needs is for more of us to be true witnesses of Him.

W.A. Editor

WOLVERINE ASSOCIATION IN ANNUAL SESSION

Royal Oak, Michigan
3128 North Alexander

The Thirteenth Annual Conference of the Wolverine Association convened at the Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church on June 3-5, with Rev. Willard C. Day, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church of Mountain Grove, Missouri as the feature speaker.

Officers elected are the following: Moderator, Rev. Mark Lewis; assistant, Rev. H. C. Beasley; clerk, Mrs. Mildred Daniel; assistant, Mrs. Cart, and treasurer, Van Paschall.

Rev. Paul Lee, pastor of the First Church of Flint, has been recommended as a general board representative from Michigan for the meeting in South Carolina.

A budget has been set up for the tithes given by the churches to the Wolverine Association as follows: 40% to general fund of the Wolverine Association; 40% to Cooperative program of the National Association; 12% to Home Mission Board of Wolverine Association, and 8% to Superannuation

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Board of Wolverine Association.

The Business Committee proposed to give the River Rouge Church \$200.00 for their Building fund.

Rev. William Mishler was commended for his splendid work over the past years. He resigned from his many duties with the Wolverine Association to be Promotional Secretary of the National Sunday School Board on September 1.

The West Wayne Church has Rev. Don Lee as pastor now.

Rev. Glenn Thomas is now State Director of Home Missions in Michigan. Rev. Paul Lee is now State Director of Foreign Missions in Michigan.

Reporter for Wolverine Association,

Mrs. D. E. Thomas

SURVIVED THE SELL-OUT; BUT HAVE NO PASTOR

Cuba, Illinois

Dear Sirs:

I was raised in the Free Will Baptist Church, just about a mile from my home, and I can't see another New Testament Church. I think it is a Bible Church.

This building was erected in 1858, making it 96 years old. It is in good condition, and there has been between four and five thousand dollars spent on it in the last five years.

There used to be many more Free Will Baptist churches in this part of Illinois, but the Northern Baptists got hold of them and sold most of them.

At present we have no preaching or regular church services, just Sunday School by a few families with children.

It is wonderful to know of the work that is being carried on in other places as I read of it in your paper and in the Free Will Baptist.

The church here is on Route 9 between Canton and Bushnell, and is northwest of Cuba, Illinois.

May the work of the Free Will Baptist people prosper.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Nellie B. Lundry

Love Over Darkness—from pg 3

teachings. The early Christians followed these teachings, and He among them should be first.

Christ first, and He crucified, was Paul's teachings. I Cor. 2:2, "For I am determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." They were humble, modest, charitable, devoted and communicated this Spirit to the inner man and the Church. The moral truths are as absolute as the metaphysical truths. Even God Himself cannot, if that there should be effects without cause. Gen. 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." In the beginning was a cause, God; and the effect, heaven and earth.

He asks us to love truth, to moderate our passions, to hate sin and do no evil, to do justice and righteousness. Truth, love, justice, goodness and righteousness all are the essence of God, the very nature and core of God. It is not that we are human, finite, limited and that God is infinite, all-powerful, and all-wise that we should obey His will, but it is our duty to obey Him. When we do good and live morally with justice and love, we express His will. God has given us the law of truth and justice, but He has not imperiously instituted it; He does truth and justice, but He gives us the choice to institute it within ourselves. Deut. 30:19, "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Therefore it is within us to do good or evil.

All of God's promises are conditional—if we do, He will do. Truth and justice are contained in His intelligence and wisdom. There is an essential distinction between good and evil. Man is an intelligent and free being, because he is conscious that it is his duty, and it is made his duty—to obey the dictates of truth. What is truth, God's word is truth (John 17:17). Let us go forth and seek the Supreme Being, God the Father, God the Son, and God the

Holy Spirit, for the Holy Spirit is the One who brings thought to our mind. Ask for power, wisdom and righteousness mingled with love, faith and justice, reflecting on those things that make a man. John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." Also read John 16:7-15. John, the beloved, at the beginning of his gospel (verses 1-14) declares that it was Jesus Christ who existed in the beginning; that He was the Word of God by which everything was made; that He was the only begotten, the life and light; that He was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; and that He would send among men the Holy Spirit, the Comforter and Revealer.

The Son of Man is Christ. The Life and Light of man's soul entered into the darkness of death, became its captive; therefore, insuring us Light and Eternal Life. John 3:14-15, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." Jesus Christ became the Light of the Cross. Before Christ died on the cross it was a dark object and a disgrace to die on; the worst of criminals were hanged on it. But Christ glorified it. Having faith and believing in the One who died on the cross, we receive life and light. John 5:24, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth on him shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life," and we can find many other Scriptures that records Christ as life. We know by faith, and not by sight, mathematics, science or geology. I John 5:4, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

The wheels of nature are not made to roll backward, but forward, passing on into eternity. So let us seek the things that are

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above, and be not content with a world that must shortly perish. Let us prepare for that city, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, a place prepared for a prepared people, prepared by Christ Jesus. And if we prepare for that city, death will be disarmed of its terrors. John 14:3, "I go to prepare a place for you." I John 2:15-17, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. ... the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." II Peter 3:10, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." Heb. 11:10, "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Matt. 6:19-20, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."

Love in its purity, as taught by Christ Himself, was the true and primitive religion, as communicated by God to the patriarchs and old prophets. Love, truth, and true morality should be of every creed and church.

The strength of a man is found in how he thinks. His character shows up in his thinking.

—Warren Moffit, Winigan, Mo.

SOLDIER - PREACHER BOY WILL ARRIVE HOME SOON

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

Dear Gem Readers:

South Side Church reporting again. Everything is running smoothly, and South Side is growing.

We had a young lady saved Sunday night, for which we thank the Lord.

Remember Rev. Don Hill in prayer as he is on his way home from Japan and is due in almost any time.

As for young people—South Side is at a stand still at present. But we are gaining among all our newly married couples and their future South Siders.

Prayerfully yours,

Rev. James Franklin, pastor
Olive M. Reeds, corres.

FROM OUR FRIENDS

We frequently get inquiries about the availability of pastors. Such an inquiry was recently embodied in a correspondence in which a lady writes, "I wonder if by any chance you know a good preacher who hasn't all of his time taken up? We have been without a pastor for nearly a year now. We want a man that can preach straight from the Bible, and who is on fire for God. If you know of such a preacher will you please have him get in touch with us here."

Another tells of repairing the building to the very best shape, and of having only a small Sunday School, because there is no pastor available.

In Northeast Missouri, there is a desperate need and pleading inquiry for ministers to work there. There are virtually no active ministers available in that section. We could give you contact there, or you could write to Mrs. Ione Perkins, Route 2, Gower, Mo.

As of now we do not have any listing of available ministers, so if you contemplate a change and do not yet know your new field, why not drop us a card appraising us of your position

I am sending a remittance to renew my subscription to the Gem. Besides enjoying reading the Gem, I find many thoughts to build sermons on, and it

is very encouraging to read of the experiences of others. We have had a fairly good year and desire your prayers for all of us.—O.C.M., Illinois.

We are trying to get the Free Will Baptists started here in Arizona. We have a good spiritual church known as the North Side Free Will Baptist, with an average of 75 in Sunday School. The building program is slow here due to this being a resort town and everything is so terribly high. Pray for us in our work here at 2209 East Virginia Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona.—W. A. Finney.

DID YOU KNOW —

That every 12 seconds there is a child born in this nation?

That every month there is as many people born as there are in Tulsa;

That every Monday morning there are 35,000 people eating breakfast in this country that were never here before?

That if this same number is not converted to Christ that in the future there will not be a Christian in the world?

That God has left the work in the hands of the Church?

That we individuals make up the Church?

That there is a shortage of ministers?

That by 1975 there will have to be 280,000 ordained ministers to take care of the added responsibilities?

These facts are a real challenge to the church.

—The Visitor

HIS FATHER TAUGHT HIM

Robert F. Rich, a great manufacturer in the State of Pennsylvania recently said, "When I was a small boy, my father taught me the value of Sunday School and church services. Later, he explained the value of being present in youth meetings, prayer meetings, and of taking part in all the services so far as I could.

"As far back as I can remember, we

had in our home family worship. My father and mother or some visiting friend or minister led it. Because of the teachings of my parents, I honor them to this day, although they have gone to heaven years ago.

"They never sent me to church, but always said, 'Come, let us go.' They led the way." The world needs more fathers and mothers who will say, "Come, let us go." Regular attendance in all services of the church will pave the way for children so they too, can leave a testimony as did Robert F. Rich.

Will you who are parents say as did the parents of Robert F. Rich, "Come, let us go unto the house of the Lord?"

—S.S. Bulletin

THE QUACK DOCTOR

Highly interesting and very helpful booklet written by Rev. Paul Woolsey, Missionary to India.
Each, 40¢; 3 for \$1.00; postpaid

H A N D S

Hands are the bread of the toiler,
A mother's soft caress,
The creative skill of a craftsman's will
And all that dreams express.

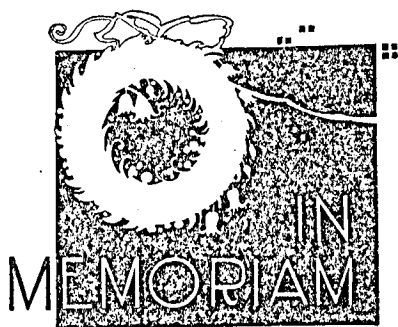
Hands are the outstretched token
Of friendship's noble art,
The sturdy grasp and assuring clasp
Of the true and trusting heart.

Hands are the health and healing
Of mercy's white domain,
The surgeon's art—the nurse's part,
The pity for the pain.

Hands are prayer's devotion
Twined in a fleshly scroll,
Postured fingers where reverence lingers,
The language of the soul.

The hour glass still is bowing,
The path is yet untrod,
O days to be! Help me to see
That hands are the tools of God!

—Anon



SARAH JANE STOUT

Sarah Jane Stout, daughter of Riley and Mary Hicks, was born near Drury, in Douglas County, Missouri, on November 23, 1873, and passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Gertie Crippen in Garden Cove, California, June 28, 1954 at the age of 80 years, seven months and five days. She had been in failing health for several years.

She was converted to the Christian faith early in womanhood, later uniting with the Pleasant Ridge Free Will Baptist Church near Mansfield, Missouri. She was a noble Christian woman, a devoted wife and mother. She derived much pleasure in serving the interests of her family and community.

She was united in marriage on December 27, 1891 to Jonathan Ela Stout, near Drury, Missouri. In 1944 she and Mr. Stout returned to Garden Grove, California, where her companion passed away February 4, 1949.

Surviving relatives are three sons and three daughters, all of California. All were in attendance. They are: Ira C., Farmersville; Elsie Baker, Huntington Beach; Gertie Crippen, Garden Grove; Homer C., Garden Grove; Russell E., Bakersfield, and Mildred Carter, Fontana. There are also 14 grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, four sisters, one brother and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 30, 10:30 a.m., in Garden Grove, with many friends in attendance.

Rev. Harry L. Dady, from the General Baptist Church of Santa Anna Gardens, brought the message. Mrs. Betty Miller was organist. A male quartet composed of Gordon Harris, Durward, Donald and Benjamin Dady, accompanied by Mrs. Estella Harris at

the piano, brought the message in song.

Serving as pall bearers were Roy and Duane Stout, Beuford Hutzell, Durward Dady, Joe Jones and Cecil Wheat. Interment was at Fullerton, California.

STELLA M. ANDERSON

Mrs. Stella M. Anderson, 71, passed away early in the morning on May 28 at her home at 209 E. Cottonwood, Kirksville, Missouri.

Funeral services were conducted on Sunday afternoon, May 30, by Rev. Alta Mike of Greentop. Interment was in Memphis Cemetery. Graveside services were held at the cemetery.

Mrs. Anderson was the daughter of Abraham and Julia Lancaster Gundy, and was born in Scotland County, Missouri on December 27, 1882.

She was married to Charles H. Anderson, December 25, 1907, at Downing, and to this marriage six children were born.

She is survived by her husband; one daughter, Mrs. Estileen Clark, Kirksville; three sons, Ernest, Ottawa, Ill., Charles, Greentop, and Leonard, Davenport, Iowa; one brother, J. Tommy Gundy, Memphis, and eight grandchildren.

Mrs. Anderson was preceded in death by her parents and two daughters.

(Note: the following poem was composed by her husband after the death of Sis. Anderson.)

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

*As I sit and think of present and past,
I sometimes wonder how long this
will last;
But I am not discouraged when I come
to know
That God has so unstintingly loved
us so,
That He gave His only Son on high,
That we might live, yes, you and I.
It is our duty while here on earth
To pay the debt that we owe from
birth,
To pay the price is not very high,
When Christ has said we shall never
die.
If we only live and do our best,
We shall reign with the heavenly
blest.*

*God will lend a helping hand
Here at home and in foreign land.
If we only do our part,
God will wash and cleanse our dirty
heart;
Then we should try to keep it clean,
So it is fit to always be seen.
When I think of my family and home,
I pray that my children will never
roam,
But always walk in the heavenly way,
That will lead them to that perfect
day.
When I think of my wife and daughters
That have gone on before,
I know they are waiting at heaven's
open door.
When my earthly toils are over,
And no longer here I stay,
I shall go to meet my loved ones
That now walk the heavenly way;
They shall take me by the hand
In that beautiful promised land.*

CLOSER TO GOD

*When some heart breaking disaster
Comes along while here we trod;
We will find that in our sorrow
It brings us closer unto God.
When those we love are taken from us
If they leave us, free from sin;
God helps our grief if we'll be humble,
It brings us closer unto Him.
God knows best in every trial
We must say "Thy will be done,"
As in the Garden of Gethsemane,
Which was spoken by God's Son.
It may be best for in the future
While upon this earth we trod;
If we never had any trials,
We may drift away from God.
But if we have one go before us,
Who awaits with out stretched arms
It may help us live more close to
Jesus,
And long for heaven, with all its
charm.
Oh if you have a precious loved one
Who's feet in heaven now does trod,
Soon in the future you will meet them
If only you live close to God.*

—by Maud R. Dean

*Don't sit around and talk about what
you are going to do. Do it.*