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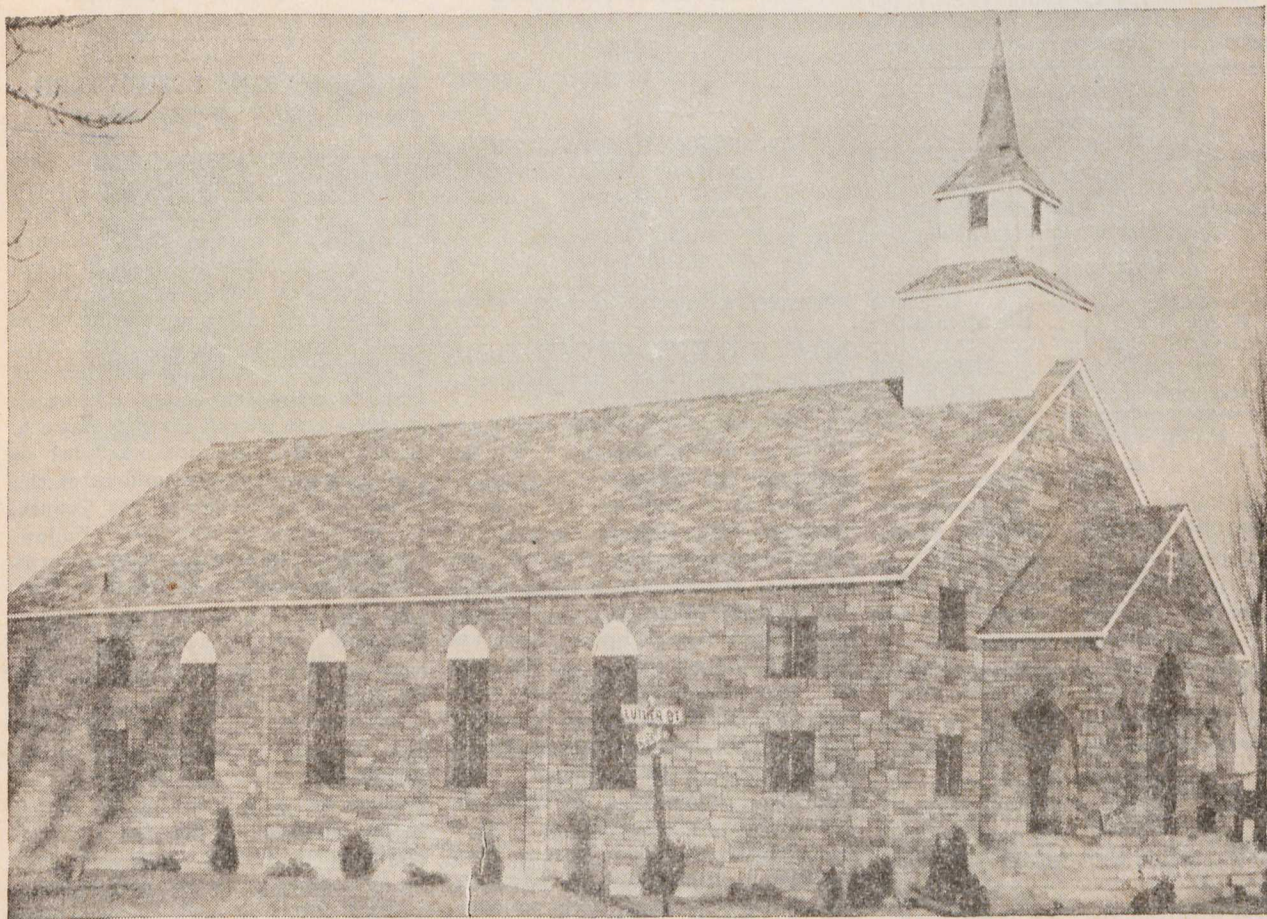
Jan 55

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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Monett, Missouri—January, 1955

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FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH — KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI

See Story of Organization, Growth, Construction and Dedication in this issue

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

Published Monthly at Monett, Missouri

EDITOR AND MANAGER

REV. LLOYD T. JEFFREYS

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TERMS

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Meguro-ku
Tokyo, Japan

**NEW CHURCH ORGANIZED
AT GREENFIELD, MISSOURI**

On December 17, the Editor and two interested parties completed arrangements for a building in Greenfield, Missouri, to be converted into a church building. This was followed by an organizational meeting Monday night, December 27. The organization was in charge of Rev. O. T. Allred, state moderator, with Rev. Winford Davis and Dea. John Bough completing the council. Rev. Davis worked for many years only a few miles from Greenfield in an organization from which most of the present members originally came. Bro. Bough represented the State Executive Board, and is also chairman of the Executive Board of Central Western Missouri Association, to which the new church expects to apply for membership. Eleven members presented themselves for membership, while there were some enforced absences due to illness and bad roads, who wish to join at an early date.

The purchase of the property was made possible by the very prompt action of the State Home Mission Board who approved the move and forwarded their check so promptly. We certainly appreciate this. Also, two representatives of the National Home Mission

Board have been contacted, with one making a personal survey of the town and the building. We plan to seek their assistance in a revival as soon as the building can be made ready. There is extensive work to be done to convert the building before services can be held in it. It was formerly a feed store with a drive through the building. But we plan to accomplish this as rapidly as finance and manpower is available.

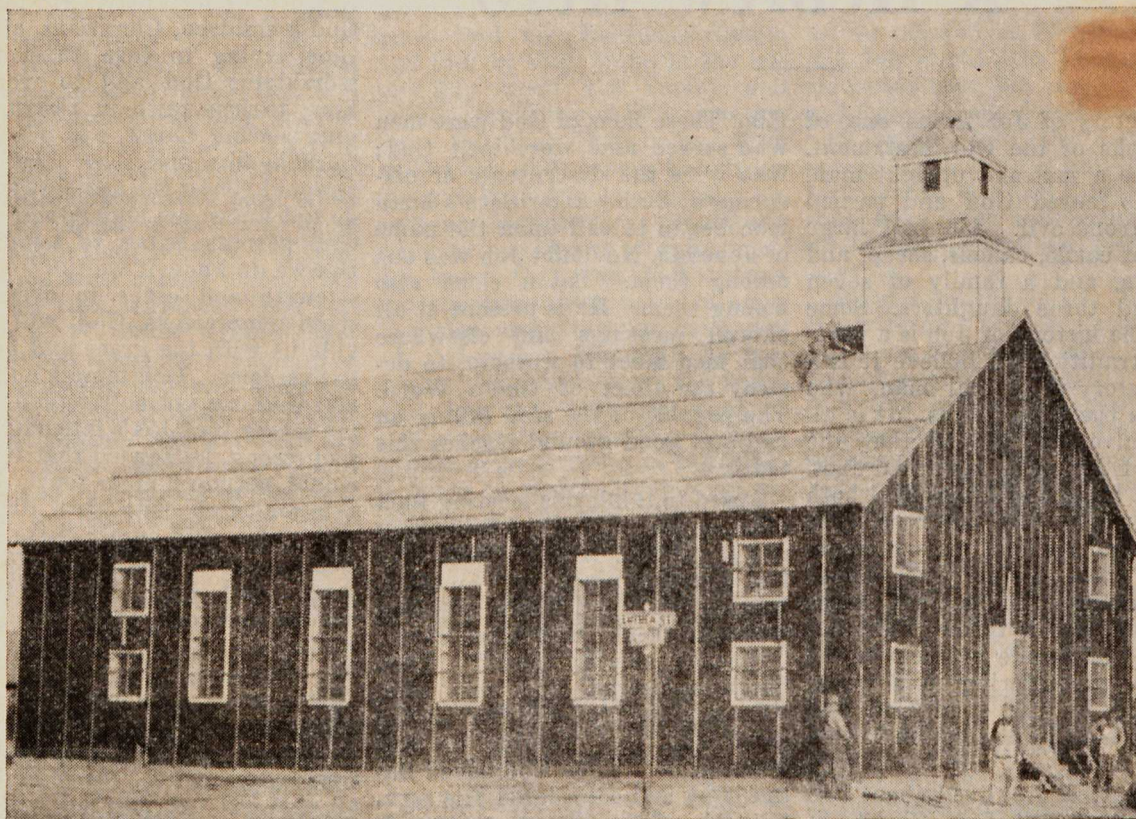
The location is one of the best in this city, just two short blocks off the public square, across the street intersection from one of the oldest churches there. Remember us as you pray, and come visit us whenever you can.

**MISSIONARIES SCHEDULED
FOR EARLY FURLOUGH**

Rev. and Mrs. Daniel R. Cronk (Dan and Trula) have been in India for seven years. Plans are made for them to return home for their first furlough this spring. They are scheduled to sail from India on either February 2nd or February 14th. They hope to arrive in New York on or about April 10th. They will visit Dan's family in Michigan and will appear in services and Missionary Conference in Detroit through May 8th. Following this they are scheduled to visit in East Tennessee and be at the Home Coming Service at the Tennessee Orphanage on May 10th. Following that a Missionary Conference is planned in Warwick, Virginia on Sunday, May 15 and run through Sunday, May 22nd. After this date they will be open for Missionary Itinerate through the month of September.

Pastors and churches desiring a service with these returned missionaries should contact the Foreign Mission office and give a first, second and third choice of dates. Upon your written request we will endeavor to book them for your church. It will cost approximately \$1,200.00 for their passage home. It is hoped that throughout the denomination our people will be much in prayer for safety of travel for these servants of the Lord. Also continue to pray that the doors of India may remain open that they may return to their field of service.

The nation has no better friend, than the mother who lives for Christ, and teaches her children to pray.



First Free Will Baptist Church of Kirksville, Missouri during construction

NEW CHURCH DEDICATED

Look again at the beautiful new edifice pictured on the front page of this issue of the Gem. It is the likeness of the new sanctuary housing the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kirksville in Northeast Missouri. The church also is new, being organized just over one year ago. So we think it a very fitting cover to present to you at the beginning of this new year. Following is the story from facts given us by the correspondent of the church, Sis. Elsie Dare.

First Free Will Baptist Church
512 West Elizabeth Street
Kirksville, Missouri

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Kirksville was the scene of a full day of activity December 5, with dedication services climaxing the 14 months of work since the organization of the Church on September 30, 1953.

During the afternoon of September 18, 1953, the large tent that had housed the Missouri State Association in its annual session convened with the New Harmony Church, west of Greentop, Missouri, was moved to Kirksville, and revival services were commenced in it that same evening. These services were sponsored by the National and Missouri State Home Mission Boards. Rev. Damon C. Dodd was the evangelist during these services, and was assisted by Rev. Rolla Smith, former pastor in this association and now pastor at Fellowship Church in Flat River.

Much prayer had been made by Free Will Baptists here for a church home. At the close of the revival, on September 30, 1953 the church was organized with 32 charter members. A man and his wife who had been with another Baptist group for 38 years were the first to place their names on the membership roll.

The first Sunday in October found us meeting in the carpenters' union

hall on West Dodson Street. Rev. Lester Jones, formerly of Cordova, Alabama, was our new pastor, having arrived here from Nashville, Tennessee at noon on the day of the organization. Our average Sunday School attendance was 32.

During October, the trustees of the church purchased five very nice level lots. On November 3 trenches were dug for footings for the building. On Thanksgiving Day, November 26, a glorious thanksgiving and praise service was conducted in the house adjoining the church (on the church property). Dinner was served at the noon hour. The men worked on the building. The paper was put on the outside of the boxing, and the first rafters were raised. On December 19 the roof was completed, and by January 1, 1954 the building was entirely enclosed. By March 14, when we held the opening service in the building, the inside was all complete, with beautiful hardwood floors. The painting and varnishing

(Turn to Page Seven, please)

Job - A Hebrew Hero

The story of Job forms one of the books of the Old Testament. Job was a just and upright man, one who feared God and turned away from evil. Job had large herds of cattle, camels, sheep, and servants, and a family of seven sons and three daughters. Some think the history of Job is a parable, a tradition. I believe it is a true history of a real man, who lived as the Bible states. It is almost universally agreed that the Book of Job is a historical fact. Ezekiel 14:14 and James 5:11 both mention Job. The sad experience of Job and his final victory teaches the great divine truth about the darkest problem that faces mankind; also it throws light upon the world-wide problem of the mystery of suffering in a world governed by the good God and Creator, both in its relation to God and to man.

Some think Job lived about two thousand years before Christ, in the days of the Patriarchs; others about the time of David. The author of the Book is unknown. Job lived in the land of Uz. Some believe that Uz was situated east of the Sea of Galilee and the upper Jordan; and others in northwestern Arabia, south of Palestine. Wherever it was located, it was a fertile spot; and Job became very wealthy.

Job was suddenly deprived of his possessions and children. This was accomplished by the agency of Satan with the permission of God. Yet, in all this, Job submits patiently to the divine will. Job rent his robe and shaved his head and fell upon the ground, and worshiped God, and said, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." What would we have done, or what would we do if God did the same unto us?

This happened after the Sons of God came to present themselves before God, that is to worship

Him. These Sons of God were men who served and worshiped God; who were the descendants or offspring of Seth. After Seth's birth men began to call upon the name of Jehovah. No doubt Job was one among them. Satan came also among them. He is present at all church meetings and elsewhere that men meet to worship, to destroy the effect of God's Word. The parable of the seed falling on bad and good ground teaches this truth.

I used to think this meeting took place in heaven, but the Bible does not say it did. So, I believe they had a certain place, with an altar, here on earth to worship, and God met with them. God asked Satan, "Whence comest thou?" Then Satan answered God and said, "From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Then God asked Satan if he had considered His servant Job. Then Satan answered, "Doth Job fear God for naught? Hast not thou made a hedge about him?" Then Satan said just take away all he has and he will renounce thee at thy face. So God permitted Satan to take away all; and Satan did. At this Job still showed his integrity toward Jehovah.

Again the Sons of God came to worship Him and Satan was there. Again God asked Satan from whence he came and Satan gave the same answer, "From walking up and down in the earth." Here God gave to Satan a great testimony concerning Job, saying, "There is none like him in all the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God, and turneth away from evil; and he still holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movest me against him to destroy him without a cause." I do not think God means that He destroyed Job, but that Satan was permitted by God to afflict Job, and to tempt him. God had no cause to destroy Job, but Satan did. Satan wanted to tempt Job

in order to get him to curse God and lose faith in God. This is what Satan is doing today. He tempts God's children, Christians, all the time, trying to turn them from worshiping God and to worship him; to lose faith in Christ and quit serving Christ, and put their faith in him and serve him. He tempted Christ the same way. We do not know or understand why God permits Satan to tempt us. But we do know if we ask God for strength and grace to overcome these temptations, God will provide us with the grace and power to overcome. God tempts no man, and God can not be tempted. Satan seeing that Job's integrity was still strong, he argued that if God would permit him to touch Job's skin and flesh with sore disease, then Job would surely curse Him. God permitted Satan to do the same. Why? I do not know, neither does any man. Job's wife wanted Job to curse God and then die. But Job would not, and said, "Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God and shall not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips." Yes, it is many times the one or ones we love that tempts us most, and makes it hard for us to live a righteous life.

Now Job had three friends who came to bemoan, to sympathize, and comfort him. They even wept when they saw how he was suffering, and kept silence for seven days. Then Job, not understanding why such a calamity had overtaken him, began to curse the day he was born, and wished he had never been born. He was in such agony, he said things he should not have said: still he did not blame God. Then Job's friends began to speak. They spoke with a great philosophy why such a calamity came upon Job. But they spoke not the truth. They reasoned that Job had committed some great sin, or sins, which was the reason he suffered so. In those days men believed that sin, and sin alone brought on suffering and great loss. Job knew better, he pleaded his innocence.

Job suffered great sorrow when he lost his wealth and children;

and he suffered great pain from the boils and sores of his skin and flesh. But I think his greatest pain and sorrow was when he could not find God. He thought God had forsaken him. But God was right there, watching and listening. God watches over His children and hears their conversations. Christ's greatest pain, when hanging on the cross, was when He thought God had forsaken Him. He cried with a loud voice, "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" Some writers think Job sinned when he thought God was punishing him, and made the answers he did. I think we should not criticize and condemn Job too much. Do we have sorrows and pains and blame it all on God, and think God has forsaken us? When we have a loved one to die, we say God has taken him or her away. I do not think God takes our loved ones away. Sin causes death, and God permits our loved ones to pass away. And sometimes we think God has forsaken us. We wonder sometimes, why? After Job had suffered and listened to the three friends arguing with him for so long a time, he might have turned against God, and denied His goodness. He did not, but praised God.

In those days man believed that the rich were the ones who served God most holy, and that God rewarded them for their righteousness, and that He took from, and punished the wicked. This is not so, for we find in the New Testament where a man had been born blind and the apostles asked, "Who did sin, this man or his parents?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents had sinned; but it was for the glory of God." We might ask, "What is life all about, and why man was born in this world of sin and suffering?" The Divine purpose of our existence is not ease and contentment, but discipline for a greater life to come. The real life is spiritual. God's plans are too vast and far reaching for us to understand. His plans are long ranged.

Before the creation of the earth and man, God planned and devised a plan for man's redemption,

or salvation. God knew what man would do. While Job was suffering, he could answer and say, "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me." Job knew God and had utmost faith in Him. Job asked a question that many persons have asked, "If a man die, shall he live again?" Man's flesh, or the body, dies, but the man—the soul of man, never dies. It either lives on in bliss or in sorrow and suffering. It is up to each individual to determine his eternal fate. Jesus Christ has made it possible for man (his soul) to have eternal life and to be with God always, or else he will experience everlasting death, which is to be separated from God. This death is different from the death of the body. God is Life; and the pit is as death, being separated from the Life.

At last God answered Job, out of the whirlwind. God did not answer Job's questions: instead He asked Job questions. First, He wanted to know, "Who is this that darkeneth counsel, by words without knowledge?" God recognized the counsel of Job's three friends were words without knowledge and wisdom. They knew not what they had spoken. Job spoke with some knowledge and wisdom, but he did not understand all. God asked Job about creation, the earth, and the heavens, and all the universe. Job was unable to answer, and said, "Behold I am small account, what shall I answer thee?" God told Job to "gird up thy loins like a man." God asked Job some more questions. Then Job answered, "I know that thou canst do everything . . . I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." Job saw his littleness, and humbled himself. This is what God wants us to do, when we begin to doubt and say what we should not say, and do what we should not do—is to see our littleness and repent. God told Job's three friends that they had not

spoken of Him (the Lord) the things that were right as Job had. He then demanded them to offer up for themselves burnt offerings, and Job would pray for them and He would hear Job. After this Job had twice as much wealth as he had before, and the same size family. Job lived a hundred and forty years, and saw sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations. So Job died, being old and full of days.

What a pitiful person Job was. His wife and friends heaped sorrow upon sorrow, by insisting that he had committed sins with which God was highly displeased. According to his friends, Job was a swindler and was uncharitable. We do not know why God permitted Satan to try Job's integrity.

This one thing we learn from the story of Job, that God's people suffer pain and loss, and that we have so-called friends, and some loved ones, who criticize and add to our sorrows. Thank God we can turn to Him for help and comfort, and He will provide. Would we keep our integrity under similar circumstances?

—Warren Moffitt - Winigan, Mo.

GOOD YEAR IN 1954

South Side F.W.B. Church
3124 Mt. Pleasant
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Gem:

Just a line to say all is well at South Side. The Lord is blessing, and we are still growing. We have had a wonderful year for 1954, and we are looking forward to many more.

Several of our folks from South Side, who are away, are due to be home for Christmas and the New Year's watch service.

We thank the Lord for this past year, and for Him keeping us in His service.

A very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Olive M. Reeds, reporter

Other religions have risen out of man's search for God, but Christianity is God's search for man.



From The Editor's Desk



THANK YOU

Modesty would forbid us again mentioning the cover of the December issue of the Gem, but our gratefulness to you for your compliments is more compelling, so we sincerely say "Thank you." We are glad you liked the picture, and we appreciate the many fine things you have said of our family. It was a fine Christmas to us, just to receive your complimentary remarks.

FROM OUR FRIENDS

Enclosed is my check for the renewal of our subscription to the Gem. Things are going nicely at the church here, with plans well under way for construction of a new nine-room educational building. H.E.H., Tennessee.

—o—

I seem to be the only Free Will Baptist left in this neck of the woods, and wonder of there are any more elsewhere. In this state, as you may know, they united with the Northern Baptist Convention, and thus the whale swallowed another Jonah. The Lord bless you and His faithful everywhere. Rev. W.F.G., Michigan.

—o—

I love the Gem more with each copy, and I don't want to miss one issue. It makes me so happy to hear from our dear people all over our state, and the other states as well. Also, of the work of our missionaries. It helps us to all be praying for the needs of our denominational work, and pressing onward toward the mark of the prize of the high calling as it is in Jesus Christ our Lord. May we all pray for a mighty awakening and for more people coming to the Lord than we have seen the past year. S.W., Missouri.

—o—

Please renew my subscription to the Gem. I love it, and miss it if I fail to get a copy. E.S., Missouri.

—o—

Though we are now with the General Baptists, because a few years ago there

was no Free Will Baptist Church near here, we still love the denomination and the paper. We have taken it for about 25 years. So will you please send it to us for 1955. E.N. & G.C., California.

—o—

I received my Gem several days ago, and enjoyed it very much. As yet I haven't been successful in locating a Free Will Baptist Church in this part of California. Keep the Gem coming. A.C.W., California.

(We would appreciate communication from our California friends as to locations of churches in California, and especially in this case, of any church near Eureka, California. Editor)

—o—

We like the Gem very much, and believe it is a great help to our denomination. We also take the Contact and think it is very good, but cannot take the place of the State paper. J.E.C., Missouri.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The bargain rate is still in effect for subscriptions to the Gem—\$1.00 for one full year. Perhaps some are weary of us constantly diving at the same thing. But it is vital to us, and we feel it is important to you, also. I am sure that the Gem has long ago proved of great value to the church it serves. At least we are constantly receiving complimentary remarks to that effect. We believe each one is sincere in these expressions. So we naturally are very anxious for the Gem to reach every home possible. And we are equally as anxious that it be completely read once it arrives in the home. Inasmuch as our only purpose in being here is to serve the church, it becomes even more vital to us to distribute the Gem as widely as possible. Certainly, I don't believe anyone will object to the bargain rate price. In fact, I don't know of extensive complaint to the regular price of \$1.50. But it is more convenient for many people who send currency just to send the \$1.00 bill. Of course most of our readers realize that a magazine such as the Gem—without paid advertising—can't operate on the

subscription price alone. No paper can possibly do that. So we will certainly appreciate it if you feel like including a little extra for us now and then.

CHURCH PLAN

Some more of the churches have submitted the names of their people and have enrolled in the church plan. We are very enthused about the plan. Let us tell you again just how it works. Have your clerk send us the name and address of every family in your church. We will place them on the mailing list to receive the Gem regularly. Then we will send your church clerk a statement each month for the amount sent out that month. The list may (and should) be revised whenever necessary. This plan is a quicker, more efficient means of getting the Gem to every home. Also, it saves each member the trouble of sending in their individual sub. So it is a convenience and a service to the church. We urge you to adopt it at once. If you have members who now are receiving the Gem, we will add them to the list when their time expires, give the church credit for the amount now due, refund the amount still unused, or handle it in any other way such subscriber shall wish. Don't let present paid up subscriptions keep you out of the church plan. Just tell us what to do about them. Above all, be sure to try the plan.

EXPIRATIONS

Due to the expense and other involvements, we do not always notify you that your subscription has lapsed. Some have depended on receiving a notice, and thus have become delinquent. We hope this will not happen to you. We suggest you watch the key number following your name. If you are a regular subscriber by the year, a key number will immediately follow the name on your address label, thus—

Rev. R. O. Smith Jan 55
100 Straight Street
Monett, Missouri

The abbreviation 'Jan' for January, and '55' for 1955 indicates that the subscription of Rev. Smith expires with the issue for January, 1955. We also try to have the word 'EXPIRATION'

appear just below the address, but this doesn't always happen. So we suggest that you watch your key number and be very prompt to renew.

IRREGULARITIES

There are a great many chances for errors and irregularities in making up our mailing list, and it is inevitable that these will happen. We are proud that we have had so few of them. Our interest is not just to receive your paid subscription, but to see that you receive it regularly. Recently we were told of an error in which a man had not received his Gem for the whole year. In checking, it had been sent to a different town, but we had never been notified. Apparently the postoffice to which it was sent merely discarded it. And the man himself failed to let us know. When we found out about it we corrected the error and extended the subscription so that he will receive all he should have received.

If there is anything at all wrong in the address, the postoffice is under no obligation to deliver your paper. They are supposed to notify us at our additional expense—but do not always do so. So if there is any irregularity about receiving your Gem, or if you learn of others who are irregular, we urge you to let us know at once.

And be sure to subscribe to and read the Free Will Baptist Gem —\$1.00.

F.W.B. ALBUM

Richwoods, Missouri

Dear Bro. Jeffreys:

I'll be on the safe side and send in our Sunday School averages early this month so as to keep up the records. We are proud of our Sunday School and of our superintendent, Bro. Sohn. I think it would be nice to publish the names of the superintendents right along with the pastor, if it isn't too much trouble.

We have bought three lots that join the other lot we already have, and are praying and planning on starting a building program in the early spring. Our present building is too small to hold the congregations.

The former pastor of the church, Rev. Roger Reeds, was with us on Sunday, December 26, and preached a wonderful sermon.

God bless you both, Bro. and Sis. Jeffreys is our prayer, and I'll say

thank you for the nice picture in the Gem. I'll put that in my Free Will Baptist album, as I collect F.W.B. pictures.

I would like to say Happy New Year to all of the Gem readers. Pray for us here in Richwoods.

Mrs. Leslie Logsdon

CHURCH DEDICATED (from page 3)

was done, bath rooms complete, and a baptistry installed.

Up to this time we were having cottage prayer meetings each Wednesday evening. Much praying was being done.

We were concerned as to where our church furniture was coming from. The Lord marvelously provided that, too, along with all the rest. Another church had disbanded in a small town not far from here, and they were selling their building. We purchased the furniture for \$300.00. There were enough nice built up oak seats to exactly fill our auditorium, and enough older pine seats for all of the balcony.

Almost all of the labor was volunteered. Rev. Lester Jones designed the building (which was approved by the membership), and was the head carpenter. There were men from five different country churches who donated labor and many other gifts. One man did all of the wiring; another man did the plumbing. On one day 30 men were working. Some worked almost every day from start to finish. One man, 75 or 76 years old, worked all winter. And two others near 70 worked tirelessly. The outside construction is finished in permarstone. The entire cost of the building was a little less than \$20,000.

We have a tithe and offering box near the entrance of the church for the convenience of the worshippers. Each member is a pledged tither. There has been only two offerings taken since the church was organized. They were while Rev. Joe Ange was here in our revival in August.

We have a very active Auxiliary organized October 23, 1953, and now have 20 active members.

The Sunday School now averages 85.

One of our trustees has purchased a six-room house which has been com-

pletely remodeled. It is in the same block with the church, and completes the block. Bro. Jones and his wife moved into it recently.

Trustees of the church are Gene Mikel, Eugene Swisher, Charles Anderson, Forrest Hediger and Dwane Matthew.

We cannot thank the Lord enough for all His blessings. So it was indeed an occasion of rejoicing at the dedication services.

We were happy to have Bro. Dodd and Bro. Smith back with us for the dedication service. Rev. Rolla Smith brought the morning message. A basket dinner was enjoyed at the noon hour. The Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church dismissed their morning service to be with us, along with many others—some coming over 100 miles.

The dedication service was at 2:00 o'clock. Rev. Damon Dodd brought the message and conducted the dedication service. Our pastor, Rev. Lester Jones, presented the Bible as our infallible guide of faith and practice. Bro. Ora Gates, deacon, presented the Treatise as our rules or order and doctrine. Bro. Dwane Matthew, Sunday School superintendent, represented the Sunday School. Bro. Eugene Swisher, League director, represented the League. Sis. Alta Mickle, Auxiliary president, represented the Auxiliary. Bro. A. E. Care, deacon, represented the church body. Bro. Gene Mikel, president of Board of Trustees, presented the key to the building. These, along with each member of the church, were dedicated to the Lord in a very impressive ceremony. Rev. Rolla Smith offered the dedicatory prayer.

There were five additions to the church at the morning service. Three were baptized at the close of the evening service. We now have a membership of 49, and have lost one member by death. Most of the additions to the church have been through conversions.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us, and the leadership of our pastor and wife. When we look at our new building, we can only say, "Look at what God hath wrought." We are so thankful for a place to worship. We ask an interest in your prayers that we might continue faithful in all good works.

FOREIGN MISSIONS ITINERARY PLANNED IN STATE OF MISSOURI

Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary of the National Board of Foreign Missions in the Free Will Baptist denomination, plans to visit a number of churches in this state during the month of February in the interest of missions. He will show colored slides of the mission work in India,



Rev. Raymond Riggs

and also relate some of his experiences while on deputation on the field with the missionaries there last year.

As it will be impossible for Bro. Riggs to visit every church in the state, we reviewed this matter with him while in his office in Nashville recently. Together we have tried to select churches in the different parts of the state which are centrally located, to which other churches nearby may come in for the mission service. We are suggesting that each church prepare a special mission offering (ahead of time), and present it during the meeting at the church nearest yours where a mission meeting is to be held. These special offerings will apply on the suggested quota for foreign missions from this state for the year ending June 30, 1955.

We appreciate all who are giving regularly to foreign missions through the co-operative fund and otherwise, but as of December first, our state has raised only a little over one-third of our suggested quota for the year. So we

should appreciate the privilege of giving a special offering for this purpose. Following is the proposed itinerary as scheduled.

Friday night, February 4—The Lead Belt area, at Fellowship Church in Flat River.

Saturday night, February 5—St. Louis area, at Berkley Church.

Sunday, February 6—Kirksville area, First Church in Kirksville (and such other services as may be arranged by the pastors of that area).

Monday night, February 7—First Church of Kansas City or Hickory Grove near Harrisonville.

Tuesday night, February 8—Hannon Church near Liberal.

Wednesday night, February 9—Monett area, First Church in Monett.

Thursday night, February 10—Joplin area, Carteville Church.

Friday night, February 11—Niangua Church.

Saturday night, February 12—Mountain Grove Church.

Sunday morning, February 13—Thayer Church.

Sunday night, February 13—Myrtle Church.

We trust that this will be a great time of fellowship and spiritual blessings, as well as a time of information and inspiration in the mission work.

Yours in the Master's service,

Rev. O. T. Allred

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE PROMOTES MISSIONS

This Missionary Conference is a wonderful way in which to promote the cause of Foreign Missions.

A series of services with the missionary emphasis will usually do a church as much good as a revival meeting. It will deepen her spiritual life, enlarge her vision and focus her attention on the ultimate goal of every New Testament church. It is the outreach of evangelism that will keep a church spiritually alive. When this is curbed, the church will die a spiritual death. 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 river 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).

Show me a church that has lost its concern to evangelize the world and I will show you a church that has lost its 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.

I am glad to say that there are several such churches in our denomination, and many of our pastors are catching the vision, and are sponsoring a Missionary Conference. Actually, there are more requests coming in for a Missionary Conference than we know how to handle in our schedule. Keep them coming, however, and we will do our best to oblige; or else we shall advise you just how you may conduct your own Missionary Conference.

An example of a successful missionary conference on the local church level is the Second Annual Missionary Conference of the Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, N. C. The pastor, Rev. Joe Ange planned the program with the following speakers: Dr. Clyde Taylor, Rev. Bruce Barrow, Mrs. G. W. Timyan and Rev. Raymond Riggs. Every session was packed with information and inspiration that was a blessing and a challenge to all who attended.

The pattern of most Missionary Conferences is to solicit pledges for Foreign Missions to be paid within the next year. Many people do not believe in making a pledge, yet the same people will think nothing of buying a new car, furniture, farm machinery, television or something else, with a small amount as down payment, and then sign a "pledge" to pay the balance in monthly installments. It is a funny thing, we will pledge for ourselves—but not for God—or His work! Well, Bro. Ange believes in pledges, so he led his people into pledging for Foreign Missions.

In the Sunday School hour each Sunday School class was asked to

make a monthly pledge as a separate unit. These pledges were turned over to the Sunday School Superintendent, the entire pledge from the Sunday School was read in the Sunday evening service. In the Sunday morning and Sunday evening services the individual pledge cards were received and tabulated on an adding machine, so that all could see and hear. Only the totals on the pledge cards were read. No names were mentioned. It was a real thrill to watch the pledges come in, and to have the Scripture verified, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

The total pledges received amounted to \$5,557.76. The church had already approved \$1,500.00 in her budget for Foreign Missions, so this makes a total of \$7,057.76 from Edgemont Church to be given within the next year for Foreign Missions. This church is also supporting every other phase of our denominational work.

We thank the Lord for Edgemont Church and her fine pastor, Joe Ange. The church recently hired a full-time Educational Director in the person of Dan Merkh. They are looking forward to a greater Missionary Conference next year.

Rev. Raymond Riggs

MISSIONARIES COST MONEY

A new transaction has taken place on the books of the Board of Foreign Missions. I am speaking, of course, of our missionary account on Japan. It is our hope that soon we shall have more accounts for different mission fields, and I am sure as our people make the funds available, the Lord will open doors for us to enter.

Following is a letter from the Calverys in Japan, along with their first finance report. Also following is the new address of our missionaries there:

Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery
c/o Kesaki Wada
325 2 Chome
Nakamegure
Tokyo, Japan

"First of all, the exchange rate of the American dollar here is 358 yen but for convenience sake most everyone calls it 360. All of our money must be changed into yen. We are not permitted to retain any American currency.

"Another point that should be ex-

plained is the rent. Our rent expenses for this report are very high as you can see. This could not be avoided because we did not know what we were going to do when we arrived. Mr. McPhail met us at the boat and took us to his home. It was evident that we could not stay there very long because of the crowded condition. So Mr. McPhail already had a house for us in Tokorozawa. We took it so we would have a place to stay and store our things. The rent for a half-month was 5,000 yen and we had to pay 20,000 yen deposit on the house which we could not get back. After being there a few days we got in touch with Mr. Newbrander and he advised us to use the language school in Tokyo rather than a private tutor. Also he advised that we find a house closer to the language school. (Tokorozawa is about two hours drive from the school. Even though rent would be higher in Tokyo it would be cheaper in the long run when our physical condition was considered, he advised. After making a few trips by train and by car to Tokyo, we decided that it would be best for us to move to Tokyo. Also, most of the other missionaries that we talked to advised the same. FEGC 'loaned' us their Japanese man who finds their houses and he and I walked the streets of Tokyo for three days and finally found a house for 15,000 yen and only 10 minutes from the school. We felt that it was a real answer to prayer. We have already moved in and like it very much. We are very thankful because housing in Japan is very critical.

"We have not yet registered the car so that expense will be in the next report. By then I may be able to estimate a promotional expense account.

"Other missionaries have been very nice to us since we have been here. We have seen several that we met while we were in Minneapolis two years ago, and the fellowship has been good. Especially the McPhails and the Newbranders have been nice to us. They have taken us in just as they would one of their own missionaries. We have gained from them help that has been most beneficial to us. We have learned many things that we want to pass on to others coming to Japan so if you know of others coming, it would be fine if we could correspond with them a year before they leave for Japan. We know many things now

that if we had known before we could have saved much expense, time and energy. But we praise the Lord that we are here and happy in His will for us."

EXPENSE ACCOUNT

December 1, 1954

Express chgs. on baggage from Waco to San Francisco	\$ 65.43
Travel from Waco to San Francisco (gas and oil) ...	45.58
Motel en route to San Francisco	13.50
Household equipment bought in California:	
Refrigerator	159.00
Oil Heater	49.00
Mattress	35.00
Tax	7.32
Packing for export	59.59
Freight on car paid to Pacific Far East Lines	465.00
Required transit insurance for car	15.60
Sub Total	\$ 925.38

Rent and Rental Charges (yen):	
Two weeks rent in Tokorozawa	5,000
Deposit on house in Tokorozaka	20,000
Rent in Tokyo (Dec. 1 thru Jan. 1)	15,000
Sub Total (yen)	40,000
or	\$ 111.11

Duty and Tax on Goods Brought to Japan (yen):	
Duty	6,120
Tax	18,760
Sub Total (yen)	24,880
or	\$ 69.11

Paid to Japan Express (yen):	
Personal effects	8,567
Automobile	14,495
Sub Total (yen)	23,062
or	\$ 64.06

Grand Total of Expenses	\$1,169.66
Received check for freight on car, promotion, freight, rent and November salary to the amount of	\$1,450.00
Expense and salary	1,319.66

Remaining in Promotional Fund	130.34
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Sincerely,

Wesley Calvery



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

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



REGRETS OR RESULTS

How we wish it was possible to visit personally with each of you today and have a real heart to heart talk, but since it isn't, I'm sure we are all thankful for this means of serving our Lord.

We are now in the first month of a new year. Since 1954 has become history and a new 1955 is before us, I have been looking back on a full year forever past and do not see the fruitful results that I wish I might. Instead, I regret not doing and not being able to do more. Is this your experience? I trust it isn't. I have been asking myself how many souls needed a helping hand and I was too busy to lend them help? How many discouraged hearts longed for me to speak a word of encouragement? How many unsaved hoped for the Word of Truth and that earnest prayer that they might be guided into the way of salvation? Did the sick spend the lonely hours on their bed of affliction and expect me to come and spend just a few moments? Have I spent the time in my private Bible reading and prayer and, I think even more important, is the Lord pleased with the amount of time spent in study and prayer in our family devotions? Do we go into our daily devotions because it is a part of our day's routine or because we expect that blessing of peace and contentment?

These are just a few of the regrets that we might have, but the good part is that we may live lives that bear the results of fruitful living. We are beginning a new year and I trust we will daily resolve to do some service that will count for eternity. I know that God has not blessed us all in the same way that we are able to do all things all the time. Some of us are restricted in visiting but there are never any restrictions on Bible study and prayer. It has been my blessed privilege, after I'd prayed

about what the Lord would have me do, to have some person in need to call in my home.

If we are laboring under the call of some special service, let us endeavor to do our very best in this year. But, did I hear someone say, "I don't have a special call?" Maybe not, as a minister, teacher, missionary, or singer and others, but your place of service is just as important and God looks to you to fill that certain place in a pew, visit the sick, witness to the lost, encourage the weak and pray the prayer of faith. All Christians are ministers of the Word.

Will you not join with us in our endeavor to make our lives fruitful for Him, so that if the Lord tarry throughout this year, we will have fewer regrets at the close. Really, I'm looking for His coming any time. Are you?

W. A. Editor

PREPARATION ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFUL LABORER

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

We are living in a day when we realize that the acquiring of knowledge is a very important part of living. We, as parents, are very prompt in sending our children to school and in seeing that each lesson is studied to our satisfaction. When high school is completed we then think of college or preparing for a special occupation. Young men and women today are studying to be lawyers, doctors, nurses, teachers, ministers, missionaries—and rightly so, for to do a job well one must be prepared.

As members of a F.W.B. Woman's Auxiliary are we preparing to do our job well? We are all workmen and must study to meet

the approval of God.

How very important that we know the Word of God and study it diligently. When we pray we talk to God, but He speaks to us through His Word. It is presumption to expect the help of the Spirit without earnest study and prayer. Patient study of the Word will lead to rare discoveries of truth. Through studying the Word of God we learn to walk pleasing to Him.

We hear many of our Free Will Baptist women say, "I would be an Auxiliary member but I don't know a thing about it." Again I say, "study." It is important that we study the Manual of Woman's Auxiliary Methods. All who have tried them have found the Workshop Meetings very helpful. Also officers' "My Job" leaflets are available free. Through the study of these and our Year Book surely we may learn to be Auxiliary members that will meet with Divine approval.

Missions is one of the greatest tasks before us as workers today. We find that when we see the greatness of the need before us we put forth a greater effort to meet this need. Therefore, it is important that we study missions, both home and foreign. Many of our young people are giving themselves as home and foreign missionaries, so let us study until we understand their needs to the extent that we are willing to give of our prayers and our money until each need is met.

When we mention stewardship, many immediately think only of giving of their money, but after studying stewardship we learn that not only are we stewards of the money God gives us but also of our time, of our talents, of the gospel and of everything that God trusts us with. Let us learn how to use these wisely for some day the Lord will come and we will have to give an account of our stewardship.

It is also important that we study ways of doing successful personal work. Every Christian should consider it the highest honor, and the greatest privilege to thus work for God. We should realize that it is not only our privilege, but that a most solemn responsibility rests upon us to assist in the growth of the Kingdom of God by personal effort in soul-winning. Perhaps there is someone in your community who will never be won for Christ unless you win him personally. This is a matter of eternal life or eternal death, so as workmen let us strive to win souls for the Lord Jesus.

I realize there are many other subjects that require our special study. May each of us study until we are indeed "workmen that needeth not to be ashamed."

Mrs. Wayne Parsons
Green Top, Missouri
State Study Course Chairman

GIVE FRUIT BASKETS

Fellowship Auxiliary
Flat River, Missouri

A Christmas Greeting to All:

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all be together just one time? But since that will never happen while we are here on earth, I am so glad that out there in that better land we can all meet and never part. How wonderful it is just to think about it!

Our Auxiliary met at the home of Mrs. Will Turkey for our Christmas program. There were 29 present. The program theme was "It's Christmas Again." A very good program was rendered. Gifts were exchanged, after which refreshments were served. A good fellowship was enjoyed. We are thankful for our Auxiliary and what it means to our church, and to all who have a part in this work.

We gave fruit baskets to all the widows of the church and some others who are not members. It was such a satisfaction to have part in taking them and trying to bring joy and gladness to the heart of others. After all, it is the little things in life that count.

My prayer is that God will bless the denomination in the coming year, and keep us where we can be used in His great cause. God bless everyone, and pray for us at Fellowship Auxiliary

that we will ever be humble in His service.

Marie Hildebrand, reporter

TO QUILT FOR ORPHANAGE

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Union Free Will Baptist Church near Thompsonville, Illinois met at the church on January 6, with 11 members and two children present. The meeting was opened with singing, which was followed with prayer by Sis. Flo Elam. Sis. Annie Zanters was in charge of the program. The Scripture, Matthew 25:14-30, was read by Sis. Zola McClerren. After another congregational number, the introduction of the lesson was given by Sis. Bessie Morris. Topics were discussed by Sis. Ethel McClerren, Sis. Flo Elam and Sis. Ethel Boyer. Minutes were read and the roll call taken. An offering was received and prayer offered by Sis. Osie Reynolds.

We decided to have an all-day service for the February meeting and make a quilt to be sent to the orphanage. A committee was named to select the pattern to use on the quilt. Also, a committee was named to arrange a play for Easter. It was agreed that each individual would send birthday greetings to all missionaries appearing in the year book.

The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Rev. Joyce B. Owning.

Juanita McClerren, secretary

JOINT MEETING

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Hannon Free Will Baptist Church near Liberal, Missouri met at the church Wednesday, January 5, with seven members and one visitor present. The Young Ladies' Auxiliary met with us, with five members present. We met together each quarter, with each auxiliary taking turns in presenting the lesson.

The older ladies were organized November 27 by Sis. Lizzie McAdams, with eight members. Six additional members have been added. The present officers are: President, Roena Thomas; 1st vice, Bessie Bunton; 2nd vice, Pearl Lewis; 3rd vice, Frankie Wade; 4th vice, Mae Cummins; 5th vice, Olive Smith, and secretary-treasurer, Gertie Crabtree.

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, 10½ x 5¼ 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

The young ladies were organized in November, 1949, with nine members. Their present officers are: President, Alice Hoover; vice president, Margaret Smith, and secretary-treasurer, Dixie Keltner.

After a very interesting lesson, the meeting was dismissed by Sis. Bessie Bunton.

Gertrude Crabtree, secretary

MONETT AUXILIARY PLANS MANUAL STUDY SESSION

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett met at the church for their evening session early in the new year. A hymn was sung by the group, and prayer by Sis. Pearl Alexander opened the session. An unusually interesting and moving lesson was presented by Sis. Marjorie Hultgren, who have a review of a portion of the book, "Personal Soul Winning," by Rev. Eunice Edwards.

Sis. Pearl Thomas, president, conducted the business meeting during which roll call was answered by favorite Bible verses, and minutes of the previous session were read. The vice chairmen made their reports.

Plans were made for a study course of the Auxiliary Manual for the evening of January 17. The next regular meeting was announced to meet in the home of Sis. Pearl Thomas. Dismissal was with prayer by Sis. Alta Johnson.

Join thyself to the eternal God, and thou shalt be eternal. —Augustine

Truth bottled up and slyly choked, becomes a lie though never spoken.

Profanity is the effort of a weak mind trying to express itself forcibly.

JACOB

"And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel; for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed." Gen. 32:28.

This verse of Scripture is one of the most important ever uttered. It tells us of a mighty decision made by a Powerful One who had wrestled all night with Jacob, the first true Israelite. Jacob said that this was God: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved" (v30).

All Bible readers know the story of Jacob the cheater, the supplanter. He fled from his home to keep from being killed by his brother, Esau. Rebekah, his mother, said in Genesis 27:42, "Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee." So here he is deep in trouble, wrestling with an angel.

Hosea tells us he had power with God. He says, "Yet, he had power over an angel, and prevailed." (12:4). How? "He wept, and made supplication to him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us; even the Lord God of hosts." So an Israelite is one who prevails with God. We see here the beginning of the Israel of God, Jacob found Him in Bethel.

Let us examine this place. When Jacob left home, sad and alone, and laid down to sleep, he took stones and laid his head on them for a pillow. There all night alone under the stars, he dreamed; but what a dream. "And behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And behold, the Lord stood above it." (Gen. 22:12)

What a glorious picture of the house of God! Jacob called it Bethel—the house of God, and stated "this is the gate of heaven." Surely Jacob saw in his dream the great type of the Church that our Lord set up on the mountain (Luke 6:12-13).

Bethel became a place to worship God. We read of it in Genesis 31:13 where God said, "I am

the God of Bethel, where thou anointest the pillow." God said in Genesis 35:1, "Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there: and make an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother." Then Jacob began to prepare his household to go to Bethel. "Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be ye clean, and change your garments." We read where clean garments can be obtained: Rev. 3:18, "Buy of me . . . white raiment." In Revelation 19:8, "The fine linen is the righteousness of saints."

Jacob and his household went up to Bethel, and we read that "He built an altar there, and called the place El-Bethel—the God of Bethel." We could trace the references to Bethel on and on, but in one more reference, in Amos 7:13 we see where the world had captured Bethel "But prophecy not again any more at Bethel; for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court." It is now modern, belonging to the big boys. Boards now rule it.

Jeroboam had made two golden calves, "and set one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan." I Kings 12:29. And he said to the Israelites, "Behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt."

He made a house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people. Read I Kings: 12. Once the ark stood there; once Abraham built an altar there; but now it is defiled.

But Jacob was faithful in his life, and was the first man called Israel. We read in Gal. 6:16 of the true Israel of God: "As many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Who are included in this true Israel? "They are not all Israel who are of Israel" Rom. 9:6.

The promise made to Abraham, the man of faith, are fulfilled—if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise." So all who belong to Christ are true Israelites.

Believing this, we see all promises made to the Jews as a nation are fulfilled, and they must be

born into the kingdom proclaimed by John. After such a long time of darkness and chaos of over four centuries, now the "Voice of one crying in the wilderness" proclaims the new era of the Kingdom of God into which no Jew could enter but through the new birth. John 1:12-13; 3:3.

John the Baptist said to the Pharisees and Sadducees (the formalists and free thinkers of the Jews), "Bring forth fruits meet for repentance" Matt. 3:8. Continuing, he said, "Think not to say within yourselves, we have Abraham to our father, for I say unto you that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now the ax is laid into the root of the tree. Therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire" (v9).

Jesus started His teaching and preaching with these words: "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." So, to be in the kingdom, we must prevail with God. We see how Jacob became a true son—"He wept and made supplication." He truly repented. Later we see him preparing his household and taking them up to Bethel.

Essie Herron-Sulphur, Oklahoma

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM HELD

Dear Bro. and Sis. Jeffreys:

I just want to thank you so much for the picture of your family on the Gem. I value it as one of my Christmas gifts. I am proud of it, and will keep it as though it was of personal friends. Those dear children and a wife like that are bound to be an inspiration to any man. No wonder the Gem has been getting better and better all these five years. I certainly appreciate the efforts of you and your helpers for our paper.

Well, once again Christmas has come and gone. We at Pleasant Valley and the Demonstration Club combined to have a Christmas tree and treats for everyone. The story of the Christ Child was read after we had all sung "Silent Night." There was singing by the little ones and by the juniors. There was a recitation by the senior teacher. Then the senior member of our Sunday

School and club brought thoughts of what the Christ Child means to us at this present day, not to forget that we are keeping His birthday, and to never drop the Christ out of Christmas, for when we write it 'Xmas' we have crossed Christ out on His birthday. Also, the older ones were admonished to make room for Jesus in their hearts. The capable teacher of the little folks had charge, and Santa came in for a visit. She helped to distribute the treats which were carried to the recipients by three nice young fellows. Everyone there received a treat, and everything went off nicely and quietly.

We are thanking the Lord for a nice rain which was needed very much.

Our church is still working for the Lord, though perhaps not as earnestly as we should. We have Sunday School every Sunday, and preaching services three Sundays each month. We have a sixteen year old boy preaching here each third Sunday. He is pretty good. Our pastor comes each fourth Saturday and Sunday. Bro. Wheeler, a member here, preaches for us on another Sunday.

I am almost an invalid, am nearly 84 years old. You will find enclosed my renewal for the Gem. I sure don't want to do without it.

I ask an interest in your prayers and, as ever, I am a well wisher to you. May God bless all is my prayer.

Mrs. J. W. Wilkey,
Mammoth Springs, Arkansas

P.S. Sis. Wilkey, we are flattered by your appreciation of our picture and your pleasure with our efforts. Editor.

REVIVAL ATMOSPHERE IN PHOENIX CHURCH

Phoenix, Arizona
311 East Carol
Sunnyslope

Dear Bro. and Sis. Jeffreys:

The Lord led us to this needy and promising field here in Phoenix, Arizona. We are believing Him for the victory, and see His hand at work in establishing a testimony to His name here.

On Sunday night, two weeks ago, we saw seven souls come to the Lord at an old fashioned altar of prayer.

A new block church building is under construction now. The men are donating their work. God is sending

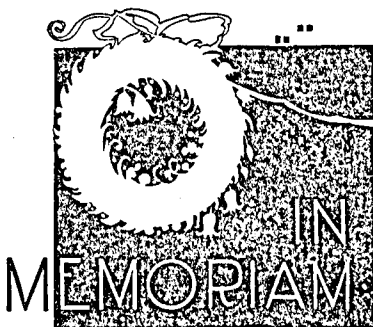
in money for the building fund. Others are answering God's call to them for service, and we believe other churches will soon be established here. There are only two in this section at present—one here and the other at Tucson. We are renting a building for worship until the new church is finished.

Our Sunday School has a good attendance for a work so new. One hundred was the largest attendance, but it averages from 65 to 85 regularly.

The love and unity of the saints here is the warmest I have seen anywhere. The old fashioned handshakes, the shouting, the tears of joy, as well as conviction of sin remind us of revival days of long ago. And we praise the Lord for His continued faithfulness to us, and for His leading us here to encourage the hearts of the faithful followers.

The new pastor's name is Rev. Jesse Stepp, formerly of Oklahoma. God is using him as a real blessing. We are glad to be here as a home mission worker.

Emma Moore



EVERETT WAIF COMBS

Everett Waif Combs, son of Rev. Nathan and Susie Combs, was born near Couch, Missouri, August 20, 1894 and departed this life November 19, 1954 in St. John's Hospital, Springfield, Missouri. He was 60 years, two months and 29 days of age.

On July 15, 1913 he was united in marriage to Rosa E. Tarlton. To this union nine children were born. One daughter, Leona, preceded him in death on June 13, 1935; also, his father, mother and one brother preceded him in death.

Left to mourn his departure are his

wife and eight children, who are: Rev. Davie, Ralph, and Clifford Combs, all of Couch; Lawrence Combs of Thayer; Russell Allen Combs, U. S. Navy, San Diego, California; Donald Waif of the home; Viola Strain of Alton; and Vestta Sanders, Couch. He leaves eight grandchildren. Surviving brothers are: Irvin Combs, Memphis, Tennessee; W. B. Combs, Alton; Jake Combs, Couch; Joe Combs, Alicia, Arkansas; David Combs, Alton; and sisters, Eva Williams and Ila Frey of Couch. Also a number of relatives and friends who mourn his passing.

He was converted and baptized in 1941, and united with the Piney Free Will Baptist Church. He lived a devoted Christian life until Jesus called him home. He was a loving husband, father, neighbor and a friend to all who knew him.

Services were held Sunday, November 21, at 2:00 p. m. at Cotton Creek conducted by Rev. E. E. Simpson and Rev. Billie Rogers. Burial was in the Cotton Creek Cemetery. Pallbearers were Irvin, Jake, David, W. B. and Joe Combs, and Marvin Williams.

ANNUAL REPORT OF NEW HARMONY S. S.

Average Attendance	70
Average Offering	\$ 18.62
Amount on hand at beginning of year ..	\$ 490.17
Taken in this year ..	1,067.97
Total	\$1,558.14

EXPENDITURES:

Missions	\$ 387.70
Bible College	60.00
Literature Companies ..	100.44
Adair Lumber Co. for hardware floor ..	125.26
Sunday School Con- vention expense ...	14.69
Free Will Baptist Enterprise	12.50
Song Book Company ..	140.00
Pastor's gift during illness	30.06
Peterson's for folding chairs	130.00
Christmas treat	18.00
Miscellaneous	93.85
Paid out this year	\$1,112.50

Balance January 1, 1955

Sis. Martha Buchanan, secretary
Rev. Mildred Gilliam, pastor

STILL LIKES MISSOURI

Ashland City, Tenn.
Route 1

Dear Bro. Jeffreys:

We had a very enjoyable Christmas. We spent the holidays at home. The first week with my wife's folks at Mountain Grove and the second week with my folks in St. Louis. There is no place like good old Missouri. Be it the Lord's will I should like to return there this year when I complete my education, but then He may not wish to send me there.

Our church here in Tennessee is progressing nicely. We averaged 130 for the month of November but I have not totaled our December attendance yet. It will be slightly lower though due to the holidays and bad weather. We are in the process of adding three more class rooms with a basement under them. Remember us when you pray.

We received our copies of the Gem at our new address and appreciate your sending them. That is a fine picture of you and your family on the cover of the December edition.

In Christ and His Service,

Rev. Roger C. Reeds

PAINTING PRESENTED

In the press of things here at the office, we frequently overlook things—often news of interest and importance. In reporting the League Rally held with the Kansas City Church, we overlooked some statistics of the church which had been provided us. So we think them still of interest, and submit them herewith.

The church is located at Forty-third Street and Garfield Avenue. The group recently observed their sixth anniversary, and noted that it has increased in number six times since its organization. Rev. Mrs. Alice Dickey and her husband, Mr. Raymond R. Dickey, have provided the leadership during this time, they having been foremost in the organization of the church. Mrs. Dickey has been the church's only pastor, and Mr. Dickey serves on the board of deacons.

An oil painting was presented to the church by Mrs. Margaret Baldwin and dedicated in connection with the anniversary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE ATTENDANCE RECORDS

	JA	FE	MR	AP	MA	JN	JL	AU	SE	OC	NO	DE
Richwoods	55.	68.	55.	70.	63.	77.	68.	82.	87.	88.	99.	82
(League)	26.	26.	30.	29.	27.	25.	30.	33.	53.	53.	58.	53
<i>Leslie Logsdon, pastor; Clarence Sohn, S.S. superintendent and League pres.</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.	100.	97.	92.	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.	51.	59.	62.	55
<i>Wm. Turnbough, pastor</i>												
Salem, St. Louis	56.		50.	51.								
<i>Lawrence Thompson, pastor</i>												
Fredericktown	158.	172.	183.		161.	169.	160.	160.	177.	213.	166.	158
<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.	65.	55.		56.	
<i>Winford Davis, pastor</i>												
Southside, St. Louis	118.	159.	160.	182.	157.	173.	147.	174.	174.	192.	192.	
<i>James Franklin, pastor</i>												
Mountain Grove	176.	193.	195.	238.	200.	210.	210.	208.	194.	189.	185.	171
<i>Fred Kirby, pastor</i>												
Elizabethton, Tenn. First ...	206.	217.	204.	245.	218.	212.	171.	199.	211.	186.	189.	
<i>Harvey E. Hill, pastor</i>												
Oilton, Oklahoma	116.	133.	129.	182.				121.				
<i>Benjamin Scott, pastor</i>												
Lawnwood, Tulsa, Okla.	157.	165.	166.	229.	175.	173.	152.	180.	186.	188.	196.	180
<i>H. E. Staires, pastor; G. W. Cunningham, superintendent</i>												
Phillips Chapel, Arkansas ...	170.	165.	163.	176.	175.	174.	168.	160.	153.	158.	142.	133
<i>Tommy Day, pastor</i>												
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool	44.	40.	51.		41.	51.	46.	58.	49.	48.	49	
<i>Ezra Butts, pastor</i>												
First Church, Joplin	50.											
<i>Paul Williams, pastor</i>												
Parkview, Desloge	86.	90.	96.	103.	95.	91.	87.	95.	91.	93.		
<i>John Long, pastor</i>												
Mcnett	78.	78.	81.	77.	72.	71.	93.	105.	100.	100.	105	
<i>James Davis, pastor</i>												
Berkeley, 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, NW Mo. .	25.	25.	24.									
<i>No pastor</i>												
Fellowship, Flat River	140.	141.	170.	185.	167.	161.	149.	162.	178.	187.	185.	181
<i>Rolla Smith, pastor</i>												
Leadington	111.	132.	116.									
<i>Eunice Edwards, pastor</i>												
St. Mary's, New Bern, N.C. .			325.	317.	303.			296.	305.	354.	310	
(League)											52.	52
<i>Cecil H. Campbell, pastor</i>												

Bring Your Report up to date—Send us your averages

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF F.W.B. BIBLE COLLEGE

July 1, 1954 - December 31, 1954

INCOME:

Gifts	\$20,692.35
W.N.A.C.	294.37
Misc. income ...	396.52
Matriculat'n fees	365.00
Registration fees	2,037.50
Tuition	10,281.05
Activity fees	802.50
Room	6,365.23
Board	15,999.60
Music fees	657.50
Library gifts	147.73
Miscellaneous small	
fee accounts ..	85.90
Bookstore sales...	5,456.39

\$63,581.72

EXPENDITURES:

Administrative &	
teaching sal.	18,243.36
Office salaries ...	3,434.99
Kitchen salaries..	1,775.35
Household sal. ..	1,710.00
Library salaries..	1,350.00
Maint. & repairs..	4,237.57
Travel expense ..	705.88
School supplies..	66.17
Telephone exp. ...	709.36
Heat	1,278.90
Electricity	428.44
Water bill	212.05
Laundry	27.30
Groceries	5,431.43
Household sup. ...	230.15
Misc. expense ...	421.21
Printing	1,415.74
Insurance	955.49
Office exp.	1,049.40
Library expense ..	289.71
Practical work	
depart'm't exp.	236.15
Board of trus-	
tees expense ..	437.86
Quartet itinerary	
expense	2,529.72
Employer S.S.	
taxes	142.89
Interest	114.59
Unified program..	1,500.00
Additions to	
fixed assets ...	2,050.24
Bookstore purch.	4,433.73
Bookstore genl.	
expense	12.99

\$55,430.67

Income over expenses\$ 8,151.05

GIFTS BY STATES

July 1, 1954 - December 31, 1954

Alabama	\$ 715.96
Arkansas	764.63
California	383.14
Florida	283.00
Georgia	1,435.67
Illinois	512.45
Kentucky	213.82
Kansas	11.00
Maine	10.00
Michigan	988.99
Mississippi	713.26
Missouri	1,206.42
New Mexico	5.00
North Carolina	4,574.67
Ohio	802.00
Oklahoma	1,619.28
South Carolina	968.28
Tennessee	2,911.76
Texas	2,046.30
Virginia	563.94
West Virginia	97.33

Total\$20,826.90

Please check your state gifts to see if your state is doing as much as it should. The College is dependant largely upon the gifts from our people for its operation.

YOUTH QUESTIONS

Question: Do you think it is all right for a girl of sixteen to kiss a boy that she is not engaged to? Is it permissible to "neck" if you don't go too far? How about drinking to be sociable.

We are very perplexed by the many different opinions of our friends.—Barbara and four others.

Answer: I think it is not right for a girl of sixteen to kiss a boy to whom she is not engaged. Kisses promiscuously given are like the clothes slightly soiled and greatly reduced in price.

No girl ought herself to become a chunk of salt for every male cow to lick. If a girl kisses one boy, he knows she is apt to kiss every boy she goes with.

When you ask me if it is permissible to "neck," I will ask you: How can young people "neck" without going too far? You can no more "neck" without thinking wrong than a doe can neck with a skunk and stay free from odor.

As to drinking to be sociable, you had ad well ask me how about taking brains out of the skull in order to be

sensible, or about becoming bald to have a lovely head of hair, or about pouring hog slop on ice cream to make it more palatable, or punching out the eyes to see clearly.

A dove never wants to be sociable with a buzzard.

The Bible says, without any thought of urging people to be sociable, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." (Prov. 20:1)

And if you are not wise, you are the opposite. The girl who can be won for a wife by drinking to be sociable is not worthy. The boy you can win for a husband by drinking to be sociable isn't worth wiping your feet on. The friend you can hold by drinking booze to be sociable isn't worth the powder and shot it would take to shoot him.

—Robert G. Lee

THE PASTOR & THE DOCTOR

"Mrs. Huff is up the miff tree
On a seat fixed good and firm;
And she'd like to tell the pastor
A few things and make him squirm.

Mrs. Huff was sick abed sir,
Yes, sir, sick abed a week!
And the pastor didn't call, sir,
Never even took a peek.

When I asked her if the doctor
Called to see her, she said, "Sure;"
And she looked as if she thot I
Needed some good mind cure.

Then I asked her if the doctor
Knew that sickness laid her low,
And she said that she had called him
On the phone and told him so.

Now the doctor gets his bill paid
With a nicely written check,
But the pastor, for not knowing,
Simply gets it in the neck."

—Church Bulletin

A Church member may dwell in sin's garden, but he will only find thistles to satisfy his hunger.

—J. Harold Smith

"When a man or woman goes on a vacation there are two things that ought not to be left behind—common sense and religion, You will have need of both."

REDEEMING THE TIME

"Wherefore he saith, Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. . . . Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Eph. 5:14,16.

God is ringing the door bell of every home in the world to arouse

us from our comfortable sleep, and awaken us to the needs about us. He is pleading with us to let our light shine out in this darkened world. God means business. We dare not take His word lightly. We must be gathering for Him or we are scattering abroad.

If trouble or tragedies have not touched your life, it is fast on the way in the gathering storm that is hanging over our entire world. We need to awaken while we have the golden opportunity to spread the Gospel of Hope and Peace.

We are again approaching the season when we make plans for our Daily Vacation Bible School and Youth Conferences. Many are uninterested and think, "I have no children." But God needs you in this great work. We must pray as we select our youth workers, and then stand behind them with our prayers and support, that we may have consecrated workers who love God and the souls of our boys and girls, and whose desire is to help them find Christ.

My heart goes out to our youth who stand at the crossroad in life. So many could be rescued if we would put on the robe of humility and with the love of Christ in our heart let them know we love them, and Christ loves them. Let us seek for those who have never had the opportunity to attend our Bible schools. There are many, if we look about us. Sometimes we think we are too old to have any part, and that it is for the younger ones. I love to think of Anne, who spent her elderly years going to the temple to pray. She was looking forward to Christ's coming and she was faithful. When others became discouraged and lost hope, she would encourage them to keep looking and not give up. One day she was rewarded.

She saw the Saviour! Then she ran (forgetting her age) to spread the good news.

If you, through your experience of a Christian life, have found the Pearl of Great Price, you will want to share it with others, for only by sharing can we experience that overflowing fountain of Living water.

May we put forth every effort to share with others and send as many as we can who have never attended, and do not have Christian homes. Let us put forth every effort to help these boys and girls and may we thank God that He has given us another privilege to hold the banner of Christ high and share in this great feast of learning. May we go all out for God, and make it something that each youth will look forward to, because we have done our part.

Our youth are our leaders of tomorrow and we need them now. We are in a battle—right against wrong. Unless we rally and recruit our youth, we will go down in defeat. How merciful God has been to us! And how fast the storm clouds are gathering! What we do must be done. The material things we have been gathering around us will all be swept away. Only what we invest in love for Christ will outride the storm, and will live through eternity.

May we fill our camps to overflowing and enlarge, if need be, to take every boy and girl. And may God bless each one in an unusual way, and many souls be made to rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Pearl Perriman - Mt Vernon, Illinois

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

In times past, we have received inquiry for pastors or evangelists, and have not always been able to recommend anyone available. At other times we have received inquiry of work to do and were unable to point to any definite work at the moment. So, as we learn of work or worker, we try to make it known, with the hope that laborers may be contacted and the need supplied. At present, we have learned of the availability of two ministers who are both very active in the work

of the Lord in the denomination.

We learn that Rev. J. E. Corey, Maywood, Missouri, would like to engage the rest of his time in pastoral work. He is presently pastor of the Shibley Point Free Will Baptist Church in Northeast Missouri. This is half time work, and leaves his first and third Sundays open. Bro. Corey states he could work in several independent places, but prefers to stay in the denomination. He is willing to drive even a considerable distance to do so. Bro. Corey has been preaching since 1938, when he was licensed with the Methodists. He continued pastoral duties and evangelistic efforts with them until 1944. Though he found it necessary to disassociate with them, he continued very active. Through contact with this office, he learned of our work in Northeast Missouri, and upon investigation, found methods and doctrinal views compatible to him. He joined that association and is now the moderator of the Ministers' Conference there. Should you like to have the services of Bro. Corey, we suggest you contact him —Rev. J. E. Corey, Maywood, Missouri.

Also, we have learned that Rev. J. T. Quick, frequent correspondent and reporter to the Gem, is ready to change fields of labor under the leadership of the Lord. He has been working in and near Richton, Mississippi for some time, and has been very active in the establishing of churches in that area. Bro. Quick was reared in a Free Will Baptist home, and has been preaching in the church for the past 25 years. He stated to us that he has never belonged to anything else, and is perfectly happy. He says he is sometimes accused of being a doctrinal preacher, and doesn't deny it, for he says, "I love it" (the Free Will Baptist doctrine). Rev. Quick has indicated he would consider coming to Missouri, either as a pastor or for evangelistic work. He is able to give a long and impressive list of references concerning his ability and integrity. If you should like to correspond with Bro. Quick, address him: Rev. J. T. Quick, Route 1, Richton, Mississippi.

If you know of ministers whose services are available, or of churches in need of pastors or evangelists, please notify us. We will be very happy to be of such assistance as we can in meeting these needs.