

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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THREE CROSSES

Three crosses on a lonely hill,
A thief on either side,
And, in between, the Son of God . . .
How wide the gulf—how wide!

Yet one thief spanned it with the words,
"Oh, Lord, remember me;"
The other scoffed and turned aside
To lost eternity.

Forsaken is the hilltop now,
And all the crosses gone,
But in believing hearts of men
The center cross lives on.

And still, as when these sentinels
First met earth's wondering view,
The presence of the Lord divides—
Upon which side are you?

Helen Frazee-Bower



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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LISTS NEEDS FOR SERVICE
AS MEDICAL MISSIONARY

Wanda Edwards, who is now nearing
completion of preparation for work as
a medical missionary, has responded
to inquiries of equipment needs. A
partial list is supplied herewith. Sis.
Edwards is the first of our mission-
aries going qualified in this field. Also,
she is the first qualifying under the
new rigid requirements of the Indian
government, who now require almost
all such workers to be highly skilled
in a social work of some kind before
granting visas. It is hoped that all
these items and any others needed
will be supplied at an early date. This
is imperative to expedite packing and
shipping details.

Dear Friends:

This is a partial list of equipment
needed for India.

Please consider the first need—that
of prayer. Pray that a visa will be
granted, passage may be obtained, and
funds for equipment and passage will
soon be forthcoming. Romans 10:13,14,
"For whosoever shall call upon the
name of the Lord shall be saved. How
then shall they call on him in whom
they have not believed? and how shall
they believe in him of whom they
have not heard? and how shall they
hear without a preacher?"

Refrigerator (kerosene) an eight foot
Serval, with repair kit.

Iron (gasoline); two flat irons.

Bedding—a foam rubber mattress.

Pressure Cooker—four quart size.

Dishtowels: two dozen washing cloths,
three dozen dishtowels.

Towels and Washcloths—2 dozen each.

Bedding: two dozen single sheets; one
dozen double sheets; one dozen
pillow cases; two foam rubber
pillows.

Tableware—set of stainless steel sil-
verware; a small set of heavy
plastic dishes. Several tablecloths.

Camping Equipment—one two-pint
thermos; one gallon thermos; two
air mattresses; one camp cot
(heavy army surplus type); camp
cooking outfit.

Kitchenware—potatoe masher, egg
beater, knives, dish drainer rack
and pan, spatula, one burner port-
able oven, long handled spoons,
measuring cup and spoons, meat
grinder and double boiler.

Tools: a compact hammer and screw-
driver outfit, pliers, etc.

Luggage: footlockers and half trunks.
Medical Equipment.

Washing Machine (gasoline)

Wanda R. Edwards

REVIVAL DATE SET

3124 Mt. Pleasant
St. Louis, Missouri

Just a line to say that all is well
at South Side Church. We are grow-
ing in attendance with an average of
179. We expect to start in revival
services September 22, 1954 with Rev.
Raymond Riggs the evangelist. So
pray for us.

We will combine our next Wednes-
day evening prayer meeting with an
installation services for new officers
of our Woman's Auxillary. The fol-
lowing officers have been elected:
President, Sis. Mabel Franklin; vice
president, Sis. Pearl Hill; secretary,
Sis. Olive Reeds; treasurer, Sis. Eva
Davis; second vice president, Sis.
Norma Kennedy, and Sis. Emma Lang-
ley in charge of the G.T.A. girls; third
vice, Sis. Virtess Kellerman; fourth
vice, Sis. Cruse; fifth vice, Sis. Virgie
Harris. Rev. Loy Smith will give the
charge to each one at the service.

We desire the prayers of each one
that our Auxillary will grow.

Yours in Christ,

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

At The Cross -

Before Christ, the cross was used to crucify criminals, the worst of them. It was counted a shame and a disgrace to be hanged on a cross. In an attempt to make it look a shame and a humiliation to Christ and His followers, they crucified Him on the cross. But since Christ was crucified, the cross has become a beauty and a hope to all Christians. Without the cross we'd have no hope, not that our hope is in the cross, but that it is in the one who was hanged on it.

On the cross, between the two thieves, Christ was crucified—yet without sin. It is in His blood He shed there on the cross, that we have faith in for the cleansing of our sin. I John 1:7 "...and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." And we have peace through the blood of His cross. Col. 1:20, "And having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself..." This reconciliation is the God-ward aspect, and is that effect of the death of Christ upon the believing sinner which, through divine power, works in him a thorough change toward God from enmity and aversion to love and trust. It is not God that is reconciled: God is propitiated, the sinner is reconciled. II Cor. 5:18, 21, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation. ... For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." At the cross, the Holy Spirit convicts us and we know that we are sinners and are lost, and then we need to repent. John 16:8, 9, "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, ... of sin, because they believe not on me."

We all know when we kneel to pray, and we feel we are sinners and are doomed unless we repent

and believe in Christ. Acts 3:19, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." We must believe in Christ. Acts 16:31, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

At the cross we receive pardon, forgiveness and conciliation of our sins. Jer. 50:20, "For I will pardon them whom I reserve." Eph. 1:7, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace." Col 1:14, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Micah 7:18, 19, "Who is a God like unto thee... and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." And God will remember our sins no more and will blot them out for us if we only ask Him. Isaiah 43:25, "I, even I, am he that blot-teth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."

At the cross we receive faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God. And faith comes from God: ask and we shall receive. At the cross we receive joy and contentment. John 15:11, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." When one has joy he is quite content with himself and what he has.

At the cross we receive power and wisdom. Luke 10:19, "Behold, I give unto you power." James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." Therefore let us ask of God, also let us study His word. Let us also fear the Lord. Psalm 111:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

At the cross we receive knowledge of God and His will. Luke 1:77, "To give knowledge of salvation unto his people, by the re-

mission of their sins," and Col. 1:9, "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." As Paul prayed for those people, so may we pray for ourselves.

At the cross we receive perseverance. John 10:28, 30, "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." If we endure until the end of life here, after death no power is able to pluck our soul from God's hand. While here, we can lose faith in Christ and sin and lose God's grace. At the cross we receive paradise or heaven. Luke 23:43, "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise." Matt. 5:12, "Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven." These are Christ's promises and they are true, if we suffer with Him and for Him.

At the cross we receive ultimately absolute perfection. John 17:23, "I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one." This may have two meanings. First, that we as an individual, having a perfect desire and a will not to sin, and to love God and man supremely. Second, that is as a unity, or a church we may work in harmony and peace, in God's work. At the cross we receive eternal life of salvation. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." I Peter 1:9, "Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls." There are so many more promises of salvation to those who believe. Paul says there is no other way of salvation except through Christ, and we come to Christ by the cross, or at the foot of the cross.

Warren Moffitt,
Winigan, Missouri

The Heathen and Your Church

If someone were to ask you what the main purpose of the Church is, what would you answer? Many Christians would reply that the main purpose of the Church is for fellowship; some would say that worship is the main purpose; and others declare that the main purpose of the Church is to serve your family, your community and your town. I believe that the Son of God gives us the answer in Matthew 28:18-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Jesus tells us in this passage that we are to go into all the world and teach the Gospel. In other words, the supreme task of the church is not fellowship, not worship, nor satisfaction for our selfish desires. It is the EVANGELIZATION of the world! Jesus Christ said, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations." This is Christianity in action. Jesus also said, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only beloved Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). This is God in action. And in Matthew 20:28 we read, "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." This is Jesus Christ in action. God loved and He gave His best. Jesus Christ loved and He gave Himself. Therefore, the church should labor to blaze abroad the glorious message of God's redeeming grace.

A church that does nothing to evangelize the world is a powerless, lifeless and a loveless church. Water that remains still for a long time becomes putrid. A church that remains idle and does not reach out for the world's perishing millions loses its zest and becomes distasteful to man and God. God intended that the Church be a channel through which the rivers of living water would flow to the far corners of the earth. Jesus said, "He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38).

Dr. V. Raymond Edman in his ex-

cellent book, "The Light in Dark Ages" describes the conquest of Islam from the seventh through the fifteenth century. The areas occupied by Islam were those regarded as strongholds of the Christian faith: Palestine, Egypt, North Africa, Mesopotamia. He quotes Latourette as follows:

By it (Islam) were lost wider areas than were to be sacrificed until the advent of Russian Communism in the twentieth century. Indeed, in the nine hundred years between the opening of the seventh and the beginning of the sixteenth century, Islam won from Christianity a larger proportion of the latter's adherents and territory than any other rival ever has succeeded in doing. Eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth century scepticism and the facists, socialist and communist totalitarian states of the twentieth century have not cost Christianity nearly so large a percentage of its professed followers as did Islam from the seventh through the fifteenth century.

I believe that one of the main reasons why Christianity lost so much ground to Islam was because the Church was stagnant. It had lost its taste, its zeal, and its life-giving power. She became circumscribed by her own selfish desires and ambitions. In her concern for formality and theology she lost her compassion for the millions around her who were without Christ. The river of the water of life became blocked so that only a trickle was seen. In the meantime, millions were dying from thirst for want of the water of life. Probably the same thing that was said of the Laodicean church could be said of the Church during that era. The Laodicean church had lost its taste so that God declared: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou were cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing:

and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (Rev. 3:15-17).

Unless the Church of today awakens from the sleep of indifference, the Communists will conquer the world. I believe that there is yet time, if the Church will clear away the debris of selfishness and indolence so that the river of the water of life will flood the world and put out the fires of Communism.

Show me a church that has lost its concern to evangelize the world and I will show you a church that has lost the fire of God's Holy Spirit. On the other hand, show me a church that is seeking to reach the heathen, and I will show you a church that has the fire of God's Holy Spirit burning in the hearts of its pastor and people.

Dr. Oswald Smith is the pastor of the People's Church in Toronto, Ontario. The pastor and people are aglow with the Holy Spirit so that their hearts burn with compassion for the heathen. At its last missionary convention, a total of \$262,000 was raised for missionary work. The church has more than 315 missionaries in 27 fields under 30 faith missionary societies; according to Dr. Smith. Another 24 missionaries are to be sent out shortly. In his book, *The Passion for Souls*, Dr. Smith gives us the story behind the scenes of this great work of the Spirit in the People's Church. He writes that after he had accepted the call to pastor the church, he was informed it was heavily in debt. What do you suppose he did? Do you think he had a series of messages on the members' financial responsibility to their own church? Do you think that he launched a great money-raising campaign to erase the debt? He did neither of these things. Instead, he preached a series of messages on missions. He talked about the church's responsibility to the heathen. He sought to raise money for others. What was the result? Did the church have to close its doors because it went more and more in debt?

Not at all; the result was that thousands of dollars were raised for missions and the church also got out of debt. God honors the pastor and the church that thinks of others.

Park street Congregational Church, of which Dr. J. Harold Ockenga is the pastor, another church aglow with the Spirit of God. At their last missionary

convention \$182,335 was raised for church-sponsored missionaries.

There are many other churches throughout the country that have the same vision and are raising thousands of dollars for the missionary cause. Time and space permit me to mention only these two churches that I am most familiar with at the present. Thank God for such churches as these.

Perhaps someone reading this book remarks: "That is very well and good for those large churches, but my church is such a small church and what can we do for missions? I know just what you mean, because I am a pastor of a small church which lists 39 members. About 29 of these members could be classified as active. Some of these active members are young people with little or no income.

It bothered me because I felt I was not doing enough for missions. I believe the Lord gave me a plan so I put it into operation. At our annual meeting, I challenged the people to set a goal of \$1,000 for missions. The church accepted the challenge. Later we had a fellowship supper where I informed the people that if 20 of them would give at least \$1.00 a week during the coming year to missions, we would reach our goal of \$1,000. What was the result? How did the plan work out? At the following annual meeting, our missionary chairman reported that \$1,123.35 was raised toward our missionary budget. Do you know how much of an increase this was over the previous year? There was an increase over the previous year of \$572.90. Think of it, over 100 per cent increase in missionary giving because the people were simply asked to give \$1.00 a week to our missionary program! The Lord certainly must have given me the plan and to Him belongs all the glory.

We have no wealthy people in our church. Every member is an average hard-working person. I realize that there are some churches doing a better job than this for the missionary cause, but I am telling you this because I know that there are thousands of small churches that need a new incentive for the cause of missions. This simple plan may be just what you need. Your church could probably increase its missionary giving 50 per cent, 75 per cent, or even 100 per cent. Someone who is a little skeptical about giving to foreign missions might remark: "If we adopt this plan,

would not our regular church budget suffer?"

Let me tell you what God did for us, I came to the church as a supply pastor in the summer of 1947 and was paid ten dollars a week. In the fall the church called me officially as their pastor and increased my salary to twenty dollars a week. The church did not have a parsonage so we had to rent living quarters. Under these circumstances, it was very obvious that I would have to supplement my income by getting a secular job. During those first years I labored at various jobs from shoveling gravel to hauling two-hundred pound cylinders of gas in all kinds of weather. These were not easy days and I would have welcomed a larger church with salary enough to live on and a parsonage to live in. But the Lord gave me grace to keep praying, "Not my will be done, but thine at any cost."

After I was recommended to one of the largest churches in America as associate pastor, I went home and fell on my knees and prayed: "Lord, I do not ask for a larger church, for fame or fortune. But above all, I ask Thee to make me a soul-winner and that I might be continually filled with Thy Spirit. If you want me in this church, Thy will be done. However, I pray not my will be done, but Thine." God kept me in the little church, and as I look back, I can see some reasons why He did. I hesitate to tell you about this experience; but after praying about it, I decided to share it with you, realizing that there are hundreds of pastors going through similar experiences who need a little encouragement. God is no respecter of persons; if He can give me grace and strength; if He can give me courage to press on; and if He can supply my needs, then He can do it for these others who need the same encouragement. Therefore, if you are a pastor in some struggling little church and you are discouraged or about to give up, yield unreservedly to God, ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit at any cost, and pray that He will do the impossible through you. If you are a member of one of these little churches, rally around your pastor by praying for him and giving him your whole-hearted support. Together you can do great things for God and He will do great things for you. Just because you are a little church hidden away from the rest of the world, does

not mean that you are hidden from the eyes of God. He is interested in you and your church, and He wants you to put Him to the test so that He can prove what He can do for you, in you, and through you to reach the lost for Christ.

During this period when I was dividing my time between secular jobs and church work, the church increased my salary gradually until I was able to give my full time to the church. However, it bothered me, because while they were increasing my salary, the income to our missionary budget was falling off. I knew that the few members were doing well to support us, which in itself was quite an undertaking for so small a group; but at the same time I hated to see our missionary income get smaller. Therefore I decided to challenge them at the annual meeting to raise \$1,000 for our missionary budget, and trust the Lord for the outcome. Believe it or not, at that same annual meeting, the church voted to raise my salary. God honored the stand that I took.

What was the result? Did our regular church budget suffer?

The Lord made it possible for us to raise \$1,123.35 that year for others. This was twice as much as the previous year. There was an increase of \$311.23 that year in our regular church income. And as far as I have been able to ascertain from the information available, the year that the church gave \$1,123.35 for others was the year that the church had the largest income for itself. In other words, the year that we gave most to others, the Lord gave most to us.

If your church and the thousands of other churches throughout the country would adopt this plan whereby every member would give at least \$1.00 a week, or \$1.00 more than he is already giving, there would be a marvelous increase to the missionary cause throughout the world. Your own church would be blessed financially and spiritually, and you would have the joy and satisfaction in knowing that you were helping to spread the gospel throughout the world.

I believe that this simple plan of encouraging each member to give \$1.00 at least per week, or \$1.00 more to missions will increase your missionary giving greatly because of these four reasons: First, \$1.00 a week is not See "HEATHEN"—page 16, please

THE POWER OF GOD

When we think of the great unlimited power of God, we stand in reverence of such a Creator. "He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing." Job 26:7.

The Bible is full of the power of God from Genesis to Revelation, and in the working of the power of God in the lives of those who lived a life of faith and obeyed God's voice. Their God is our God today! He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

The life of the Prophet Elijah was one outstanding character of the Old Testament who God used to prove His word and power. James 5:17, 18, "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit."

When he prayed something happened. Why? Because he obeyed the words of God. He told the wicked King Ahab that it was God's word that it would not rain. God took over and lead him (Elijah) to the brook Cherith, where he was fed from heaven and refreshed by the water from the brook. So many times we are unwilling to be led aside by God and take time to be nourished on the food God gives us. Therefore we are trying to fight God's battles in our strength without the main weapon, "the Power of God."

John 8:43, Jesus said, "Why do ye not understand my speech? Because ye cannot hear my word." We can sometimes love what we cannot understand. But it is impossible completely to understand what we do not love. We can preach about the love of God, say lots of good things about Jesus, do many outstanding deeds such as taking pictures in foreign lands of the suffering and starving, looking upon wrecks of broken humanity, and none of these touch our hearts. We can sit by our comfortable firesides and think such as these things never can

happen to us. But if we look at these scenes through the eyes of compassion and with the love of God in our heart, we have a zeal and a desire to do something about it.

The prophet Elijah, as he saw the children of Israel gone off in sin and worshipping Baalim, was led to the home of the widow where he performed miracles. The meal and oil never failed. He brought the dead son to life. God's power in your life can bring the Bread of Life to those who are dead in trespasses and sin, until they will say as did the widow, "Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth." I Kings 17:24.

Israel had forsaken the commandments of God. God called Elijah forth to prove that the God he worshipped was the True God. The children of Israel and the prophets of Baal were called. "Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him." Why make a mockery of God's power? If we are saved, He is able to keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day. The prophets of Baal came first to prove their God. They failed—just as any one will fail, no matter how hard or how much we wear ourselves out in the effort, unless God is our leader.

They leaped on their altar which was made. Then came Elijah, the man of God, whose heart was set on the saving of Israel and proving to them the "Power" of his God. He first repaired the altar that had been broken down, building a firm foundation out of the stones "In the name of the Lord." He continued to build it as God had commanded him. When he had finished, he had everything on the altar (so many times we fail to put everything on the altar, and God does not send the fire). But Elijah looked up to God. His heart's cry was not to prove his own greatness, but that the people would know that the God he served was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and

of Israel, and that their hearts would be turned back to God again. If every Christian today would let God's Power rule in their life and would rebuild the altar in the name of the Lord, we would see different results.

Elijah, with a heart-prayer, "Hear me, oh Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again." I Kings 18:37. Then the fire fell and consumed everything on the altar.

"Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid? Your heart does the Spirit control? You can only find rest and be perfectly blessed, as your all on the altar is laid."

Friends, God's work is not always in our comfortable churches, but is often out in this dying and suffering world.

Pearl Perriman,
Springfield, Illinois

VAST IMPROVEMENT SET FOR STATE YOUTH CAMP

We in the State of Missouri consider our Youth Camp at Niangua a very essential item in our curriculum during the summer vacation. In the past our young people have flocked to the camp for a very inspirational season of prayer, study and play. I personally am looking forward to the session next year at an improved and modernized camp.

I had the privilege of sitting in on the recent meeting of the Youth Camp Board. During that meeting, the board unanimously agreed on the following improvements:

1. A new improved water system that will furnish water for all uses.
2. Two new buildings which will house new showers and flush type toilets.
3. Completely remodel the dining hall which will include:
 - a. extending the hall 16 feet to include a new kitchen.
 - b. Seal the inside and outside.
 - c. Put in windows in place of flaps.
 - d. Put into effect a cafeteria style serving system.
 - e. New tables.

I am sure you are overjoyed because

	JA	FE	MR	AP	MA	JN	JL	AU	SE	OC
Richwoods	55..	68..	55..	70..	63..	77..	68..	82..	..	..
(League)	26..	26..	30..	29..	27..	25..	30..	33..	..	..
<i>Leslie Logsdon, pastor</i>										
Hannon (Barton County) ..	44..	48..	50..	48..	..	44..	..	..	..	..
<i>Harold Hoover, pastor</i>										
Copper Mines (S.E. Mo.)...	92..	90..	93..	105..	103..	93..	107..	96..	..	..
<i>Glenn Rehkop, pastor</i>										
Third St. Louis	92..	93..	106..	110..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>James Barker, pastor</i>										
Fourth St. Louis	53..	48..	50..	54..	42..	46..	48..	49..	..	..
<i>Wm. Turnbough, pastor</i>										
Salem, St. Louis	56..	..	50..	51..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Lawrence Thompson, pastor</i>										
Fredericktown	158..	172..	183..	..	161..	169..	160..	..	..	..
<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..	57..	..	..	..
<i>Winford Davis, pastor</i>										
Southside, St. Louis	156..	..	156..	185..	170..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>James Franklin, pastor</i>										
Mountain Grove	176..	193..	195..	238..	200..	210..	210..	208..	..	..
<i>Willard C. Day, pastor</i>										
Elizabethton, Tenn. 1st	206..	217..	204..	242..	218..	212..	171..	199..	..	..
<i>Harvey E. Hill, pastor</i>										
Oilton, Oklahoma	116..	133..	129..	182..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Benjamin Scott, pastor</i>										
Lawnwood, Tulsa, Okla. ...	157..	165..	166..	229..	175..	173..	152..	180..	..	..
<i>H. E. Staires, pastor</i>										
Phillips Chapel, Arkansas..	170..	165..	163..	176..	172..	174..	168..	160..	..	..
<i>Tommy Day, pastor</i>										
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool .....	..	44..	40..	51..	..	41..	51..	46..	..	..
<i>Ezra Butts, pastor</i>										
First Church, Joplin .....	..	50..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Paul Williams, pastor</i>										
Parkview, Desloge	86..	90..	96..	103..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>John Long, pastor</i>										
Monett	78..	78..	81..	77..	72..	71..	93..	105..	..	..
<i>James Davis, pastor</i>										
Berkeley 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 Finley, pastor</i>										
Union Third Fork, N.E. Mo.	25..	25..	24..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>No 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>										



From The Editor's Desk



Forty-First Annual State Convention

Harmony Prevailed; Good Delegation at All Sessions;
Plans and Program Adopted for Coming Year's Work

coming in with many important proposals. Here is the report.

We, your Business Committee, beg to make the following recommendations—

(1) *That the duties of the Promotional Secretary be delegated to the Moderator of each local association, and in the event that he cannot perform this duty, he secure someone, and that our people be well informed from time to time about our denominational work with special emphasis being put on our co-operative plan, this work to be the responsibility of each association.*

(2) *That the Missouri State Superannuation Board make a \$400.00 contribution to the National Superannuation Board to be used exclusively for superannuation purposes.*

(3) *That bumper strips be supplied advertising our 1955 session of the Missouri State Association, and that Rev. C. B. Dees be responsible for the printing and distributing of same.*

(4) *That Section 13 of the By-Laws be changed to read: All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator with the assistance of a Committee on Committees, which shall be appointed by the Moderator.*

(5) *That the Sunday School and the League Boards be consolidated into one board of three members.*

(6) *That all our preachers, churches and members of our Missouri State Association refuse to have any affiliation with the Missouri Council of Churches or use their new Revised Standard Version Bible.*

(7) *That Rev. Willard Day be given an appropriate letter of recommendation as an evangelist and Bible teacher, said letter to be prepared by the Associational Clerk.*

(8a) *We, the members of the Business Committee and the Publication Committee recommend that we continue the publication of the Gem, and that the present deficit of \$200.00 be paid by the General Fund.*

b *That hereafter it be financed with its regular allocation of 7½% of the*

At high noon on August 16, the first car load of delegates arrived at the Free Will Baptist Gem Office, seeking directions to the Jones Chapel Free Will Baptist Church deep in Southwest Missouri, convention site for the Forty-First Annual Session of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, and the annual sessions of the League Convention, Sunday School Convention, and Auxiliary Convention. For the next two days the editor was very busy greeting visitors to the office and providing information to guide the delegation to the convention site. And we are happy that all delegates did locate the place.

MILEY SPEAKS—

Monday evening and Tuesday were devoted to the Sunday School and the League Conventions, with Rev. LaVerne Miley, dean at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, being the featured speaker during these sessions. His messages were spiritual, and his challenges applicable and workable. Bro. Miley was certainly welcomed "back home," and we enjoyed each of his messages. Some of our young people were able to learn the answer to some of their questions concerning enrolling in Bible College.

THE SESSION CONVENES—

The Association came into session on Tuesday evening with the message being delivered by Rev. James Barker. Certainly the messages at this session were of the very best anywhere. And Bro. Barker very capably contributed with his fine introductory message.

On Wednesday morning, the session got down to real business by receiving the letters, seating the delegates, and electing officers. Again elected moderator was Rev. O. T. Allred who has

now served some ten years in this capacity, and also serving as the assistant moderator about nine years previous to that. Also unanimously elected by acclamation were the assistant moderator, Rev. Rolla Smith of Flat River, and the clerk-treasurer, Rev. Mrs. Lorene Williford, Rural Route, Freeman, Missouri. Sis. Williford chose as her assistant Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards of Desloge, Missouri. Registration of the delegation followed, at which time badges were issued according to the official status of each one present.

AUXILIARY CONVENTION—

The eleven o'clock service and the afternoon session Wednesday were given to the Auxiliary Convention. Rev. Mrs. Alice Dickey delivered the message at 11:00 o'clock. As usual, the women certainly contributed much to the success of the association, and are to be highly commended for their interest and activity for the advancement of the Cause of Christ.

Thursday and through Friday morning were perhaps the main business sessions. For by this time the various committees were able to complete their recommendations and make their reports. Expressive of the harmony at the association is the fact that not one speech was made in the negative, and not one vote was cast in dissension during the entire association. Many constituents of the association could scarcely recall a more harmonious session. Certainly, it was a good start for a year of work and accomplishments.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE—

Of paramount importance and great interest at every association is the report and recommendations of the Business Committee. This year was no exception, with the committee

Co-operative Fund and special gifts. Any deficit embarrassing to the operation be cared for by securing a loan on the property or equipment.

(9) *That the allocation of the Missouri State Co-operative Fund be as follows:*

National Co-operative Fund ..70%
State General Fund12%
State Home Mission Fund ...10%
Free Will Baptist Gem7½%
State Superannuation Fund .. ½%

(10) *That a standing vote of thanks be given the Jones Chapel Church and community, the Indian Creek Association and Dr. Cardwell of Stella, Missouri for their fine hospitality in entertaining this session of the Missouri State Association.*

By way of recapitulation of the report of the Business Committee, we note the following about the various items. In number 1, the scheme of informing the people of this state of the various activities and needs of the denomination has been committed to a promotional worker in each association, who shall work in co-operation with the state promotional secretary, who is Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, Missouri. It is hoped that this plan will serve the state better and be a more efficient means of reaching the people and getting it done sooner.

Items 2 and 3 were current items of business. Number four now gives the moderator a Committee on Committees without his having to ask permission for one. It has been the practice for many years past to seek this permission, which is always granted. It is obviously too much of a responsibility for any one man to be required to select all committees by himself. Now his assistance by committee is assured.

Item 5 came at the request of both the Sunday School and the League conventions. This will make for better planning of programs and easier co-ordination of efforts between these departments.

Item number 6, expressing strong conviction against the Council of Churches and the Revised Version of the Bible, met very hearty approval. Item 7 was current business.

Item 8, framed jointly with the Publications Committee, alters the plan of operation of the Free Will Baptist Gem. By this item, a limit has been set on amounts to be received through the co-operative fund toward the operation of the Gem, and in the event any

further amount is needed above that, it will have to be secured through direct appeal by designated giving or by direct gifts from the churches and the people. It was quite clear that the delegation felt the Gem should be a continuous enterprise. However, it was emphasized that there is certainly a price to pay for publication, but the question was where and how to make provision for meeting these needs. This item was the recommendation offered for the current year. It is true that no one can accurately foretell every need, so any additional funds that may become necessary (and this is safely assumed) will be sought by and through the promotional department. Also, while any such funds are forthcoming, the Executive Board has the obligation of securing funds, even by obtaining loans if necessary. It seems that this is an excellent time for some who are more fortunate in the material things to come to the assistance of the publication of the Gem. There is a price tag, and the price must be met. Please note further on plans for the Gem in the report of the Promotional Secretary in this issue.

Item number nine concerns the new proposed allocation of money received through the co-operative plan. It reduces the General Fund by one-half, and virtually denies its use for anything except necessary expenses incumbent to the offices of the clerk-treasurer and the promotional secretary. It doubles the amount going to State Home Missions. Allocations to the Gem and to State Superannuation remains fixed. Allocation to National enterprises is up 14½%, and will go in one sum to the Executive Secretary who will make distribution of it to the various agencies of the association. Of the total money sent to him, the Bible College will receive 30%, the Foreign Mission Board will also get 30%, the Home Mission Board will receive 10%, the Superannuation Board 10%, and 20% will now go to the Executive Department. Translating these figures into percentages applicable to funds received by the Missouri State Treasurer for the Co-Operative program, it simply means that the state keeps 30% to be applied as above, and the rest will go on where the Bible College will be receiving 21% (down 4% from last year), the foreign missions the same as the college (and also down 4%), home missions will get 7% (up

2%), national superannuation will receive 7% (up 6½%), and the executive department will get 14%, this being the first time that department has received an allocation.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT—

We, your Committee on Missions, wish to submit the following recommendations:

(1) *Since Wanda Edwards will soon have completed her training, and tentative plans are for her to leave in February, 1955 for India to work as a medical missionary, we recommend that the Free Will Baptists of Missouri begin immediately to provide funds for her supplies.*

We further recommend that each pastor make sure that his church is informed of her needs and if any group such as a Sunday School class, League or any other group who desires, pledge to provide certain items of her equipment and notify our State Promotional Director, who in turn will notify our churches as certain items are pledged.

(Note by Clerk—Because of Item 1 of the Business Committee's report, the body moved that all information and supplies for Wanda Edwards be sent to Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards.)

(2) *Inasmuch as the State of Missouri failed to meet her quota for National Foreign Missions last year, we recommend that each pastor urge his church to give more liberally to that fund this year.*

(3) *Since the needs are so great and may be met only as we are yielded to God's will, we urge each member of our State Association to pray unceasingly the coming year in behalf of our Missionary effort both home and foreign.*

Concerning item one it is suggested that any person or any organization wishing to supply materials for use by Sis. Edwards, contact her mother, Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards, to avoid duplication of gifts. In this way all needs can easily be met without duplication.

YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE—

We, the Youth Camp Committee of the State Association of Free Will Baptist of the State of Missouri, make the following recommendations:

(1) *We recommend the re-opening of the State Youth Camp.*

See 'CONVENTION'—page 16, please



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

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



SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE W.A. CONVENTION

The Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary Convention met at the Jones Chapel Church near Stella, Missouri on August 17, 1954. Mrs. Smith, president of the convention, called the convention to order. The Scripture lesson was Matthew 25:31-46; 10:42, read by Mrs. Oletha Parsons. Prayer was by Rev. W. T. Newsome. The welcome address was by Mrs. Wilma Kirk, and the response by Mrs. W. T. Newsome.

The president declared all members of women's work and the pastors of churches having women's work as delegates. Nominating, Business, and Appreciation committees were appointed.

Rev. LaVerne Milley spoke in behalf of the Free Will Baptist Bible College. His review of the history and summary of the purpose of the College was interesting and enlightening.

The president introduced Rev. Mrs. Alice Dickey, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Kansas City, as the speaker. Sis. Dickey used as a Scripture, I Peter 5:8, and for the subject, "Be Vigilant—Be Sober." Rev. Tommy Day gave the benediction.

The afternoon session opened with congregational singing. The devotional thought was "Development in Christian Service Through Prayer," by Mrs. Myrtle Jones. Reports were received from the departmental chairmen, and from the secretary and treasurer.

Highlights of the National Convention given by Mrs. Agnes Smith.

Committee reports received and all were adopted. Delegates elected for the next National Convention.

Installation of new officers conducted by Mrs. Jewell Campbell, with the dedicatory prayer led by Sis. Alice Dickey.

The registration secretary reported 18 pastors present who have women's organizations in their church. There were about 52 members present.

Like the rest of the association, the State Auxiliary Convention was one of the best in the remembrance of those attending this session.

EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD

September 18, 1954

President, Mrs. Myrtle Jones, presided. Those present were: Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Violet Newsome, Mrs. Oletha Parsons, Mrs. Agnes Smith, Mrs. Eunice Edwards. Prayer led by Mrs. Smith.

Motion carried that each officer in turn write an article for the Gem pages about her department of work.

Motion carried that we use as a theme for our work for this year, "Glorifying Christ." (John 12:23)

Motion carried that each officer prepare an inspirational report of her work for the next State Convention.

Motion carried to adjourn. Benediction by Mrs. Violet Newsome.

Eunice Edwards, sec'y.

ADVANCING WITH CHRIST THROUGH GOOD LEADERS

As I thought upon this subject I had a wonderful mental picture of "going forward" with Christ in our Auxiliaries. Presidents and officers, this should definitely be our goal. Nothing short of advancement will please the blessed Lord Jesus who has given all for us. I am sure there is no one but who would like to be a good leader. Sometimes we think the task is too great for us. We must face facts. It's not easy to be a good president of a Womans Auxiliary. It takes all that is in us and all the knowledge and grace we can obtain to be able to do the job well. The president is the "engineer", so to speak. In her hands lies the responsibility of the organization. In a large measure the responsibility is in her hands as to whether it shall be a success or a failure in the Lord's work. If we will take into consideration some of our needs, as presidents, I think it will help us.

I am sure that all of us would agree that one of the greatest needs in the life of our leaders is consecration. Who does not need to be set apart more definitely into the service of the Lord—his time, talent, ability, pos-

sessions and influence? More sacred devotion to the Lord and His service is needed in the life of each of us.

The call to consecration is expressed in I Chronicles 29:5, "And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?" Some Hebrew translations give the meaning of the word "to consecrate" as "to fill his hand." This is significant. It is a call for us to fill our hands so full of the Lord's work that we don't have time for anything else. It is a call to complete surrender of all we are, have and can become unto the Lord.

The challenge of the Lord to us is, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." He adds also, "The field is the world." Then He hurls the challenge, "Go ye..." We might interpret it thus: "Go ye and consecrate yourself; Go ye and pray; Go ye and study; Go ye and serve."

Undoubtedly the first thing a president should do after being elected to an office would be to become willing to accept her responsibilities. She is not only responsible to those who have placed this trust in her but she is also responsible unto God. We are stewards of the trusts God has placed in our hands. We must feel our responsibility. We can never be successful as a Christian worker without a feeling of responsibility.

Definitely a good leader must be a prayer warrior. Whatever we do without prayer is unsuccessful and little we do if we do not pray. "Pray without ceasing," should be our practice day by day. We should by all means observe the 1:30 p.m. Missionary Prayer Band hour as well as the 9:00 a.m. prayer hour. Urge the women of your Auxiliary to pray. We are failing to pray for our missionaries who are on the field as well as for those who are preparing to go. May we pray for a real revival of prayer throughout the world! The need is great.

Also to be a good leader we must realize the possibilities of what needs to be done in every phase of our work. We must look on the fields. We must

not only recognize the possibilities of what we can do ourselves but also of what each woman in our church can do. We need to utilize every woman in God's kingdom.

A good leader will be prepared. She must make preparation. Here lies the secret of being able to do the job well. She must not only be prepared with much communion with God, but by much study also. We are mentally lazy. We should study the Bible, the duties of our respective office, and all other helps we can obtain that would make us a better leader.

In summary, to be a good leader, consecrate your life to God, accept your responsibilities as a trust from God, pray without ceasing, recognize all possibilities, and make adequate preparation. God will make your work with Him a success.

Mrs. Lester Jones, president
State Auxiliary Convention

NORTHEAST MISSOURI W.A. AT HAZEL CREEK CHURCH

The Northeast Missouri Fifth Sunday Meeting convened with the Hazel Creek Church on August 29, 1954. Sunday School was at 10:00 o'clock. The morning worship service opened with congregational singing. Prayer was by Sis. Loraine McKim. Sis. Alta Mikel read for a Scripture lesson, Matthew 7:21-23. After leading in prayer she brought an inspiring message on "Doing the Will of the Father." After the invitation hymn, we were dismissed by Rev. Orville Dobbs.

A bountiful dinner was enjoyed at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened under the leadership of the president, Sis. Myrtle Jones. The congregation sang, "Jesus Is All the World to Me." Prayer was by Rev. J. E. Corey. After more congregational singing, the president read a portion of the eleventh chapter of St. John for a Scripture lesson. Prayer was by Rev. Alta Mikel.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Letters from Hazel Creek and New Harmony Auxiliaries were read. The next meeting will be with the Graysville Church, and Rev. J. E. Corey will be bringing the eleven o'clock message, with Rev. Stanley Letterman, alternate. At this time Rev. Lester Jones made some announcements concerning the Youth

Camp, the Gem, and also explained the Extension Course of the Bible College.

The following program was given. Solo, "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer," Fern Dobbs. Reading, "On the Sabbath Day," Kay Waggoner. Trio, "When Jesus Comes," Patty and Ialene Diennan and Janice Adkins. Accordion solo, Thelma King. Kirksville Quartet, "Take Time to Be Holy." Duet, "I Don't Care What Others Do," Bernice and June Thomas. Sword drill by the intermediates. The winners of the sword drill were, Wanda Burgin, first; Janetta VanLaningham, second, and Shirley Christman, third. Reading, "The Last Hymn," Sylvia Sevits. Congregational song, "I Love to Tell the Story." Puppet play portraying the prodigal son was given by Hazel Creek young people.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Mrs. Mildred Gilliam.

Leona Thompson, sec'y-treas.

FURNISH HEADQUARTERS

Okawville, Illinois
August 17, 1954

Woman's Auxiliary Convention
c/o Mrs. Hubert Sloan
3801 Richland Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mrs. Sloan:

Speaking for all Free Will Baptists in general and for the Executive Committee of the General Board in particular, I want to express to you all the sincere and heartfelt thanks of all of us for your furnishings for the Headquarters Building. We are grateful for your interest and we pray the Lord will richly reward the women of our denomination both spiritually and materially for this and many other fine efforts which so often are done sacrificially and without apparent thanks.

Sincerely,

George W. Waggoner

For the benefit of those who were with the understanding that the WNAC Treasurer purchased furniture for the Conference and Reception rooms of the National Headquarters Building with unauthorized funds, we would like to make this explanation.

The National Executive Secretary purchased the furniture and was only reimbursed as funds came into the

THE QUACK DOCTOR

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

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

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

WNAC office designated for Headquarters furnishings.

We feel that all those who contributed counted it a joy to be able to have a little part in this project.

Mrs. Hubert B. Sloan

ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY AUXILIARY CONVENTION

River Mines, Missouri

Dear Auxiliary Workers:

I am sending a report of our Auxiliary Convention held in connection with St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting, which was held at the Leadington Church on July 31.

The Auxiliary president, Mrs. Spradling, of the host church, conducted a very good program. The Scripture was Matt. 24:36. Prayer was Rev. Mrs. Eunice Edwards. Solo, "The Love of God," by Mrs. Elma Francis. Poem, "The Master is Coming," by Mrs. Spradling. Topic, "Why Should We Witness," by Mrs. Christine Pinkley. Trio, "He Hideth My Soul," Wanda Edwards, Mary Ruth Wisehart, and Mrs. Don Ellis.

The president called for the reports. Officers were elected for the coming year as follows: President, Elizabeth Hesselmeier; vice president, Mrs. Fred Kirby; youth chairman, Willa Ruth Barker; study course chairman, Mrs. Agnes Smith; program-prayer chairman, Mrs. Don Ellis; personal service, Mrs. Ollie Reeds; secretary-treasurer, Hazel Scott.

Pray for our auxiliary work here that we may stay where God can use us in His service.

Yours for the Master,

Mrs. Hazel Scott



MRS. NELLIE FAST

Nelle Luella McWilliams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. McWilliams, was born at Verdella, Missouri on July 22, 1872. She departed this life on July 18, 1954 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Hizar at Iantha, Missouri.

She was the third of a family of nine children, and grew up in a wholesome, religious atmosphere. Being a very talented young lady, she was well fitted for the happy useful life she was destined to lead in the community.

She was married on December 24, 1893 to Orin Taylor Fast, and they immediately established a home near Barton City. Six children came to bless their home, but two were permitted to live but a short time. Orin died at the age of three, and Warren lived to be 15 years old. The other four grew to maturity and have long been in homes of their own.

Soon after her marriage she gave her heart to God and joined the Free Will Baptist Church where she and her good husband labored all their lives in the service of their Master.

As a teacher, a Sunday School superintendent, and because of her music and song, she will long be remembered. Not the least of her talents was home-making. She was ever a good wife and devoted mother and grandmother. She was a friend to all who knew her. Her generous hospitality made their home a happy retreat. She had been a member of the W.C.T.U. many years. Her zeal for the cause of temperance came next to her church.

When failing health forced them to give up their cherished country home, they moved to Liberal where they enjoyed the visits of friends. When God called her husband and left her alone

she lived among her children, principally with her daughter Mary.

Hospitalized from a broken hip, untold suffering and shock hastened the end of her life. Her faithful, loving children deemed it a privilege to be at her bed side doing all things possible for her comfort. Finally, at the home in Iantha she quietly went to sleep, and today she has joined her loved ones gone on before.

Survivors are: Mrs. Ruby Reed of Golden City, Paul Fast and Mrs. Dixie Eccher of Liberal, and Mrs. Mary Hizar of Iantha; 13 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Also three sisters and one brother, Mrs. Rose Quarry, Mrs. Lena English, Miss Bess McWilliams and John McWilliams, and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Lowell Martin bringing the message. Burial was in the Barton City Cemetery.

"Grandma" Hill

Mrs. Elizabeth Hill was born June 15, 1871 and passed from this life July 21, 1954 at the age of 83 years, one month and six days. She was born in the State of New York, and moved to Charleston, Missouri at the age of nine years, and has resided in the State of Missouri ever since.

"Grandma" Hill, as she was lovingly called by all who knew her, was converted early in life, and soon after became a member of the Free Will Baptist Church to which she was loyal until her passing. She was a member of the South Side Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, of which she was a charter member.

"Grandma" Hill was married to Rev. William Chesley Hill, and to this union was born six children, four boys and two girls: Elmer Hill, Mrs. Zella Rankins, Mrs. Freida Hollie, Lester Hill, Chesley Hill and Rev. Harvey Hill. Her husband and two of the children, Elmer and Frieda, preceded her in death.

"Grandma" leaves to mourn her passing, three sons, one daughter, 17 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, one great great grandchild, the daughters-in-law and son-in-law, along with a great host of friends, neighbors and relatives.

All who knew her will miss her

sweet smile and words of encouragement. She spent her entire life trying to make the world a better place to live. She was loved by all, and her passing gives us great pain. But herein lies our consolation—we know that our loss is heaven's gain.

Willard M. Lackey

In loving memory of my beloved husband who passed away September 21, 1953.

*Memories are treasures no one can steal;
Death is a heart ache nothing can heal.
Some may forget you, now that you are gone,
But I sadly remember no matter how long.*

Sadly missed by wife and little Junior, and all who loved him.

Mrs. Willard Lackey

BOARD OF TRUSTEES WERE NOT OFFERED FEE SIMPLE GIFT OF COLLEGE

**Secretary of Board Wishes
to Make Position Clear and
Correct Erroneous Reports**

August 17, 1954

To Whom It May Concern:

Inasmuch as reports have been circulated among many of our Free Will Baptist people, including faithful supporters of Free Will Baptist Bible College, implying that its Board of Trustees did not properly evaluate a supposed offer of Cumberland University properties and assets of Lebanon, Tennessee, as a fee simple gift for use in the promotion of the Educational Program of the Bible College, the Board of Trustees, while in session August 10, 1954, authorize the publishing of the following information:

Upon being confronted with the prospect of a possible gift of above mentioned properties and assets of the Cumberland University, the Board of Trustees, while in annual session last March, directed the College President, Dr. L. C. Johnson, to prepare a full statement outlining our present and proposed program of operation of the Bible College and file same with the

Board of Trustees of Cumberland University of Lebanon, Tennessee, as : basis for said Board in determining whether they would be interested in making an offer to the Trustee Board of Free Will Baptist Bible College, which Board had not been presented with any proposition to turn over the properties and assets of Cumberland University. This duty Dr. Johnson performed well, presenting our plan of work, upon which act Dr. Johnson received reply which convinces everyone in touch with facts that such imaginary proposals reaching the ears of some of our people was no more than idle talk. The following is an exact copy of the reply to Dr. Johnson from the chairman of the Board of Cumberland University.

Dr. L. C. Johnson, President
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue
Nashville 5, Tennessee

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Your letter of June 7, 1954 was duly received.

The Board of Trustees of Cumberland University is going forward with long rang plans for operation of all of the schools of the University. Therefore, they are not in a position to make any offer of the school or its property.

With kindest regards and all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edward Potter, Jr.,
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Submitted for publication on authority of Board of Trustees of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, while in called session, August 10, 1954.

By Rev. J. R. Davidson
Secretary to the Board

'UNITY AND HARMONY' THE AIM OF CALLED MEETING

Will Formulate Plans for Prosecution of Adopted Denominational Program

Nashville, Tennessee — Representatives of the various agencies and boards of the national association have been invited to join in a meeting with the Executive Committee of the General Board to discuss the denomina-



Mt. Zion Church
Hindsville, Ark. age attendance of 77. Our church is located east of Springdale about 16 miles. Rev. Bruce Phillips is our pastor. The enclosed picture is of our D.V.B.S. group. I hope you can find room for it in your paper.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ray Shaver

To the Gem:

This is my first time to write, but I have enjoyed reading the Gem for several years. We had our fourth Daily Vacation Bible School at our church this summer. We had an aver-

tional program, according to a recent announcement released by Rev. George Waggoner, secretary of the committee.

The meeting has been set for December 14, 1954, with no closing date set. The purpose of the meeting, according to Rev. Waggoner, is "to discuss our overall denominational program and seek to bring unity and harmony of action in the prosecution of that program."

Sessions will be held at the denominational headquarters building. Those invited to sit in counsel with the committee include Rev. Raymond Riggs, Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Rev. C. F. Bowen, Rev. Joe Fort, Rev. J. C. Griffin, Rev. William Mishler, Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, Dr. L. C. Johnson, Mrs. H. B. Sloan, and the chairman of the headquarters Board of Trustees.

Members of the Executive Committee are Rev. Charles A. Thigpen, Rev. J. L. Welch, Rev. Mark Lewis, Rev. Henry Melvin, Rev. John West, Rev. J. B. Bloss and Rev. George Waggoner.

Recognizing the apparent confusion among our people of the national association due to misunderstanding of the Cooperative Plan of Support and

the requisitioning of funds from the various boards for the financing of the Executive Department of the national association, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. We, as members of the Executive Committee of the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, do hereby go on record that we will, as a committee and as individuals, seek to do all that lies within our power to bring understanding and unity among us upon the above mentioned disputed points;

2. That we earnestly request all the standing boards of the national association to take a like attitude;

3. That we re-emphasize the action taken by the national association in its recent session, that after this year no funds will be requisitioned from the various boards for the operation of the Executive Department and that we declare ourselves in harmony with this action;

4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the chairman of each standing board and to all Free Will Baptist papers.

THE OPEN DOOR

In I Corinthians 16:9 we read these words: "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries."

Surely the same can be said of us as Children of God today.

We have just enjoyed one of the greatest—if not the greatest—State Association yet. The mighty presence of God in our midst was not at all a new experience to many who came; for several of the ministers and delegates from subordinate associations reported harmonious and spiritual sessions in their local conventions.

Then as we met, people prayed. And faithful committees worked, counselled and prayed, and were able to bring before the body such recommendations and resolutions for the advancement of the work, that not one opposing vote was cast during the entire association. Now from this spear head, we are in position to advance with Christ to the greatest victory in the year ahead that we have ever witnessed in this state. Never—in any movement for Christ—have we utilized one-half the potential strength of which God has given us as His children.

In the past we, the Free Will Baptists of the State of Missouri, have supported missions, our Bible College, and other denominational enterprises in a way that does compare favorably with other states.

Within Missouri we have built and equipped the Free Will Baptist Gem. This enterprise is owned and operated by the State Association of Free Will Baptists. Also, within the last few years our people of this state have built and equipped a Youth Camp with a present valuation of at least eighteen thousand (\$18,000) dollars. There is not one dollar of indebtedness against either of these enterprises at the present time.

Yet, as I think of the small number of our people that have had to do with building and supporting our work, we must confess we have just started forward.

Here is our goal for the remainder of 1954 and up to August, 1955.

First—The greatest number of

conversions ever witnessed by our churches in any one year.

Second—Twice as many new churches as in any year previous.

Third—Every church supporting our work financially through the State Co-operative Fund, this can be either by the tithe or by regular offerings from the church designated for that purpose and sent each month to our state clerk, Rev. Mrs. Lorene Williford, Rural Route, Freeman, Missouri.

Fourth—Two thousand paid subscriptions to the Gem by January 1, 1955.

Fifth—Enough support to be given our Youth Encampment work to enable our board to make what improvement is needed for our advancement, and to pass a state health inspection: that we can come to the next association knowing that these improvements have not only been made but also have been paid for in full.

This is too large a task for a few; yet such a small undertaking for all working together under the leadership of God. With some 9,000 Free Will Baptists in the State of Missouri, and with every one doing his part, we will far exceed each of these goals.

Can the Lord count on each of us? If we disappoint Him now, how will it be when we stand before Him and give an account of our stewardship.

Rev. O. T. Allred,
Promotional Secretary

FRIENDSHIP THE DEARER IN TIME OF BEREAVEMENT

Dear Gem Readers:

We are happy once again to send to you a report of our work here at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Even though our attendance has been down considerably during the month of July due to the vacation season, yet God has wonderfully poured out His blessings upon us in each of our services. Just last week we were privileged to entertain the 81st Annual Free Will Baptist Union Association in which 466 people were registered, including 101 ministers, 28 deacons,

120 delegates, and 217 visitors. A wonderful time was had by all.

During the month of July, however, our hearts were saddened by the loss of our mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Hill, wife of the late Rev. W. C. Hill.

My mother was visiting me when her death occurred. We wish to thank each of our many friends in the State of Missouri and other states who sent to us sympathy cards, flowers, etc., during our time of bereavement. Also, we wish to thank the Missouri State Youth Camp for the beautiful flowers and telegram sent to us at the time of her death.

It is times such as these that friendship is proven most dear, and certainly our many friends proved their friendship during this time. Again we say to all of you who made the load much lighter by your kindness, "Thank you and may God bless you."

Yours for the Master,

Rev. Harvey E. Hill
702 First Street

FREDERICKTOWN MEETS

Dear Sis. Jeffreys, and All of the Dear Readers of Our Dear Old Gem:

We have been a reader of the Gem for so long we would certainly hate to give it up. So we are going to work and pray that in some way we may keep it going.

Just a word for our Auxiliary. We had our day meeting the 18th, with a good number present, and the Lord was with us. We have done things for our church that would not have been done without the Auxiliary. And our pastor and his wife have done so much for our church.

Bro. Newsome built a beautiful new stand, and built the beautiful picture of Christ in the front of the stand. It really is so nice, and we do thank Bro. Newsome for it. The beautiful picture of Christ is a Christmas present Bro. Harry Beatty got for our church while he was our pastor.

We have heard that Bro. Beatty is sick. We do hope and pray for him, if it is God's will, to restore him to his health again, for he can do so much good. But we must say, "Thy will be done, Lord."

May God bless each one of His children.

Mrs. W. I. Jemes, cor. sec'y.

OLD FASHIONED REVIVAL

Hope Well Church
Tunas, Missouri

We, the Hope Well Church, would like to make a report of the revival at our church which closed August 5.

We had 10 nights of service, with 28 moves—nine souls saved, and coming into the fellowship of the church. Six were baptized.

Our pastor, Rev. Leo Curtis of Lebanon, did the preaching. The Oxley Sisters of Cabool furnished the special music in song each night, along with the young folks quartet of the church.

We are just a little country church. We have 80 to 90 in Sunday School. We thank God for the wonderful revival and the blessings He poured out to us in the old time way of shouting and rejoicing. We only have services once each month.

We ask the prayers of God's people.

Dora Whitworth, clerk

KIRKSVILLE AUXILIARY

Dear Friends in Christ:

Please forgive me for being so late. I will try to do better in the future.

The Woman's Auxilliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kirksville met August 6, 1954 at the home of Sis. Alta Mikel. The president was in charge of the meeting.

The service opened by singing, "More like the Master." Prayer by Bro. Joseph Ange. The Scripture lesson was Luke 5:1-11. The minutes were read and approved. Fourteen members answered roll call, and seven visitors were present.

A season of special prayers was led by Bro. Lester Jones and closed by Sis. Lillian Wood, in which the revival and special requests were remembered. The lesson topic was "His Command... My Task to Witness." The first topic, by Sis. Velma Wellman, "To Whom Should I Witness." Other topics were: "How Shall I Witness," by Reta Maggard; "When Shall I Witness," Lillian Wood, and "Why Should I Witness," Alta Mikel. The meeting closed with prayer by Sis. Myrtle Jones.

The hostess served refreshments to the members and visitors.

Please pray for us that we may ever be faithful.

Lillian Wood, reporter

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, 10% x 5% inches. On beautifully lithographed border forms, and suitable for framing. Every Church needs these for a record.

These certificates are in books of 20 and stubbed, check book style.

Price, Post Paid \$1.00

SUBSCRIBE TO THE "GEM"

Per Year,\$1.50

BAPTISMAL SERVICES HELD

First F.W.B. Church
512 West Elizabeth Street
Kirksville, Missouri

On Sunday night, August 29, a beautiful baptismal service was conducted in which eight candidates were baptized. The service climaxed the two-week revival conducted by Rev. Joseph Ange of Durham, North Carolina, held August 1 through August 15. Rev. Ange is a very forceful preacher of God's Holy Word.

There were large crowds almost every night, and the Lord wonderfully blessed. The church was strengthened and five souls were saved. A large number reconsecrated themselves to be used of God in any way He might lead. Several families pledged themselves to establish family altars in their homes.

Rev. Lester Jones is our able pastor. We thank the Lord for sending he and his good wife this way to work with us. We ask an interest in your prayers for our work here.

Elfie Dare, reporter

THE CALL HAS COME

Christ is the way to that home above
Where all is peace, joy and love:
Come, my friend, and enlist with me,
While Jesus is tenderly calling thee.

A home in heaven is provided for all
Who humble themselves and answer
the call.

For He has a task for us to do
And along the way many blessings, too.

He has promised us a helping hand
In guiding lost souls to the promised
land.

He has promised to be with us unto
the end.

As soldiers of the cross we must be
brave

Traveling over land and ocean wave;
Carrying the Gospel of our Lord on
high

Preparing lost souls for the sweet bye
and bye.

The call has come for you and I
And its not for us to question why;
But whether it be here or beyond the
great sea,

Let's answer the call, "Here am I,
Lord, send me."

Madeline McFarland
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

EVANGELISTS

Occasionally we do learn of some of our preachers who are devoting more of their time (or all of it) to the needy field of evangelism. We are glad of the following who we can feel sure you will enjoy in a useful revival.

—||—

Rev. Willard C. Day, recently left the pastorate of the church in Mountain Grove, Missouri to devote his full time to evangelism. His new address is now 712 East 13th Street, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

—||—

Rev. Harry Sterling, of Carterville, Missouri, is willing to accept calls to revivals. He is pastor at the Pleasant Grove Church in Indian Creek Association. Contact him at Carterville.

—||—

Also, still in the field of active evangelism is Rev. Wm. Buster, of Thebes, Illinois. Rev. Buster is quite well known in Illinois and Missouri as an evangelist.

When you help someone up the hill,
you are closer to the top yourself.

—Contributed

Words and feathers are quickly
scattered, but not easily gathered up
again.

—Contributed

The advancing Christian does all
for the love of Christ and nothing for
reward.

—Selected

"HEATHEN" from page five

very much to give to missions. Second, it will encourage those who are giving none, to give some. Third, it will be an incentive to those who are giving some to give more. Fourth, this plan will stimulate those who are giving spasmodically, to give systematically and regularly.

If your church has a membership of 50 members, you would raise \$2,600 a year for missions. And a church of 100 members could raise \$5,200. If 1,000 churches with an average membership of 50 would give \$1.00 a week to missions, \$2,600,00 would be raised. Think of what the mission boards could do with \$2,600,000! I believe that twice as much as this, or even three or four times as much could be raised for the missionary cause throughout the world, if every Christian would give at least \$1.00 more a week to missions. Will you be one of these Christians? Will you do your best to encourage your church to adopt this plan?

If you were a heathen, you would be happy to know that thousands of Christians had decided to give up some luxury and deny themselves a little in order for you to be able to hear the Gospel. Indeed, your \$1.00 a week placed together with all the others will make a tremendous impact for Christ throughout the world, and you will be laying up treasures in heaven. Your \$1.00 does not look like much standing alone, but put it together with thousands of others and it is the means to support a missionary, construct a hospital, provide medicine, print Bibles and other literature, and hasten the proclamation of the Gospel to the far corners of the earth.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38).

NOTE: The above article, "The Heathen and Your Church," by J. Howard Russell, is taken from a booklet entitled, "If You Were A Heathen."

This booklet by Mr. Russell contains 96 pages with chapters on the following subjects: *If You Were A Heathen, God's Harvest, God's Employment, Sign, The Heathen and God's Plan for My Life, The Heathen and God's Bank, The Heathen and Prayer, The Heathen*

and Parents, The Heathen and Your Church, and God's Green Light.

The booklet sells for fifteen cents and may be ordered from—Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee.

'CONVENTION' from page nine

(2) We recommend that the State Youth Camp Board be charged with the responsibility of making necessary improvements.

(3) We recommend that the State Youth Camp be rented to other religious bodies under the supervision of the Youth Camp Board.

(4) We recommend that we reinstate the old system of financing the State Youth Camp.

(5) We recommend that the preparation period of the State Youth Camp grounds preceding our Free Will Baptist Youth Encampment be left to the discretion of the Youth Camp Board.

All items of the Youth Camp Committee were heartily adopted. Most are self-explanatory. Item number four was at the request of the Board itself, and automatically dropped it from the co-operative plan. The Board has already met to map plans for the reactivation of the camp. Extensive plans have been laid and a considerable sum borrowed to initiate this work. The Youth Camp Board is very busy, and you may expect a vastly improved camp by next session.

AMONG THE VERY BEST—

All in all, this was undoubtedly one of the very best sessions of this great Missouri State Association. The fellowship was noticeably enjoyable, the entertainment splendid, the business harmonious, the worship services of the very best, and a fine representation present from first to last. And it was with considerable reluctance that the delegation came to the closing session at noon Friday. A larger than usual delegation stayed to the final benediction.

To the Jones Chapel Church and community, to Indian Creek Association, and to all others who labored and planned for the success of this session, the delegation rose in a unanimous standing vote of thanks for this progressive and spiritual session.

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EXPECT TO MOVE TO NEW BUILDING SOON

Marble Hill F.W.B. Church

Dear Friends:

Since many of our friends have desired to know how our new church building is progressing, we hope at this time to try and give you an idea of what is being done here and how God is blessing our church.

We had hoped to move into the new building and have a complete report for you, but due to shortage of laborers we have some pouring of concrete steps and a part of the basement floor yet before worship services can be held in the new building.

The size of our building is some 30 x 40 feet with full size basement, white shingle siding, blue roof, the inside walls are knotty pine from floor to ceiling, with hardwood floors. We plan to heat with gas. Plans are for class rooms in the basement.

Some \$845.00 has been donated in cash by sister churches and friends. We are indeed thankful for all who gave, and aided us in our work in any way. May God bless you is our prayer. He has so wonderfully given to us another and better house in which to worship Him, that our prayer and aim is to keep on laboring until it is overflowing with precious souls seeking and worshipping the God who gave it to us. There is no place to slow down in service for Jesus. His blessings are so great upon all who will answer His call.

Our pastor for the coming year is Rev. Cecil Sheppard of Fredericktown, who is doing a fine job here for the Lord and His cause. He is a worker beside his people as well as their spiritual leader, and everyone loves him and Sis. Sheppard.

On August 22 our pastor baptized five precious souls and three of them united with our church. The other two plan to enter into fellowship with us soon. Our baptizing was held along with three other churches in an old fashioned service with 18 being baptized.

So pray for us that we as a church will grow, glow and go in the service of our Lord.

—Reporter