

Grider, Thora
Star Rt.
Greenfield, Mo.

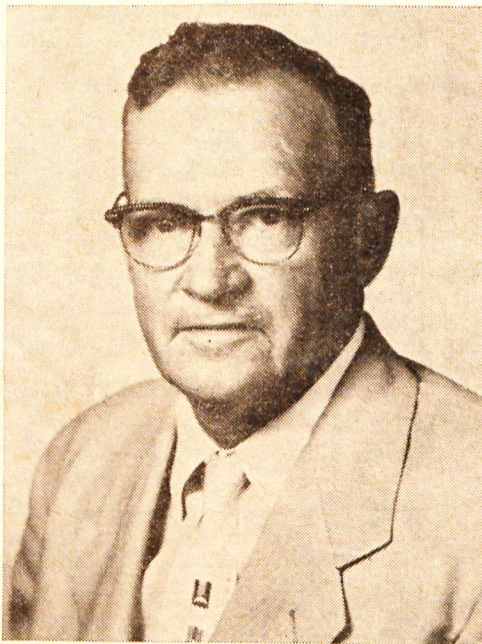
Sept 57

The Free Will **Baptist Gem**

Volume 27—No. 7

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

August, 1957



Rev. O. T. Allred, State Moderator

The Missouri State Association will Convene Aug., 19-23, at Monett, Mo. Churches are asked to give to the State Entertainment Fund for this Session.

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 Poplar Bluff, Missouri

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Lutesville, Missouri

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TERMS

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The Nilgiris,
Kotagiri, South India

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Purnea District,
Bihar, North India

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

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Shimo Uma—cho
Setagaya Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery
Nishi 3 Chome
Minami 11 jo
Abashiri Shi
Hokkaido, Japan

**PSYCHOLOGIST PRAISES
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Dr. George W. Crane, author of a popular column known as "The Worry Clinic," and published in the Chicago Daily News, recently sounded some high praise for the ministry of the Sunday School.

Said Dr. Crane, "In this dearth of moral instruction, the need for a strongly organized Sunday School is greater than ever before.

"The very best fortress for protecting American culture and this republic," he continued, "are those brick and stone houses of worship in every hamlet and metropolis throughout the land. They are the churches!

"Moreover, they aren't filled with machine guns, high explosives or atomic bombs and poisonous gases, yet they not only created but still staunchly maintain our liberty, freedom and cultural heritages."

Dr. Crane concluded with a statement which every reader of this bulletin should take to heart:

"So get behind the Sunday Schools. They are really DOING something to combat juvenile delinquency! They don't confine themselves to dire predictions and ominous shaking of the heads."

—S. S. R.

You will never secure satisfaction in an envelope, though it may contain a big check.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Fredricktown	151	174	166	186	165	
Mt. Pisgah	41	42	48	56	52	50
Coppermines	93	101	104	105	107	
1st, Flat River						
Fellowship	200	199	192		198	181
Leadington	116	117	118		158	135
Desloge		101	102		97	95
Farmington	55	58	62	60	57	60
Fourth	61	57	65		73	63
Southside						
Monett						
Old Bethel	23	23	22			
Third Church						
Berkeley	190	180	178			
Richwoods	65	65	65	67	70	67
Neosho	45	45	45			
Mtn. Grove	196	215	215	311	232	231
Joplin				84	75	
Mill Creek						
Kirksville	90	114	93	116	116	115
Grant Ave.					52	49
Hazel Creek	57		51		45	51
Cuba	32	30			55	45
Bethel	33	37				
Twin Oak	49	59	57	70	68	44

Please send us your average, too.

PROGRAM

of the

Forty-Fourth Annual Session of
Missouri State Association
of Free Will Baptists
to be held with
Monett Church
August 19-23, 1957

Also the Annual Session of the
Sunday School Convention and the
League Convention.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & LEAGUE CONVENTION

Monday Evening—8:00 P. M.

August 19, 1957

Evangelistic Rally—Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, National Executive Secretary.

Tuesday, August 20, 1957

10:00—Devotional—Rev. Roger Reeds, Pastor South Side Church.
10:15—Sunday School Workshop—Rev. Wm. Mishler, Promotional Secretary of S. S. Board.
11:00—Recess.
11:10—Message—Rev. Wm. Mishler.
12:00—Lunch.

Tuesday Afternoon

1:30—Singspiration.
1:45—Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.
2:30—Recess.
3:00—League Workshop—Rev. O. T. Dixon, Pastor of Mtn. Grove Church.

* * * * *

MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION

Tuesday Evening—August 20, 1957

Congregational Singing—Rev. Winford Davis, Pastor of Jones Chapel Church.

Devotional—Rev. Bert Hall, Pastor of Aurora Church.

Convening of Session—Rev. Albert Halbrook, Clerk, Pastor of Mine La Motte Church.

Welcome—Rev. Luther Sanders, Pastor of Host Church.

Response—Mr. T. D. McCarty, Layman in Mtn. Grove Church.

Moderator's Message—Rev. O. T. Allred, Pastor of Monett Church.

Introductory Message—Rev. Ben Scott, Pastor of Fredricktown Church.

Alternate Minister—Rev. Dale Jones, Pastor of Lebanon Church.

Wednesday Morning, August 21

Devotions, Congregational Singing and Prayer.

Receive letters and seat delegates.
Receive letters from corresponding Religious bodies.

Seat corresponding messengers in conference.

Reading of By-Laws.

Election of officers.
Appointment of Committees.
Enrollment of delegates and visitors.

Wednesday Afternoon

Woman's Auxiliary Program.
Associational business as time permits.

Wednesday Evening

Devotions, Prayer, Singing, Specials.
Message—Speaker to be selected.

Thursday Morning, August 22

Devotions, Congregational Singing, Prayer.

Reading of minutes—Clerk.
Receive late letters and seat delegates.
Receive reports of all Boards.
Receive Report of State Treasurer.
Miscellaneous business.

Eleven O'clock

Congregational Singing and Prayer.
Message—Speaker to be selected.

Thursday Afternoon

Devotions, Congregational Singing, & Prayer.
Receive Committee Reports.
Miscellaneous business.

Thursday Evening

Devotions, Prayer, Singing, Specials.
Message—Speaker to be selected.

Friday Morning, August 23

Devotions, Singing, and Prayer.
Reading of Minutes—Clerk.
Receive final reports of all Committees.

Unfinished Business.

Final Reading of Minutes—Clerk.

Eleven O'clock

Congregational singing and prayer.
Message—Speaker to be selected.
Adjournment.

Officers of State Association

Moderator—Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo.

Ass't. Moderator—Rev. O. T. Dixon, Mtn. Grove, Mo.

Clerk-Treasurer—Rev. Albert Halbrook, Lutesville, Mo.

Statistician—Miss Leona Thompson, Greentop, Mo.

Program Personalities

Rev. Marry Beatty—Thayer, Mo., Sec.-Treas., Executive Board.

Rev. Winford Davis—Monett, Mo., Pastor of Jones Chapel Church.

Rev. O. T. Dixon—Mtn. Grove, Mo., Pastor of Mtn. Grove Church.

Rev. Bert Hall—Aurora, Mo., Pastor of Aurora Church.

Rev. Harvey Hill—Berkeley City, Mo., Secretary of Youth Camp Board.

Rev. John Long—Desloge, Mo., Secretary of Superannuation Board.

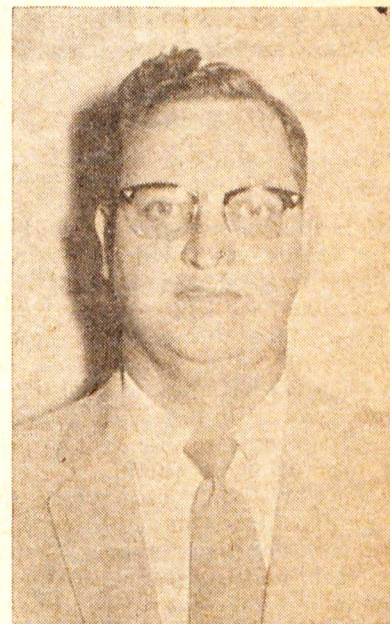
Mr. T. D. McCarty—Mtn. Grove, Mo., Layman of Mtn. Grove Church.

Rev. Wm. Mishler—Nashville, Tenn., Promotional Secretary of Sunday School.

Rev. W. S. Mooneyham—Nashville, Tenn., National Executive Secretary.

Rev. Roger Reeds—St. Louis, Mo., Pastor of South Side Church.

HOST PASTOR EXTENDS WELCOME TO STATE ASSOCIATION



Rev. R. L. Sanders

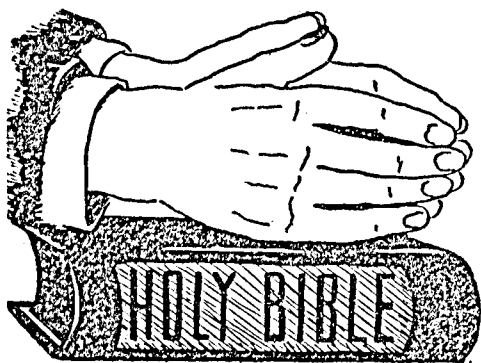
Pastor of Monett Church

We are happy to have Rev. Sanders in our State Association and along with the word of welcome to attend the Association this year, we pass on this bit of interesting information concerning him: Rev. Sanders was born in Kentucky in 1922, began preaching at the age of fourteen, joined the Navy in 1940 and was discharged in 1946 with an Aviation Chief Radioman's rating, graduated from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1948, and attended Bob Jones University for three years receiving his B. A. degree in 1951. He has pastored in Tennessee, South Carolina, Alabama, and has been in Missouri for almost one year. He and Mrs. Sanders have one daughter, Brenda Carol.

On behalf of the host church, he extends a hearty welcome to attend the forty-fourth annual session of the Missouri State Association.

A child is heard to pray, "The Lord is my Shepherd, why should I worry?" Is He really your Shepherd? Or, are you guilty of using Him as a fire escape from Hell?

The Family Altar



THE WORTH OF A FAMILY ALTAR

By Ashley Johnson
Turbeville, South Carolina

We should remember that the home is the cradle, a divine institution, originated by God. It is there that the finer notions are cultivated. It is in the home that the children receive, in early life, the impressions that often decide what they are to become in later years. Children's lives are influenced more from homes than any other institution on earth.

In the Christian homes where they have family altars the emphasis is not on money, fame nor power, but on love, truth and goodness. From the Christian homes come to the lives of children heritages that will prove their greatest wealth in the years of manhood and womanhood if they're used wisely.

The criminal is the product of spiritual starvation. Someone failed to bring him to know God, love and serve Him. He is the product of neglect, the victim of indifference, and the result of an age which has been tossed in the junk yard because there is no family altar in the homes. This responsibility rests with the parents. The home must be the first great place of teaching. Unless children are given the opportunity of participating in family worship we cannot hope to reduce crime in our country. Statistics show that criminals come from homes where no family worship is held. If we are to save our nations we are to first save our homes. "As the home goes, so goes the world."

The Old Testament placed a serious responsibility upon parents to teach the law to their children: "And those words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7).

The home is the best place to begin the child's religious training, and unless children are taught about God, the Bible and the Christian way of life, they may never learn. Our public schools do not include religion and the Bible as a regular part of their course of study.

The Scriptures say to build a good home everyone in the family must strive to do his or her best. They also say that except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. The house is not just the building. Except the Lord build the home, they labor in vain who try to build it, for it will be a true home.

The Christian religion is the best stabilizing factor in every home. Because of this there should be a family altar in every home. There should be an established time for family worship and nothing should be allowed to hinder this worship.

Better homes make a better world. We must let Christ build our homes as well as our lives, or else we shall labor in vain who build them.

Christian homes have influence. Paul, in speaking of Timothy, says that faith had first dwelt in the Godly grandmother and the mother with whom young Timothy's home had been blessed.

All good parents want to impart good doctrine which is reverence and fear of God to their children. They desire that their children shall possess that divine wisdom which will direct them to acknowledge God in all their ways.

A child can best learn the Godly way of life from his parents, for he admires them. One religious home tends to produce another. Today while we think of the number of children who are receiving no religious training at home, we must remember that their parents perhaps also came from homes where children were not taught around a family altar to love and serve God. Young people today are taught everything else except how to faithfully perform their duties as Christian parents. One of the greatest needs of this land is more Christian schools and colleges where our young people, regardless of what vocation they are inclined to follow in life, can receive help in preparing, not only to make a living, but also to be Christian parents. If we hope to live as a nation we must return to the keeping of God's commandments. May God grant us Christian schools that will prepare future parents to lead their children in the Christian way of life.

If we want to have a happy home the best foundation upon which to build is a family altar. "Families that pray together, stay together."

There is a place for each of those who make up the family to fill, Mother, Father, Sister and Brother. Love and consideration should distinguish the relationship between each of them. The parents should counsel and advise the children, helping them to grow up in the right way. The father should be the spiritual head of the family. He should lead in worship and in service. In many homes this is not the case, but it should be in all. In some cases parents are so busy making a living that they forget that they are making a life.

Only heaven will reveal the real worth of a family altar.

—The Free Will Baptist

ON THE MANTLE

In the living room of our summer cottage in the mountains of Pennsylvania, where we spend seven to eight months of the year, is a large fireplace, and above the fireplace a mantle-piece. And on the mantle stands a clock that the editor gave to his mother many years ago. When she was called home he redeemed the clock, and it has stood where it is for a long time. It is not as new or as shiny as it once was, but it continues to fulfil its purpose—to tell the time of day or night.

It is astonishing how many times we look at that clock every twenty-four hours. It has measured our lives and has, in a sense, been a dictator to us, telling us when to go to bed, when to get up, when to eat, when to go to the post-office, when to take medicine, and when to go to the railroad station.

That is all that the clock does, but that is what it is there for. It goes ticking on and on, measuring the passing of time. But it has never struck the same hour twice, nor the same second twice. It stands as a reminder that life will soon be past and that only what is done for Christ will last. It points its hands to the fact that the Apostle Paul revealed: "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, whether it be good or bad" (II Cor. 5:10).

—The Pilgrim

Always the will of God is sufficient for your every need. Many people just come and go places but never go forward. What does your life tell? Will it bring others to Christ or send them to hell?

Does God Call A Woman to Preach?

Mrs. Roena Thomas

Rt. 2, Liberal, Mo.

In answering this question I want to give my own personal experiences, as one who has spent twenty-five years of my life as an ordained woman preacher. And as I relate my experiences, I trust that all who read it may receive it prayerfully, as you follow me in the Spirit. I know especially that any one who has ever experienced a call of God, definitely, for any Christian service, will understand what I am telling you about, when I tell you of how God dealt in my life, and finally compelled me to obey him in the call to the gospel ministry. Just why, I have never been able to fully understand, but I will never doubt my call to the ministry, and it makes no difference what any one would say to the contrary. For when God deals with us, we do not ever forget!

I was reared with the opinion, and firm belief that no woman had a right to preach, and I, too, believed this was scriptural. For did not Paul say, "Let your women keep silence in the churches for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church." I Cor. 14:34, 35. But somehow I wondered about the one who had no husband, or of the one whose husband was not a believer, until I finally found there was much confusion in the Corinthian Churches because some said, "I am of Paul, and another I am Apollos." Also there was much confusion over the speaking in tongues in some of the churches. Therefore Paul was giving these instructions. For under these conditions it was wise for the woman to keep quiet, and stay out of the already confused, mixed-up arguments.

Well, I was converted at the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church at the age of fourteen. God was so real, and I was very happy in my new experience, and I found joy in trying to live close to Him, and obeying his voice, as the Spirit would lead me. I had some very definite experiences, when God would answer my prayer, as a Child, such as helping me solve many problems in my school work, and many others I could mention.

Then as time went on I became possessed with a deep desire to be a preacher. But who ever heard of a girl being a preacher? I had known

of one or two, but in the opinion of my family, these were thought very much out of their place when in the pulpit. So in the face of this opinion (with the deepest respect for the ideas of my loved ones) I could only take my feelings and desires to be a preacher as a passing fancy and as a day dream. So I kept all my desire to myself. I never felt free to talk to anyone about it. But there were times when it seemed I could hardly stand it not to be able to talk to some one whom I could confide in, and who could help me in my spiritual distress.

Later, I found some relief in teaching a Sunday School class, for which I was chosen at the age of eighteen. I loved the Bible and God's work very much. And yet there would be times and seasons of deep heart burdens. Then I could hardly keep from admitting that I was being called of God to preach His word. But I never did do it! I couldn't stand to think what folks would say, if I ever did that!

At the age of twenty-one I was married to a real Christian young man. We were happy and for a time it seemed that I had evaded the feeling that I was being called of God for a special service. But then when our two children were four and six years of age, God began to deal very definitely with me again. All through that year of 1927 I was so burdened I could hardly live, and the still small voice in my heart kept saying, "I want you to preach my gospel". All I could do, when I had any free moments, was to pray and beg God to help me to do His will. Then I made a vow to Him that at our local association time, I would acknowledge my call and begin to serve Him, as I knew for sure by now, that He wanted me to preach. I was happy for a while in my decision and promises to God. But alas, when time came, in spite of all my solemn promises to God, I failed to say a word about my calling to anyone. And the moment we left that church, and started to our homes the Holy Spirit of God left me. Oh, how alone I felt. In the days that followed how I prayed and prayed—but God was gone! I was praying against a stone wall of darkness it seemed. What could I do? For four long years I lived in this condition, in constant fear of God and the Judgment. During these years God gave us two more children. With all the home cares I tried to keep myself busy, and tried to forget what I had done. But never for a moment could I ever forget! I shudder even now when I think of that time. And in all this, no one knew. I had never even told

my husband. I went to church only when I couldn't find an excuse to stay home. But I was miserable, the Bible was a closed book to me, and I couldn't pray and find God. By keeping busy in my home work, I managed to exist from day to day. All of this time I was a member of our church and was supposed to be a good Christian. I had been so happy once in my early Christian experiences, I knew God had saved me. But, oh, how far away from Him I was at this time in my life!

Then revival time came. I began to go to the services. And along with other Christians I took a pledge to read the Bible each day, and pray for the revival. So each day I would go alone, read the Bible, and try to pray for the revival. But it was no use. God was gone. What could I do? Then I began to pray to God to restore to me the joy of my salvation I had once known. And He answered me! I can hear that voice yet. It was as plain as an audible voice could be to me. And it said, "Whenever you are willing to preach, the Holy Spirit will come back." In desperation I was crying aloud, "Oh God, do I have to preach?" When I came to realize what I was really doing I was weeping and begging God to keep me, but He left me again. However, the voice that I had heard, kept ringing in my very soul, "whenever you are willing to preach, the Holy Spirit will come back to you." Oh, how I wanted Him to come back.

I opened my Bible at random. Just then and there my eyes fell upon the thirty-third chapter of Ezekiel. As I read it, I began to see things. It was a direct message to me from God's word. I was the watchman! I saw it was my duty to speak for God, and warn the people. If I failed, the blood of many who might be lost, would be required at my hand. But if I would warn them, I would deliver my soul, I was being responsible to God for carrying His message to a lost world, or anyway to a portion of the world. I was convinced. I kept reading it over and over and praying to God to lead me as He would have me to go. And He did. Step by step I was led on over many obstacles which had seemed as mountains to me before. They now began to look smaller, or of no significance at all. What people said, now didn't seem to matter so much. I knew now what was God's will for me, and I was determined to try to do it. I wondered how I really would ever be able to speak, for I was afraid even to try to testify before a crowd, but I was willing now to just be called a preacher—even a woman preacher!

(To be Continued)

From the Editor's Desk

STATE MEETING

The Missouri State Association will convene in two or three days after you receive this issue. We hope you will be able to attend, but if not remember the session in your prayers. When we view the trend of affairs in the world today we wonder how many associations we will have the privilege of attending. So let us make the most of this annual gathering. We are looking forward to a fine, harmonious session and a time of fellowship that only born-again believers can enjoy.

It will be good to meet with the Monett Church and the people of the Indian Creek Association. My earliest recollection of State Meetings is associated with this association. Our denomination has been made stronger and better because of the existence of this association with its loyal churches.

Then, too, besides meeting with one another who reside in the same state, it will be a privilege to have Rev. W. S. Mooneyham of Nashville, Tenn., our National Executive Secretary, who will be bringing the messages on Monday night and Tuesday afternoon, and Rev. Wm. Mishler, also of Nashville, our Promotional Secretary of the National Sunday School Board, who will conduct a Sunday School Workshop on Tuesday morning and also bring the morning message.

So make plans to attend and enjoy a week of fellowship and worship.

* * * *

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The National Association that met in Birmingham, Alabama, July 15-18, with its representatives from twenty-two states and four foreign countries, was no doubt close to the heart of God when emphasis was placed on evangelism with the theme: "As Ye Go Preach". The speakers, devotional leaders, and officers did credit to this wonderful theme in their messages and remarks.

We wish we could give a full report of this meeting, but time and space will permit us to only mention a small portion. One of the highlights of this session was the declamation contest in the Woman's Auxiliary Program conducted by Mrs. Luther Sanders. It made you proud to be a Free Will Baptist as you listened at our fine youth speak in a refined, intelligible way, speak for Jesus and present a challenge for missions.

Another great service was the missionary service, when Rev. and Mrs.

Dan Merkh were commissioned for service in Africa. On this night, Rev. Willey, our veteran missionary of Cuba, expressed a desire that God would permit him and Mrs. Willey to establish one more mission field and that one in Brazil. Bro. Dave Franks, a young man from Alabama, was presented as one who had dedicated his life for work in Brazil. Mrs. Thomas Willey delivered the missionary message for this service and at the close it was heart-warming to see seventy or more young people dedicate themselves to God.

On the National Home Mission side of the picture it was encouraging to see Rev. & Mrs. Lee Whaley dedicate themselves to sacrificial labor in Alaska. Other forward steps for the future were brought to our attention by Rev. Willis' report.

Rev. Mooneyham gave an interesting item about contact with the Free Baptist in Europe through Rev. John Visser, pastor of a Free Baptist Church in Amsterdam, Holland. Rev. Visser wrote of churches of our faith in his own country, France, Spain, England and Ireland. Incidentally, the Executive Committee has authorized Rev. Mooneyham to go to Europe in November and survey the work to see the possibilities for future relationship. A series of conferences in the churches in Holland and Spain has been arranged by Rev. Visser for Rev. Mooneyham.

Last, but not least, is the 25th Anniversary Advance Program for 1958-60, which was adopted, and we are passing to you for your prayerful consideration and earnest attention with the hope you can find your place in the achievement of these goals.

A BOY'S ESSAY ON ANATOMY

Your head is kind of round and hard, and your branes are in it and your hair on it. Your face is the front of your head where you eat and make faces. Your neck is what keeps your head out of your collar. It's hard to keep clean.

Your shoulders are sort of shelves where you hook your suspenders on them. Your stumick is something that if you do not eat often enough it hurts, and spinage don't help it none.

Your spine is a long bone in your back that keeps you from folding up. Your back is always behind you no matter how quick you turn around.

Your arms you got to have to pitch with, and so you can reach the butter.

Your fingers stick out of your hand so you can throw a curve, and add up rithmatick.

Your legs is what if you have not got two of you cannot get to first base, neither can your sister. Your feet are what you run on. Your toes are what always get stubbed.

And that's all there is of you except what's inside and I never saw it.

—Christian Union Herald

HONOR ROLL

OF CHURCH FAMILY PLAN

Church	Pastor
Fellowship	Rev. Rolla Smith
Amity	Rev. Don Rogers
Black Oak	Rev. Ezra Vestal
New Labanon	Rev. Laverne Jones
Leadington	Rev. James Davis
Coppermines	Rev. Glen Rehkop
Myrtle	Rev. Don Hill
Kirksville ..	Rev. Woodrow Matthews
Wellston	Rev. Harry Asher
Berkeley	Rev. Harvey Hill
First Church, Joplin	Rev. Paul Williams
Farmington	Rev. James Barker
Third Ch., St. Louis	Rev. John Rogers
Hazel Creek	
Union	Rev. W. M. Buster
Verdella	Rev. Otto Mackey
Richwoods	Rev. Floyd Arnold
Old Bethel	Rev. Dale Statler
Mt. Zion	Rev. O. T. Allred
Southside	Rev. Roger Reeds
Thayer	Rev. Harry Beatty
Carterville	Rev. Kenneth Turner
Fredricktown	Rev. Ben Scott
Pleasant Grove	Rev. Chas. Black
Old Liberty	Rev. Wm. Reeves
Martinstown Church, Mrs. Alta Mikel	
Mountain View	Rev. Ben Pixley
Hannon Church	Rev. Harry Sterling
Marble Hill	Rev. Florence Long
Springfield	Rev. Henry Long
Good Neighbor Family	Oreg. Co.
Mine La Motte	Rev. Albert Halbrook
Blue Eye	Rev. O. T. Allred
Union Light	Rev. Cecil Sheppard
Bethel Church ..	Rev. Keith Johnson
Twin Oak	Rev. Willard Darnell
Fourth Church, St. Louis	Rev. Elmer Turnbough
Cedar Ridge	Rev. Cleo Covington
Neosho	Rev. James McCully
Mt. Pisgah	Rev. Ezra Butts
Victory Church	
(K. C.)	Rev. B. Spurgeon
Rock Chapel	
Mill Creek	Rev. O. D. Matthews
Beacon Church	
(K. C.)	Rev. Lester Jones
First Church (K. C.)	Rev. Alice Dickey



RICHWOOD SUNDAY SCHOOL

It has been quite a while since I have written about our work for the Lord in Richwoods. We are happy to report the dear Lord is still blessing. Rev. Bud Arnold is our pastor and is doing a splendid job for the Lord in our community.

On June 22 our Sunday School met at Washington State Park for our annual picnic. There were about one hundred present. Our Sunday School superintendent, Bro. Clarence Shon, and all the teachers and officers did a fine job supervising the picnic. Our noon hour lunch was served together with the Crystal City Sunday School which was present.

In the afternoon the young people played games while the smaller children played on swings and sliding boards. The adults fellowshiped together and sang hymns. Everyone left the park reporting a good time in the Lord, looking forward to trying to make our Sunday School to rise and shine for the Lord Jesus.

—Sophia Ackerson, Cor.

THE CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI LEAGUE RALLY

The Central Western Missouri League Rally convened with the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church. In the absence of the president and vice-president the rally was called to order by Rev. Joe Cockrell. Congregational singing was led by Bro. Roger Phillips. Songs were "Be a Light" and "I'll Fly Away". Prayer offered by Rev. Sterling. The Mackey children and Joyce Davis sang a special, "Everybody Ought to Know". Rev. Conrad Williford was the morning speaker. His scripture reading was from John 12:20-26. The service was dismissed for the noon hour by Sis. Thomas.

The afternoon service were called to order by Rev. Conrad Williford leading the singing. Devotions led by Rev. Smith from Martin City. Prayer by Rev. Mackey. Solo by Joyce Davis; number by Nutting Quartett; solo by Alberta Hoover; and duet by Conrad and Lorene Williford. Our

offering during rally was fifty dollars and six cents (\$50.06) with one-half given to speaker and one-half to the Youth Camp. Everyone who were at Youth Camp gave a short testimony. A solo was rendered by E. Williams; "Books of the Bible" by Susan Coiner; 23rd Psalm by Ilene Coiner; duet by Linda Mackey and Ray Franklin; solo by Bro. Mackey; duet by Sis. Mackey and Lucille Franklin; duet by Sue Weaven and Beverly Barton. The children who attended the Youth Camp Session sang choruses. Solo by Raymond Dickey, duet by Rev. Mackey and Rev. Smith; quartet number by Donald Nutting, Conrad Williford, J. E. Williams and Raymond Dickey.

The next Fifth Sunday League Rally will meet with the Independence Church, near Stockton. The morning speaker will be Rev. Jim McAllister from Kansas City, with Rev. Otto Mackey as alternate.

Benediction by Sis. Opal Jeffreys.

—Beverly Barton, Cor.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI LEAGUE RALLY

Our league rally convened with Hazel Creek Church on the night of June 29th. Congregational singing was followed by prayer by Bro. Boyd Kirkpatrick. Minutes of the last meeting was read. The officers for the coming year are as follows: President, Vernon Maggart; Vice-President, Jerry Filkins; and Secretary-Treasurer, Peggy McElhinney. An offering of ten dollars and fifty-five cents was received for the Youth Camp. Scripture reading from Heb. 12:1-7 was given by the president, Vernon Maggart. Prayer by Rev. Orville Dobbs. Each one of the young people that attended the Youth Camp Session gave a report of it. A pantomime "Hymns Our Mother Loved" was given by Hazel Creek. Some choruses and songs were sung by the young leaguers of Hazel Creek. Duet "Near the Heart of God" by Vernon Maggart and Jerry Pinkston. Benediction.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

HAZEL CREEK D. V. B. S.

We have just closed a very successful two weeks Daily Vacation Bible School at the Hazel Creek F. W. B. Church. There were twenty-five children enrolled. Two precious children accepted Christ as their Saviour. The theme of the lesson was "Jesus Calls". An offering was taken each morning for the missionaries in Japan which amounted to eleven dollars and fifty-two cents (\$11.52). In the night program another offering was taken which increased the offering to be sent to Japan to twenty-eight dollars.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

THE SUN OF MY SOUL

It is said that Tennyson was walking one day in a beautiful flower garden where many flowers were blooming, and a friend said to him:

"Mr Tennyson, you speak so often of Jesus. Will you tell me what Christ really means to your life?"

Tennyson stopped and, pointed down to a beautiful yellow flower, said, "What the sun is to the flower, Jesus Christ is to my soul."

INTERCESSION

Billy Sunday tells the story of a minister who was making calls. When he rang the bell of a certain home, a little girl opened the door. He asked for her mother and she asked, "Are you sick?" He said he wasn't, and she asked, "Are you hurt?" Again he said "no." Then she asked if he knew of anyone sick or injured. When he replied that he did not, she said, "Then you can't see mamma, for she prays from nine to ten o'clock." It was then 20 minutes after 9, but he sat down and waited 40 minutes to see her. At 10 o'clock she came in with the light of glory on her face, and he knew why that home was so bright; he knew why her two sons were in the theological seminary and a daughter was a missionary. "All hell cannot tear a boy or a girl away from a mother like that," comments Mr. Sunday.

—Christian Digest

News From The Mission Field

Prayer & Praise Letter

Dear Christian Friend:

We considered the idea of not sending our letter and report for this month, but actually, we have so much to praise the Lord for, and at the same time so many important prayer requests, that we feel you should know about them!

Sailing Date for Merkh's, July 31

Rev. and Mrs. Daniel J. Merkh and children are scheduled to sail for Switzerland on July 31. They will stay in language school in Switzerland for approximately one year before going on to Africa. The family consists of Rev. Daniel Merkh, Mrs. Margaret Merkh, Elizabeth, Age 8, Daniel Jr. (Butch), Age 3, and Timothy, Age 18 months. Surely, we will pray for this family as they take their leave from us.

Truck Fund is Short:

Speaking of Africa, we now have \$1,649.81 in the truck for Africa fund. This is less than one half of what we need to place the order for truck and trailer. Please do something special for this project as we hope to place the order before too long. Also pray that the Lord will provide a jeep for our field in Africa.

Visa for India Denied:

The government of India has once again refused granting of visa for our candidates to enter. This time the official word has come refusing visa for Rev. and Mrs. Sammy Wilkinson. We had hoped so much that they could enter India as a replacement to Miss Barnard. Since this is not possible please pray for divine guidance concerning the South India work.

Communists Gain Victory in India

The Communists has just won a shattering victory in India. They have won the election and formed the government of the Indian state of Kerala. This state has 14,000,000 people. It is located at the southern tip of India and is composed of the best educated, and is one of the most Christian Indian states. Never before have the Communists been able to elect a government democratically. The camel has its hoof within the tent. Actually, what happens in India is extremely significant for the future security of our own country. Certainly, we

should pray for the Christians in India.

How Will You Vote?

"How will you vote for your church to go this year? This is how one man voted:

"Last month I voted to close all mission stations. Not intentionally, nor maliciously, but careless, thoughtlessly, indifferently, I voted. I voted to close all orphanages, Christian schools and hospitals, which faithful missionaries have labored to build.

"I voted to recall the missionaries that have given their lives in answer to the call from God, to carry the gospel to those in darkness. I voted for every native worker supported by the church to stop preaching. I voted for the darkness of superstition, the degrading influence of sin, the blight of ignorance and the curse of selfish greed once again to settle their damning load on the shoulders of an already overburdened world.

"I voted all this, not because I am opposed to what the missionaries are doing, or that I care that they have made the sacrifice to fulfill the burning desire of their heart. I voted all this because of my indifference to the command of the Bible, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel, or the pleading of the minister to give to missions.

"Oh, I believe in missions, but I did nothing to further the cause of missions. I did not give to missions, thus I cast my vote against all that missions stands for."—Selected.

New Slides

We now have a very fine set of 35 MM colored slides on Japan. They show pictures of the Japanese religion, customs of the people and our missionaries at work. There are thirty-six pictures to the set, and each picture is explained in a commentary. To better inform your church on the field of Japan, arrange for a missionary service and look on the field through these slides. Order well in advance and give first, second and third dates. A freewill offering for foreign missions is expected with each showing.

Miss Wisheart Is Ill

Miss Lucy Wisheart, missionary to Cuba, has been confined to her bed for several days. She is some-

what improved, but certainly needs our prayers.

Half-Way Mark is Reached

This year of 1957 is one-half gone. You will notice by the financial report that we have exceeded the half-way mark on our total budget for this year. We Praise the Lord for this!

However, there are still nine states who have not yet reached the half-way mark. Then too, we trust that no state will let up on their foreign mission giving just because we are approaching a suggested quota. Remember, to keep the inlet open we must not close the outlet.

Yours in His service,
Rev. Raymond Riggs
Promotional Secretary-Treasurer

* * * *

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Board of Foreign Missions

June, 1957

Cash in Bank June 1,	
1957	\$26,943.02
Receipts	10,379.61
Total to Account For	\$37,322.63
Disbursements	10,051.76

Cash in Bank July 1, 1957 \$27,270.87

State Quotas

State	Quota	Paid	Balance
Alabama	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,266.87	\$ 1,533.13
Ark.	2,800	1,811.24	988.76
Calif.	2,800	590.66	2,209.34
Florida	1,800	1,339.87	460.13
Georgia	3,700	1,885.19	1,814.81
Illinois	4,000	2,238.92	1,761.08
Kentucky	2,100	516.59	1,583.41
Maine	300	100.00	200.00
Mich.	14,300	7,203.85	7,096.15
Miss.	1,700	611.11	1,088.89
Mo.	10,300	4,655.86	5,644.14
Neb.	100		100.00
New Mex.	200	187.34	12.66
No. Car.	20,250	16,998.88	3,251.12
Ohio	2,900	2,185.85	714.15
Okla.	6,500	3,082.61	3,417.39
So. Car.	4,100	2,782.65	1,317.35
Tenn.	9,100	4,867.99	4,232.01
Texas	3,600	2,032.84	1,567.16
Virginia	3,600	3,110.68	489.32
West Va.	2,700	594.04	2,105.96
Misc.	3,565	1,727.80	1,837.20

Totals \$103,215 \$59,790.84 \$43,424.16

FAITH

A little girl in Sunday School was asked, "What is faith?" and she said, "Believing what God says without asking any questions".

To invest in earthly things is to invest in the dead or dying, to invest in the Gospel is to invest in eternity. Where are you investing your life and means today?

HANNA'S WRITE FROM INDIA

"During May we have had dirt storms almost everyday. People are saying the jute crop has failed because of lack of rain. It is distressing to see the parched jute plants everywhere. The papers say it has been the hottest May since 1924. The people have planted rice two and three times but it has not come up. Food prices are soaring. Already it is difficult for the local people but will be more difficult after the rains. Especially for the farmer and day laborer, it looks as if this year will be one of famine.

David and Jonathan are home from college. Mukul is here while Cronks are away. These young men are visiting some of the Christian villages for services this week and will visit others the third week of June. During the first two weeks of June we are planning to have a boys camp here in Sonapurhat. The first week will be for boys six to fourteen and the second week for young men fourteen and older.

The boys in the hospital here are having exams now but will not have vacation now as they usually do. The new term will begin June 2nd, they will have vacation during the monsoon.

Last Sunday I baptized two young couples from Jugetola and an old lady from Junglabita. The little church there was packed and we had a good service.

Pray that the Lord will give fruit even in these last few months before furlough."

Sincerely in Him,

—D. Carlisle Hanna

MONEY FOR TRUCK

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Enclosed is a check for \$22.65 earmarked for the truck to be used in Africa. The children in my Bible Clubs here at Ruth's Chapel have earned and given this money themselves. May the Lord use it to further His Kingdom in Africa.

We are praying for you and the promoting of foreign missions.

Juanita Dunn

God asked, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" If He asked that question of you today, what would you answer? (I Kings 19:9).

Today is all you have. What are you doing with it? Sin a moment of gratification, an eternity of remorse. Are you discouraged, sick or tired? CHRIST is the remedy.

Attend your Sunday School regularly.

From the Field**FILM ENJOYED**

Dear Sirs:

The film was enjoyed by everyone. They certainly did get a blessing out of it.

I am enclosing \$15.00 for the Foreign Missions.

Maybe we can see more of your films in the future.

Yours truly,

Bill Stout, Sec.-Treas. Masters Men, Odessa, Texas.

MONEY FOR JAPAN

Dear Bro. Riggs:

The enclosed money order in the amount of \$20.00 is from our V.B.S. of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Baldwin Ave., Marion, N. C., Pastor, Rev. J. E. Floyd, Box 201, Marion, N. C. We desire this offering to be divided between the Calverys and Hersheys for our work in Japan. If they could write and thank the children for it and tell them how they are using the offering, I think it would be a blessing to our children here. I personally think it would be such a blessing if they could use the offering to help some children particularly. However, we would not want either couple to be bound by this.

As long as I live I shall never forget the closing scene of our V.B.S. Friday noon. Forty-nine children went to the altar. Eighteen were saved for the first time, the other thirty-one re-dedicated their lives. How the joybells rang in our hearts and we know they did in heaven!

When the doors of the church were opened, fifteen children joined the church. All our efforts and toils have been well repaid. I'm sure all our teachers were like myself—some days I felt I could not carry on but God gave me strength. I was not only the Director but was teacher of the Junior Department. But God so wonderfully worked that the weariness was swallowed up by gladness and inexpressible joy. We praise Him for all that was accomplished.

—Volena Wilson

"THE REGION BEYOND"

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Enclosed is a check for the amount of sixty dollars and forty three cents (\$60.43) which is the offering taken at the showing of the film, "The Regions Beyond". This film was sponsored by our Y.P.A. but since we do not have a bank account the church treasurer made the check out to our Y.P.A. sponsor for the amount of the offering.

The film was a real blessing to everyone. Thank you for sending it. We are sending it back to you today.

Yours in Christ,
Butch Petteway

MISSION OFFERING

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Enclosed is a check for \$55.00. It is from the Sandy City Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School, for foreign missions.

This was our first Bible School. It was a great success. The school was held from June 10th thru the 21st. We had an average attendance of 109. 80 of these pupils had a perfect attendance. The above mentioned check is our morning offerings from the children.

Our revival started last night with Rev. Robert Shockey from the college conducting the services. Continue to pray for our church that it will continue to grow in God's work.

Yours truly,
Mrs. William F. Ramsdell

MONEY FOR DAVE FRANKS

Dear Bro. Riggs:

We had a wonderful service at Howard's Grove last night with Bro. Dave Franks. After services last night I talked with my young people and they agreed to give up our radio program beginning August 1st and give the twenty-five dollars a month toward Dave's salary when he goes on the field.

More than ever I realize the necessity of getting the Gospel to those who have never heard. More and more I believe with Oswald Smith that no one has a right to hear the Gospel twice until everyone has heard it once.

Charles B. Craddock

MONEY FOR MISSIONS

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Enclosed you will find our check in the amount of \$22.28 which is one-half the amount received in our V.B.S. here at the First Church. We are sending the other half to National Home Missions.

We are happy to report that the Lord is blessing us here in a great way. We have been here eight months and have received 65 into the fellowship of the church, paid off several thousands of dollars on the educational building including finishing the building, and are getting ready to start our new Sanctuary right away. For all this, we truly praise the Lord.

Please pray that God will ever lead us in the way He would have us go.

Your Brother in Christ,
Seldon Bullard

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OUR FULL-TIME HOME MISSIONARIES

Miss Bessie Yeley, (*Ohio) 101
Iturbide St., Laredo, Texas.

Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Postlewaite,
(*Missouri) Post Office Box 473,
Cashmere, Washington.

Rev. and Mrs. James E. Timmons,
(*Texas) Box 204 Cuero, Texas.

Rev. and Mrs. Melitino Martinez,
(*Cuba) 9101 N. W. Avenue, Miami,
Florida.

Note: *denotes native home.

LETTERS FROM THE NATIONAL HOME MISSION OFFICE

Enclosed you will find a check in
the amount of \$22.27 from our D.V.
B. S. here at Morehead City. Rev.
Seldon Bullard, North Carolina.

I am enclosing a check for two
dollars for Home Missions. Our
church is only three years old, but it
is growing. Richard D. Howard,
Miamisburg, Ohio.

Please send me two hundred (200)
tracts, "Who Are these Free Will
Baptists" We definitely feel that
this tract can and will do much good
for our denomination. Clifton J.
Bates, Ed. Director, Turley, Okla.

Enclosed is our pledge offering for
National Home Missions.
Elsie Bernard, Rogersville, Tenn.

Enclosed is a check for ten dollars
from Beech Springs Church. Mrs.
Edgar Etembridge, Saltillo, Missis-
sippi.

Enclosed is a check for \$30.00
from the Ladies Auxiliary of Bethany
Church. May God bless our mission
work. Mrs. Vause, Timmonsville, S. C.

Please accept this small offering
for Home Missions. My prayer is
with you, and the Home Mission De-
partment. Mrs. O'Briant, Durham,
N. C.

The Promotional Secretary of the
National Home Mission Board has
recently visited the missionaries and
missions in Old Mexico. His report
is most encouraging. Our church at
Monterrey, Mexico is going good. The
pastor, an ordained Mexican Free
Will Baptist preacher, is Sr. Juan
Lopez. Mr. Willis preached at his
services two nights. The missions in
other places are doing well, consider-
ing the amount of workers and money
Free Will Baptists have been able to
put into Old Mexico. He reports that

the opportunities are great, and that
we need to open a school in the near
future. Miss Yeley and Rev. and Mrs.
James E. Timmons are the American
missionaries to Mexico.

Enclosed is a small offering for
Home Missions from our League.
Mrs. James Bruner, Crestview, Fla.

Enclosed is \$12.00 from our League
for National Home Missions. D. W.
Barrow, Snow Hill, North Carolina.

Enclosed you will find a check for
Home missions. Every month is a
mission month at our church. Rev.
John Cansler, Paintsville, Ky.

Enclosed you will find \$4.00 from
members of our church who have
signed pledge cards. Rev. Elvie John-
son, Auburndale, Fla.

Please send me 1,000 of the Home
Mission Census cards. Rev. Redford
Meadows, Ashland, Kentucky.

We are really thankful that we can
give to Home Missions. This State
is truly in need of the gospel. Orel
Carroll, Aurira, Minn.

I have moved to Omaha, Nebraska,
and cannot find a Free Will Baptist
Church. Please let me know if one is
near here. W. W. Hunt, Omaha,
Nebr.

I am glad to join the dollar per
month group. Here is my offering.
Jerry W. Williams, San Francisco,
Calif.

Enclosed is \$4.00 for Home Mis-
sions. Give credit to the Thayer
Church. Edith Cantrell, Louisville,
Ky.

Enclosed is \$5.14 to be applied on
Bibles for Missions. Ava Freeman,
Bendavia, Mo.

Enclosed is \$15.00 for Missions
from the Wardens Grove Church.
The reports in the Baptist sound
good. Pearl Lewis, Lowland, N. C.

We the students of Mt. Olive Jun-
ior College wish to send this \$6.00
for Home Missions. Winnie Gillikin,
Secretary.

Man has conquered everything but
himself. But the one who puts his
trust and hope in Christ is "MORE
than a conqueror."

The trouble with most people is
that they live in the basement of life.
God made a place upstairs for us to
live in. Why not move?

NO ONE SPOKE TO ME

By Dr. Bruce H. Price

Last Sunday I was on vacation
which gave me an opportunity to visit
a church where I had never been
before. No one spoke to me—not one
person. If I were so inclined I could
write two or three pages telling how
I attended the services and not one
person showed me any attention.

What I have said makes the church
appear to be cold and unfriendly, but
I am sure such is not the case. I
really believe the people in the con-
gregation are sociable.

Here is how it happened. I arrived
while the first hymn was being sung
and before I had an opportunity to
come to the usher some people stop-
ped in front of me as the minister
began his prayer. Late arrivals clus-
tered about the door. Then the door
was opened and all of us pushed by
the ushers into the sanctuary. I stop-
ped at the first pew.

After the service I did not hesitate
but left immediately. No one spoke;
no one had a chance. Out the door
I went looking neither to the right
nor to the left.

The previous Sunday I was a visitor
in another church. Arriving early I
talked with two ushers in the vestibule
and one of them showed me to a seat
half way down the aisle. After the
service I paused and gave the man
next to me a chance to speak and tell
me his name. Making my way slowly
to where the minister was standing,
four or five people smiled and offered
their hands. Others continued to talk
with the preacher as I waited to ex-
press my appreciation for the mes-
sage. This meant that some of the
members milled around visiting with
each other and with me. After I
greeted the minister the first thing he
did was to introduce me to his wife
and two or three members. On my
way out others gave me a word of
welcome and invited me to return. I
remember it was a very friendly
church.

What was the difference in the two
churches? Perhaps very little; the
difference was in me, my attitude and
action.

The next time I hear someone speak
of visiting a cold church, and saying,
"No one spoke to me," I shall remem-
ber that it takes conscious effort for
such a thing to happen.

—The Baptist Courier

You're either living in the will of
God or out. If you're out you're not
in. If you're in you're not out. In
God's sight WHERE are you today?

GOD PROVIDES WHEN WE DECIDE

Scripture: Gen. 22:8

Sophia Ackerson

As with the patriarch Abraham our decision to live for God will bring into our lives His greatest blessings. The happiest people in the world are those who are so consecrated to God that they are willing to go anywhere and do anything that God would ask them to do without questioning God or offering excuses. It is wonderful to have faith enough to trust God and know He will take care of you. If you have obligated yourself to God, then God is obligated to you. He has never asked any one to do anything, but what He has supplied his needs and taken care of him.

To make success in life you must have confidence in yourself that you can do what God has asked you to do. When God asked Abraham to take his son, Isaac and offer him as a sacrifice, Abraham did not try to make excuses. He decided God knew best and he would trust him. Abraham knew also God would keep His promise even if He has to perform a miracle to do it. As he and Isaac reached the place to start up the mountain, it seems I can hear, Abraham, tell the men to stay there while he and the lad go up to worship and then return to them. He did not say that just he would return but he included the boy also.

As Abraham and Isaac started up the mountain, Isaac turned to his father and said, "Father, you have the firewood and the knife, but where is the offering?" Abraham did not hesitate nor was he undecided in the least about what to do. He said, "Son, God will provide".

After the altar was erected Abraham took Isaac and placed him on it and took the knife in his hand to slay his son. God had not forgotten about him for His eyes were upon him. God always keeps His eyes upon those who trust and obey, and He will come in due time to help them. The Angel of the Lord spoke to Abraham and said, "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me." When Abraham lifted up his eyes, he saw, caught in the thicket, a ram God had placed there for him as an offering. Too many times when God tells us to do something and to make a sacrifice, we fail to comply to his command, and in so doing we automatically cut off the

bountiful supply of God's blessing to us. It was when Abraham fully decided, that God provided.

Daniel was a great man but we would have never known of his powerful decisions for God. When they told him he must eat the king's meat and drink his wine, he did not beat around the bush or stumble about to find words proper and fitting to tell them. He simply stated, I am determined and have decided not to partake of those things.

It is too bad that we do not have more people who, brave and embarrassed, will stand up for their honest conviction. It is when this exists that the minority can rule the majority. I love God today and I'm thankful I'm His child and anywhere in the world I'm not ashamed of owning His Son for my Saviour, and say, I believe God. We need to be the same everywhere we go. A person who does not teach and does not uphold the teaching of his church and the Bible should be turned out or be made to make a definite decision to stand by the Church and the Bible because it is what has made him what he is. The smallest person in the world and in the sight of the world is man who betrays his brother and the principle for which he is supposed to uphold.

Just because the furnace was heated seven times hotter than usual did not make the three Hebrew children tremble at the king's command. The king told them they must bow down to his god, but they were not careful to give him an answer. They had already decided what to do, and they trusted God to provide a way for them. They told the king he could play his music and let every instrument sound out as loudly as they would, but they would not bow down to his god; because the God, whom they served, was able to deliver them out of his hands. When they were cast into the flames of fire, God went in with them to prove again that He provides when we decide. Your success in life depends upon you making the right decision at the proper time. That is why we must pray and know we are in God's divine will, knowing that God will take care of us; then we can venture out by faith.

On one occasion Pilate brought Christ out to the public and said, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" The hungry, blood thirsty, cursing mob of men gave him the answer, "Let him be crucified".

We cannot afford to let the world make our decision for us. To follow in the footsteps of the world will mean eternal damnation in the end.

We must stand up and decide for ourselves. Your decision to-day will mean success or failure tomorrow. People can work hard and be faithful for years, then lose every thing by making one wrong decision after they had seemingly reached a great place in life. We are living in a time when everyone is going at a fast rate of speed and he is prone to do things as we often say on the "spur of the moment" which many times proves to be fatal.

The devil is doing his best to defeat the people of God. He has many devices and attractions which will get our attentions which will get our attention if we are not careful. We cannot do things because some one else does them. We should always purpose in our lives that we are going to do right regardless of what the other person does. Sometimes we may feel we shall have to stand alone and be criticized by the world, but God will always help us.

Life is a precious thing which can only be lived once. Let us make our decision so that when we reach the end of the way we can look back over our lives without regret and leave a testimony to the world that the fact has been proved; God provides when we decide!

Love to all and God bless every one. Amen!

IT COST HIM HIS SOUL

"What is the value of this estate?" said a gentleman to another, as they passed a fine mansion surrounded by fair and fertile fields.

"I don't know what it is valued at; I know what it cost its late possessor."

"How much?"

"His soul."

JOHN WESLEY'S TWO QUESTIONS

John Wesley used to ask his young men whom he had sent out to preach on probation two questions: "Has anyone been converted?" and "Did any one get mad?" If the answer was "No", he told them he did not think the Lord had called them to preach the Gospel, and sent them about their business. When the Holy Ghost convicts of sin, people are either converted or they don't like it, and get mad.

All important things have prominent mention in the Bible. "Opinion" is mentioned three times. What is yours worth?

An excuse is what a person says the reason is.

Woman's Auxiliary

NEOSHO WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist Church at Neosho, Mo., met at 1:30, July 10. For the opening hymn we sang, "At the Cross". Prayer by Mrs. Dorothy Childress. Our lesson subject was "Send Out Thy Light to India". The topics were as follows: "The People of India"; "The Caste of India"; "The Language of India"; and "Send Out Thy Light to India".

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President—Mrs. Wilma Pogue.
Vice-President—Mrs. Mary Pague.
Youth Chairman—Mrs. Loretta Russell.
Study Course Chairman—Mrs. Ella Pogue.
Program Chairman—Mrs. Virginia Pogue.
Personal Service Chairman—Mrs. Lorene Knee.
Sec.-Treas.—Mrs. Ella Pogue.
* * * *

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist Church at Neosho, Mo. met at 1:30, July 24, 1957. The opening hymn was, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story". Prayer by Mrs. Virginia Staling. Our lesson subject was "God's World Plan Carried Out by Other Witnesses". Topics were on: Peter, Stephen and Phillip. We had business session followed by our reports.

Those present were as follows: Rev. James McCully, Louise McCully, Wilma Pogue, Dorothy Childress, Sarah Davidson, Eva Lucas, Mary Pogue, Virginia Pogue, Ella Pogue, Virginia Staling, a new member, and Mrs. Bradley, a visitor.

—Mrs. W. T. Childress, Cor.

SPRINGFIELD FIRST CHURCH AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Church of Springfield met at the church, Tuesday, July 2nd, with fourteen members present. The meeting was opened by singing, "Send the Light". Prayer by Juanita Highfill. The secretary's report was given by Catherine Draper. Each member answered the roll call with a scripture verse. Scripture reading was given by our president, Juanita Highfill.

The lesson introduction was given by Lucy Ray. Topics were read by Catherine Draper, Blossom Ogee, and Kathryn Kruger. Open discussions were on all topics. A solo, "The Love of God" was rendered by Jessie Crowder. Altar service led by Bertha

Wolf. We met in the basement after the meeting and Myrtle Corbin, Lucy Ray, and Lois Chance served pie and ice cream.

We are glad to report that our pastor, Henry Long, is doing fine after suffering a heart attack three weeks ago and being very ill for several days. He has improved so much the past week, but will have to remain in the hospital for a few more days. Our good brother, Cleo Covington, has been serving in Rev. Long's absence and has been delivering inspirational messages. He will continue to serve until Rev. Long is able to be back. Our church voted overwhelmingly for Bro. Long to serve as our pastor another year.

—Bertha Wolf, Cor.

NORTHEAST MO AUXILIARY WORKSHOP

The auxiliaries of the Northeast Missouri Association held their Workshop Day, June 20, at the Hazel Creek Church.

The morning devotions was led by Mrs. Lillian Wood after congregational singing. Prayer by Mrs. Wandell Seviets. The theme was "Faith". Scripture reading and remarks by Mrs. Wood from Heb. 11:1-3; John 20:29. Prayer by Sis. Elfa Dare. Song, "My Hope is Built". Special prayer was offered by each one present for the foreign missionaries. After singing the benediction was offered by Rev. Stella Gates.

After the noon meal we were called to order by singing. Prayer by Mrs. Wood. Following a praise service, Rev. Gates brought a wonderful message on the "Old Testament Faith".

The next Workshop Day will meet with the Kirksville Church, Sept. 19, 1957.

We were dismissed by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

MRS. LEVI JEMES WRITES

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

As our subscription has expired for our Gem paper, I am enclosing my renewal, and thought I might write a few lines. We enjoy reading the paper very much and May God bless our editor and family.

I feel weak but I want to tell you I am still on the battle field for my Lord, and expect to be as long as the dear Lord sees fit for us to go living in this old sinful world. O that we as children of God could at all times say from the very bottom of

our own hearts, "Lord, Thy will be done in our lives at all times". O Lord, help me I pray to live each and every day as though it were my last on this earth, and Lord, I pray, give me more love for my relatives, friends, and neighbors. O Lord, I pray help me to live so close to thee each and every day that when I hear people talking about my neighbors I can say, O Lord, help me and show me what to do. What would I do, Lord, if I were in that person's place? O Lord, give us more love for one another and our fellowmen. O that we would stop and meditate in our minds when anything comes before us before we say anything that would hurt our brother's and sister's good name. Satan is so eager for us all to fall and follow him down to a devil's hell.

By the grace of God I started out at the age of sixteen to make heaven my home. The only regret I have is that I did not start sooner to serve the Lord.

Old Satan can stand singing and most anything, but when a child of God comes humbly before Him in prayer it puts old Satan on the go.

How often in the past have I been out walking and came along by a beautiful tree, and the thought would come to me, O what a beautiful place for prayer, and when I yielded, What a blessing God gave me! How I thank and praise His dear Name! Some of the greatest blessings have been when only the Lord and I were present.

I thank the Lord for a Christian home, good neighbors and friends, but most of all I thank Him for saving my soul.

CLEAN YOUR OWN WINDOWS

A lady complained to a friend visiting her that her next-door neighbor was a poor housekeeper, her children were dirty, her house was filthy, and one was almost disgraced by living near her.

"Just look," she said, "at those clothes she has hung out on the line. See the black streaks up and down those pillow-cases?"

The friend stepped to the window, raised it, and looked out.

"It appears, my dear," said the visitor, "that the clothes are perfectly clean; the streaks that you see are on your own window."

—Rev. R. T. Williams

Christ

Christ, born of a Virgin, was a miracle and as spectacular and mysterious as any event in history. The birth of the Spirit of Christ within a soul, when he is born again, is as miraculous, mysterious and spectacular as of His birth. Many who keep Christmas as the birth of Christ, have never had Him born in their soul as a Saviour. Christ came to fulfill prophecy. He was to bruise the serpent's head, Gen. 3:15, which He is doing through His Word. He was to be born of a virgin, Isaiah 7:14 "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel," Which is God with us, according to the New Testament Scriptures. He was born of a virgin, and was called Emmanuel. Not born of a young woman, for all young women are not virgins. In His life, He fulfilled all of Isaiah 53. In Isaiah 9:6-7, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder and his name shall be Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace and of his government there shall be no end; and he shall rule and judge with justice forever and ever." He was esteemed as Wonder by his followers and he was a mighty Counselor. We call him God and The Prince of Peace, and we believe He shall set up a new government here on earth ruled by justice and love. In Micah 5:2, "But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose going forth have been from of old from everlasting." We believe He was born in Bethlehem, and that He was before the foundation of all things, and He has set up a kingdom, a spiritual kingdom of love and righteousness; that is set in all saint's hearts. There are ather prophecy's about Christ of which He did, has, and is fulfilling and will fulfill. He came to save sinners, that which was lost, Matt. 18:11. He came to reconcile God and man; to make an atonement, and to make God and man at one again. He came as a Way to God, as Truth and as Life. John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, 'I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.' Christ came into the world as a demonstrator of God's love. Christ came into the world to die, to be crucified, buried and to be resurrected and to ascend. He came out of love for His creatures. He came to rent the veil to the Holy of Holes, that the way to the Holy of Holies of God's King-

dom might be opened; that man might pray direct to God, having Christ as our High Priest.

Christ came not to reform man, but to transform man; to make man a new creature from an alien to a son. He came as God-man, that He might encounter temptation. He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin, that he might know man's fight with temptation; that He might be able to show mercy and justice toward the penitent sinner. Christ came that we might know the Father. He ascended that the Holy Spirit might come and reveal unto us the full God-Head and God's will toward us. He came, died, arose and ascended that man might have eternal life.

Warren Moffitt
Winigan, Mo.

GODLY SORROW BRINGS JOY

In II Corinthians 7:10 we have contrasted that godly sorrow which worketh repentance to salvation and the sorrow of the world which worketh death. The godly sorrow of the prodigal caused him to return to the father's house. First there came to him:

1. **Remembrance and Realization** (Verses 17-19). He began to think, and if one could only bring men to that place we would have more of them coming to repentance. Satan tries to keep them too busy to think.

This boy had memories of a godly household. Ask yourself what memories your boy will have in his hour of need. You are writing that record now for his future guidance.

Note that he came to himself. This indicates that a man who is living in sin is really unbalanced—he's not himself. One might say he is spiritually insane. This young fellow came to a realization that he must do something, and so we have

2. **Repentance and Return:** (vv 20-21). To repent means to turn your life aboutface, from sin to God. Repentance calls for more than thinking or talking or praying. There must be action. We read that the young man arose and came to his father. That was his obligation, and then came the father's part, which brought about

3. **Restoration and Rejoicing** (vv. 22-24). The son expected to return as his father's hired servant but the father restored him to full family fellowship.

So likewise, God is gracious, and the repentant sinner finds himself clad in the spotless robe of righteousness, wearing the ring of sonship upon his hand, and with shoes on his feet so that he may go on the errands of his Father.

Some may be reading these words who are still eating the husks of this world, who are in the far country; who may be, in effect, tending swine. That is the most degrading thing that this boy could have done. We invite you to come to God and to return to the Father's house and share in rejoicing there. God is ready to save you. Note that His salvation is a complete and blessed redemption, which brings glorious fellowship in life and service.

—Contributed by Mrs. Menge

HOW I HELP MY SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Owen Miller

Pastor of the First Baptist Church
Hammond, Indiana

I help my Sunday School through the training of leaders. To train redeemed, assured, inspired, new-born persons is to insure a growing, effective Bible school. Persistent, prayerful preparation always precedes a powerful proclamation of pertinent information. We, therefore, have developed a nine months teacher training class, an incoming membership class, an annual Laboratory Training School, an annual Bible conference, and a monthly Workers' Conference.

I help my Sunday School through promotion. Nothing succeeds like success and success will not succeed unless it is talked about. Periodically we have sponsored rallies, anniversary celebrations, contests and record breaking days for the purpose of promoting our Sunday School to church and community.

I help my Sunday School through visitation. Vigorous visitation with vision vitally increases the virility of the various departments and vindicates the school's witness. Consistent follow up of absentees and contacting of prospects has increased attendance.

I help my Sunday School through cooperation. For the pastor to have a share in the Sunday School is a wonderful privilege. I seek to cooperate one hundred per cent with the total program of the school and offer leadership whenever and wherever possible.

I help my Sunday School through enhancing facilities. Our great God makes possible a consistent building program. He provides money, solves problems, encourages the weak and assures the faithful. We know that as space is properly utilized and is overcrowded, God will provide larger quarters. He is doing it!

—Link

DESLOGE F. W. B. TO BUILD NEW BRICK CHURCH

Desloge Free Will Baptist Church has agreed unanimously to erect a beautiful brick church. It is to be built on the same site of the church that was damaged in the tornado. We are happy about this and feel that the Lord is with us in this undertaking.

We have been without a church home since the May 21st tornado struck our town causing death and property damage. For a while we had services in the Jewish Temple in Flat River, Mo. We are glad to report that one soul accepted the Lord during those services. Our attendance held up well, but everyone felt it would be best to have services in our own town if possible. Now we are worshipping in a room of the grade school building. We are thankful for the privileges extended to us by the Desloge School System and the Flat River Jewish Temple. Everyone has been so kind, but it will truly be a happy day when we can again worship in our own church.

We need your prayer, please remember us. May we all be found working when Jesus comes.

Mrs. Everett Bowman, Cor.

TWIN OAK CHURCH

Our average attendance in Sunday School for June was forty-four. God is wonderfully blessing our church and we thank him so much for what He has done for us. We also thank God for sending Rev. Darnell our way. He has been such a blessing to our church and we pray that God will continue to bless him and his family in their work.

If there ever was a time that God's people need to pray more and work harder, it is now. Sin is on every hand and Satan is trying his best to get in the churches and tear down God's work, but I am so glad God's grace is sufficient to carry us through if we will just let God have His wonderful way in our lives. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

—Mrs. Myrtle Menge, Cor.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING

The Northeast Missouri Fifth Sunday Meeting convened with the Hazel Creek Church, June 30, with Sunday School at 10:00 o'clock. The morning worship opened with congregational singing. Prayer by Albert Dobbs. Rev. Wm. Buster delivered the message with scripture reading

from James 1:16-27. After handshake we were dismissed with prayer. A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened by congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Stella Gates. Scripture reading from Psalm 115, by Roberta Wood. Prayer by Andy Loy. Minutes of last meeting were read. Letters from Kirsville, New Harmony and Hazel Creek Auxiliaries were read for information.

The following program was given: Reading "It Couldn't Be Done", by Mrs. Fern Kelsey; Duet, "Trust and Obey" by Mona Chrisman and Mike Fowler; Reading, "Death Notice" by Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Mrs. Maizie Sevits conducted a Bible quiz between the Junior boys and girls. Duet, "He'll Understand and Say Well Done", by Bernice Thomas and Velma Wellman; Reading, "Over the Hill to the Poor House" by Mrs. Sylvia Sevits. The young people choruses were led by Vernon Maggart and a flannel-graph story given by Sarah Mae Byrd. Duet, "Keep on the Firing Line" by Andy Loy and Boyd Kirkpatrick. Congregational singing followed by prayer by Rev. Woodrow Matthers. The message was delivered by Rev. Harold Ogdon with scripture reading from Heb. 11. An invitation was given after which Bro. Lee Chrisman pronounced the benediction.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI QUARTERLY MEETING

The Northeast Missouri Quarterly Meeting met at the Hazel Creek Church June 29th. The meeting convened at two o'clock with singing. Prayer by Rev. Alta Mikel. Devotions by Rev. Orville Dobbs with Scripture reading from 1 John 4. Praise service conducted by Rev. Wm. Buster. Business was transacted. Benediction by Mrs. Mamie Kirkpatrick.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

PULLING TOGETHER

A horseman once went to Henry Ward Beecher, the great preacher, and said, "Mr. Beecher, I have a good family horse I want to sell you. He is a good saddle horse, a good buggy horse, and a good carriage horse. He works double with any other horse and on either side of the tongue. In short he is a good all-round horse and a good team worker."

Mr. Beecher replied, "My friend, I can't buy your horse, but I would like to have him as a member of my church."

Attend Church Sunday



Rev. O. T. Dixon

Pastor of Mtn. Grove Church

Ass't. Moderator of State Association

THIRTY-THREE BAPTIZED

On June 30 at 2:30 in the Whetstone Creek, three miles west of town, the Mountain Grove Free Will Baptist Church observed a baptismal service with Rev. O. T. Dixon, the pastor, officiating. Rev. Dixon states: "Thirty-three were baptized. Also, a revival still prevails in our church with seven additions today. This makes close to forty decisions in our church recently."

Communion and feet-washing services were scheduled for Wednesday night, July 3.

The Sunday School attendance for fourth Sunday in June was 241 and the tithes and offering amounted to \$215.00.

BOTH KNEES NEEDED

A lecturer recently declared at the outset of his lecture that he "received his moral training at the knee of a devout mother and across the knee of a determined father." One wonders how many of the oncoming generation will be enabled to make such a statements.

PRAYERS WITH ACTION

A man prayed fervently every morning at family worship for the poor. One morning at the conclusion of the family worship, after the usual prayer had been offered for the poor and destitute, his little son said, "Father, I wish I had your corn-crib."

"Why, my son?" asked the father.

"Why, because then I would answer your prayer myself."

25TH ANNIVERSARY ADVANCE PROGRAM 1958-60

1958—The Year of Evangelism and Missions

Goals for revival crusades during March and April:

1. Personal soul-winning classes in the local churches in February.
2. Issuing study course material and new gospel tracts.
3. Goal of 10,000 enrolled in the training classes.
4. Organization of practical work groups in local churches.
5. Issuing instruction booklet for new converts.
6. Revivals in 1,000 churches during March and April (promotional material to be prepared by Home Mission Board)
7. Results of every revival reported to national Home Mission office for tabulation.

Foreign Mission Goals and Projects:

1. Opening new fields in Africa and Brazil.
2. More mission volunteers—at least 8 for Africa and 6 for Japan.
3. Budget increase to \$153,000—33 percent increase.

Home Mission Goals and Projects:

1. Opening new Home Mission areas in Alaska and Mexico.
2. Organization of new churches in metropolitan centers of Washington, D. C., and Denver, Colo.
3. Establish work in the following new states—Colorado, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Utah, Wyoming, and Montana.
4. Budget increase to \$53,100—16½ percent increase.

1959—The Year of Enlistment Goals and Projects:

1. Enlistment of total church membership into various service auxiliaries of the church (Woman's Auxiliary, Master's Men, etc.)
2. Projects of League Board.
 - a. Publication of Story Hour materials.
 - b. Issuing General League Manual.
 - c. Free Will Baptist League Monthly developed to quarterly magazine.
 - d. Separate program quarterlies for senior and adult groups.
 - e. A League organized in every church.
 - f. Raise \$15,000 to furnish "Kitchen for College".
 - g. Each League reporting quarterly with 10 per cent of offerings.

- h. Employment of full-time promotional secretary.
3. Projects of Sunday School Board.
 - a. Employment of an executive secretary who shall be responsible, with Sunday School Board, for the overall planning of the denominational Sunday School program.
 - b. Furnishing of graded literature for lower departments.
 - c. Placing of lesson outlines in hands of prospective writers for producing new and more up-to-date Sunday School lessons for lower departments.
 - d. Furnishing of personnel to conduct worker's conferences and clinics in local churches.
 - e. Publishing of a monthly Sunday School magazine with helps for teachers and administrators.
 - f. Setting up a teacher training program with a goal of 3,000 teachers and prospective teachers enrolled by 1960.
4. Enlist every church and conference into affiliation with the national association.
5. Denominational membership goal: 250,000.

1960—The Year of Stewardship Goals and Projects:

1. Stewardship study classes in local churches in February.
2. Stewardship Sunday—March 13.
3. 10,000 new tithers enlisted during the year.
4. Denominational budget of \$750,000.
5. 1,000 churches given at least 10 percent through the Cooperative Plan of Support.
6. Denominational Loyalty Sunday—October 2.

OPPOSITION

A certain amount of opposition is a great help to a man. Kites arise against the wind. Even a headwind on the sea is better than none. No man ever worked his passage in a dead calm. Let no man, therefore, wax pale because of opposition.

—J. Neal

"TILL HE COME"

I never begin my work without thinking that perhaps He may interrupt that work and begin His own. His word to all believing souls is: "Till I come."

—G. Campbell Morgan

Don't brag about what you are going to do tomorrow: somebody might ask what you did yesterday.

IT TAKES COURAGE

To refrain from gossip when others about you delight in it.

To stand up for an absent person who is being abused.

To live honestly within your means and not dishonestly on the means of others.

To be a real man, a true woman, by holding fast to your Christian ideals when it causes you to be looked upon as strange and peculiar.

To be talked about and yet remain silent when a word would justify you in the eyes of others, but which you would speak with injury to another.

To refuse to do a thing which is wrong, though others do it.

To dress according to your income, and to deny yourself that which you cannot afford.

To live always according to your convictions.

The Ailing Church

Dear Doctor G:

I hate to write you about what is going on down here, but I think you should know.

There has been a new Doctor D moved in and he has taken charge of some of your patients.

I know, Doctor G, that this will hurt you, but sometime ago Brother and Sister Love and Brother and Sister Tears passed away. Brother and Sister Pride have come to take their place and brought Brother and Sister Strife.

Brother and Sister Spirit and Father Prayer are getting very weak, and Mother Church cannot last much longer.

We have a nurse, Brother Sugarcoat, but all that he seems to care about is Brother and Sister Greenback.

Dr. G, please send some of your old fashioned remedy called Salvation, for I know that it is the only thing that will get Mother Church and Father Prayer back on their feet, and able to stand again.

I think that this will help Brother and Sister Donothing to get on the move and stop Brother and Sister Grouch and will move Brother and Sister Knowitall out and everybody will be happy to see Mother Church on the road to recovery.

Yours Truly,

The Gospel Ranger

Success, peace, and joy are not found in getting but in giving. All truly great people have found that their only real joy is living by giving. All miserable people have suffered defeat by getting to spend or hoard, or trying to do so.

State Treasurer's Report

April, May, June, 1957

Received:

Co-operative Fund:

Alton Church	\$ 3.80
Aulsbury Chapel Church ..	128.65
Berkeley Church	75.00
Carterville Church	29.85
Copper Mines Church	138.06
Desloge Church	124.70
Farmington Church	59.30
Fellowship Church	431.22
First Church Springfield	112.87
First Church Flat River	247.62
Fourth, St. Louis	121.59
Fredericktown Church	231.48
Grant Ave. Church	121.14
Hannon Sunday School	42.09
Hickory Grove Church	50.03
Hazel Creek Union Church	51.97
Joplin Church	13.62
Kirksville	45.00
Leadington Church	359.07
Lebanon Church	10.00
Libbie Bowers	25.00
Martinstown Church	22.00
Marble Hill Church	34.88
Meris Chapel Church	51.82
Mill Creek Church	41.13
Mine La Motte Church	30.98
Monett Church	172.33
Mtn. Grove Church	205.00
Mtn Valley Church	27.97
Myrtle Church	31.37
Neosho Church	10.00
Oak Grove Church	4.85
Richwoods Church	68.29
South Side Church	225.00
Twin Oak Church	34.00
Thayer Church	54.33
Third Church St. Louis	49.71
Union Light Church	6.50
Verdella Church	88.44
Victory Church	38.29
Wellston Church	203.90

Total Received \$3,822.75

Disbursed as Follows:

National Co-operative Fund	\$2,675.93
State General Fund	191.14
State Home Missions	649.87
Free Will Baptist Gem	286.71
State Superannuation	19.10

Total Disbursed \$3,822.75

Foreign Missions:

Berkeley League	\$ 15.00
Fellowship Church	150.00
Marble Hill Church	11.00
Martinstown Church	15.00
Mrs. Bruce Davidson	10.00

Total Received \$ 243.74

Total Disbursed 243.74

Missions:

Fredricktown Church	\$ 34.79
Jewell Church	16.65
Leadington D.V.B.S.	22.96
Mt. Olive Church	6.93
New Harmony S. S.	66.12
Old Bethel Church	30.14
Rock Chapel Church	60.31

Total Received \$ 237.90

Disbursed as Follows:

Foreign Missions	166.53
National Home Missions	71.37

Total Disbursed \$ 237.90

Dan Merkh Fund:

Fellowship D.V.B.S.	\$ 47.66
Total Received	47.66
Total Disbursed	47.66

African Field:

First Church, Kansas City V.B.S.	28.17
Total Received	28.17
Total Disbursed	28.17

Hanna Fund:

Third Church, St. Louis	35.00
Total Received	35.00
Total Disbursed	35.00

Lucy Wisheart Fund:

First Church Kansas City	35.00
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Total Received 35.00
Total Disbursed 35.00

National Home Mission:

Berkeley League	15.00
Bethel Church	30.00
Fellowship Church	75.00
Monett Church, Bessie Yeley Circle	22.50

Total Received 142.50
Total Disbursed 142.50

State Home Mission:

Bethel Church	7.29
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Total Received 7.29
Total Disbursed 7.29

Bible College:

Gem Books	75
Fellowship Church	75.00
Total Received	75.50
Total Disbursed	75.75

Youth Camp:

Third Church, St. Louis	15.00
Total Received	15.00
Total Disbursed	15.00

Gem:

Subscriptions	209.28
Supplies	7.50
Books	75

Total Received \$ 217.53

Signed, Rev. Albert Halbrook,
Treasurer

A MODERN PRODIGAL FATHER

A certain man had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the portion of thy time, thy attention, and companionship, and thy counsel which falleth to me."

And he divided unto him his living in that he paid the boy's bills and sent him to a select preparatory school, and to dancing schools, and to college, and tried to believe that he was doing his full duty by the boy.

And not many days after, the father gathered all his interests and aspirations and ambitions and took his journey into a far country, into a line of stocks and bonds and securities and other things which do not interest a boy; and there he wasted his opportunity of being a chum to his own son.

And when he had spent the very best of his life, and had gained money but had failed to find satisfaction, there arose a mighty famine in his heart; and he began to be in want of sympathy and real companionship.

And he went and joined himself to one of the clubs of that country and they elected him chairman of the house committee and president of the club and sent him to Congress, and he would fain have filled himself with the husks that other men did eat, and no man gave unto him any real friendship.

But when he came to himself, he said, "How many men of my acquaintances have boys and associate with their boys and seem perfectly happy in the comradeship of their sons, and I perish here with hunger? I will arise and go to my son and will say to him, Son, I have sinned against Heaven, and in thy sight! I am no more worthy to be called thy father. Forgive me now and let me be your friend."

But the son said, "Not so, I wish it were possible, but it is too late. There was a time when I wanted to know things, when I wanted companionship and counsel, but you were too busy; I got the information, and I got companionship but I got the wrong kind; and now, alas, I am wrecked in soul and body, and there is nothing you can do for me. It is too late, too late, too late."

THE BIBLE GIVES

Help for my soul;
Holiness for my walk;
Happiness for my heart;
Hope for my future.