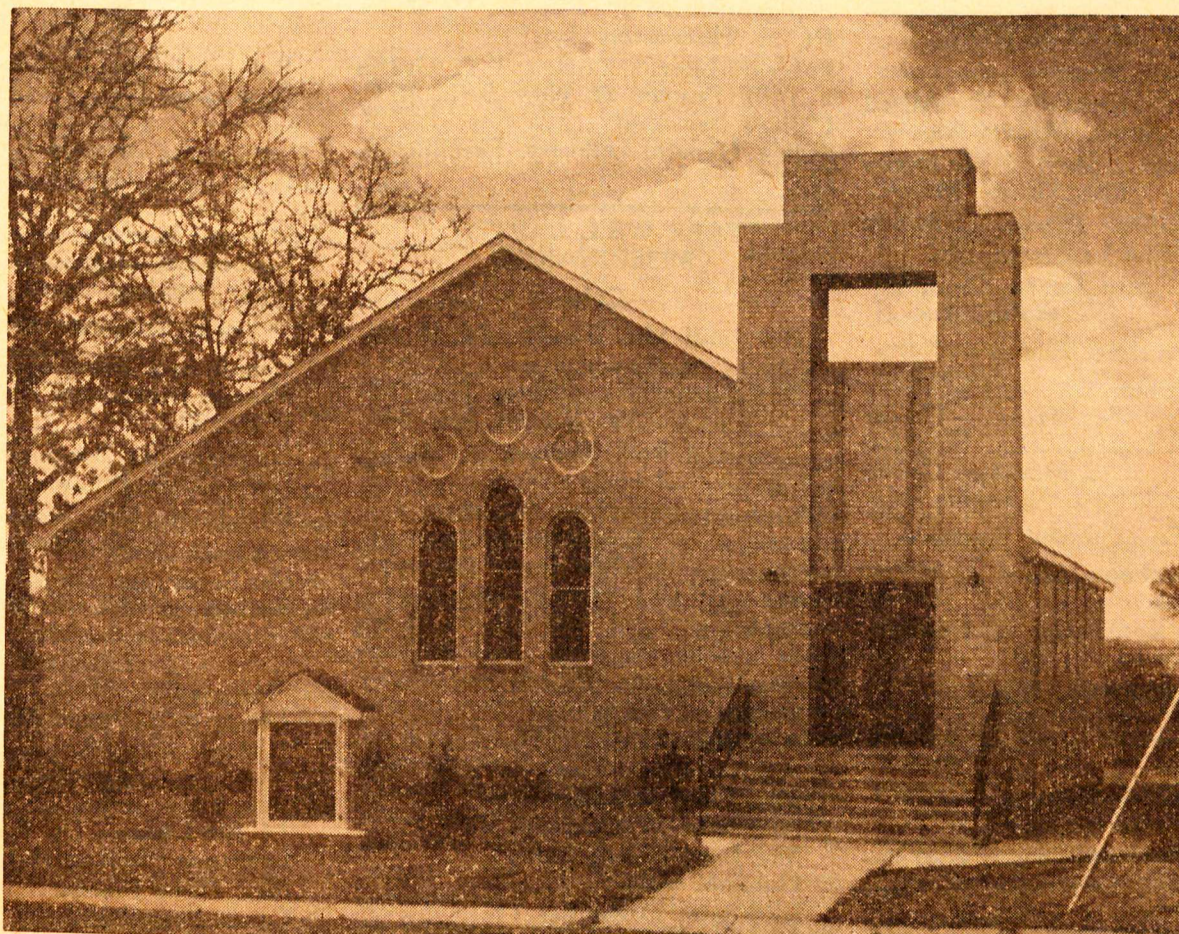


The Free Will **Baptist Gem**

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Poplar Bluff, Missouri

March, 1959



Monett Freewill Baptist Church, Monett, Mo.

Rev. R. Luther Sanders, Pastor

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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Mr. Hersey, July 20

Philip, June 21
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Minami 2 Chome
1 Danchi
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Birthdates: Mrs. Cronk, June 7
Mr. Cronk, Feb. 28

Randell, April 3

Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna
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Birthdates: Mrs. Merkh, Jan. 29
Mr. Merkh, April 11
Elizabeth Merkh, Nov. 26
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Timothy Merkh, Nov. 5

14 Bis Chemin Du Reposoir
Lausanne, Switzerland

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Caixa Postal 630
Campinas, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil
South America
Birthdate: Oct. 5
Rev. and Mrs. Ken Eagleton
Caixa Postal 273
Campinas, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil
South America
Birthdates: Mrs. Eagleton, Mr. Eagleton, Kenny,

A Costly Hair Cut

Scripture Reading, Judges, chapter 16

Text: "And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him."

Samson's life presents us with an enigma. Was there ever one with a character like that of Samson? Perhaps there has never been one with exactly the same pattern of character as Samson, but there are those today, no doubt, who resemble him in his character too much. But in spite of Samson's fickleness, unstableness; in spite of all his faults, God used him in the restruction of many of the enemies of God and of His people.

Samson was endued with supernatural strength. No other man has ever possessed the physical strength which he had. But it was given for a purpose. His physical strength was given him that, with that strength, he might honor God in the destruction of the enemies of God's people. It will be well if you will begin reading at chapter 13, verse 2 and read his history from his birth till his death. Note that he was supernaturally conceived; the Lord brought him into the world for the accomplishment of a certain purpose, and though Samson's character was a riddle the Lord accomplished His purpose through him.

He was to be a Nazarite from the womb to the day of his death. His long hair was the sign of his Nazarite vow. His strength did not lay in his hair as so many, perhaps, think, but his strength was in God; God's presence would be with him in all places, and under all conditions, and at all times so long as he was faithful to his vow as a Nazarite.

Let us study thoughtfully and prayerfully the act of disobedience which Samson committed, seeking to make a personal application to our own lives in the service of God. Let us observe—

I. Samson Didn't Need a Hair Cut.

Why did not Samson need a hair cut? His hair was long. It was contrary to the custom of his time for men to wear long hair as Samson wore his hair. With his long hair he would be oddly different from his associates—from all other men. It would, no doubt, cause him to be stigmatized; cause him to be a gazing stock and a laughter stock to others. Why should he be thus different from other men? Well, that is just the point. Remember he was a Nazarite; he was to be dif-

ferent from others. He was set apart for a special work, and his long hair was his mark of identification as a specially called person. To have shaved, or cut off his locks would have rendered him like others of the world, but he was not like the world. We, as God's children, are to be different from the world; there must be something about us that marks us as not being like others of the world. When we give up our separation from the world, we like Samson, give up much else. No, contrary to all appearances, Samson did not need a hair cut.

II. His Long Hair Was the Sign of a Solemn and Sacred Vow.

This has already been intimated. Samson had been called of God for a special and sacred and solemn task, or work. To fulfill this work he would need to have great strength. And, on condition that he would sacredly honor his vow, God would be his strength. As before stated, his strength did not lay in his hair; his strength was in God who miraculously brought him into the world in answer, no doubt, to many earnest, fervent prayers by his mother. Because she was childless she was the object of much derision by other women in her day. The Lord graciously removed the occasion of her derision, gave her a son who was to be wholly dedicated to the Lord.

III. Samson Got a Hair Cut.

Samson very foolishly married a worldly-wise woman. His marriage to this wicked woman was the scheme of Satan to destroy the usefulness of Samson. Now he plans how to destroy our usefulness. If he can get us, like Samson, to give up our separation from the world and our consecration and dedication to God he has accomplished his purpose. He knows he cannot touch our lives; he cannot cause one to lose the Salvation of the Lord, but he may, if we permit it, cause us to lose the godly influence with men that we should have to serve the Lord's purpose in our lives. Samson went to sleep in the lap of Delilah; believers sometimes go to sleep, as it were, in the lap of the world; then get their hair cut. When Delilah saw that Samson had revealed all to her, she quickly called a man who cut off his locks. Then she awakened him; he shook himself as he had done before; he was unconscious that his strength was gone till he did this, but he now finds himself a weakling.

IV. Samson's Hair Cut Was A Costly One.

Samson awoke and found to his sorrow that his strength was gone. Have you ever awakened to find that your

strength as a Christian was gone? If so, you can realize the sorrow that then possessed the heart of Samson. Sometimes we are made to believe that just a little indulgence in worldly things will not cause any injury or harm, but when we have indulged we find to our sorrow and hurt that it was a costly indulgence. What did Samson's hair cut cost him? Note—

1. It cost him the presence of God. See last clause of verse 20. "And he wist not that his strength was gone." Perhaps Lot never realized that the Lord had departed from him until he tried to persuade his loved ones to leave Sodom; he found then that he was as one who mocked. Lot's hair cut, spiritually speaking, was a costly one. In a spiritual sense, Christians sometimes have their hair cut; it is surreptitiously done while they go to sleep on the lap of Delilah—the world. When they awake they find, like Samson, that the Lord has departed from them, and they are weak as other men. Remember, dear believer, that your spiritual hair cut will cost you the presence of the Lord.

2. Samson's hair cut cost him his liberty. He was bound, his eyes were put out, and he ground at the mill. Here we see that sin is binding, blinding, and grinding. Many Christians have had their hair cut, then found to their sorrow the binding, blinding, and grinding effect of sin, even in the life of a child of God. Don't go to sleep on the lap of the world and get your hair cut—lose your good influence with men.

3. Samson's hair cut cost him afflictions. Think of having his eyes put out. This was sore affliction. The grinding at the mill was a great affliction. Day in and day out he had to tread the mill. Have you ever tread the devil's mill? If so you realize how turning from God can bring sorrow and affliction and trouble; it is a miserable condition, isn't it?

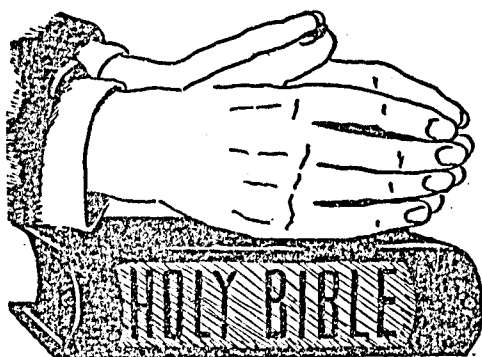
4. It cost him his life. Had Samson been faithful to his vow to the Lord he would not have met the death he did. His days were cut short as well as his hair. Do you realize, dear Christian, that you may shorten your own life by your disobedience to the will of the Lord? Avoid these spiritual hair cuts; they are very costly. When you have had such a hair cut your life will be filled with affliction, sorrow, and your testimony will be unavailing; it will be as that of Lot; you will be as one who mocks.

V. Samson's Death.

When Samson realized his awful mistake; when he realized that the

(Continued on Page 4)

The Family Altar



PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for the Immanuel Bible Institute established in St. Louis. II Timothy 2:15.

Pray for the week of Youth Camp to convene in June. Proverbs 22:6.

Pray for the Billows of Mexico who are suffering persecution. II Timothy 2:12.

Pray for the missionaries to Cuba who have great doors opened for witnessing since the revolution. I Cor. 16:9.

Pray for the Bible Conference to convene at the F. W. B. Bible College in Nashville. II Timothy 3:16-17.

Pray that all of our churches will bear an effectual testimony for Christ. Matt. 5:14.

Pray that each individual Christian will live a consecrated life. Rom. 12:1-2.

Pray for all our foreign and home missionaries on the field, and those in preparation for going. Matt. 28:19-20.

A COSTLY HAIRCUT

(Continued from Page 3)

Philistines would now make great sport of him as they planned to do as they made a great feast to Dagon, their god, he confessed his sin to God and prayed that he might, even in his death, glorify God. See the poor man as he was placed in the temple where all could make sport of him, but also see him as he rededicated his life to God and he asked the lad who was leading him to place his hands on the great pillars of the temple. His hair was growing again; the Lord gave him great strength, and he surged against the pillars and the great temple of Dagon fell; and great was the fall of it. Samson killed more men in his death than in his life.

If you have had your hair cut, confess to God, rededicate yourself to Him and God will yet use you to the tearing down of the strongholds of Satan and sin.

—From Baptist Trumpet

COME BACK

By Rev. John C. McAllister
408 Olive, Holden, Mo.

(Continued from last Month)

The second step as we go up the ladder is prayer. First humbleness, then prayer. Prayer is talking with God in earnest about the way in which the church is going, and asking God's help in bringing unsaved souls to church. There is no problem too big, or no question too tough that God can't solve if we ask him. We have the promise from God: "and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

Prayer is a big factor in the life of a Christian. Christ tells us that when we pray to always put God first. If we pray for our pastor we will have a good pastor, who is inspired by the Word of God. If we pray for our church we will have a good church as well as a big church full of Christians, instead, which I am sorry to say, of having a big church full of hypocrites which so many of our churches round about are such, churches full of cold, lifeless people who have backslidden and are on their road to hell.

You can go to a great many churches, and what do you see? A group of people playing church. That's what you see! God forbid that man has stooped so low that they can't see an inch beyond their noses, that if they will take hold of the almighty hand of God they can be lifted out. We have read in our papers about our churches having their doors closed by one of two ways, either by the law or by the devil. Either they have gotten into a fight and the only way it can be stopped is for the law to take over, or else the church has gone so far out on the road of sin that the devil has taken over. A prayerless church is a dead church. It is a church that has gone so far that only a good hot fire kindled by the power of God, or a good hot cup of coffee brewed from the very words of the Scriptures can warm it up.

God has promised: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them." I say to you that there is more to a prayer than just getting down on our knees and saying a long prayer, and there is more to shouting than just screaming to the top of our lungs. I have heard prayers that just consist of a few words which brought the Spirit of God down on a revival. Also the time to shout is when you've got salvation that you know that you have. Then you can see your loved ones come to an old altar of prayer

and be saved. That is the time to shout the praises of God.

A true story goes like this: A certain preacher (I know him very well) was pastor of a church and there was two boys, who when the invitation was given would run out the door. In this same church was this man's wife, who as they ran out the door, would begin shouting. The church happened to be in a revival meeting and when the husband and sons ran out the door and the wife began shouting, this pastor walked over and called her by name and asked, "What have you to shout about? Your husband and boys have just run out the door. You need to be down on your knees praying for your loved ones that they will be saved, then you will have something to shout about."

So prayer as well as shouting is to come from heaven and along with it there is to come a blessing. Prayer is the back bone of a church. Without it, it becomes "as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal."

(To Be Continued)

THE VOICE OF GOD IS CALLING

The voice of God is calling

Its summons unto men;
As once He spake in Zion,
So now He speaks again,
Whom shall I send to succor
My people in their need?
Whom shall I send to loosen
The bonds of shame and greed?

I hear my people crying
In cot and mine and slum;
No field or mart is silent,
No city street is dumb.
I see my people falling
In darkness and despair.
Whom shall I send to shatter
The fetters which they bear?

We heed, O Lord, Thy summons,
And answer: Here are we!
Send us upon Thine errand,
Let us Thy servants be.
Our strength is dust and ashes
Our years a passing hour:
But Thou canst use our weakness
To magnify Thy power.

From ease and plenty save us;
From pride of place absolve;
Purge us of low desire;
Lift us to high resolve;
Take us, and make us holy;
Teach us Thy will and way.
Speak, and behold! we answer;
Command, and we obey!

"Pa," chirped little Ted, "what does a man's better half mean?"

"Usually," his father said, "she means exactly what she says."

Jacob and Bethel

Essie Hearron

Purcell, Okla.

"Arise go up to Bethel and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God". (Genesis 35:1)

Jacob was in trouble again and as he told Pharaoh when he was 130 years old: "The day of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been". But through it all God dealt with him.

Now his only daughter had gotten into trouble. She "went out to see the daughters of the land." Many mothers should ponder these words!

Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took trouble vengeance which caused serious trouble to Jacob. So Jacob gave orders to his house, and told them, "Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments." A clean case of a new start. A cleaning-up. Put away evil. Be clean. Put on a new robe and we will go to Bethel, where God "answered me in the day of my distress."

Now Jacob and all his household went up to Bethel, and at this point let me digress. Satan has a new "dodge" now. When you ask some people to come to your church the excuse is: Too many kinsfolk. Here went Jacob up to Bethel taking his kinsfolk. Now Bethel was where he slept on his way from home, running from Esau, who had threatened to kill him.

In Genesis 28, we see God's Church typified on earth. Jacob said in verse 22, "This stone which I have set up for a pillar shall be God's house." Bethel means "The House of God".

Now here Jacob is with his family, worshipping. How many times we read where God said, "Come thou and thy house." In Genesis 7:1 we read, "Come thou and all thy house into thy ark." All the sacrifices of the Israelites were to be observed by all of the household.

The first European Church started by Paul had a fine woman whose heart the Lord had opened. Her household was baptized with her, and this became a great church at Philippi. (Acts 16) We see all through the Scriptures where God wanted the people to teach their children to walk in His ways.

Well Jacob obeyed God and no one bothered him on his journey, and when he came to Bethel, he worshipped God. There he built an altar and God talked to him, re-naming him

Israel, meaning, a prince, or one who who prevailed with God. (Gen. 32: 28) And God gave Jacob gracious promises.

Why didn't he dwell there as God told him? Just again, doing as he pleased. But they journeyed from Bethel and Rachel, Jacob's beloved wife died. The worst blow of all! "And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing (for she died) she called his name Benoni". All soul sleepers take heed! Her soul left her body—departed.

On Jacob journeyed. His eldest son Reuben committed a vile sin which brought a curse on him. Oh, Reuben, how you paid for it! On Jacob went and he and Esau buried their father. Jacob's sons did evil in the sight of God, and only Joseph and Benjamin did right.

When Joseph was sold into Egypt, Jacob was told he was dead, "I will go down into the grave unto my mourning." (Gen. 37:35) But if Jacob had lived at Bethel with his family as God told him, none of these terrible things would have come upon him. What a "kinsfolk church" he could have had!

Note: The author of the above article says, "My husband, W. A. Heron, preached 57 years for our church, the Free Will Baptist. He died last year. I have two preacher sons: Arthur of Oklahoma City and Clarence of Ft. Worth. Clarence is moderator of the Fellowship Association."

FINAL RITES HELD FOR REV. ROENA THOMAS

Funeral services for Mrs. Roena Thomas were conducted by the Rev. Winfred Davis of Monett at 2:00 o'clock Sunday, Feb. 8th at the Hannon Free Will Baptist Church. An estimated 400 persons gathered to pay final tribute to the widely known minister of Barton county, who died in Memorial hospital Friday. The following obituary was read at the services:

Mrs. Thomas, the only daughter of Orville and Emma Cassatt, both deceased, was born March 28, 1898 near Liberal and passed away following an illness of only two days.

She was at the Hannon church Wednesday afternoon, February 4th, conducting the adult auxiliary services when she was suddenly stricken and soon became unconscious. She was rushed to the hospital where she never regained consciousness or recognized any of her family who were soon at her bedside.

Sister Thomas was converted when very young during a revival at the Verdella Free Will Baptist church. She

united with the church and as a young girl was a faithful member for several years. After her marriage to Ross R. Thomas, August 23, 1919 at Iantha, she united with the Hannon church with her husband and was a faithful and untiring worker in every department of the church work.

Sister Thomas felt the divine call to the ministry and after much prayer she answered the call and was ordained at Hannon during one of the years that Rev. Davis was pastor of the church 26 years ago.

Some months ago she had a call to organize a church at Oskaloosa with a group of loyal members. She has been very interested in the young people's Christian work of the three nearby churches, Hannon, Verdella and Oskaloosa.

Surviving in addition to the husband of the home are three daughters, Mrs. Marie Hyatt, Warrensburg, Mrs. Jean Williams and Mrs. LaRue Horn, both of Raytown; two sons, Eldon Thomas, Oregon, Mo., and Clare Thomas, Archie; three brothers, Gilbert Cassatt, Nashville, David Cassatt, Tacoma, Wash., and Oliver Cassatt, Mulberry, Kan.; and eight grandchildren.

Mrs. Everett Crockett and Mrs. Lee Bunton sang, "Beyond the Sunset," and "I Know My Jesus Cares." Mrs. Jake Myers was accompanist.

Escorts were Dean Thomas, Paul Thomas, Ralph Lewis, Homer Thomas, and Jack Thornton.

In charge of flowers were Pat Dickey, Bob Dickey, Lita Smith, Rita Smith, Judy Dickey, Earl Smith, Lepha Cole and Carl Venable.

Interment was in the Worsley cemetery under direction of the Konantz funeral service of Lamar.

PRAYERS NEEDED

Word has come from Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Billows that they are receiving severe persecution as they undertake their work in a church in Old Mexico. They have had rocks thrown at them; their license plates were removed from their car and then they were required to pay a large fee to get them back; many other efforts have been made to keep their work from succeeding. They need the prayers and support of Christian friends here as they labor in the face of actual physical danger and so much resistance to their efforts. A letter of encouragement and assuring them of your prayers will go a long way to lift their burden.

If you wait until tomorrow to consecrate your life to Christ, you wait at least ONE day too long.

From the Editor's Desk

"HE IS RISEN"

The Christian should not have to wait until Easter to have his mind and heart permeated with the thoughts of the resurrection, for the truth of the resurrection should be an everyday thought as it was with Apostle Paul; but Easter does serve to concentrate our thinking on that wonderful day when Christ rose from the grave. The words of Matthew 28:1-8 should thrill every Christian. "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is Risen, as he said. Come see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word."

EASTER—FOREIGN MISSION SUNDAY

Easter Sunday, March 29th has been designated by the National Association as foreign mission Sunday and April as foreign mission month.

God has blessed the work of the Free Will Baptist denomination in its endeavors to carry the gospel to those who have never heard. Let us continue to enjoy those blessings and continue to give to help fulfill the Great Commission as found in Matt. 28:19-20. Give liberally Easter Sunday for foreign missions!

SYMPATHY EXPRESSED

Mrs. Roena Thomas, one of our esteemed Free Will Baptist ministers, was stricken while conducting an auxiliary service and passed away awhile later. To the husband, daughters, sons, and all relatives and friends, the Gem and readers wish to express sincere sympathy. May these words help comfort you: "And I heard a voice from

heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." (Rev. 14:13)

BIBLE CONFERENCE SCHEDULED MARCH 15-19

The 16th annual Bible Conference will be held on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College March 15-19, as announced by Dr. L. C. Johnson, President.

Guest speakers will be Rev. Harold A. Pitts, Winfield, Alabama; and Rev. Billy A. Melvin, Norfolk, Virginia.

The five-day inspirational meeting occurs earlier in March this year to avoid the pre-Easter week of prayer observed by many Free Will Baptist churches. Pastors and lay leaders can attend the conference and return to their churches in plenty of time for special services before and after Easter.

The conference program will again emphasize Bible preaching, evangelism, music, and drama.

All pastors and friends of the College are urged to lay plans to attend the conference, one of the greatest spiritual highlights each year for many Free Will Baptist ministers and laymen. Former students and parents of present students are especially urged to attend the service.

REV. AND MRS. LUTHER SANDERS TO HAWAII

Rev. and Mrs. Luther Sanders are now ready to begin their itinerant work in preparation for missionary work in Hawaii. He is at the present time pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Monett, Mo.

Bro. Sanders is a native of the state of Kentucky where he was converted at the age of 14 years. He is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, and Bob Jones University. He has held pastorates in Alabama, South Carolina, and Missouri. He is now a member of the Indian Creek Association.

Mrs. Sanders also is a native of Kentucky and attended Free Will Baptist Bible College, and Bob Jones University. She is at the present time on the executive committee of the Women's National Auxiliary Convention. She has served as "Youth Auxiliary Chairman" for several years. The Sanders have one daughter, Brenda Carol, age 9.

Hawaii, will no doubt, be a state within a few months. The National

Home Missions Board is desirous of getting this couple there as soon as possible. Please send your offerings for the Sanders to the National Home Missions office, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

Pastors may contact the Sanders direct for missionary service, or write the National Home Missions office.

HAWAII

Anyone born in Hawaii is automatically a full-fledged American citizen. A boy born in Hawaii is eligible to become President of the United States. The population is 554,000 which is more than the population of Alaska, or Delaware, or Nevada, or Vermont, or Wyoming. It has more people than any previous territory admitted to the Union except Oklahoma.

Hawaii consists of seven major islands, and dozens of smaller ones, out of each hundred people you will find: 38 Japanese; 3 Native Hawaiians; 15 Part Hawaiians; 20 White People; 13 Filipinos; 7 Chinese; 2 Puerto Ricans; 1 Korean and 1 from other parts of the world.

The literacy rate is very high. Medical services are top-notch and the general health is the same. The Americans who settled in Hawaii came from the New England States, therefore Honolulu is basically a new England community. Life is much more like Boston than San Francisco. Young people in Hawaii speak only English.

The need for Free Will Baptist work in Hawaii is the same as the need in all parts of the world.

POWER OF PRAYER

The potency of prayer has subdued the strength of fire; it has bridled the rage of lions, hushed anarchies to rest, extinguished wars, appeased the elements, expelled demons, burst the chains of death, expanded the gates of heaven, assuaged diseases, repelled frogs, rescued cities from destruction, stayed the sun in its course, and arrested the progress of the thunderbolt. Prayer is an all-efficient panoply, a treasure undiminished, a mind which is never exhausted, a sky unobscured by clouds, a heaven unruffled by the storm. It is the root, the fountain, the mother of a thousand blessings.

—Chrysostom

America's 35 million women have an average of about \$150.00 invested in needless jewelry, totaling about five billion dollars; on interest this would yield 25 million dollars per month. This invested in missions would soon take the Gospel, man's only hope, to all the world.



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CHRISTIAN YOUNG PEOPLE

1. I will read my Bible and pray daily.
2. I will attend my church regularly.
3. When in the presence of the unsaved I will let my Christian light shine and will witness for Christ either in spoken words or by Christian conduct, or both as the circumstances permit.
4. I will not attend any social function at school or at private parties where my Christian testimony will be blighted.
5. Realizing that my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit I will not drink, use tobacco in any form, dance, nor attend the movies, but will endeavor to keep my mind and body pure.
6. I will not take my date to any questionable place for entertainment or for any other reason.
7. I will honor my father and my mother by being obedient to them. I will conduct myself in such a way that I shall not be ashamed to tell them all about my private life; such as, with whom and where I go, and what I do on my dates. I will further honor them by being home at a reasonable hour unless on special occasions I have their permission to stay out later, and if I am unable to return home at the appointed time I will call them and explain why.
8. I will take my pastor or some other capable spiritual advisor into my confidence and will consult with them when necessary about my spiritual, moral and emotional problems.
9. I shall, to the best of my judgment, always do right in relation to my God and my fellowman regardless of what it will cost me or anyone else.
10. I will be considerate of the rights and property of others, especially my elders, and will endeavor to contribute more to the welfare and happiness of others than I shall demand or expect for myself.

—Written by Rev. R. Luther Sanders

SHALL WE CONTINUE TO PERMIT LIQUOR ADVERTISING?

By Carson Taylor, Sr.

Advertising is the life blood of commerce. Especially is this true of the liquor business. As alcoholic liquors have no inherent worth to the body, the taste, the habit and use must be built up, established and cultivated—this is the function of advertising so far as liquor is concerned.

Advertising has come to be big business in the United States. The advertising of alcoholic liquors has reached the astounding total of \$400 million dollars per year.

Has it paid off?

The dollar expenditure for alcoholic liquors says so. The first full year of repeal, 1934, the expenditure was a bit over two billion dollars, it has now gone to ten and one-half billion dollars per year. That is 4 and one half percent of the expendable income of the people. Let us transfer that to the channels of beneficial businesses and see what would have happened. Where would it go?

\$1,200,000,000 would have gone for food.

\$1,000,000,000 would have gone for clothing.

\$3,000,000,000 would have gone for household operations.

\$450,000,000 would have gone for used cars.

\$438,000,000 would have gone for new cars.

\$435,000,000 would have gone to pay rent.

\$192,000,000 would have gone to the doctor.

\$404,000,000 would have gone for additional recreation.

\$55,000,000 would have gone into private education and research.

\$59,000,000 additional for church and charity.

\$283,000,000 for additional new homes.

From 1933 to 1953 one hundred and thirty one billion dollars went for liquor. With this annual expenditure we could have built 4,400,000 new homes at \$10,000 each, bought 10,

000,000 new automobiles at \$2,000 each, and started 25,000,000 savings accounts of \$1,500 each.

You know as well as I do that this country would have been better off if this 10 billion dollars spent for liquor each year, with the liquor it bought, had been dumped in the Atlantic Ocean.

This is something for men to think about. Here is something for members of the Missionary Union to think about also. This annual expenditure for alcoholic liquors would keep 4,098 missionaries on the field at present salaries for 2,000 years.

—Watchman Examiner

THERE ARE SOME LIKE THAT

A traveler on the Milwaukee Railway was giving the dinner car waiter his order. "For dessert," he said, "I'll have plum pudding and coffee."

The waiter said there was no plum pudding. "That's absurd," cried the passenger. "I am one of your biggest customers. I ship hundreds of tons of freight every month. And when I travel on your line, I can't get what I want to eat! I'll take this up with the management." The steward called the waiter aside. "When we stop in Milwaukee, we'll get a plum pudding."

Just out of Milwaukee, the waiter reappeared at the customer's side. "I'm happy to tell you that we have the plum pudding, and the chef has been working all the way on the sauce. He hopes you'll like it." The waiter paused for the expected result.

The customer threw his napkin on the table with a gesture of fiery defiance. "To blazes with it," he shouted. "I'd rather be mad!"—Chicago Daily News.

Adolph Hitler chose THINGS — luxury, glory and greed, murdered millions of innocent people and died in disgrace. Charles Studd chose GOD, the hard mission field, invested a private fortune in the Gospel. It was used by GOD to bring countless numbers to Christ. He lived, Hitler died.

News From The Mission Field

REV. ROLLA D. SMITH VISITS CUBA

Rev. Rolla D. Smith, pastor of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Flat River, returned recently from the island of Cuba, where he had spent nine days. Rev. Smith serves on the board of foreign missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. His chief mission in going to Cuba was to visit the work of his church on the island and to assist the director of missions, Rev. Thomas Willey, in making plans for the extension of missionary activity in Cuba.

Smith's itinerary began in Havana on January 28. There he spoke at a conference of the native pastors, Christian workers and American missionary personnel. Other towns in which he preached were Jaruco, Jibacoa, Ganasi, Matanzas, San Jose, San Francisco, La Lima, Matahambre, Pinar del Rion, and Vinales. He also spoke at the Free Will Baptist Seminary near Pinar del Rio and in one rural church and visited several mission points. Other towns in which he visited with the native pastor but did not have services were Peru, Guinies, San Juan, Les Martinas and La Emperanza.

Smith preached three times in the prison at Pinar del Rio to a total of 400 prisoners. These were the accused criminals from Batista's army. According to information received at the prison, it is expected that 83 percent of the men will be released after trials. Some will receive prison sentences and others will face the firing squad. Already twelve have been executed at Pinar del Rio, the capitol of Pinar province.

Smith also visited the Union Theological Seminary at Matanzas and talked with the president of the Seminary, Alfonso Roduiques, who is credited with saving the life of Fidel Castro. A group were planning to kill Castro upon his arrival in Havana after the rebel victory, but were persuaded by Roduiques to give up their plans to kill the revolutionary here.

Thou that hast given so much to us,
give one thing more . . . a grateful heart.

—by George Herbert,
year 1620

DIFFICULTIES IN SPAIN

by Mario Cignoni

The Rev. Raymond Riggs:

Many thanks indeed for your letter dated January 3rd, with enclosed cheque covering the amount of \$150.00, for which we are very grateful to you.

With respect to our missionary work I must say that despite of the difficulties caused to us by church and civil authorities, we are making headway under the blessing of the Lord. During the year 1958 the Lord granted us the joy of baptizing five souls converted to the Lord, in addition to other five precious souls who gave their testimony of having received Christ as their personal Saviour, and there are many more that came to our Gospel Hall to listen to the Gospel of salvation and eternal life in Jesus Christ.

We are still being watched constantly by both church and civil authorities, which supervise all what we are doing for the Lord. But we are not afraid in the least and always try to avail ourselves of all opportunities of making the Love of God known to the souls, such as revealed in the Holy Scriptures and in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

During the whole month of December and the first fortnight of January we displayed an intense activity, since we had convened special meetings on which we were very glad to enjoy a pretty good attendance; praise the Lord! The seed of the glorious Gospel has been sown into the hearts; now let the Lord give growth to the seed, to produce fruit. We only know that souls were thoroughly interested in our Christian faith and that we have been able to spread tracts, New Testaments and in many cases, to sell complete Bibles to those who have shown a keen interest in possessing one.

Our work among the many people living in hovels is still going on, but with a great deal of difficulties, and work is the longer the more hard due to the low level of morality among those people addicted to all sorts of vice. We thank God for all the souls we were able to lead to the foot of the cross of Christ, and so we endeavor to bring other souls to the same place. You know those hovels were situated close to the sea side, but now many of them have been destroyed by the

stormy billows of the sea. Among a great number of families bereft of their homes, there is one sister of our church, whose "home" was completely destroyed by the water. We tried to help her as much as we could, but owing to the serious housing problem she is still left without a home of her own.

Since here in Spain we do not have any means, many problems are to be solved. We don't have homes for our old people abandoned by their relatives who do not profess Christian faith. Therefore they are reluctantly entering Roman-Catholic institutions, which would mean something like denying their Christian faith. Our young people cannot get married, since civil marriage is not allowed in Spain; they should be married by a Roman-Catholic priest!. We are not allowed to have Christian schools, and our children are obligated to attend schools where lessons of Roman-Catholic doctrine are compulsory. Protestants will never be allowed to occupy any post in the service of the Spanish State. When joining the forces they are obligated to attend mass, while they will never be allowed to achieve any military rank. In Spain there is still prohibition of publishing and spreading Bibles. We are not entitled to have any Christian literature printed and issued, whilst soul-winning is severely punished, and Protestant Churches are closed by Roman-Catholic authorities and public worship is not allowed. . . .

For the time being about twenty Protestant churches remain closed by order of the authorities, for the only delict of not being in possession of an official permit from the authorities, and because churches are found to be guilty of proselytism. In this respect all Spanish Protestant churches are charged with the same guilt of proselytism, since our very first mission is teaching people in accordance with our Lord's Commandments. For this reason every Spanish Protestant Church remains in obedience of being closed as well.

For all this we are depending on God only, and only by the virtue of prayer constantly offered by God's flock we shall be able to pursue our missionary endeavour. Here in Spain we shall have a national Day of Prayer on February 8th, when all believers shall lift their voices to the throne of Grace of our God, considering the difficult situation in which we are plunged. And the 19th of March is expected to be a World Prayer Day in behalf of the Spanish Christians.

Our warmest thanks to all brethren in Christ who pray for us!

(Continued on Page 11)

THE GLORY OF PREVIOUS DAYS

Volena Wilson, South India

The glory of days previous to Christmas as well as Christmas and the New Year still lingers with us. One of the most glorious days in history of work was December 21st when we baptized twenty individuals. A young lad of 14 came with his parents begging us to baptize him. After discussion and talking with the lad (Mr. Merriweather actually dealt with him), we felt he knew Christ as his Saviour. His face was aglow with the joy that was in his heart. He comes from our Gopalapuram work and each time I have seen him since the baptism he has told me "My heart is full of the joy of the Lord". On the day of the baptism, one of our deacons (Jacob Wilson-Raj's father) came up to me and with tears of joy welling up into his eyes he said "Oh what a glad, glad day—praise the Lord. We have never seen it like this in our mission before". Well, we give all the glory and praise to the One to whom it belongs and the One who deserves it. We could work all our life and unless the Lord came in and used it, it would avail nothing. We shall never, never forget the glory of Dec. 21st.

There is such a moving in our midst that it is not possible for us to answer all the calls. We respond to invitations coming in beseeching us to come for prayer and fellowship as much as possible; however, it is not always possible for us to go in response to all invitations. Do pray for us. We expect more help the first of the month at which time we are planning to open up 13 Bible Study centers. (1 for young people, 2 for children and 10 for women). In addition to this we are going to organize 4 more new Sunday Schools. We need your prayers.

Our Watch Night Service was lovely—even better than last year. Our hearts were stirred by Pastor Dorairaj's message on I Sam. 7:12 and II Cor. 1:10 just before midnight. And just as the clock struck the midnight hour we were on our faces before God, asking Him to cleanse us anew and empower us for the New Year of 1959. Then at about 12:10 A. M. our Bro. Wilson-Raj challenged our hearts with Deut. 28:1-14. Our hearts were warmed anew as Wilson-Raj held before us God's blessings if we would only obey Him.

And the New Year's Service was precious. Strangely enough our pastor, Bro. Dorairaj, brought the New Year's message on obedience, Deut. 11:26-28. Well, the blessings of that day were numerous, as well as the services.



Miss Volena Wilson
Missionary to India

The Watch Night Service was over at 1:00 A. M. and our New Year's service began at 10:30 A. M. Then the pastor and a number of others and I went over to Gopalapuram for a 4:30 P. M. service. That too, was a lovely service and we observed Communion at the close. Then we visited two homes where there was illness and had prayer meeting. After that we had to return to Kotagiri for an eight o'clock service. I think it was around 10:00 that night when I ate and finished everything and retired. Tired? Yes! But it was a happy tiredness. My honest and sincere opinion regarding the work here is still the same as I wrote you before. The work should be headed up by a man. Oh yes, the Lord uses despised things such as we women but the work has so expanded in this last year that more and more I believe God wants a man to take charge of the work. May He raise up His choice.

DAN MERKH WRITES OF PROGRESS ON CO-LABORER STATION!

We are well into the building program of the Co-Laborer Station. Please be much in prayer as we continue. We have been working during the past month on the blocks. We have a little hand-block machine and five men are working continually making blocks. We have at present 1094 blocks made. The work is slow and sometimes difficult. We have to dig our gravel by hand, sift it and wash it by hand, then haul it 10 km. to the site. The truck expenses have been about \$3.00 or more each day. Water must be hauled from another 10 km. in another direction. Fortunately the sand is just across the road. And the Lord arranged a

good "deal" in our cement. We are saving from \$5.00 to \$10.00 a ton on the price and getting it delivered here to Goumère. My father-in-law, who made up plans for our sketches, etc., wrote and said that the plans for the house are in the mail. We drew up the rough plans and sent them to him for his advice and to have blueprints made. As soon as we receive the prints, we will begin the actual construction. I shall do my best to get some pictures as we go along so that you can have the "history" of the Co-Laborer Station.

Beth is home from school. We got her in Abidjan on the 19th of December and her time is just about up. We do not know when she is to return, but are awaiting word from her school. She seems to like school very much and talks much about her new Uncle and Aunt, but has been rather moody lately as she realizes she will soon leave until June. The Lord is able, and we thank Him for His nearness. The boys are still "all boys" but now they have plenty of room to be boys. We try to keep an eye on them and keep them as near the house as possible. We are surrounded by poisonous snakes and we have killed as high as five in one week. Hardly does a week go by that we don't kill or see a snake. The kids have a swing, a sand box, a half-finished see-saw and a little tent out back, so they have more than they ever had in the States and seem happy and are well adjusted to their new life.

Thank you very much for the gifts that have been sent through your office for our account. If there are individuals that we could write to, please let us know and we shall do so. We do appreciate very much the support that we have received from various auxiliaries around the denomination. For example, during December we received two gifts from your office, \$43.80 from the G. T. A.'s from Hyde Park in Norfolk for Beth's transportation, and the month before that a Christmas gift for Beth from Oaklawn, Pleasant View, Tenn. Nearly each month we hear from some auxiliary. The month before that, or October, we received gifts from auxiliaries in Lowland, North Carolina and Bethany Church, in North Carolina and Bethany Church, in North Carolina. And so it goes, nearly each month. May God continue to richly bless you as you continue to lead our women in Mission Stewardship.

Please give our fondest Christian love to the folks there. Continue to remember us in your prayers. We stand in need.

Yours in His Service,
Daniel J. Merkh

Statement on Stewardship

Issued by the Executive Committee

Over the past few years there has arisen within our brotherhood a divisive spirit which seems to have its roots in what method or methods should be used in supporting the Lord's work through our denominational program. One stoutly contends that his method is best and another as earnestly pleads for his method.

And in the midst of the hue and cry we have overlooked one vital point—there are hundreds of churches that are failing completely to fulfill their denominational stewardship responsibilities. Hundreds of churches give nothing to carry on the great world-wide ministry of our denomination and many others are giving only a fraction of what they could and should give. While well-meaning people on both sides have argued the merits and demerits of the ways of supporting, many churches have lost God's blessings by failing to support in any way. Some of these may have become confused or discouraged by the apparent disunity.

So for reasons we issue this statement and make this plea: for denominational unity, first of all; for adequate support of every denominational agency, and for a broad base of support in which every Free Will Baptist church will have a share.

We plead for a revival of stewardship in the hearts of our people and in the churches that will transcend our disagreement over methods. What we do is far more important than how we do it. A church has the privilege of deciding the method it will use for support—this is a matter of choice—but whether or not to support cannot be left to question. The Bible admonishes all Christians to exercise the grace of giving. Paul said the exercising of this grace is proof of Christian love.

In view of the urgent international situation, the spread of godless communism, and what we believe to be the soon coming of the Lord, we urge all pastors and laymen to take positive steps to enlist their churches in regular and generous giving. And yet this necessity itself should not be the sole factor that motivates the churches to be good stewards. We give because God gave and continues to give—the love of Christ must constrain us.

We believe that every agency and board established by the National Association is worthy and is an im-

portant member of our world-wide team. None of them should be lacking in the necessary funds to take advantage of every spiritual opportunity opened by our Lord. Every church should give regular support to every agency. This is a family responsibility which the churches as the members of the Free Will Baptist family must assume.

Again we emphasize—the vital point must be in the doing and not the method.

Each church may choose its own method. If they want counsel or help, let them contact any of the associational officers in the district, state or national association. We list here for information some of the ways by which a church may support the denominational agencies:

1. It may set up its own system of designated giving whereby every state and national agency is included for a specified percentage or amount on a regular basis.

2. It may send regular undesignated contributions through the Cooperative Plan of Support (many churches begin by sending a minimum of ten per cent of their offerings), 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn., where all offerings are allocated as follows:

Foreign Missions—30 percent
Home Missions—15 percent
Executive Dept.—24 percent
Bible College—20 percent
Sunday School Dept.—5 percent
Superannuation—3 percent
Free Will Baptist League—3 percent

3. It may send a regular contribution through the Cooperative Plan of Support and then make special offerings to the various agencies according to the ability of the church and the need of the agency.

4. Offerings may be sent through the district or state treasurer, or they may be sent directly to the National Association.

In order to assist the churches in determining the needs of the national program for 1959, we list the budgets for the various agencies:

Superannuation—\$20,000
Home Missions—63,720
Foreign Missions—204,680
Sunday School Dept.—67,500
Free Will Baptist League—8,000
Executive Dept.—28,540
Bible College—183,700
Total Budget—\$576,140

Since we have a reported membership of 184,287, to raise this budget will require per capita giving \$3.13. This compares with per capita giving in 1957 of \$1.47 for the national agencies. It is thus easily seen that more churches must give more in 19-

59. If they fail, just to that extent the denomination has failed to meet its world-wide obligations and we will have failed God's Faithful Steward who gave His all.

So again we plead for a revival of stewardship on the part of the churches. Make it a matter of prayer. Decide on a plan that fits your local situation and that will include every department and agency listed above and then give!

Give consistently! "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (I Cor. 16:2).

Give generously! "Give, and it shall be given unto you . . . For with the same measure that ye meet withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38).

Give gladly; ". . . . for God loveth a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7).

Give enough; "Neither was there any among them that lacked. . . ." (Acts 4:34).

If you will do this, "God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (II Cor. 9:8).

—Charles A. Thigpen, Chairman,
Billy Melvin, Vice-Chairman
M. L. Johnson, Robert Hill,
Wade Jernigan, James Miller,
W. S. Mooneyham, Executive Secretary.

\$148,152.05 FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

We have just received the Auditors Report of our Foreign Mission books for 1958. Our total income for the year was \$148,152.05. This is an increase over the previous year of \$22,772.60. We are grateful indeed for your prayers and support which has made this possible.

From Japan Bro. Calvery writes: "We baptized another young man on the 18th of January, (26 years old). Also, a high school boy (senior) made his public profession of faith at prayer meeting on January 7th. Another young man, Thomas Itani, (age 19) is preaching his first sermon on Jan. 25th. He plans to go to Bible School. We praise God!"

From Cuba Bro. Willey writes: "Since Cuba's liberation we need your prayers as never before as we face the future. The Catholic Church will take every opportunity to forge ahead, but we feel that the Evangelicals have left their undying influence on this liberation movement.

Attend Church Sunday



Above is a picture of Rev. J. C. Griffin explaining points of denominational history to a class of students at Mount Olive Junior College.

FREE WILL BAPTIST HERITAGE EXPLAINED

The Reverend J. C. Griffin, esteemed Free Will Baptist minister of Bridgeton, North Carolina, explains points of denominational history to a class of students at Mount Olive Junior College.

Seated (left to right): Betty Jean Watson, Middlesex; Mr. Griffin; Joe Ingram, Beulaville; Jerry Rowe, New Bern. Standing: President W. Burkette Raper, teacher of the class; Kemery Ard, Pamplico, South Carolina; Walter Sutton, Mount Olive; Alexander J. Lyczkowski, Arapahoe; and Reuben Cherry, Greenville.

All of the above students, except Miss Watson, are preparing for the ministry and are enrolled in a course being offered at Mount Olive Junior College this semester for the first time: "The Free Will Baptist Church: Its History, Theology and Polity."

In the above picture Mr. Griffin is shown autographing a copy of the newly published book, "A History of Free Will Baptists" by G. W. Million of Pocahontas, Arkansas. Mr. Griffin is chairman of the Board of Publications and Literature of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and wrote the preface to the book. It was printed by the Free Will Baptist Press, the denomination's publishing house, Ayden North Carolina. After autographing the book, Mr. Griffin presented it as a gift to the college library.

Attend Church Sunday

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

3609 Richland Ave.
Nashville, Tennessee

1958 was a wonderful year for Free Will Baptist Bible College. Many things made it wonderful. We had a record student enrollment. The overall income was the highest ever. We received full accreditation by the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. The Lord blessed us with wonderful workers who cooperated wonderfully. The institution faced no serious crisis. The beautiful lounge-dining hall was completed and furnished. There was a wonderful Bible Conference in the spring and Missionary Conference in the fall. We could mention many other blessings if time permitted.

I want to talk to you especially though about our obligations. The Victory Day Celebration was about half as successful as we had hoped. We knew that it was possible for us to rise up and pay off the entire indebtedness. We had hoped that enough individuals, pastors, and churches would join with us and make this a reality. However, we are grateful that the debt has been reduced from \$60,000 to \$42,000. The pledges that were made to be paid off in a year will reduce the indebtedness to approximately \$30,000. This is not too bad in the light of what we ordinarily do. We have heard of several who wanted to participate, but whose gifts will have to be late. So the opportunity still is open for any who send in gifts within the next few weeks to be count-

ed in on the Victory Celebration.

There was a good response in personal gifts to the purple envelopes. Yet there are thousands of letters that were intended to be sent that were overlooked. We are still expecting and still receiving individual gifts.

So it will not be too long before we will have to come back with another appeal for help. If you, who intended to help but overlooked it, will just sit down and let us hear from you with a gift or pledge, the College will be able to make another substantial payment on the note.

The banker refused to take a mortgage, but insists that he wants us to keep it on open note and save us mortgage cost. No bank could be more generous. Let us not fail to take care of this obligation in such a manner that will increase our credit rating in the city of Nashville.

Many of you did wonderfully! Thank you and God bless you.

—L. C. Johnson, President

DIFFICULTIES IN SPAIN

(Continued from page 8)

Please mail your letters to the following address, as "Registered Matter":

Mario Cignoni
Calle Vinals 23 bis
(Guinardo)
Barcelona (Spain)

"Profanity indicates a weakness in either the man or his argument."

"Kneeling keeps you in good standing."

Woman's Auxiliary

ATTENTION!

All Youth Chairmen!

What have you done about the W. N. A. C. Essay Contest in your local G. T. A. and Y. P. A.? Or your District or your State? May I encourage you and even urge you to do your part to have an essay from every State this year. The contest must begin in the local youth auxiliaries. The theme of the contest is "The Worth of A Family Altar" and rules for the contest are given in all Auxiliary Year Books, and additional information is given in both the G. T. A. and Y. P. A. Manuals. If you have any questions about the contest you are invited to write the W. N. A. C. office or contact the W. N. A. C. Youth Chairman.

In the past years there has not been as much participation in this contest as there should have been. Could it be because we have so few family altars in our homes? If so, perhaps as Youth Chairman you can work with your Program Prayer Chairman in the promotion of family worship among your auxiliary members.

Do all you can to encourage your young people to participate in the contest this year and I am sure God will bless our efforts.

—Mrs. Luther Sanders, W. N. A. C. Youth Chairman, 206 Euclid Avenue, Monett, Mo.

THAYER AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Thayer Free Will Baptist Church met January 20th at the church, with seventeen present. This meeting opened with singing followed with prayer by Sister Reed. We were happy to have Mrs. Ruby Brewer join the auxiliary.

Our program for January was "The Word at Les Cedros Del Libanos". Topics were given by Mrs. Clara Allen, Mrs. Georgia Reef, and Mrs. Jeanie Law. We were dismissed with prayer. Refreshments were served in the church basement.

—Frances Combs, Cor.

ST. LOUIS THIRD CHURCH AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the 3rd Free Will Baptist Church, St. Louis met Thursday, January 29, 1959, for their regular monthly program from the Year Book, with five in attendance. Discussion was enjoyed by all. Following this we had altar prayer.

Each lady brought a covered dish

for the noon hour. In the afternoon the women quilted. Each week the auxiliary meets and quilts and we have now planned to visit one Thursday each month also. The auxiliary has a cottage prayer meeting in someone's home each month. The prayer meeting met this month at the home of Bro. and Sis. Bill DePriest. We also sponsor a fish fry the first Friday of each month. This month all proceeds went to the church.

We have a good auxiliary, but we desire your prayers that our number may grow.

—Mrs. Doyle Baker, Cor.

BEACON CHURCH AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Beacon Church, Raytown, Missouri, met at the home of Mrs. Walter Horn on February 24th with seven members present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P. M. by the president, and the group sang as an opening hymn "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart". This was followed by prayer. The president read from Proverbs 22; Psalms 119; and Matt. 10. The minutes of the previous meeting were read. Individual reports and an offering were received.

The project for the previous month, the purchase of new church hymnals, was reported as completed. A project for March is a love offering to be given during pre-Easter Week of Prayer. This is to be sent to South America missions. March 10th was a date set for a study course. This will be held at the new church building.

The program for the evening, "Challenge The Children, Too" was contributed to by all members present. A discussion followed as to how we could increase the interest of our children and to strengthen them spiritually.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer, and the hostess served refreshments to the group.

—Mrs. D. P. Jones, Cor.

LEADINGTON AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Leadington F. W. B. Church wish to thank the editor, Rev. Albert Halbrook, for the Gem. We are thankful for each writer who contributes to the Gem to help make it what it is—the various officers and directors who keep us informed of our missionaries and their work.

We are so thankful for the officers of our Woman's Auxiliary and as a new year is ahead of us we pray to the God, who has made salvation possible to all men, that many, many souls will be born into His kingdom during the coming year, by the united efforts of all the organizations mentioned in the Gem.

Our women have been studying "Prevailing Prayer" and if ever prayer was needed, now is the time.

We met at the church, January 8th, at seven o'clock, with five of our women present. We sang "Jesus Calls Us" and this was followed by Scripture reading from Psalm 28 by Mrs. Iva Treaster. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Elva Turnbough and Mrs. Anna Lincoln. Topic 1—"Restitution" was given by Mrs. Allie Penrod; Topic 2—"Unity" was read and discussed by Mrs. Lola Underwood. Benediction, Mrs. Penrod.

One Year Book Study was given at the church, January 29th, with all day services and fellowship dinner. We are looking forward to the work of another year in serving our Lord in a greater way by giving of our time and praying. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

—Anna Lincoln, Cor.

GRANT AVENUE AUXILIARY

January Report

The Woman's Auxiliary met at the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church, Thursday evening, January 8, 1959 at 7:30 P. M.

The meeting was opened with singing "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be" and "An Empty Mansion". Prayer by Deppie Terry. The president read the scripture and the introduction of the lesson. The minutes and Treasurer's report were read and received.

The Auxiliary received a "Thank You" letter from the Whaley's in Alaska for the \$15.00 Thanksgiving offering we sent them.

The topics were given by Blanche Austin, Hazel Chastain, Braxine Evans and Delia Marcum.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Earl Austin.

February Report

The Grant Avenue Woman's Auxiliary met at the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church Thursday Evening 7:30 P. M.

The meeting was opened with singing, "Since Jesus Came Into My

Heart" and "The Old Rugged Cross". Prayers by Blanche Austin. There were ten members and two visitors present. The president read for a scripture lesson Proverbs 22:4; Psalm 119:11 and Matthew 18:11. Minutes and Treasurer's report were read and approved. The Auxiliary voted to have a Pre-Easter week of prayer. February being the month designated by the Woman's Auxiliary to receive an offering for buildings in Japan, an offering of \$15.60 was received.

The theme for the lesson was "Challenge the Children Too". The lesson was discussed by Vesta Wantland, Vinita Broyles, and Mildred Kensington. A short talk was given by Rev. Earl Austin.

The next Study Course will be given by Braxine Evans in her home at 11:00 A. M.

Vinita Broyles, Cor.

FELLOWSHIP AUXILIARY

Dear Christian Workers:

It is good to come again and say, hello.

Our auxiliary met at the church for our January meeting with thirteen members present. The theme of our study was about the beginning of our work in Cuba. That was in 1944. We studied the beginning, the work, and the fruit of this work. It is wonderful how God can take small things and do such big things for His kingdom and glory. It was interesting to learn how the work has grown in these few years, and we know it has been done by faithful service and much prayer. So may we all be faithful stewards in the cause of Christ, and pray that the will of God will be done in our lives as we labor in His service. God bless every one.

—Mrs. Hilderbrand, Cor.

FLAT RIVER FIRST CHURCH AUXILIARY

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Rom. 12:1)

Our service was opened by singing, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart". Prayer by Mrs. Genevieve White. The Scripture reading was from Prov. 22:6; Ps. 119:11; Matt. 18:14. The hymn, "Lord, I'm Coming Home" was sung.

The introduction in the Year Book, "Reach the Children" was by Mrs. Bertha Hovis. Topic I, "The Challenge of Motherhood" by Mrs. Genevieve White. Topic II, "The Challenge of the Church Program" by Mrs. Gussie

Hamblen. Topic III, "The Challenge of Other Christian Organizations" by Mrs. Beulah Henson. Hymn, "Jesus Loves the Little Children" was sung and dedicated to five year old, little Sharon Lea Roberts.

We were dismissed in prayer by all praying the Lord's Prayer in unison.

—Mrs. Gussie Hamblen, Cor.

Sr. Arturo Villalobos (Billows)
Casas Grandes 123 Altos
Colonia Mitras, Box 2094
Monterrey, N. L. Mexico

The Lord gave us a glorious service on January 11th. There were 9 decisions among whom were the parents of a young man (21) who was saved when we were here last year and also his sister and husband. One of the converts was a young lady who had been telling her parents she was attending a dance or the movies when she came to our services. She feared what her mother would say, so we went to the altar for prayer about it. When she told her mother, she (mother) did not say one word, but instead came to church with her the next Sunday. Satan has made an "all-out" attack on us since then. Our church and car was stoned, but no real damage was done. We had to close our prayer meeting because the crowd out in front had a loud-speaker and were making so much noise that we could not hear Arthur. We praise the Lord for victory through it all and for giving us souls. Please continue to pray for us and the work we are attempting to do for Him and His glory.

Your missionaries in Mexico,
Arturo and Jenell.

Miss Volena Wilson, Kotagiri, India

Dear Mrs. Edwards and all
W. N. A. C. Co-Laborers:

"Greetings to you and each member of your group and warmest thanks for the \$125 sent to Brother Riggs for the "Westfield" pastor's account. It is you and people like you that make it possible for him and your other missionaries in various parts of God's Vineyard to have the priceless privilege of telling forth the Good News of Salvation. Upon every remembrance of you I thank my God....

There is such a moving of God's Spirit in our midst that it is not possible for us to answer all the calls. We respond to invitations, which beseech us to come for prayer and fellowship, as much as possible; however it is not always possible for us to go in response to all invitations. Do pray for us. We expect more help the first of

the month and then we shall be able to answer more of the calls. Please pray for us.

May each day of 1959 be filled with deepest joy and peace for you and the ministry of the W. N. A. C. be fruitful for the Lord of the Harvest.

Sincerely Yours,
Volena Wilson

HOW SOME CHURCHES RAISE MONEY

A rummage sale and an oyster stew, (Some of the bills are overdue!)

A hard times party next on the card—

(Have to fix up the old church yard!)

A display of dolls, both cute and quaint—

(The parsonage needs a coat of paint!)

A bridge party, next thing on the docket—

(The pastor has an empty pocket!)

A basket social with bidder and buyer—

(New hymnals needed for the choir!)

A style parade with the public invited—

(The church's missionary must not be slighted;)

Some Mickey Mouse films for awhile—

(New carpets needed for each aisle!)

An opera singer is last on the slate

(The church's piano is out of date!)

Christ described His house as a house of Prayer,

And drove them out that made merchandise there!

I feel quite sure the Apostle Paul
Would never approve of such methods at all!

The need for all this would fade away

If the people of God would tithe and pray!

—Fredericktown Bulletin

A PRAYER

O God, our Father, Give me clean hands, clean words, clean thoughts;

Help me to stand for the hard right against the easy wrong;

Save me from habits that harm;

Teach me to work as hard and play as fair in Thy sight alone as if all the world saw;

Forgive me when I am unkind; and help me to forgive others who are unkind to me;

Keep me ready to help others at some cost to myself;

Send me some chances to do a little good every day, And to grow more like Christ. Amen.

—by William Dewitt Hyde

News From Our Churches

FLAT RIVER FIRST CHURCH

The Sunday School of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River made their annual attendance awards in February for the year 1958. The superintendent Dale Blakeley, assisted by Harvey Gene Faircloth, made the awards.

There were twenty-six first year pins awarded. They were presented to the following: Jerry Stroup, Debby Gammon, Ronnie Wells, Steven Beard, Karen King, Richard Honbeck, Paul Robinson, Kirk Beasley, Teri Vineyard, Terry Stroup, Joyce Horton, Brenda Horton, John Roussin, Willard Darnell, Margaret Darnell, Elmo King, Bob Vineyard, Margaret Horton, Beulah Henson, John Eden, Jake Williams, Hazel Scott, Bessie Kirkpatrick, and Allie Thurman.

Second year wreaths were presented Ronnie Wells, Richard Honbeck, Debby Wells, Chris Pirtle, Diana Honbeck, Sharon Blakely, George Williams, Genevieve White, Harvey Gene Faircloth, Marion Wilson.

There were eight third year bars awarded: Diana Watkins, Diana Honbeck, Laura Roussin, Trudy Busenbark, Dale Blakeley, George Williams, and Joanna Smith.

Fourth year bars were given to, Darrell Beasley, Timmy Beasley, Mary Lou Watkins, Midge Wilson, Leona Honbeck.

Four were awarded fifth year bars. They were Mike Williams, the Rev. H. C. Beasley, Virginia Beasley and Grace Abernathy.

Nancy Gammon was awarded a sixth year bar and Mrs. Bob Vineyard was presented a tenth year bar.

Mrs. Dale Blakeley was presented a bar for her nineteenth year of perfect attendance. She is teacher of the Young People's Sunday School class.

The church is again this year sponsoring a church basketball team which participates in the church basketball league in this area. The team at present is tied for first place in the league. Dale Blakeley is their sponsor and Larry Busenbark is team captain.

The Young People's Sunday School class of our church enjoyed their fourth annual sweetheart banquet the evening of February 16. The group enjoyed a ham dinner preceding the coronation. Miss Mary Lee Gammon, escorted by Harvey Gene Faircloth was crowned as the sweetheart queen for 1959. Mr. and Mrs. Dale Blakeley are group sponsors.

—Mrs. Blakeley, Cor.

HARTVILLE CHURCH

I am happy to report that our church at Hartville is progressing nicely. We have a number of new people attending Sunday School and church. Others are taking more interest in our mid-week prayer meeting. God is blessing in different ways. Eleven persons united with the church recently and we will be having a baptismal service real soon.

We have special music on Sunday evenings by Larry Gregory. Bro. Fred Morlor from Idaho is dated to visit our church. Bro. Marion Allisman and wife from Waynesville, Mo. were with us recently and rendered a special song. He also delivered a spiritual message.

Our Quarterly Meeting of the Mission Association that met at the Rock Chapel Church was a success. A large group of people attended.

Our heating system is very comfortable and nice.

May God bless the Gem readers everywhere.

—Bertha Findley, Cor.

TWIN OAK CHURCH

We would like to report what the Lord has done for us at the Twin Oaks Church. The Lord has blessed us in a great way. There were six souls saved in a Sunday evening service. Five of these were baptized February 15, by the pastor, Rev. Truman Huffman. We are thankful for these new converts and ask that you pray that God will bless them, and that they will go on and make great soul winners. If there was ever a time we needed workers for God, it is now, for the harvest is white but the laborers are few.

—Mrs. Myrtle Miller, Cor.

OVERLAND CHURCH

Dear Christian Workers everywhere:

It has been sometime since our church has reported to the Gem about our busy activities, but we are still prospering and progressing in the wonderful work of the Lord, for which we give Him all the praise. Without Him we could do nothing, but with Him all things are possible. We were privileged to have our New Year's Eve service in our new building which we will be occupying some time in March. We are all so thankful for all the wonderful blessings and the way the Lord has prepared the way for us to obtain the building. Pray for all of us at the Overland Church as we move into a vast field of new work for the Lord.

There is such a great opportunity in the new field to work and to reap a harvest of souls for the Lord. May His richest blessings be upon all children every where as they labor for him.

—D. Asher, Cor.

NEW PROPERTY NOW A REALITY

On Thursday of this week the deal was closed and the property at 8900 Springdale, just east of the church, is now ours. This property cost us \$13,950.00, and we know that God is pleased that we have added this additional property to what we already have. We plan in the near future to convert the vacant lot into a new parking area. The little two room house in the back will be used as a nursery as soon as it can be fixed for that purpose. Any nursery equipment donated will be appreciated as much equipment will be needed to set up this nursery. A working will be held in the near future for resetting the fence, rocking the parking lot, etc. We know that this will mean much to us as parking space is badly needed. This will also give us sufficient space for the building of a new church at some future date.

—Berkeley Bulletin

WORDS THAT HINDER A CHURCH

"I Heard . . ."
 "They say . . ."
 "Somebody said . . ."
 "Isn't it awful?"
 "Have you heard?"
 "I'm not talking but . . ."
 "Now, if I were pastor . . ."
 "The pastor's wife, she . . ."
 "Just between you and me . . ."
 "I don't mean to criticize, but . . ."
 —Monett Bulletin

In our Army and Navy there are many who wear the title of "non-commissioned officer." They have an office but no commission. There are none such in the army of the Lord. Here every officer is a commissioned one: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel". (Rev. 22:17) "Let him that heareth say come."

—South Side Bulletin

When the soul has laid down its faults at the feet of God, it feels as though it had wings.

—Eugenie De Guerin

Attend Church Sunday

HONOR ROLL

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

OF CHURCH FAMILY PLAN

Church	Pastor
Fellowship	Rev. Rolla Smith
Amity	Rev. Cliff Bowman
Black Oak	Rev. Ezra Vestal
New Lebanon	Rev. Laverne Jones
Leadington	Rev. Wm. Turnbough
Copper Mines	Rev. Glen Rehkop
Myrtle	Rev. Bud 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
Verdella	Rev. Archie Buress
Richwoods	Rev. Bob Wright
Old Bethel	Rev. George Hibbitts
Mt. Zion	
Southside	Rev. Roger Reeds
Thayer	Rev. Harry Beatty
Carterville	Rev. Kenneth Turner
Fredericktown	Rev. Ben Scott
Pleasant Grove	Rev. Chas. Black
Old Liberty	Rev. Wm. Reeves
Martinstown Church, Mrs. Alta Mikel	
Hannon Church, Rev. James McCully	
Springfield	Rev. Henry Long
Mine La Motte, Rev. Albert Halbrook	
Blue Eye	Rev. Millard Davis
Union Light	Rev. Curt Johnson
Bethel Church ..	Rev. Keith Johnson
Twin Oak	Rev. Truman Huffman
Fourth Church, St. Louis	Rev. Elmer Turnbough
Neosho	Rev. Lester Nutting
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
Merls Chapel	Rev. O. T. Allred
New Hope Church (K. C.)	
.....	Rev. James McAllister
Faith Church	Rev. Loy Smith
Greenridge	Rev. Len Gardner
Oskaloosa	Rev. Roena Thomas
Garden Church	Rev. Roy Jones
Jones Chapel	Rev. Winford Davis
Hartville	Rev. Charles Findley
Walnut Ridge (Ark.)	Rev. Glen Campbell
Grandby	Rev. R. C. Williams
Pleasant Ridge	Rev. Alford Ford
New Harmony ..	Rev. Mildred Gilliam
Grant Avenue	Rev. Grover Terry
Monett	Rev. R. Luther Sanders
Aulsbury Chapel ..	Rev. Jas. F. Miller
Lebanon	Rev. F. D. Johnson

	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Cuba								40	
Mt. Pisgah	56	64	59	54	65	53	57	47	51
Copper Mines	100	95	105	103	110	116			
Fellowship, Flat River	186	194	194	199	204				
Leadington	98	109	101		83	66	69		
Farmington	65	70	70	55	50	69	55	56	63
Fourth, Maplewood	54	48	43	62	51	59	55	60	
Old Bethel	23	34	29	25					
Berkeley City	156	153	145	204	185	206			
Richwoods	69	54	55	55	70	55	47	45	44
Oak Grove								48	
Joplin	69	60	60	68	68	80	74		
Kirksville	109	96	107	109	102	92			
Grant Ave., Springfield								78	80
Hazel Creek	40	50	49	44	44	45	49		
Twin Oak	55	66	63	66				63	44
South Side Church	151	147	158	152	164	165	161	141	
New Hope, Kansas City	33	29	28	36	36	34	28	35	35
Springfield First									
Mine La Motte	37	43	48	42	38	34	39	31	39
Mill Creek	47	46	58	67	57	63	59	53	55
First Church, Kans. City	66		66	71	60	65	67	60	
Liberty								29	
Overland Church	88	78	76	95	84	90	86	78	90
Third Church, St. Louis	105	105	102	120	137	111	107		
Bethel, West Plains	55	53	60	58	61	59	52		
Faith, St. Louis							64	56	95

NAME AND ADDRESS	FIELD	BIRTHDAY
Miss Bessie Yeley P. O. Box 550 Nogales, Arizona	Old Mexico	November 26
Rev. & Mrs. Arthur Billows 3801 Rihland Avenue Nashville 5, Tennessee	Central Old Mexico	September 18 Mrs. Billows July 26 Rev. Billows
Miss Molly Barker P. O. Box 550 Nogales, Arizona	Old Mexico	December 19
Rev. & Mrs. Jaun Lopez Logo del Pasquaro 1216 Oriente	Mexico	September 28 Mrs. Lopez June 24 Rev. Lopez
Col Independencia Monterrey, N. L., Mexico (five children)		
Rev. & Mrs. N. Melitino Martinez 447 S. W. 6th Street Miami, Florida (one child)	First Spanish F. W. B. Church	September 27 Mrs. Martinez September 15 Rev. Martinez
Rev. & Mrs. Johnny Postlewaite 645 Highline Drive East Wenatchee, Washington (three children)	Northwest United States	October 25 Mrs. Postlewaite April 5 Rev. Postlewaite
Rev. & Mrs. Paul Inbody 27-A Summit Heights Clarksville, Tennessee (two children)	Central United States	June 10 Mrs. Inbody April 6 Rev. Inbody
Rev. & Mrs. D. Lee Whaley P. O. Box 277 Anchorage, Alaska (two children)	Alaska	January 8 Mrs. Whaley November 7 Rev. Whaley

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

FINANCIAL REPORT DEC. 1958

Financial Report December 1958

Dear Bro. Halbrook:

I am sending you this report of our years work, that you may better understand the work of the National Home Missions Department. We rejoice that the Lord has given us a wonderful year. You will note the increase in giving is almost double in two years. I wish to thank you for all you have done to make this report possible. Without you, and others like you, we could not continue to expand our work. The budget for 1959 is \$63,720.00. I believe we will raise it. The quota for Missouri is \$4,200.00.

Sincerely yours for missions,

—Homer E. Willis

1958 Receipts by Month

National Home Missions Board

January	\$ 4,073.54
February	3,557.27
March	3,216.84
April	3,294.31
May	2,540.68
June	3,544.75
July	3,043.10
August	4,374.51
September	3,848.15
October	5,234.29
November	4,840.95
December	5,610.07

Total receipts for 1958 \$47,178.46

Receipts

Balance brought forward, December 1, ..	\$ 6,939.07
Alabama	\$ 63.43
Arizona	93.74
Arkansas	184.80
California	108.24
Florida	259.78
Georgia	48.78
Idaho	54.95
Illinois	92.39
Kansas	7.50
Kentucky	223.30
Michigan	521.62
Mississippi	30.00
Missouri	557.66
New Mexico	5.55
North Carolina	1,101.63
Ohio	73.59
Oklahoma	390.06
Oregon	50.00
South Carolina	138.87
Tennessee	806.72
Texas	212.33
Virginia	73.53
Washington	21.00
West Virginia	3.00
W. N. A. C.	31.10
Sale of literature	81.93
Other income	274.57
Total Receipts	5,610.07

Amount to account for \$12,549.14

Total to account for \$12,549.14

Disbursements:

Missionary salaries	\$1,953.63
Other salaries	605.00
Mexico Building Fund	500.00
Printing newsletters, etc. ..	220.85
F. W. B. Headquarters	107.56
Station Wagon expenses	87.10
Postage	19.16
Insurance	15.00
Telephone	8.03
Books for resale	2.76

Total disbursements \$3,519.09

Cash in bank Jan. 1, 1959 \$9,030.05

Balance in accounts:

Designated to fields and	
and missionaries	\$5,399.32
In general fund	3,630.73

\$9,030.05

National Home Missions Giving

Increases

1956	\$25,698.09
1957	\$33,318.97
1958	\$47,178.46

The National Home Missions Board is the missionary agency of your church for the spreading of the gospel in Alaska, Canada, United States, Old Mexico, and Hawaii. If we fail as Churches to provide funds for this cause, we do not fail a Board, but Christ, and souls for whom He gave Himself.

A COUPLE OF THOUGHTS

"Who shall go to Heaven?" I Cor. 6:9-10 "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God".

"What the 20th Century Christians should be like". Psalm 15 "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil of his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person condemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."

—Christine Painter

State	1958 Quota	Amt. Given	Over	Under
Alabama	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,012.43	\$	\$ 487.57
Arizona	300.00	306.34	6.34	
Arkansas	2,000.00	1,304.20		695.80
California	2,500.00	604.02		1,895.98
Florida	1,500.00	1,020.19		379.81
Georgia	2,000.00	1,090.33		909.67
Idaho	300.00	62.50		237.50
Illinois	2,500.00	1,284.75		1,239.25
Kansas	300.00	62.50		237.50
Kentucky	1,500.00	1,917.17	417.17	
Louisiana	200.00	2.50		197.50
Maine	300.00			300.00
Michigan	4,000.00	2,091.97		1,908.03
Mississippi	1,500.00	448.55		1,051.45
Missouri	3,500.00	4,333.25	833.25	
Nebraska	300.00			300.00
New Mexico	200.00	267.73	67.73	
North Carolina	4,500.00	10,387.50	5,887.50	
Ohio	2,500.00	911.35		1,588.65
Oklahoma	3,500.00	3,111.61		388.39
Oregon	200.00	284.15	84.15	
South Carolina	2,000.00	1,237.62		779.04
Tennessee	3,500.00	6,641.52	3,141.52	
Texas	2,500.00	1,993.50		506.50
Virginia	2,000.00	1,595.51		404.49
Washington	500.00	284.39		215.61
West Virginia	2,000.00	45.15		1,954.85
Other	5,500.00	4,877.73		
Totals	\$53,100.00	\$47,178.46		