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The Free Will **Baptist Gem**

Vol. 27—No. 12

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

December, 1956

PROPHECY FULFILLED

Almena M. Springer

Four hundred years before His birth,
Ere in the Flesh Christ came to earth,
A man of prophecy foretold
What Scriptures to us now unfold.

"To you," he said, "a Child is born
Who comes to earth from gloried throne.
To you a holy Child is given,
God's Gift to you sent down from heav'n.

"Wonderful and everlasting He,
A Counselor for you and me,
The Mighty God and Prince of Peace;
His government shall never cease."

And so today, Christ is to me
All that the prophets said He'd be.
I never can express it well.
'Tis more than human tongue can tell.



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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the room for improvement.

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	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Fredricktown	152	162	158	165	158	163	157	150	168	165	
Mt. Pisgah	39	38	41		39	50	47		44	48	50
Coppermines	92	99	96	107	97	93	89	92	98	100	
First, Flat River		141	167	175	174						
Fellowship	185	185	207	196	208	191	191	187	213	212	214
Leadington	94	94	95	110	98	93	94	96			
Desloge	96	96	93	108	96	106	109	113	113	111	107
Farmington	46	52					54	53	56	51	66
Fourth	63	70	67	59	62	68	47	54	53	60	59
Southside			230	234	212	198		196	236	217	211
Monett	102	130	118		131	102	198	103			
Old Bethel	24	24	33	31	29	35	32	29	29	25	
Third Church	127	138	126	154	129	131	104	129	128	121	123
Berkeley	156	186	196	185	175	175		152	168		
Richwoods	75	66	77	96	90	92	89	93	85	78	80
Neosho						51	45	43			
Mountain Grove						209					
Joplin							46	56	66	55	56
Mill Creek							46	47	48		
Kirksville	99	95	100	98	114	100	108	104	116		

Please send us your average, too.

"Why Christ Came Into The World"

By Rev. Rolla D. Smith

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptations, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." 1 Tim. 1:15.

Christ did many wonderful things while he was upon the earth in the flesh. Through him the blind received their sight, the lame walked, the deaf heard, the lepers were cleansed, and the dead were raised. Wonderful as the many miracles that he performed were, they were of secondary importance. His chief mission to this world was to save sinners. "We have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." (1 John 4:14) Yes, the one great errand on which Jesus came to this earth was to save lost mankind. He has accomplished all that was necessary to provide a plan of salvation for the human race.

Christ Possesses Official Saving Ability

He was expressly appointed to the office of Saviour. "Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins." (Acts 5:31) He who would be saved from sin must apply to Christ for both repentance and forgiveness of sins. Men are called to preach and angels are sent to minister, but only Jesus is appointed to save. He is the official Saviour. He is the only Saviour. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

As Joseph in Egypt was officially appointed to provide the bread of natural life for those who otherwise would have perished, so Jesus has been officially appointed to provide the bread of everlasting life for a dying world. Although Joseph's brothers had declared that they would never make obeisance to him, they were forced to bow down or perish. Had they applied to any other person, it would have been to no avail, for only Joseph was appointed to distribute food. Man may apply to someone other than Christ for the Bread of everlasting life, but an application to any other source is in vain. Christ is the true bread sent from heaven. "I am the living bread which came down from heaven" (John 6:51)

If man looks anywhere other than to Christ for salvation, he will perish beyond a doubt. Christ is the divinely appointed Saviour for the world. "There is one God, and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Tim. 2:5)

Christ Possesses Meritorious Saving Ability

By the virtue of a sinless sacrifice, Christ made a true and proper atonement for sin. There was boundless virtue in his precious blood which was shed for our redemption. Indeed, his saving efficacy is so infinite that John says in 1 John 2:2—"He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

In order to make a perfect atonement for sin and to meet the demands of the law one who was sinless had to die in man's stead. Only Christ, who was God manifest in the flesh, could meet this requisite.

Being conceived by the Holy Ghost and being born of a virgin, Christ was not ranked among the sons of Adam. He, therefore did not inherit the guilt which all others have inherited from Adam.

In his earthly life Jesus obeyed the perfect law of God to the utmost extent, insomuch that Peter said, "He did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth." In the whole of his conduct he was harmless and undefiled. In no instance did he ever in the smallest degree in word, deed, or thought violate the law of God.

Since Jesus was free from the original sin of Adam and since his life was perfect, he was able through his substitutionary death to take away the curse of sin from the world. "He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." For all who savingly believe in him he has cancelled the debt of sin, and has "abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light." Only through the merits of Christ can man be saved.

Christ Possesses Gracious Saving Ability

Not only does Christ possess official and meritorious saving ability but he also possesses gracious saving ability. He is as willing to save as he is able.

It was a marvelous act of grace that brought Christ to this earth to live in the likeness of human flesh. "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." (2 Cor. 8:9)

Before his incarnation, he existed

in a state of supreme glory and bliss. He "had a glory with the Father before the worlds were made." He was "The brightness of his Father's glory and the express image of his person." He was rich from all eternity. He and the Father were one. He received the adoration of the angels in heaven. Isaiah was privileged to see in vision the glory of Christ upon a throne, high and lifted up, being honored by the holy angels. (Isa. 6) That the person whom he saw was the Lord Jesus Christ is confirmed by the New Testament statement recorded in John 12:41—"These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him."

How infinite was the grace that led Christ to leave heaven's glories and riches to come to earth to redeem fallen man! This condescension is graphically expressed by Paul: "Christ Jesus being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Phil. 2:6)

It was for sinful man that Christ suffered such humiliation and shame. As Paul said, "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Such a display of love finds no parallel in history. There was nothing good in man to recommend him to God. All mankind was absolutely destitute of any good. All his faculties were debased by sin. God's laws man had transgressed and his authority he had despised.

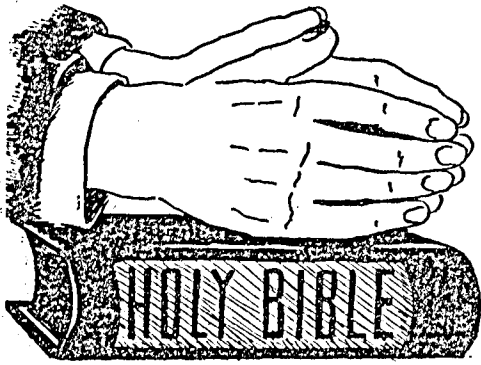
Jesus foreknew that his earthly life would be spent in contempt and persecution. He foreknew that he would often be destitute of the temporal necessities of life. He foreknew that he must go to Gethsemane and then to Calvary to suffer the ignominious death of the cross. Yet, notwithstanding this awareness, he voluntarily stooped to assume human nature that a ruined race might be saved.

In Heaven Now

Almost two thousand years ago Christ completed his earthly mission. He is now exalted to the throne of God, and possessed of all the glory which he had with the Father before the worlds were made. "Christ is entered—into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." (Heb. 9:24)

(Continued on page 4)

The Family Altar



OUR MOTTO:

- A Family Altar in Every Believer's Home.
- A Private Altar in Every Believer's Heart.

When Henry W. Grady, the South's one-time peerless editor and orator "who loved a nation back to peace," was first in the national capital, as he stood beneath the great dome of the capitol building, said, as he afterward related, "with a heart swelling with pride: 'This is the home of my country.'" Returning to Atlanta, Georgia, he was soon in the interest of his paper, the Atlanta Constitution, on a trip through the mountain section of the state. One night, far back in the mountains, he found himself a guest in the home of a humble cottager. When time came to retire, the man got down the family Bible and, turning to Mr. Grady, said: "Stranger, we're poor, and ignorant when it comes t' books, but we tries t' be Christians. Before goin' t' bed we reads from God's Book an' prays; an' we hopes you won' mind." "Indeed, not," said Mr. Grady, "I, too, am a Christian, and it will be a privilege to join you." The humble mountaineer spelled out the words as he read, and then with wife and children and the stranger within his gate, all kneeling by that fireside, he poured out his heart in prayer to God, remembering his family, the little country church where he and his family were members, his pastor, his neighbors, his state and country, and the stranger in his home.

Said Mr. Grady: "When I had been shown to the little shed-room at the end of the cabin porch where I was to sleep, and had retired, and lay meditating on the experience it had been my good fortune to enjoy, my mind went back to my experience at the nation's capital. 'No,' said I, 'I was mistaken when I stood beneath that towering capitol dome, and said: 'This is the home of my country.' It

is in the homes of the people, however humble, where the Bible is read and believed, and God is loved and honored, as I have found it here tonight in this home."

Such homes are the wellsprings of a nation's life, its sheltering from storm, its bulwark of defense against the evil forces that would undermine and destroy it.

So long as there are homes that pray,

We still can hope;

The nation will not lose its way,
Nor in darkness grope:

For He shall go before Who is the Light,

And guide its steps aright.

So long as there are homes whose Anchor holds—

Faith, and hope, and love, and
Courage bold;

And here is strength to labor, and
patience to endure,

A nation is secure.

So long as there are homes with
fires of faith aglow;

That seek God's way, and follow
where His banners go;

And women pray, and men to God
draw nigh,

A nation cannot die.

From— Special Day Sermons

DON'TS FOR PREACHERS

Don't say, "God help you to see this," but rather, "God help me to make the truth so clear that a child can understand it." Possibly, after all, your preaching may not be as profound as you think.

Don't say, "Do you see it?" but rather, "Do I make it clear?"

Don't tell the people how much longer you could speak on the subject; they may feel bored already.

Don't tell the people what a "big" subject you have on hand; it may be condensing is needed. But after all if it really is "big" folks will likely see it.

Don't be a clown or acrobat, thinking that power means "horse power." The people remembered what Jesus said and not how He jumped or acted. He sat down, opened His mouth, and taught them saying, no screaming.

Don't scold the people for being unwilling to hear long sermons. Make them so interesting that they will forget the time.

Don't tell the people all the bad things you know about the church and ministry. They know too much of that already. Bad as Saul was, David said, "Saul and Jonathan were both lovely and pleasant in their lives."

"Whatsoever things are lovely and of good report think (and speak) on these things."

Don't overwork that personal pronoun "I"; John wrote a whole Gospel without using it one time. Isn't that admirable?

Don't indulge in a self-congratulatory smile every time you get eloquent or make a point. Give God the glory.

Don't tell the people what you think or what your idea is. Others think and have ideas, too. Tell them what the book says.

—I. P. Moore.

CHRISTMAS IS MORE

Kenneth Vogt

Christmas is more

Than commerce and trade,
Than furious rushing,
Than gains to be made.

Christmas is more.

Christmas is more

Than greetings and cheer,
Than gifts to our friends,
Than the end of the year

Christmas is more.

Christmas is more

Than toys 'round a tree,
Than joys of the home,
Than childrens high glee.

Christmas is more.

Christmas is more

Than music and art,
Than going to worship,
Than reciting a part.

Christmas is more.

Christmas is God

Lavishly loving,
Emptying heaven,
Doing the giving.

Christmas is God.

"WHY CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD"

(Continued from page 3)

As our High Priest, we may be sure that he is able and willing "to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him." This is the highest of all privileges and the richest of all blessings. To have access to the Father with boldness and confidence is indeed a foretaste of heaven. Thanks be unto God who "hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

Only a busy person will do a thing right.

The Result of The New Birth

Rev. James T. Davis

John 3:6-8

The most important question in all the world for every man, woman and child is, "Have you been born again?" Every other question is of no significance in comparison with this eternal question. To be able to rightly answer it will mean the eternal welfare of the soul. Jesus left no loophole for Nicodemus to slip out when He declared, "Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

The New Birth is a radical revolutionary change in the life of the individual who has met the conditions. It is not a gradual process of eliminating the bad habits from our lives. But it comes as an instantaneous act or work of the Spirit in our hearts. Many people have stumbled at this subject before us but the Bible abounds with Scripture which teaches the answer.

First—Jesus said: "That which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

Jesus is emphasizing the fact that the flesh or old nature can never be spirit. The old nature or the natural man is by the first birth sinful and corrupt. It can never be spiritual but it takes an entirely new creation to do man any good. Of course, man may dress up the corrupt nature with religion, reformation, education, culture, and what not, but these only cover man's corrupt heart, and hold in abeyance, by fear of punishment or judgment of face, the outbreak of man's corruption externally, but they cannot change his nature. You may dress up a pig in silk and satin and bring him into the house, train him to sit at the table and a number of other things, but he still longs for the pig-sty. And your heart is as God sees it, not as man sees it. Samuel said; "For man looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh on the heart." (I Sam. 17:7) This is why something new must be added. And that new thing is a new nature. Listen to the Word of God.

"For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature." (Gal. 6:15)

"Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature (lit.—creation): old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17)

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that

by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Pet. 1:4)

"Being born again not of corruptible seed," (that is natural, human seed of Adam) "but of incorruptible by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." (I Pet. 1:23)

Here then is the result of the new birth. It is the birth of a completely new nature within the heart and alongside the old nature. This new nature is actually the indwelling Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Listen: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20a)

"What know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (I Cor. 6:19)

Oh, what a glorious privilege to have Christ as our own ever abiding companion. He walks and talks with us day by day. He becomes more lovely as I progress further in my Christian experience. He is the dearest friend I've ever had. And to think he is with us at all times. This being so the sins chargeable to Christians above all others are:

1. Ignoring His presence. Imagine! Could I become a guest in your home and you go about your work as though I were not there? It is unthinkable. But Christians by the thousands, having invited God to live in them, are treating Him as though He were not there. It's an insult to God.

2. Obscuring the presence. This, too, is a sin. It is so obscuring the presence of Christ in us that no one else thinks He is there. If the old "I"—not counted dead but very much alive—gets angry or worries on occasions—who will think Christ lives in me? Do I represent the Spirit on these occasions? No! I miserably misrepresent Him. I have covered up the Presence, directing attention to self. May God forgive us.

In order for us to live a victorious, overcoming life we must be conscious of His loving abiding presence every hour, every moment of the day.

And another thing, which of these natures are you nourishing? Are you constantly nourishing the old nature? If you are it's no wonder you are living a defeated, joyless life. The victorious life depends upon which nature you coddle and encourage and feed. What are the things you feed your soul on? If you read your Bible more than you do the secular magazines, there will be no question but that you will grow in grace. If you would rather go to prayer meeting on

Wednesday night than to an amusement place, you have, right there, the secret of victory. If you had rather listen to rock an' roll than to the gospel, then do not complain because you lack victory and joy in your life. If you had rather gossip about your fellowmen than to bear testimony for Christ and go out and win souls for him, then it's easy to see why you are defeated. We might ask many, many questions to determine where the victory lies. How much do you pray? How much do you read your Bible? Do you tithe and give your offerings? How much are you willing to sacrifice for the gospel sake? Someone has said, "A man is what he eats." This may be true of the physical but it is absolutely true of the spiritual. Your spiritual life is just exactly a reflection of what you feed your soul on. Not only on Sunday but every day of your life. My Christian friend the victorious life can be lived by everyone who has the presence of Christ. The very power of God lies within your bosom so why not surrender to it.

REVIVAL AT CUBA CHURCH

Could I have selected a better time to report to the readers of the Gem of a very successful revival meeting, lately conducted at Mt. Zion (Cuba) Church, located midway between Lebanon and Hartville on Highway 5 in Wright County, Mo.,

This meeting was conducted by our pastor, Rev. William Reeves and Evangelist, Selph Jones, I am sure God was in every sermon preached, for almost from the very first sermon some of our fine girls found their way to the altar and were saved. The following people were converted or reclaimed: Darlene and Geneva Jones, Sharon Kay Williams, Elridge, Verda, Ruth, and Vernon Dean Jones, Sharon Petrie, Susie Huckaby, Ira and Joan Moore, and Clara Presnall. Seven united with our church and nine were baptized. So thanks be to God who gave us this good meeting!

Many good Christians from Lebanon, Hartville, Conway, Morgan, Grovespring, Eureka, White Oak Pond, Little Pine, Gardener and other communities attended and took active part in making this meeting a success, and we thank them. We, also thank our young people for their singing, good attention and fine behavior during this meeting. May the good Lord bless you every one. To Rev. Jones and Rev. Reeves goes our thanks and our wish that they will be blessed with good health and many years of service for our dear Lord.

—John M. Vestal, Cor.

From the Editor's Desk

SEASONS GREETINGS

To all our Gem readers and friends everywhere; best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

At this season it is most appropriate to express our appreciation to you for your prayers, co-operation, and subscriptions to the Gem. Also, a word of commendation is in order to you and your church for the fine support and contributions to the Co-operative Fund, Missions, and other phases of our work.

May the glory of the Lord that shone around the Shepherds so fill your hearts until you with haste, will carry the news of "good tidings of great joy"; may you have the same sacrificial spirit of the wise men and experience the joy of giving to Christ as they did when they presented their gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

In a special way we wish to extend our Christmas Greetings to our fellow brethren in the ministry. Once more as pastors and ministers, whether in city churches, town churches, or country churches, we will have the glorious privilege of presenting Christ to our people. No other time of the year will afford a greater opportunity to tell the wonderful story of Christ. An atmosphere is created for heralding the good news of the New Born King that isn't found at any of the other seasons. I can't help but think of the faces of the children which become radiant at the mention of that glorious day and we trust their hearts are receptive to the story of Christ's birth. Let us make a special effort to implant in their hearts and minds the purpose of His coming.

If our hearts aren't filled with the Christ of Christmas let us make a journey to Bethlehem and stay until our hearts are warmed with the warmth of Christ. We can do so through meditation, prayer and the reading of the sacred records relating to that first Christmas. And may the Christ who warmed the hearts of the disciples while traveling the Emmaus road, rekindle the flame of devotion in our spirits until we can travel back to our people with a burning message of the Saviour of the world.

N. A. E.

Evangelical Christians should take the lead in helping to prevent the over-commercialization of Christmas, Dr. George L. Ford, Executive Director of the National Association of

Evangelicals, said in a statement just released to the press.

"While the most cherished gift is a simple remembrance from the heart," Dr. Ford stated, "our giving can become so extravagant that Christian work suffers. And in keeping up with the Joneses, we get behind with God and with our creditors." He emphasized that there is need not only to keep Christ in Christmas but to make Christ central in Christmas.

Dr. Ford suggests three ways for Christians to exalt Christ at Christmas.

1. With praise to God for His unspeakable Gift, without whom there would be no Christmas and all other joys would be empty.

2. With prayer for Christian work and Christian workers, especially those who labor far from home, at this season of family fellowship.

3. With provision for God's work by the Christmas Tithe—one tenth of Christmas giving for Christian work over and above regular contributions.

The Christmas Tithe can be a great blessing, Dr. Ford stated, not only by providing for Christian work but also because of the joy of extra giving which will come to those who participate. It can have the advantage, he added, of causing Christians to look objectively at their Christmas, thus avoiding over-buying and future embarrassment.

REPORT OF COLLEGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This is my first report to our people as your promotional agent for Free Will Baptist Bible College Improvement Program.

Before leaving my church in Kinston, North Carolina, I received \$300 cash from different organizations in the church for the Improvement Program.

Since coming to Nashville to assume my duties in promoting the Program, I have made a number of contacts and my heart has been happy to see our people eager to respond to the need of our Bible College. I have found our pastors and people ready to join with us in promoting the Program, as is evidenced by the following.

My first meeting was with the Fellowship Church in Flat River, Mo. There I met a number of pastors from that area, and as a result of that meeting, more than \$1,000 was promised by the pastors and churches to be paid by April 1, 1957.

My next meeting was with the Madison County Quarterly Meeting at Mill Creek, Mo. There I found the churches and pastors very co-operative and \$1,300 was pledged to be paid by April 1.

At the South Side Church in St. Louis we enjoyed another time of fellowship and have assurance that they will give no less than \$1,000 to the Improvement Program. We had all the pastors from the St. Louis area at that meeting except Bro. Rogers who was away in a revival meeting.

In Northeast Mo., we held services at Kirksville, Martinstown, and New Harmony churches.

When we left Missouri we had in cash and pledges well over \$4,000. We returned to Nashville Monday, October 22.

I have found nothing but the warmest of welcome, and the finest of co-operation from any of our people. The need is great, but I have no doubt that our people are going to meet the need. It is not too much to expect \$44,000 in five months. I urge you to pray for continued success. Pastors, co-operate with me in getting this program before the people.

The special Improvement Program checks to meet your need, write me or just write to Free Will Baptist College and checks will be sent to you by return mail. We are asking for \$50,000 to be paid by April 1. This is the first goal as set by the Board of Trustees. Let's do our best to reach the first goal and then plan the next one in the will of the Lord.

I will be glad to help you in any way that I can, so feel free to write me.

Yours for a greater Bible College,
James F. Miller

HANNA'S HAVE NEW BABY

October 24, 1956

"We were happy to welcome the arrival of little Donald Timothy this morning at 1:24. He weighs seven pounds, is twenty-one inches long, has dark hair, but otherwise looks very much like Brenda Kay. Both he and Marie are fine."

—Carlisle Hanna, India.

Average attendance at the Loyal Chapel, Columbia, Tenn., Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer services was 40, with six conversions, and an offering for National Home Missions was \$13.25.

Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer observed at Fredricktown, Mo., auxiliary with an average attendance of 24.



HISTORY OF BERKELEY CRUSADERS

One year ago twenty-five young people of the Berkeley Free Will Baptist Church met at the home of Misses Glenda and Geneva Barks and organized the Crusaders for Christ, with Mrs. Lee DeWitt as sponsor and the Rev. Harvey Hill as co-sponsor.

At our next meeting we elected a staff to begin publishing a monthly paper, the C. F. C. Messenger, with Bro. Edwin Hill as editor. We selected as our motto, "Crusading for Christ," and for our aim, "Building for Christ."

During the past year our membership has grown to thirty-three with a weekly average of twenty-three in attendance.

This year has been one of the greatest years the youth has ever experienced here at the Berkeley Church in the work of the Lord. The Lord has showered us with millions of blessings. We have all consecrated ourselves to the Lord to be used in his service. We have found our place in the church and have asked the Lord for guidance in doing our part that we might be a light in our community. Some of the group have answered the call for special services, and one of our girls has had the privilege to enroll in the Bible College in Nashville this year.

The Lord has not only blessed us with spiritual blessings, but with great material blessings as well. We have been able to raise approximately eleven hundred dollars to carry on projects to help beautify our church. Some of the projects we have accomplished have been the completing of our Educational Building, the re-decorating and the installing of a hardwood floor in the church parsonage living room, the purchasing of an electric water cooler, an outside church bulletin board and screens for the church.

We are grateful to Mrs. DeWitt and Rev. Hill, who have so willingly sacrificed much of their time and put forth a great effort to help guide us in the right path, and for the officers

who have worked so faithfully this year.

As a band of united Christian youth we humbly bow our heads and thank God for His wonderful love and pray we will seek His leadership. We desire the prayers of our Free Will Baptist Youth that we may build for Christ by winning many souls in the coming year.

—Virginia Eads, Cor.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI LEAGUE RALLY

On September 29, 1956, the Northeast Missouri League Rally convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville, Mo.

The meeting was opened by the president, Vernon Maggert, who led the congregation in the song, "Must I Go, and Empty Handed?" After prayer, the congregation again sang the wonderful old hymn, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus".

The president presided over the short business meeting in which an offering was received to be used in the erecting of a cabin to be used by our association's girls at the Youth Camp. The amount of the offering was \$17.67.

Following the business meeting, Jerry Pinkerston read and discussed Matthew 7:13-14 for the devotions. At the close of this devotional, Bro. Kermit Crooks led in prayer.

The program for the evening consisted of several numbers in song along with Kirksville church contributing a play, "Have Thine Own Way." At the close of the inspiring program the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Alta Mikel.

—Shirley Houston, Cor.

GOD USED A BABE

The world thinks that God can only manage this earth by big battalions abroad when all the while He is doing it by little babies at home. As one writer puts it: "When a wrong wants righting or a truth wants presenting, or a continent wants opening, God sends a baby into the world to do it." That is why God saw fit to

have Jesus, the Bethlehem Babe, born in a stable nearly two thousand years ago.

God influenced this world more by the Bethlehem Babe than if He had sent a host of angels. While the Romans were trying to conquer by battles God conquered the souls of men with a Babe. No wonder George McDonald wrote:

"They all were looking for a king,
To slay their foes and lift them high:

Thou cam'st, a little baby thing,
That made a woman cry."

LIFE BEGINS TODAY

Only recently a young man who had indulged in the current laxity and suffered failure in his work, contented himself with the volatile remark in the light of Walter Pitkin's interesting book, "Oh, well, life begins at forty." It is well to note that many of the world's geniuses "Clicked" before they reached the age of forty.

Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence when he was thirty-three.

Alexander Webster entered Congress at thirty.

Henry Clay was appointed senator at twenty-nine, before he was of constitutional age.

Chaucer was well known at court as a poet when he was but twenty-five.

Livy began his "History of Roman State" at the age of twenty-four.

Moliere finished a comedy, his best, at seventeen.

Milton wrote "Comus," by some esteemed as one of his most charming poems, at twenty-six.

Keats made himself immortal in English literature before his death, at twenty-four.

Beethoven was a skilled composer at nineteen.

Ford started his first car while in his thirties.

Edison invented the incandescent electric light when he was only thirty-two.

The presidents of two of our leading universities are in their thirties.

News From The Mission Field

Living Bread For Waiting Souls

Rev. G. C. Timyan

NOTE: By—Raymond Riggs

(The following article from Rev. Timyan re—our field in Africa offers a real challenge for prayer. We present it to you as such and ask that you remember this very definitely before the throne of grace. Funds are being sent to have the two sites of land cleared away in preparation for the buildings.)

* * * *

When the Preacher declared, "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days", he aptly described an interesting chapter in Ivory Coast missionary history. The late George Powell cast the living Bread on Agni waters in 1935 and last July, 21 years later, the results of his labors were found "after many days". How it happened sounds like fiction.

On Tuesday morning, July 31, we were heading south on the famous "cocoa road" from Bondoukou towards Agniblekro. It was just a week since we had left our station at Bouake with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens representing the Free Will Baptist Mission Board. Our purpose was to survey the north-eastern corner of the colony for possible bases for missionary work. We had found one of the most neglected areas of French West Africa. Several entire tribes representing major language groups had never been touched with the gospel. Our first reaction was to settle immediately upon a site among them. Yet we knew that there was a responsibility to the south that had not been discharged. Now we were moving into Agni territory.

As we drove through the prosperous villages of the rain forest we were struck by the contrast with the poorer and drier north. But what impressed us most were the crosses and crucifixes everywhere—every village had a Roman Catholic church! As we passed these large, well-built structures we asked "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?" The answer was that the bearers of the Living Bread had

tarried too long, as we were to find out soon.

Finally we came to a sizeable village that we judged must be close to our destination. Upon inquiry whether there were any Protestants in town the answer came, "Yes, this is Koun! Our church is straight ahead!" At the edge of town we stopped in front of a small chapel decorated with a Huguenot cross. Soon a crowd was gathered around the car and when they heard we were missionaries there were smiles, greetings and hand shakes from all sides. A tall Agni man introduced himself as Noah, one of the church elders. With joy he welcomed us when he heard that we were friends of the man who had baptized him, "Monsieur Poe-ell". His gladness turned to sorrow momentarily when he learned of the death of his spiritual father, but, he added, "We will see him again some day".

It was then that I realized that I was talking to the man who had walked eight days through the forest in search of the missionary 21 years before. But the story goes back further still. In 1922 a man from Koun had returned from a fanti town in the Gold Coast where he had been converted. He had taken the Christian name of Paul at his baptism and became a real apostle to his own Agni people of the Koun section. No one knows how many converts Paul won but he faithfully taught them all to pray, to witness and to sing. What few scriptures he had learned were the basis of his preaching. Time after time he sent telegrams to the Gold Coast asking for a white teacher to come. They never came.

Although Paul died without seeing a missionary in his village, his testimony had born fruit and he left a group of believers behind who worshipped regularly in their own chapel. One of his converts, Abraham, took up the leadership of the group and served faithfully until his death a few years later. Then a young man Thomas became chief elder of the church and, although as illiterate as the others, he continued to preach Christ to his people. In 1935 Thomas became desperate for help as some of the untaught Christians returned to their old pagan practices. He walked to the nearest trading center and asked

a French merchant where he could find a missionary. He was told that an American missionary had recently come to Bouake, 200 miles away. After persuading the trader to write a plea for help, Thomas gave the letter to one of his young men and sent him on the quest for the white man.

When he reached Bouake after a difficult trip on foot during the heavy rains, he found the station vacant. Mr. Powell was away at Conference. The letter was left, Noe returned, and in a few weeks the missionary started out only to be turned back by swollen rivers. Several months later Mr. Powell finally stood in Koun, 13 years after the gospel had penetrated the Agni forest. The missionary had not come too late, but he came for too short a time! Three years later responsibility for the Koun section was transferred to a British missionary society working on the coast, in an exchange for territory bordering the Alliance work in Dimbokro. From 300 miles away the new missionary in charge rarely visited them and when World War II followed the Agni believers were left completely alone.

The young man who had taken the message to Bouake was now old by African standards, and as I stood in his presence I was humbled. The welcome Mr. Powell had received 21 years before, could not have been any more thrilling than the way we were honored. They escorted us to another elder's yard for the official greetings. They first asked us our news and we told them that the American missionaries were returning to continue the work interrupted by 18 years of isolation. Following Agni custom we asked them their news and they told us of the pagan and Catholic persecution of their group, the defection and death of some of their number since they had been left "orphans". Then they proudly announced that they had already started to build a newer and bigger church building! They were determined to carry on faithfully whether the white missionary visited them or not!

They had only one request to make of the missionaries after we had been told to arrange our baggage in the traditional gesture of hospitality. They begged us to sing a new song for them about Jesus! They had sung the few songs that they were able to learn from Paul, Abraham, Thomas and Mr. Powell so many times through the years that they longed to hear a new one! In praise to God for His faithfulness and appreciation for their steadfastness, we sang "Constantly

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News From Home Missions

"How good the Lord is! How excellent is His name in all the earth!" This letter comes to you as a prayer and praise letter.

First—Prayer for our Missionaries:

1. Mr. and Mrs. George Lee, Jr., and two children—Nebraska.
2. Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Postlewaite and two children—Washington.
3. Mr. and Mrs. James Timmons and three children—Mexico.
4. Miss Bessie Yeley—Eagle Pass, Texas.
5. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilfong and two children, who have transferred to Mission School.

Second—Prayer for our new Promotional Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. Homer E. Willis, his wife, and three children.

Third—Prayer for our National Home Mission Board Members:

1. Rev. Harry E. Staires, Okla.
2. Rev. Willard C. Day, Okla.
3. Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Mo.
4. Rev. R. H. Jackson, North Carolina.
5. Rev. H. E. Willis, Tennessee.

Fourth—Prayer for the State Missions Directors, and all our faithful pastors.

Fifth—Prayer that our current obligations of \$2,786.86 may be met, and that sufficient funds may come in this month to pay all the missionaries.

In addition to these prayer requests, we would like to suggest other ways that our work can be benefitted:

First, we offer the following merchandise for sale:

- Church Road Signs—\$5.00 each.
- Ampro & Webcor Recorders.
- Revival Bumper Strips—\$1.00 doz.
- Free Will Baptist tracts—\$1.00 Cwt.
- Census cards—\$3.50 M.
- Books, "Go Home and Tell"—.25c.
- "All of Mine for Him"—\$1.00.
- Record (78) "Love of God" and "Ship Ahoy"—\$1.00.

Several other items, please inquire. All the prices above are plus postage.

Second, We have several hundred dollars in accounts receivable. If you have materials from our office on hand which you cannot use, please return them to us.

Third, We would like to have some of our churches agree to support one or more of our Home Missionary teams. The teams receive \$200.00 per month, and \$40.00 for rent.

Fourth, Write us at any time, and

visit your Home Missions Office when in Nashville.

Fifth, Send a Home Mission offering regularly from your church.

Sixth, We suggest that Sunday Schools, Leagues, Woman's Auxiliaries, and Men's Fellowships help make Christmas for our missionary families a brighter occasion. Ages, sizes, etc., can be obtained from our office.

Seventh, Send us names and addresses of Free Will Baptist people living in Washington D. C., or in the states of Iowa, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Eight, Read carefully the monthly financial statement! Notice that it was necessary that the Board borrow money to meet some of the delinquent accounts. Please note other enclosures.

The Churches of Oklahoma threw open their doors to us during a week's itinerary, the last week of October. Gifts to our cause was \$352.48. Also, the Promotional Secretary visited the State Association in Texas where he received a warm welcome. An excellent offering came from this Association also.

October Financial Report

Receipts—	
Bal. Forward	\$ 241.18
Alabama	43.27
Arkansas	3.15
California	10.00
Florida	25.00
Georgia	124.93
Kentucky	2.00
Michigan	33.00
Mississippi	27.37
Missouri	112.76
North Carolina	148.90
Ohio	40.00
South Carolina	100.42
Tennessee	25.00
Texas	36.00
Cooperative Plan.	
Support	302.37
W.N.A.C.	51.13
Missionary Conference	199.54
Sale of Merchandise	33.18
Borrowed from Bank	2,954.50
Total	\$4,513.70
Disbursements—	
Salaries to Missionaries	\$ 840.00
Church, Springfield, Mo.	250.00
Church signs (Jan. Acc't.)	248.24
Travel for Board Members	
(two board meeting	
past)	382.49
Audits (Jan. and Sept.)	299.75
Payment on Station	
Wagon	92.00
Office help	39.15
Telephone for Board	
Member	10.83

Past due acc't. for office	
utilities	417.95
Promotion	25.00
Total	\$2,605.41

Total Receipts	\$4,513.70
Total Disbursements	\$2,605.41

Balance Forward \$1,908.29

Recently, a \$1 offering was received from a dear little lady who wrote that she is blind and can no longer even attend church. May the Lord bless such givers!

The great field of Alaska is challenging us to send Christian teachers for public schools there, and it is a wonderful opportunity for those who feel God is calling them for Missionary service in that place. Our office will gladly answer all inquiries concerning this great opportunity.

1957 State Home Mission Coordinators & Suggested Quotas

Arkansas, Lownie	
Coffman	\$ 1,350.00
Alabama, Charles	
Cradock	1,200.00
Arizona, John	
Elliston	150.00
California, State	
Promotional Sec.	1,500.00
Florida, C. A.	
Huckabay	1,200.00
Georgia, E. C.	
Morris	1,700.00
Idaho, Virgil	
Florence	150.00
Illinois, Claude	
Childress	1,500.00
Kansas, Adrian	
Connant	150.00
Kentucky, Walter	
Hooper	1,000.00
Louisiana, J. E.	
White	100.00
Maine, John Ruth	200.00
Michigan, Glenn	
Thomas	3,000.00
Missouri, Albert	
Halbrook	2,500.00
Mississippi, M. L.	
Hollis	1,000.00
Nebraska, G. C.	
Lee, Jr.	200.00
New Mexico, L. C.	
Pinson	100.00
North Carolina, Bruce	
Barrow	3,000.00
Ohio, Olin Gould	1,000.00
Oklahoma, E. M.	
Kennedy	2,750.00
Oregon, William	
Postlewaite	100.00
South Carolina, Fred	
Powers	1,350.00

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MISSIONARY SURVEY OF THE BONDOKOU CIRCLE IVORY COAST, FRENCH WEST AFRICA

The introduction to this report is a letter addressed to Rev. R. Riggs, Secretary of the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The letter was written from French West Africa on August 7, 1956.

The large section of the Ivory Coast which now forms the African field of the National Association of Free Will Baptists of America presents a tremendous challenge to all those who name the name of Christ in the denomination. That field of 185,000 men, women and children is without Christ. This new Field is more than a challenge, it is a great responsibility! In fact, the sole responsibility of Free Will Baptists from August 2, 1956. On that date Rev. T. Herle of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of England met with us at Koun, the only place where a group of Believers in Jesus Christ exists in the Bondoukou Circle. At that meeting he officially relinquished this area to the F.W.B. It is our sincere desire that the Holy Spirit will in all His wonder working power use the words of this report to open the eyes of understanding of the board members and the denomination as a whole to their solemn responsibilities of a watchman as laid down Ezekiel 33:7-9.

"So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.

When I say unto the wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou has delivered thy soul."

With the setup as it is in the Federation of Protestant Missions in the Ivory Coast no other church can evangelize the Bondoukou Circle if they wanted to, it is the sole responsibility of the National Association of Free Will Baptists now.

Throughout this report I am sure that you will be surprised and shocked at the tremendous problems involved in evangelizing and establishing the church in the Bondoukou Circle. I do trust these difficulties will

not in any sense be a means of discouragement but instead a means whereby we shall learn to more fully trust in Him who has given us our commission.

In the different sections of the report we will endeavor to give as much helpful information as possible, however we will reserve our recommendations until the area and its people have been placed before you. I will say here that it will be helpful to keep in mind that there is a very striking contrast between the people of southern Bondoukou Circle to the very primitive people of the Lobi tribe in the northern portion. The great differences in the people and their mode of life certainly presents a well rounded field of service for the various types of missionaries who will present themselves for service in Africa.

I will make brief mention here of how we were able to make the survey upon arrival in the Ivory Coast. We traveled by airlines from Johannesburg, South Africa, to Bouake, Ivory Coast where we were met by Rev. Gordan Timyan of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Mission. This trip by air took three days and put us in Bouake Saturday morning, July 21st. After spending the weekend at the Alliance Station near Bouake and spending Monday making preparations to travel we were ready on Tuesday morning to begin the trip to the area which was to be given to Free Will Baptists. Mr. and Mrs. Timyan had been released by their mission to take us to the area and help in the survey. It would have been quite impossible to have done the survey without someone who could speak French fluently and it was also very helpful that Mr. Timyan could speak native languages which were close enough to the native languages spoken there that he could make himself understood.

On the survey we used the Timyan's one ton G. M. C. Carryall. It certainly was a fine vehicle for the survey and anything lighter would surely have broken upon the roads over which we traveled. We managed the whole trip of nearly 2,000 miles without mishap apart from one broken spring! Upon leaving the Alliance Mission Station we traveled for four hours, 125 miles, before crossing the Comoe River which is the boundary to the F.W.B. field. We crossed this river by driving the car onto a little platform built on six dugout canoes. Josephine had a private ride in the ferry boss' canoe. It was quite a thrilling moment when we first placed our feet on the soil across the river.

We traveled another six hours through the territory before we reached the place where we had arranged to sleep. We passed through many villages that afternoon and as we inquired if anyone had ever been there to preach the reply was always, "No." Many times they begged us to stay the night and preach to them.

The Area and Its People

French territory in Africa is a vast holding about the size of the U.S.A. This large territory is divided into three large provinces, French Equatorial Africa, French West Africa and Algeria. Each of these large provinces is divided into smaller states. The Ivory Coast is one of these smaller states which is a portion of French West Africa. The area ceded to the Free Will Baptists is the Bondoukou Circle of the Ivory Coast. The word circle in no way means that the area is circular, it is merely an area which is put under the care of the French Commander located there.

The area has very few roads, and no railroads. One main road runs the full length of the territory and is supposed to be a year around road, however there is a time in the worst rainy season when sections of it are impassible. The few smaller roads are passable about eight months of the year. Great sections of the country can only be reached on foot, bicycle or by motor cycle.

Except a comparatively small portion of the district in the extreme north, the country is covered with thick jungle forest. The people of the very southern portion plant cocoa and coffee beans for market. The people further north have very little income and just plant gardens for food.

This being the area from which the American negro slaves came the people's features and stature are just the same as the American negro. We took the opportunity to visit an old fortress or prison on the coast in which the captured natives were kept to await slave ships in years gone by. These buildings had holes about four feet in diameter through the twelve foot thick walls out to the beach or sea coast. The slaves were forced through these holes into small boats which took them out to the anchored slave ships. This fortress was built in 1713. As I saw these things and realized what man will do to man, I was moved in an unusual way to prove with my own life what man can do for man.

The southern portion of the territory clothe themselves quite well. However, the Lobi people which live in

the northern section wear almost nothing. The men have started covering a small portion of their bodies with cloth brought in by the traders.

Very little medical care has been provided for the people. There is nothing in the north, but in the southern portion, African male nurses have been placed in a very few of the more strategic villages. These nurses only dispense medicines. There are no hospital facilities whatsoever.

Educational facilities are extremely limited, however there is a forward advance in building schools by the government in conjunction with the local chiefs. This movement is only in the southern portion where the people are more advanced. The Lobies have no schools. A limited proportion of the men have made use of available education and have gone away to distant places in French West Africa to study and now they are holding government positions, in the teaching profession, government offices, the police, the army etc. The tremendous majority of the people are still completely illiterate.

The people of the Bondoukou Circle are no exception to the general rule of the African people when it comes to fear and superstition of the spirit world. These people are great fetish worshippers. In any garden or by any stream can be seen little platforms on which sacrifices are placed to appease the spirits who might prevent a good crop or dry up the river. A person living in modern America can hardly conceive of the fear which has gripped the hearts and constantly remains with such driving influence in the lives of these people.

Mohammedan influence throughout the area is strong and coldness of heart and opposition may be expected from some. However, by far the majority have not embraced that faith. Among this majority there seems to be an obvious desire and interest in the things of God. That openness of heart does not seem to exist among the Lobies. The Mohammedans have found the Lobies very difficult and as a result today there are almost no Mohammedan Lobies. They are a very clanish people and seem to desire nothing that the foreigner has to offer. In spite of their heathen practices they are a very likeable people and anyone who knows them will tell you they are a people of real character. I believe that once their confidence is gained they will be receptive to the Gospel message and will respond to Calvary love.

Several paragraphs back I mentioned the area being turned over to

F.W.B. by the Methodists. This does not mean that they have to any extent evangelized the area. In 1942 the Federation of Evangelical Missions asked the Methodists to take the responsibility of evangelizing the area. They accepted the responsibility but to date have not been able to do anything in the area and therefore are willingly turning the district over to Free Will Baptists to evangelize.

I think it would be wise here to explain what the Federation of Protestant Mission is. All Protestant missions working in French West Africa must belong to the Federation. This Federation has a full time secretary who represents the missions in all government business. Such new missions as F.W.B. coming into the area must be sponsored by an existing mission. The sponsoring mission in this case is the Christian and Missionary Alliance. This period of sponsorship lasts for two or five years, I am not exactly sure of the period. The by-laws or constitution of the federation may be obtained through Mr. George Constance of Christian and Missionary Alliance.

The Methodist were most helpful to us and were very happy to have help in such a great task as is theirs. Our plane had an overnight stop at Abidjan, 350 miles from Bouake. The Methodist missionary, Rev. T. Herle met the plane at Abidjan and took us to the mission for the night. (This saved \$20 for a hotel which is far more expensive here than in America.) On our return we had four days layover there again and they extended the same hospitality which meant a saving of about \$75. This same missionary drove four hundred miles to the area for the purpose of officially turning things over to us.

Koun

Back in 1922 a man by the name of Paul returned home to Koun after a period working for the white people on the coast 350 miles away. While on the coast he had heard about Jesus Christ in a foreign language but the Holy Spirit working in a language understood by all convinced him of sin and he accepted Christ. Soon he learned a few verses of God's Word and memorized a few hymns in the foreign language. Then he returned home and began to preach. We are not sure of the number but it seems about a hundred people became Christians. They built a church and after about ten years Paul died. Then one of his converts who had taken the name Abraham, undertook the leadership of the work. At

the time of his death another convert, Thomas, was chosen to lead. During the years between 1922 and 1936 constant appeals were sent to missionaries on the coast. Due to existing needs they were unable to help. In 1936 three or four of the men backslid and began to worship fetish again.

Thomas was horrified and felt something must be done. He persuaded a French trader to write a letter to the missionaries who had recently started a work 250 miles to the west. He then sent one of his flock, a man named Noah with the letter bearing the urgent message to the missionaries of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Mr. Powell, the missionary on that station managed to get to Koun and paid them several visits between 1936 and 1942 when the Methodist undertook the responsibility of the Koun Church. During the past ten years an African Methodist pastor has visited the church twice yearly. Upon our arrival there we found about 35 people still attending the meetings. I am sorry to say that the Methodist standard of the Christian life leaves much to be desired.

Many of the Koun Church folk drink, and some have plural wives. It is a matter which will give the coming missionaries some difficulties but I am sure the Holy Spirit will convict of sin as the Word is preached. At the meeting when the Methodist relinquished their responsibilities the question of Baptism came up. They offered no objection to our mode of baptism but objected to being baptized in a stream. They stated that until the Methodist came they baptized in streams but due to the strong belief among the heathen the streams are favorite fetish dwelling places they underwent great persecution by the heathen and Roman Catholics. When we suggested a baptismal pit might be dug near the church they were happy.

Then the matter of infant baptism came up. They rather like the idea but we had to explain in the presence of the Methodist missionary that no where does the Bible teach infant baptism and it can only be done upon a profession of faith. We did tell them that a service of dedication of the infant was permissible and could be a time of real blessing and rededication for the parents. They seemed to be happy about the whole situation. I believe it would be wise to follow the same plan that the GMAN practice in a field they took over from the Methodist some few years ago. They did not demand that the old church members be immersed.

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Woman's Auxiliary

KIRKSVILLE AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church met at the home of Mrs. Nellie Peterson with Mrs. Laura Glaspie as co-hostess. In the absence of our president, the first vice-president had charge of the meeting. Our meeting was opened by prayer by Mrs. Nellie Peterson. Song, "Saviour Like A Shepherd Lead Us". Scripture, Deut. 6:4-9; 20-25. Prayer, Sis. Lillian Wood. We entered into the business and one of our items of business was that we meet at our Fellowship House on Dec. 6th for our next meeting. Members and families of the church are welcome to come, if only to fellowship with us at the noon hour. Our business session was closed with prayer by Rev. Stella Bachman.

Introduction to our program was given by Mrs. Velma Wellman. Title of our program "Our Need For a Time As This." Topics were given by Mrs. Stella Bachman, Blanche Matthews, Effie Dare, and Ethel Adkins. Benediction by Mrs. Grace Lawson.

Refreshments were served to 15 members, 3 visitors, and 3 children.

We do pray that our Auxiliary will go forward and do more in our Lord's work next year.

—Mrs. Russell Wellman, Cor.

HAZEL CREEK WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Hazel Creek Woman's Auxiliary met November 14th at the home of Mrs. Will Thompson with ten members, two visitors and one child present. The business meeting was opened by singing followed by prayer by Mrs. Buster. Scripture reading from Deut. 6:4-9; 20-9; 20-25 by Mrs. Honer. Prayers by Mrs. Dee Van Lanningham and Mrs. Earl Spangler.

The minutes were read and approved. Roll call was answered by a verse of Scripture. Six hundred and seven Bible chapters were reported read, thirty two sick calls reported, twelve cards sent, and two dollars and fifty cents received as dues. An offering of one dollar and eighty-two cents was received and one dollar and ninety-five cents received on tent fund, making a total of five dollars and thirty-five cents in total tent fund.

The lesson was "Our Need For Family Altar for Such a Time as This". Topics were given by Emma

Van Lanningham, Ethel Thompson, Leona Thompson, Maizie Sevits and Mary Filkins.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Emma Van Lanningham. Benediction, by Jonetta Chrisman.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

NEOSHO AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary met at the church October 24, at 1:30 P. M. After a hymn Mrs. Ella Pogue read Scripture from Eccl. II:1-6. Our lesson subject was "Unnamed, but Honored of God."

Our auxiliary president, Mrs. Louise McCully, conducted the business session. We also started on our quilt making project.

Benediction was by Mrs. Dorothy Childress.

Refreshments were served to the following members: Mrs. Louise McCully, Mrs. Loretta Russell, Mrs. Virginia Pogue, Mrs. Wilma Pogue, Mrs. Dorothy Pogue, Mrs. Dorothy Childress, Mrs. Sarah Davidson, Mrs. Eva Lucas and Rev. James McCully and one visitor, Miss Mary Pogue.

—Mrs. W. F. Childress, Cor.

SEWING MACHINE FOR CUBA

In the Southeast Mo., District Auxiliary Convention it was voted to purchase a sewing machine for the Mission field in Cuba. The District officers have purchased the machine, a portable Necchi. Miss Wisehart, missionary home from Cuba, will take the machine to the field when she returns the first of the year. A word of "Thanks" to the Auxiliaries of the Convention for their splendid cooperation in the project.

—Genelle Scott, Cor.

AUXILIARY WORKSHOP

The Missouri State Womens Auxiliary Workshop was held at the Thayer Church Nov. 8. The services was opened with singing led by Margaret Dixon, Pianist, Juanita Skaggs. The State Auxiliary President, Mrs. Myrtle Jones, presided over the day's work.

Devotional thought was given by Genelle Scott using Philippians 4: 8-13. Workshop classes were taught by the following state officers: Myrtle Jones, Lucille Beatty, Margaret Dixon, Reva Prinz and Genella Scott.

A panel discussion was held discussing some of the problems of our Auxiliary work. The morning message was delivered by Rev. Ben Scott using for a subject "Labourers Together with God for Such a Time as This." The Myrtle, Kansas City, Fredericktown, Kirksville, Thayer, Springfield and Mountain Grove Auxiliaries were represented with a total attendance of seventy.

In the afternoon a special program was presented by the host Auxiliary.

—Genelle Scott, Cor.

TENT FOR HOME MISSIONS

In the State Auxiliary Convention last August, we, the different Auxiliaries voted to accept our allocation of two hundred dollars from the National Convention, toward the purchasing of a tent to be used for Home Mission work. After three months we are still far short of this amount. A plan was decided upon, asking each Auxiliary member to pay sixty cents. The following Auxiliaries have paid: Fredericktown, Thayer, Myrtle, Kirksville, and Berkely City making a total of fifty-eight dollars and eighty cents. If you haven't sent yours in, please do so as soon as possible.

In order for our state to have a more complete record and be able to see our accomplishments, all money should be sent through the State Treasurer, Genelle Scott, Box 345, Fredericktown, Mo.

—Genelle Scott, Cor.

CO-LABORER OFFERING PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to promote the missionary and educational program of our denomination in a united way. It is a plan whereby all Free Will Baptist whom may regularly and systematically support all the mission work of our denomination, both home and foreign, and our own Free Will Baptist Bible College.

This plan of support is highly recommended because it enables all local auxiliaries to support the causes of our denominational program unitedly.

Two-thirds of all funds received is allocated monthly to the treasurers of the following National Association Boards: Foreign Missions, 50 percent; Bible College 30 percent, and Home Missions, 20 percent. One-third of each dollar is retained in the WNAC treasury for promotional work, including literature and office expense.

GIVE A BIRTHDAY GIFT TO JESUS

Mrs. Lester Jones writes, in her Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer program, "The baby Jesus was worthy of the angel's praise that first night and He is yet worthy of our praise and adoration. May we worship Him by giving Him a special offering at this season."

This seems entirely fitting to me. After all, it is **Jesus' Birthday**. Why not give Him a gift?

May I make a suggestion for this gift? Give Him an hour of worship, of praise in complete solitude. Be alone with Jesus for one hour and let Him give you His personal birthday greeting. He will.

May I make another suggestion for this love gift to Jesus? Give Him a family altar in your home. Begin now to practice family devotions. You could not find a more fitting time than Christmas, to begin your family altar. Jesus belonged to a family. If we have accepted Him as our Saviour, we belong to His family. So then, make your Christmas gift to Christ, a family altar.

Also, it seems entirely fitting to me for this month to be designated as our State Home Mission month.

America is far removed from being Christian. There is a definite need for evangelization here. There are many, many people in America who do not know the real meaning of Christmas. To thousands of Children and young people, Christmas is only a time of getting because the adults have set the example before them.

Every state in our denomination is in deep need for funds with which to establish churches in their areas.

The offering to be received at the close of our pre-Christmas week of prayer is designated for State Home Missions, so be generous in your giving.

However, regardless of what you give, to whom, or for what purpose, be very sure to give Christ a birthday gift.

TENT PROJECT PICKS UP SLOWLY

By now you should have received your publicity posters for the tent project. I trust that you will post these in a conspicuous place in your church.

The tent is to be given to the national Home Mission Board for use in organizational work.

Use your posters to gain support for your quota and send it in as soon as possible.

Total Tent Receipts Through November 17, 1956

	Goal	Paid
Alabama	\$ 90.00	\$
Arkansas	40.00	
Calif.	90.00	
Florida	50.00	
Georgia	120.00	
Kentucky	40.00	10.00
Illinois	60.00	
Michigan	120.00	
Mississippi	50.00	
Missouri	200.00	58.80
North Carolina	350.00	
Ohio	40.00	
Oklahoma	200.00	20.00
South Carolina	160.00	146.10
Tennessee	200.00	20.00
Texas	110.00	5.00
Virginia	40.00	
West Virginia	40.00	
Totals	\$2,000.00	\$259.90

REV. HARVEY HILL WRITES

Dear Gem Readers:

It has been some time since I have written to you concerning the progress of our church. I have just completed my first year here as pastor, and I can say that this has been one of the most pleasant years of pastoral work of my ministry. The church has been wonderful to me in every way, and no pastor could ask for better co-operation.

We have seen our Sunday School average running from one-hundred and fifty to two-hundred regularly. We have had fifty-five people to unite with our church during this time. Every auxiliary of our church is doing a marvelous job. We have two G.T.A. groups who are doing a wonderful work. Our Y.P.A. (Crusaders for Christ) has proved to be a most wonderful blessing to the church. The Woman's Auxiliary has been so faithful to me as pastor in helping me to carry on in this great work.

We just recently organized a Masters Men Club which was established at the National Association in Huntington this year. Our league has been constantly growing in number until now we have the largest attendance that we have had for a number of years. All in all God has been so wonderful to us as a church that we bow our heads and praise His name for His goodness to us.

We realize, however, that there is yet much to be done and we do need your prayers that God may continue to bless us in an unusual way. We are now in the midst of a revival with Rev. O. T. Allred as our evangelist. God is blessing us in a wonderful way and the church is thank-

ful to God that He has sent Rev. Allred our way.

If any of you know of any Free Will Baptist people living in or near Berkeley, Overland, St. Johns, Ferguson, Normandy, Pine Lawn, Bel-Ridge, St. Charles, or any other nearby communities, please let me know and a visit will be made to them.

May God bless each of you is our desire.

Harvey E. Hill

LIVING BREAD FOR WAITING SOULS

(Continued from page 8)

Abiding" and then translated the message for them. How thankful we had been that the Living Bread had come to Koun—"cast upon the waters" by a faithful pioneer who heeded the Macedonian call of the Agni people and came far away from his own work to feed them.

It was a great privilege to be there and "find it after many days". It was a pleasure to help measure the site for a mission station to be built by the Baptists under Alliance sponsorship on a beautiful hilltop overlooking Koun. It was a joy to feed this hungry flock during the days of mission business as the transfer was effected.

That this new move into the Bouna Agni tribe is being contested by the enemy is not surprising. The Roman church is determined to persuade the village fathers, many of them Catholics, to renege on their promise to cede the land to us. They have visited the village incessantly since our land request in an attempt to block the new mission station. An urgent request for help has just been received by mail from the Koun elders three months after our visit. It will be another full year before a resident missionary arrives. The first Baptist missionaries sail for French study in Europe around Jan. 1, 1957. Could not the believing prayer of an aroused Alliance constituency hold this land for the Lord of the harvest? Shall not the society sponsoring this advance before the French government also sponsor this cause before the Throne?

Six Prominent periods in American history: 1928—America, think yourself rich; 1932, borrow yourself rich; 1933, spend yourself rich; 1934 destroy yourself rich; 1935, drink yourself rich; 19??, get rich.

The Literature Catalog for the Woman's Auxiliary is ready! Send your requests to: W.N.A.C. Headquarters.

News From Our Churches

Sometime ago our church subscribed for the Gem Paper. We do enjoy the paper very much and a hearty "Amen" to several of the articles we read.

Since we sent for the Gem our church has gotten a full time pastor, as our present pastor at the time had resigned. We have an average of forty six in Sunday School and have thirty-three church members. Our full time pastor is Rev. Ben Pixley. We are thankful for a spiritual church and for the many blessings God does bestow upon us.

We have Bible study on Wednesday nights, church on Saturday nights, Sunday School and church on Sunday mornings, and League and church on Sunday nights. Our church does enjoy doing work and being in services for our Lord and Saviour. Please remember us when you pray.

Mrs. Howard Mainard, Cor. Charleston, Ark.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Southeast Missouri Ministers' Conference met its semiannual fellowship meeting at the Desloge Church at Desloge, Mo., Nov. 17, with seventeen ministers present, including our State Moderator, Rev. O. T. Allred. Rev. John Long was the host pastor. Rev. Glenn Rehkop, pastor of the Coppermines Church, presided as president. The morning message was delivered by Rev. James Davis, pastor of the Leadington Church. In the afternoon services, Rev. Harvey Hill spoke on our Home Mission program, and Rev. Rolla Smith spoke on our Foreign Mission program. They are the pastors of our Berkeley City and Fellowship Churches, respectively.

The annual meeting in May is to convene with the Southside Church in St. Louis, with Rev. W. A. Hales as host pastor.

—Clerk, Albert Halbrook

GRANT AVENUE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH ORGANIZED

In co-operation with our State Home Mission team, Rev. and Mrs. Lester Jones, the State Home Mission Board perfected the organization of the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield, Mo., October 19, 1956 at 7:30 P. M.

After song services, prayer was offered by Rev. Frank Linton. The message was delivered by Rev. Harry Beatty. Rev. Rolla Smith called for

the charter members and twenty-eight responded. A summary of the Articles of Faith and the Church Covenant was given by Rev. Smith. The Constitution and By-Laws were read by Rev. Homer Smith and were adopted by the church.

The following officers were elected; pastor, Rev. Lester Hilton; clerk, Mrs. Charlene Whittaker; treasurer, Mrs. Fleta Neal; trustees, Morris Cox, Robert Branson, Lawrence Broyles, Melvin Whittaker, and Gearld Donaldson; and the advisory council, Gordon Neal, Lawrence Broyle, Merl Harmon, Melvin Whittaker, and Robert Baird.

The consecration prayer was led by Rev. O. T. Dixon. The right hand of fellowship was extended to the church.

Benediction, Rev. Wm. Reeves.

—Rev. Harry Beatty, Cor.

HAZEL CREEK CHURCH

We are glad to report that Rev. William Buster assumed his duty as pastor of our church, the fifth Sunday in October. About ten years ago he was our pastor for two years and we were glad to welcome him back. We have been enjoying some wonderful messages from God's word.

Our average attendance for Sunday School in October was Sixty-three and our attendance for League was Sixty. We are making plans to begin a contest to try to increase our Sunday School attendance. We have eight classes for Sunday School and five for League. We have prayer meeting every Wednesday night with fair attendance. We have a good Woman's Auxiliary with fifteen members. We, also, sponsor a Y.P.A. and G.T.A. Auxiliary.

Three hundred and fifty-two dollars were received last Sunday for the Free Will Baptist Bible College Building Fund.

We are looking forward to meeting in the near future. We ask an interest in your prayers that many souls will be won for Christ before the year comes to a close.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

NEWS FROM FREDERICKTOWN CHURCH

The church of Fredericktown has just completed the job of re-decorating the church sanctuary. This is the first time since the present building was erected in 1943 that such a complete renovation has been undertaken.

The floors, walls, and ceiling were completely re-finished.

The job, which required three week's work, was contracted by the Miner's Lumber Co., of Fredericktown. During the time the work was being done the church met in the senior Assembly room of the Educational Building for worship services.

The church of Fredericktown recently witnessed an unusual experience. On Sunday night, Oct. 14, Mrs. Ellen Knott, a woman 80 years of age was converted for the first time in her life. She immediately united with the church and on the following Sunday she was baptized, having had her 81st birthday during the week.

Deacon Dempsey Matthews, one of the elder deacons of Fredericktown church, has been confined to his home for several months due to illness. He has not been privileged to attend a church service since last July.

REV. ALLRED REPORTS REVIVALS

Just a brief report of the revivals which we have been working in the last few weeks. From September 24th through the 30th we were with the Hurryville Church, where Rev. Charles Moyer is pastor. Then from October 1st through the 13th we were in a meeting with the Mt. Zion Church in Northwest Mo. We were assisted in this meeting by Mary Latimer of Springfield, who served as song evangelist. Following this we were in meetings at the Blue Eye and Macedonia Churches, where we are pastor. Rev. Lester Hilton, of Springfield, was the evangelist at Blue Eye and Rev. Paul Williams of Joplin was the evangelist at the Macedonia Church. We are now with Rev. Harvey Hill at the Berkeley Church for a ten day meeting. On November 26, we begin a meeting with Union Third Fork Church in Northwest Mo., where Rev. W. R. Rush is pastor.

We have been enjoying some wonderful blessings in the meetings aside from seeing souls accept Christ as their personal saviour. It is always a blessing to our hearts to see God's people revived and go forward with new zeal in the work of the Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. O. T. Allred

If you follow the valley upward, you will surely reach the mountain top; for it is only the valley's upstairs.

State Treasurer's Report

August, September, October, 1956

Received:

Co-Operative Fund:

Aulsberry Chapel Church ..	\$ 140.65
Alton Church	6.30
Carterville Church	34.97
Copper Mines, Church	50.00
Desloge Church	158.53
Dutch Chapel Church	13.66
Farmington Church	144.23
Fellowship	295.12
First Church Flat River ..	222.88
Fourth Church	99.90
Fredericktown Church	243.91
Hanon S. S.	32.05
Hazel Creek Union	58.22
Hickory Grove Church	37.48
Leadington Church	229.98
Merls Chapel Church	48.97
Mill Creek Church	23.40
Mine La Motte Church	16.01
Monett Church	168.11
Mountain Grove Church	170.00
Mountain Valley Church ..	31.65
Myrtle Church	52.73
Neosho Church	47.56
New Prospect S. S.	14.82
Niangua Quarterly Meeting	18.75
Oak Grove Church	15.00
Rev. Lester Jones	20.00
Southside Church	225.00
Thayer Church	90.34
Third Church	85.24
Union Light Church	9.54
Verdella Church	65.66
Wellston Church	149.69

Total Received \$3030.35

Disbursed as Follows:

National Co-Operative Fund	\$2121.25
State General Fund	151.52
State Home Missions	515.16
Free Will Baptist Gem	227.27
State Superannuation	15.15

Total Disbursed \$3030.35

Foreign Missions:

Coppermines Church	\$ 17.00
Fellowship Church	50.00
Jewel Church	9.70
Jones Chapel Church	20.00
Joplin S. S.	3.48
Kirkville Auxiliary	2.50
Royal Oak Church	5.00
Union Light Church	63.80
Waggoner Church	10.80
Wolf Creek Church	15.00

Total Received \$ 197.28

Total Disbursed \$ 197.28

Received for Foreign Missions by Lucy Wisehart Itinerary:

Berkley Church	\$ 27.36
Carterville Church	20.02
Cuba Church	10.60
First Church Joplin	37.36
First Church Springfield ..	50.00
Fourth Church	25.00
Grant Ave., Church	34.00
Indian Creek Asso.	71.81
Kansas City Church	28.77
Lebanon Church	19.64
Mt. Zion	16.06
Mountain Valley Church	39.15
Niangua Church	16.62
Old Liberty Church	10.42
Southside Church	50.00
Third Church	35.00
Wellston Church	75.00

Total Received \$ 629.04

Total Disbursed \$ 629.04

Missions:

Fredericktown Church	\$ 74.97
Joplin Church	15.50
New Harmony S. S.	86.63
North West Mo., and N. E. Kansas, Fifth Sunday Meeting	15.00
Rock Chapel Church	59.79
State Meeting Offering	116.02

Total Received \$ 367.91

Total Disbursed \$ 367.91

Foreign Missions \$ 257.54

National Home Missions .. \$ 110.37

Total Disbursed \$ 367.91

Marie Hanna Fund:

Third Church	\$ 70.00
Total Received	\$ 70.00
Total Disbursed	\$ 70.00

Robert Wilfong Fund:

Fellowship Church	\$ 50.00
Total Received	\$ 50.00
Total Disbursed	\$ 50.00

National Home Missions:

Kirkville Auxiliary	\$ 2.50
Southside League	25.00
Waggoner Church	5.40

Total Received \$ 32.90

Total Disbursed \$ 32.90

Bible College:

Gem Books	\$.88
Waggoner Church	1.80

Total Received \$ 2.68

Total Disbursed \$ 2.68

State Home Missions:

Bessie Yeley Circle	\$ 10.00
Royal Oak Church	5.00

Third Church	25.74
Waggoner Church	7.20
Wellston Church	14.78
Rev. Lester Jones	20.00

Total Received \$ 87.72

Total Disbursed \$ 87.72

Youth Camp:

Third Church	\$ 24.72
Waggoner Church	7.20

Total Received \$ 31.92

Total Disbursed \$ 31.92

State General Expenses:

Received:

Cave Spring Asso.	\$ 17.00
Central Western Mo. Asso.	11.25
Eunice Edwards Transfer ..	2301.84
Liberty Asso.	10.00
Laclede Co., Asso.	7.00
N. W. Mo., and N. E. Kansas	5.00
Niangua Asso.	10.00
Waggoner Church	1.80
Walnut Grove Church	10.00

Total Received \$2373.92

Gem:

Subscriptions	\$ 321.73
Supplies	71.80
Gifts	10.00
Books	1.75

Total Received \$ 405.28

Signed, Rev. Albert Halbrook,
Clerk-Treasurer.

CALVERYS WRITE FROM JAPAN

We are becoming adjusted quite rapidly. We've been quite busy getting the house fixed up before winter. As it is a new house several little things were not finished, but we enjoy it so much and we should stay warm.

The Sunday School group and Sunday night meeting, meets in our house. About 50 children are coming and we have divided them into three groups with a Christian helping to teach. We have only had the Sunday night group two times and Wesley did the teaching. The language is still very difficult. The young Christian who was planning to come with us decided to go to Bible College and the girl who also planned to come became ill and is still in the hospital. We are very much in need of a language teacher and Japanese Christian help. Please Pray that the Lord will supply these needs."

The beauty of the future is created by the beauty of a well-spent today.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
October 1, 1956—October 31, 1956
Free Will Baptist Mission
Pinar del Rio, Cuba

Cash on hand, Oct. 1, 1956	\$	87.69		
Cash in Bank, Oct. 1, 1956				
(General)	\$	107.32		
Cash in Bank, Oct. 1, 1956				
(Temples)	1,661.42	1,768.74	\$1,856.43	

Receipts:

Check from Mission Board				
(General)	2,755.00			
Check from Mission Board				
(Temples)	100.00	2,855.00		
Gifts		249.90		
Gifts (Building)		59.00	3,163.90	
			<u>\$6,020.33</u>	

Expenses:

Food (School)		97.73		
Salaries:				
Mr. and Mrs. Willey, Sr.	165.00			
Mr. and Mrs. Willey Jr.	150.00			
Mr. and Mrs. Phenicie	150.00			
	<u>465.00</u>			
National Workers	1,303.00	1,768.00		
Rent (9 churches)		257.50		
Hospitalization		80.00		
Maintenance of				
Equipment (Repairs)		106.80		
Maintenance of Equipment				
(Gas and Oil)		139.37		
Fuel		48.25		
Building:				
House (Tommy Willey)	379.58			
Temples (Vinales)	132.50			
Temple (Jaruco)	300.00	812.08		
Books		9.75		
Mower for grass		70.00		
Animal Feed		62.15		
Passage		23.35		
Office		15.19		
Repair on Printing Press		7.00		
Box Rent		2.00		
Bank Charges		2.00	3,501.27	
			<u>1,519.06</u>	
Cash on Hand, Oct. 31, 1956		8.77		
Cash in Bank,				
Oct. 31, 1956 (General)		181.37		
Cash in Bank,				
Oct. 31, 1956, (Temples)	\$1,328.92	\$1,519.06		

Thomas H. Willey
Director

Edith Phenicie
Bookkeeper

MISSIONARY SURVEY

(Continued from page 11)

They immersed all new converts and at each baptismal service gave an explanation about the baptism. Only two or three years had passed before all the old members had asked for baptism by immersion. For the new missionaries to demand immediate immersion would almost surely cause unnecessary confusion and possible division.

It was a personal blessing to us to stand in a worship service with those whom I believe have lived almost entirely up to all the Light they have. May God grant that more of us will be as faithful with the abundance of Light which we have.

The Christians in the church at Koun certainly entertained us royally. They said their houses were not good enough for us so they went to the village chief who turned a very nice little three room dwelling over to us. We were comfortable there and the people seemed delighted that we had come. When we told them that missionaries were coming to live among them they would not believe it. They said, "We have waited so long and have been promised before, we will wait and see."

Mr. Timyan has very kindly offered to return to the Koun Church for a visit in January. There arrangements have been made so that the group will not feel completely left alone until the missionaries arrive. We arranged that he will meet and take with him the African pastor of the Methodist Church. I believe that it would be wise if the mission board wrote to him authorizing this trip and offering to defray his expenses.

There is a young man in the Koun Church who feels God would have him in the ministry. This young man, David, is a very keen fellow and I do trust he can soon enroll in a Bible School. He was not well while we were there, he had a guinea work which is very common in that part. It comes from the drinking water and comes out in the legs or feet. It is a white worm about the size of a match stick but grows to be over a yard long. A sore forms and then the head of the worm appears. Then starts the process of several weeks of pulling on the worm. Care must be taken not to break the worm off inside the flesh. When they have pulled out all that will come, a string is securely attached to the worm and around the leg to await the next pulling operation.

Saved by Christ, rewarded by works.

NEWS FROM HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from page 9)

Tennessee, Bob Hill ..	2,500.00	Henson	1,200.00
Texas, Everett			
Hellard	1,500.00	Total	\$35,000.00
Virginia, Wilton Dail ..	1,200.00	Yours for the Cause of Christ,	
West Virginia, John		H. E. Willis, Promotional Sec.,	
		Natl., Board of Home Missions, 3801	
		Richland Ave., Nashville, 5, Tenn.	