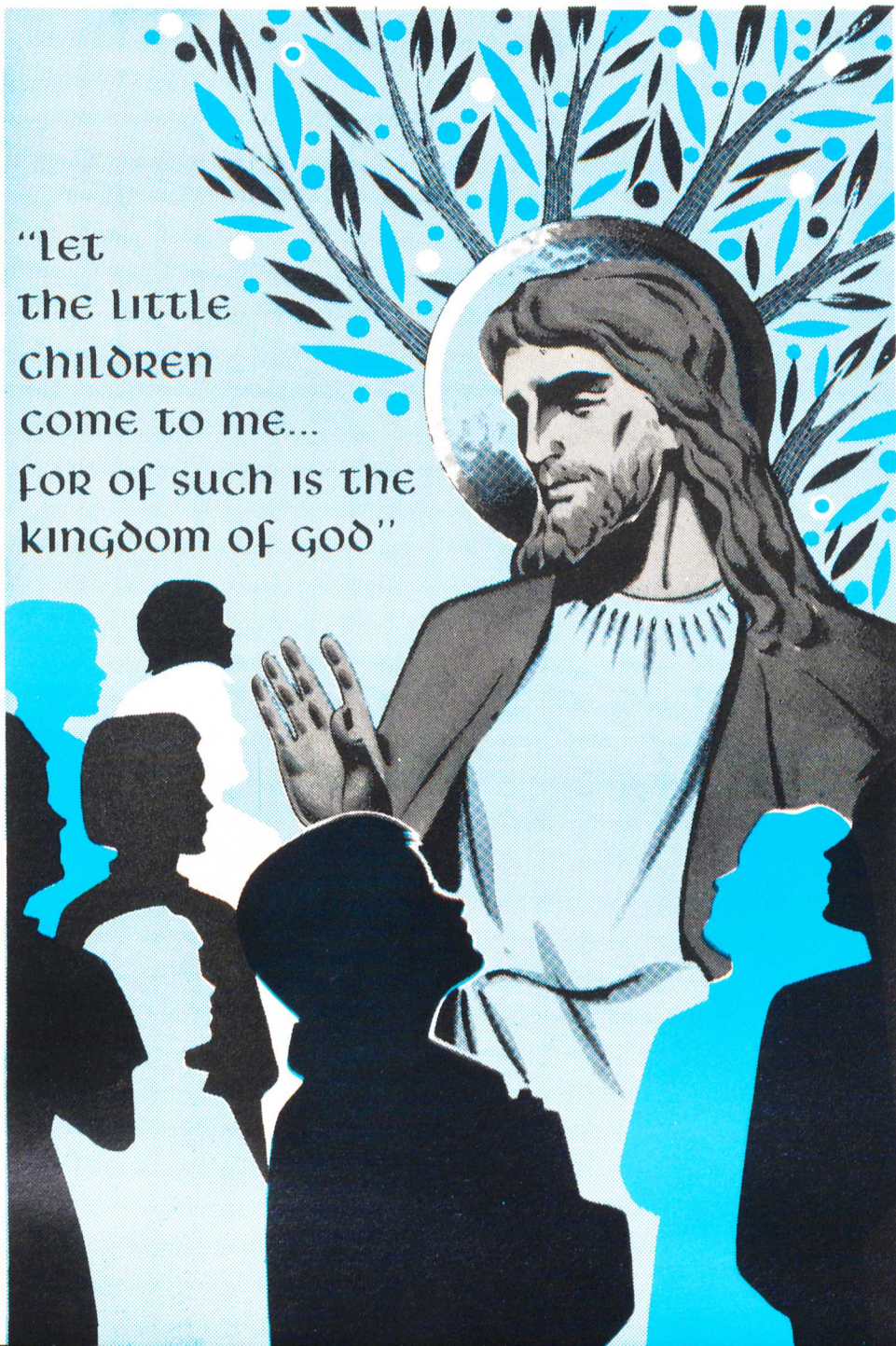


FREE WILL BAPTIST

SEPTEMBER, 1971
VOLUME 41
NUMBER 8

Gem

"let
the little
children
come to me...
for of such is the
kingdom of god"



Personal from the Editor



THE PROBLEM of making the right decision has been one of the difficulties that has faced mankind throughout human history. Chapter 17 of 1 Samuel clearly illustrates how subtly this problem reaches into every aspect of life: the choice between God's way and the way away from God.

The morale of the soldiers of Israel must have been pretty low when the new secret weapon of the enemy was demonstrated before them. A giant like Goliath, who so thoroughly threatened their existence and their future, had never before been encountered. The writer comments: "And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were sore afraid." It was in this dismal and discouraging situation David found himself. He was only a shepherd boy come on a mission to bring food to his brothers at the request of a concerned father. To the soldiers it must have been, therefore, somewhat amusing on the one hand and depressing on the other when David stepped forward and said: "Thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

Here was courage and valor that was so conspicuous by its absence in the hearts of the other men! How easy to have said, as many today, that he was

filled with false enthusiasm, that he was having dreams and visions which far surpassed the demands and realities of the time. But David recounted what God had done for him as a shepherd and with confidence declared, "He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine."

In sending David out to battle, Saul wanted to place all kinds of heavy armor and war equipment on him. Thus Saul was reflecting his fears rather than a trust in God. In suggesting to David that the armor would be the deciding factor, he not only forgot that this shepherd boy didn't know how to use armor but also demonstrated how often we put our trust in the material side of life rather than in God's power. But "David put them off" and put his entire trust in the power of the Almighty God. David knew God would use what abilities he had so stepped boldly out "in the name of Israel's God." We all know what God did for David.

Some people might say that this story of David and Goliath is an old tale of things that took place long ago and it is no longer applicable to us. But if we stop to consider the life of the world since the time of David, our own lives included, we see that we are all faced

with problems similar to those that confronted David. All of us have to meet the Goliath-like situations that occur daily in our lives. Not only must we face them, but like David we also are forced to make a choice of how we will meet these issues.

The man lying in Bed 17 has just been told he has to undergo major surgery; the young man walking down the street is at the crossroads of the future happiness of his marriage, the choice he makes will make the difference of a home blessed by God or one gone on the rocks; the high school graduate is faced with the draft; the sermon Sunday morning is still with you and you will have to make a decision to do God's will or leave Him out of your life. Decisions like these are continually confronting us—Giants in our valleys. The solutions and victory over the problems lie in the same source as did David's victory over Goliath. God is still the answer. Christ through his Calvary bought atonement provides the means to overcome bitterness, temptation, fear, worry, guilt, and hostility that keeps us from victory.

The Apostle Paul gives some good advice to all who would win the victory for God through Christ Jesus: "Stand, therefore, having your loins girt about with truth . . ." These words, and those following in Ephesians 6, speak a real and vital message today as we face life with all the determination and courage that a Christian is able to have. We do not have to take a back seat in facing problems or circumstances that arise, but we can lead the way toward the solution of them in our lives—and give comfort to those around us with the greatest weapon and force possible, the truth and mercy of a more than gracious Savior.

"Be strong in the Lord and in the Power of His might."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Published monthly by the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists.

PUBLICATION OFFICE: 830 South National, Springfield, Missouri 65804
Eddie Altis, Editor

BUSINESS OFFICE: 3100 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63111. Address all correspondence with subscriptions and monies pertaining to the GEM to 3100 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63111. News items should be sent to the Editor Eddie Altis, 830 South National, Springfield, Missouri 65804. Woman's Auxiliary news to Mrs. Eunice Edwards, 101 N. Sixth Street, Desloge, Missouri 63601. The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri Free Will Baptist State Association or the Editor. All items for publication must be in the hands of the Editor no later than the 15th of the month preceeding the issue month.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Single subscription, \$2.00 per year cash in advance. Church Plan, \$1.50 per year consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Family plan will continue until it is cancelled by the church.

SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE paid at Springfield, Missouri, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send form 3579 to the Free Will Baptist Gem, 3100 Mt. Pleasant Avenue. St. Louis, Missouri 63111.

proof #11



TODAY, as I write this, I am a Christian. My beloved Savior, Jesus Christ, lives within my heart. I thank God everyday for His plan of salvation that enabled a fumbling, confused teenager like me to become a child of God and heir to heaven. I would like to tell you how I almost turned completely against God and why I didn't.

I grew up knowing Christian ways, but during my high school years I started substituting my own rationalizations for God's commandments. So all during four years of high school I lived a supposed Christian life but my actions on the sidelines were far from pleasing to God. I was still living in such a faked condition when I started college. It was during my second and third semesters of college work that the devil really started putting on the pressure. The devil had had a part of me for a long time and he wanted my whole service. Jesus said, "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." (Luke 16:13)

The courses I took in college seemed to be aimed directly at explaining God away, thus leaving the way clear for me to believe in such ideas as the following. Through psychological thinking sin is merely a basic component of the personality called the id. Supposedly, the id and superego are present in every person influencing the individual's behavior and God has nothing to do with right and wrong. Through sociological studies, I conjectured that Christians are just a group of ideologists that are held together by ethnocentrism and caught in a cultural trap. A few other ideas that I picked up in my schooling included the idea that the Bible is just a collection and example of the typical attitudes of the Hebrews and is of no real value. The study of evolution was the last straw. Within my own heart and mind I had to decide to believe in either evolution, which would fall in line with all the other wrong ideas I had picked up, or God's record of creation. I was ready to forsake all my Christian beliefs when something inside me kept urging me to go back to God's word and seek the answers. By the

Grace of God, I found a Christian friend who read scriptures to me in answer to my many questions. I was made to see all the loopholes and impossibilities of the ideas that I had tried to use in explaining God away into nothingness. The devil truly is a deceiver of men and he almost deceived me. The Bible is the true guide for Christians to live by and no other book of knowledge can take its place.

The real proof of God's existence is when you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and He enters into your heart. Believe me, you can feel Jesus enter your life and you can tell he exists when he lives within your life and gives daily guidance. With your trust placed in Jesus, you can overcome physical corruption such as occurs when drugs, cigarettes, and liquor are used; you can turn away from immorality and sin; and you can find a peace within yourself that surpasses all expectations. I can say this because I know the pain and confusion that I had within my life when I walked astray and tried to do without God. My main aim in life now is to glorify God, my creator. I address this essay especially to other college students who might be trying to fill God's place in their life with false rationalized knowledge.

A decorative flourish consisting of a series of loops and swirls, drawn in a light, elegant style.

Editors Note:

Cathy Lay, author of "Proof #11", is a member of the New Harmony Church in north Missouri near Greentop. She is a senior, this fall, at Northeast Missouri State College, Kirksville where we trust God will use her this school year to help others find a real and living faith in her Lord. Cathy serves in her Sunday School as an assistant in the Pre-school class. Thank you Cathy Lay for your proof that God still has young people on His side and sharing with others what He means to you. Thank you Sister Helen Barnett for the encouragement you gave to help make "Proof #11" a part of this month's *GEM*. We still need material for this feature. Pastors, Youth Leaders, young people, if you feel this part of the *GEM* is worth keeping please send in material.

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS

FORMER MISSIONARY ACCEPTS POST AS PRESIDENT OF HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Mr. Bill Jones, a former missionary to the Ivory Coast, West Africa, and a past member of the faculty at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College when it was known as Oklahoma Bible College, is returning to that institution to assume the role of president. Jones, an ordained minister who pastored in his native state of Texas prior to his departure in 1959 for Paris, France, in preparation for missionary service, follows Dr. J. D. O'Donnell as president of this Christian liberal arts junior college. Dr. O'Donnell resigned in May and has returned to the pastorate.

The thirty-four year old Jones leaves an administrative position with the Foreign Missions Department of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. He has served as Director of Communications for that phase of the national work since he resigned as a member of the College's faculty in the spring of 1970. He holds a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Oklahoma City University and has done other graduate work at Oklahoma University and Dallas Theological Seminary. His undergraduate work was completed at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee in 1957.

When asked what his current plans for the College were, Jones said that the plans call for a quality education in a context of practical Christianity.

"Hillsdale, as a Christian college, should complement the local church. It should develop the whole person, helping each stu-

dent to become acutely aware of his relationship to God, to others, and his actual potential."

BIBLE COLLEGE TO HOLD PASTORS' CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER

The administration of Free Will Baptist Bible College recently announced their plans for the 1971 PASTORS' CONFERENCE to be held on campus December 27-31. Classes in Expository Preaching, Visitation, The Pastor and The Second Coming, and Apologetics will be combined with services of inspirational preaching.

The several outstanding preachers and teachers to be featured in the 1971 PASTORS' CONFERENCE include Dr. Monroe Parker, Dr. Leon Wood, Reverend Dale Burden, and Dr. L. C. Johnson.

Dr. Parker, a full time evangelist and active promoter of missions, will be teaching a series of lessons on The Pastor and The Last Days. The past president of Pillsbury Baptist College in Minnesota, he is a highly competent preacher and Bible scholar.

Dr. Wood will teach two classes on Expository Preaching, two classes on Apologetics (Defense of the Faith), and will preach three expository messages. He is Dean of Grand Rapids Baptist Theological Seminary and Professor of Old Testament Studies. He has authored three books, including "Is the Rapture Next?" and "Elijah, Prophet of God."

Reverend Burden, pastor of the Fairmount Park FWB Church in Norfolk, Virginia, will speak on several areas of pastoral duty, including visitation, counselling, and the handling of church problems. Burden graduated from the Bible College in 1956 and has successfully pastored several Free Will Baptist churches.

A series of morning Bible studies will also be featured.

The Conference will open with the evening meal on Monday, December 27, and will close with the noon meal on Friday, December 31. A room and board fee of \$30, added to a \$10 Conference fee,

give a total of \$40 for the entire Conference.

Reservations for the Conference can be made by writing:

Pastors' Conference
c/o Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Financial reports from Free Will Baptist Bible College show that Missouri gave \$1,954.93 in July. This amount is \$370.73 more than for the same period last year and puts Missouri 14% on the way toward the \$14,000.00 quota set for 1971-72. Missouri offerings toward the Expansion Program were \$751.00 in July, making a total-to-date contribution of \$21,951.54 with \$1,677.95 remaining in unpaid commitments.

Rev. James Barker is the new pastor at the Mill Creek Church. The church is thankful that God has sent him to them and are looking forward to a good year in the Lord.

The Lord continues to bless at the Willow Springs Church. July 18, six young people were baptized as a testimony of God's continued working there. As the church's attendance continues to rise a building program has been planned to take care of the crowded Sunday School. The plans, now in the hands of the contractor, include a full basement with several classrooms and new restroom facilities. Beginning of construction is planned for the near future. Pastor Chesley "Bud" Hill and his wife Mary serve God as leaders of the Willow Springs congregation.

The DeSoto Church, now working with a full-time pastor, is making plans for the dedication of their new church Sunday, October 10. That same evening Evangelist Johnny Land will begin revival services. The church is looking forward to a great time of blessing and asks fellow Missourians to pray for souls to be reached in DeSoto.

MISSOURI MISSIONS

BRO. FRANK WRITES:

Thank God for all the wonderful privileges He has given me in the past seven months. I was especially honored when the Northeast Association invited me to come and speak at their Yearly Conference. We had great crowds and a wonderful revival spirit in each service (5 services in all). I was thrilled as I watched the folk respond to our mission. I received gifts and pledges of approximately \$150.00 for our support and the bus fund.

This weekend (Aug. 13-14), I am to be in the Kansas City, Kansas area in a yearly conference representing missions.

Please continue to pray for me that God will give me wisdom as I endeavor to lead this Church into a fruitful ministry for Christ.

The Lord has blessed with His Holy Spirit speaking to hearts about their need to serve Him and be a witness for Him. We have seen several of our people come to the altar in different services to place their lives on the line for Him. Pray that each of us will see our own personal need and give our lives to Him to use fully in His service.

In our last Newsletter, we asked you to pray about a bus for our work here. We thought we had one located in the Lead Belt area, through the R-III School District. In fact, we made a bid of \$350.00, which we were assured was acceptable. But when the school board met to discuss the sale of the bus and purchase of a new one for the school, they decided not to sell this bus at this time. We're still looking and praying, and ask you to make this a real item of prayer. I believe that God has a bus for us somewhere. All we have to do is

find it.

If you should know of an available bus for a "reasonable" amount of money, please contact us as quickly as possible. We would like to have one in time for the opening of the school year.

I am sure all of you have heard of the chicken and the pig who were so impressed by the missionary's plea that they decided to do something for him. The chicken suggested that they provide breakfast for him—"ham and eggs will be the menu", said the chicken. "Ham and eggs," said the pig. "For you that's only an offering. For me, that's a real sacrifice." Humorous, but I believe a real indication of the giving of many of our folk around the State. They have given sacrificially, and I thank God for their faithfulness.

We were very pleased to receive a telephone call from Pocahontas, Arkansas (my Wife's home Church) last week, telling us that their Vacation Bible School offering had been designated for our account. And more, that the Church had voted to send an equal amount. So we have \$100.00 added to our account because of the love of these good people, and their concern for our work here in Jefferson City.

With all the mail, requesting assistance from various aspects of our denominational work, I am sure that each of us sometimes tire of the word "need." But these are our needs, and I don't know of any other way to say it, so here goes.

We are in need of:

1. Your prayers,
2. Pews - needed very badly,
3. Bus - 36-46 passenger,
4. Names of prospects in our area,
5. Wisdom from God to lead this work,
6. Your continued financial support.

(Signed)

Your "Needy" Missionary

FOREIGN MISSION GIVING

Foreign Mission giving from Missouri totaled \$6,963.91 for the

month of June. July showed an increase over June with \$7,860.98 contributed in that month. May God bless each person who gave that His Truth might reach around the earth.

Missouri's total giving to National Home Missions for July was \$958.05. This is a total for the year of \$8,052.30 and puts Missouri \$8,947.70 short of this year's quota.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY REPORT OF COLUMBIA WORK

Prayer services in the Pastor's home in August, 1968 with the Charles Edwards and Paul Burge families marked the beginning of the Columbia Free Will Baptist Church. After a few days Rathel and Mathel Mayo and Shela McQueen moved to town. Jim and Junita Walker, Charolette Mills and others soon became a part of our church. We currently have one member (other than the pastor's family) who was a part of our first year's congregation.

During the past three years:

- Fifty six people have attended our services on a regular basis prior to moving from Columbia.
- There have been a host of visitors and several people who have discontinued attending.
- International students from five countries have attended our services (some on a regular basis).
- We welcome all races, cultural and socioeconomic groups.
- We have visited scores of people in the state hospitals located in Columbia.
- We have maintained about \$300.00 per month property payments on our five acres of land, parsonage, and chapel.
- Over 20% of our gross income has been designated to missions and Bible College ministries.
- We need a church building! Our plans are all set for the building of a 32' x 60' two level brick building.

PRE-TEEN

Director's



Pictured with Pre-teen Week Camp Director, Lynn Wood, are Cindy Fry and David Housley who were elected as Campers of the Week.



The thankless task of grading tests is a part of teaching. It really doesn't look like a happy time, does it?



Classes of the Pre-teen Camp session, numbering 434, overflowed onto shaded areas outside classrooms. Sister Peggy Adkisson is pictured teaching such a group.

From the moment we arrived at the Free Will Baptist State youth camp, we could sense the presence of God. The first service on Sunday night was interrupted by a heavy thundershower. Though many were dampened by the rain, no one's spirits were dampened. The service finally ended with Brother George Bryant, our song leader for the week, leading in a number of choruses.

Some of the classes were much larger than was desirable, but the boys and girls were very cooperative and a minimum of difficulties arose. Classes were taught by Mrs. Wayne Wagner, Mrs. Jim McAllister, Mrs. Dora Fry, Rev. Millard Sasser, Rev. and Mrs. Billy Adkisson, Rev. and Mrs. Hervert Boggs, Rev. Glen Rehkop, Rev. Jim McAllister, Rev. Lawrence Thompson, and Rev. Frank Giunta. A number of pastors and wives, laymen and wives, and others worked diligently to make this a highly successful camp.

Our Evangelist for the week was Rev. Dale Skiles. He did an outstanding job of preaching the Gospel and the Holy Spirit did His work in bringing conviction to the hearts of those who were unsaved. There were a total of 434 enrolled for the week. Of this number 53 came to know Christ as their personal Saviour. These were first-time decisions. Seventy-nine came forward for a time of rededication and three felt God speaking to their hearts for some type of special service.

Each of those who came to the altar was counselled and helped personally by the workers of the camp. Of real help to those that came was the class taught by Brother Jim McAllister. This was

CAMP 1971

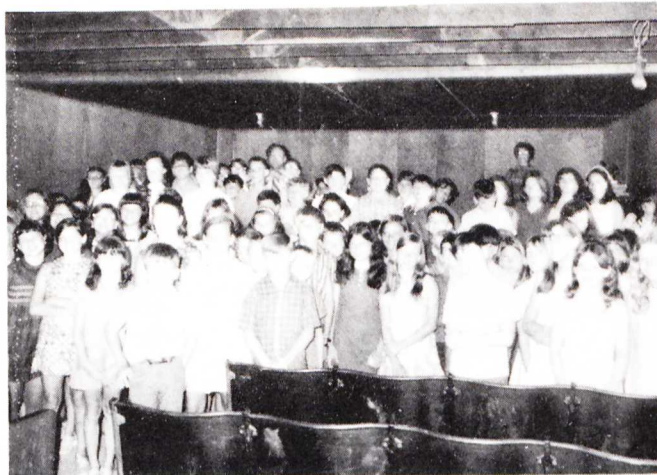
Report

called the Follow-up Class. Those who made commitments went the day following to this class for a time of study and teaching regarding the decisions made. I feel this will be of utmost help to these boys and girls as they return to their homes and home churches. They will know better how to follow through with the commitment they have made to Christ.

Brother Wesley Calvery, John Yasuda, and Rebecca Calvery were with us for three days. They really added to the spiritual thrust of our camp. The Pre-teen camp received a special missions offering for the Calverys of over \$100.00. As this was the last camp for Brother and Sister Reeves in their present capacity as camp caretakers, the sponsors and leaders and boys and girls had a special hour in honor of these dedicated workers. Gifts were also given in commendation of the years spent in dedicated and devoted service.

As I was new to the camp I felt that everyone involved worked just a little harder and cooperated a little more to help me get through the week as director. I wish to express my deepest appreciation to the board, sponsors, teachers, dining hall help, concession stand workers, recreation leaders, and all that were present for being so nice to us in our first camp in Missouri. It was a real joy to meet so many wonderful people. "I thank my God for every remembrance of you." When your church is asked to help in special camp projects remember you can't support a more worthy cause. This is truly a soul-saving station. I can truly say, "God met with us."

Rev. Lynn Wood
Pre-teen Camp Director



Classrooms filled to capacity were a part of Pre-teen Camp, as shown in these two class pictures. Rev. Lawrence Thompson (top) and Rev. Glen Rehkop (bottom) were two of the twelve persons teaching such groups of boys and girls.



Even the best of times must come to an end. This is evidenced at Youth Camp by the pile of bedding and other belongings awaiting the arrival of a bus or truck to haul them back home.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE JULY 12-15, 1971

More than 5,000 Free Will Baptists converged on Nashville, Tennessee to hear God's men sound the note of revival, using the theme, "O Lord, Revive Thy Work." Although many who attended did not register, registration for this year's National Convention was 3490. The Woman's Auxiliary Convention registered 720. Approximately 1500 young people were registered. Offerings this year exceeded all previous offerings. The Spirit of God moved upon many hearts and revival flames spread back to local congregations.

Present at the Monday evening kickoff service were seven founders who participated in the formation of the National Association at Cofer's Chapel Church November 5-7, 1935, here in Nashville. One of the seven, the Reverend J. L. Welch, was the pastor of Cofer's at that time. The 4,000 persons in attendance honored these pioneers with a standing ovation. Evangelist Van Dale Hudson challenged the congregation with his message on the "Possibility of Revival."

During the Tuesday morning pastor's and layman's seminar, Edward Hales reminded the 300 men present that "stewardship is God's plan for growing Christians, not raising money." Hales is Director of Stewardship for the Baptist General Conference. In the evening service the Reverend Herman Hersey spoke on the "Product of Revival." Following the service,

Don Lonie thrilled the hearts of 879 youths who crowded into the Sheraton Hotel Banquet room. Sheraton's hotel manager said the banquet was the largest banquet in the history of the hotel.

Wednesday morning the National Association considered the reports of the different departments. A total denominational budget of \$2,252,570 was adopted for the coming year. Delegates also approved a recommendation from the Sunday School Board that would enable them to purchase 10 acres of property and move into a more spacious building than they now occupy. The Department of Foreign Missions looks forward to sending missionaries into Spain in the not too distant future. With the Minneapolis, Minnesota church being received into this year's Association, we now have 40 states as members of the National Association.

In other action, the body adopted a resolution that the Executive Office promote "A Year of Evangelism" during 1972. A concerted effort will be made to increase the average annual growth rate five-fold by involving the churches in a greater soul-winning effort.

The week of January 16-23, 1972 was set to observe "Free Will Baptist Heritage." This will be a time of honoring Christ the Lord of the Church and renewing loyalties to this divinely ordained institution. It will also provide a new sense of appreciation for the contribution Free Will Baptists have made to the total cause of Christ.

Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey recommended that a committee be appointed to study the relationship of Free Will Baptists with the National Association of Evangelicals with a view toward examining the issues involved by holding membership in this organization. Discussion followed this recommendation. It was adopted and a committee of 13 was selected to do this work and report back at the next annual meeting.

The largest crowd ever to attend a National Association service gathered at the Municipal Auditorium to see their missionaries spotlighted and introduced and

to hear Missionary Larry Powell preach on the "Power of Revival." Powell pastors a church in the Virgin Islands that includes seven different nationalities, five languages and colors range from dark to light. He calls the church "a showplace of Christianity." Following Powell's message, more than 250 persons signified their renewed determination to follow the Lord in response to his invitation. Old and young were spotted among those standing around Powell. Many felt that these decisions would have a profound effect on the denomination in years to come. A special missionary offering totalling \$5,490.00 was received. This was \$700.00 more than any previous offering received at a national convention.

Final business reports from auxiliaries, commissions and the nominating committee were presented Thursday morning. Resolutions adopted by the delegates included condemnation of pornography and abortion. Ministers were encouraged to become more involved in directing their youth toward clean living, especially in the area of drug abuse and to promote cooperative evangelistic campaigns among fundamentalists.

The Reverend Richard Cordell, pastor of Woodbine Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, presented the concluding message on "Prescription for Revival."

Officers elected were Dr. J. D. O'Donnell, moderator. Formerly president of Oklahoma Bible College, O'Donnell now pastors Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri. Evangelist Bobby Jackson was elected to the post of assistant moderator. Retaining their posts as clerk and assistant clerk were Reverend Waldo Young and Reverend Jerry Dudley. The Reverend Rufus Coffey was elected to another year two-year term as Executive Secretary.

The 1972 National Association will convene in Fort Worth, Texas, July 10-13. Plans are already underway to make the 1972 Convention one of great significance in the denomination's advance for Christ.

DADDY, WHO PAINTED THE TREES?

I heard a light tap on my door. I felt annoyed at being disturbed. Investigating the source of the disturbance, I learned that it was my three year old daughter, Bethany. She approached me with the question, "Daddy, can I talk to you while you are listening to your tape recorder?" (I had been resting while listening to a message from the Inter-Varsity Missionary Convention, Urbana, Illinois). I sensed that I must give this little blonde, blue-eyed girl priority. Reaching for the "off" button of my tape recorder, I gave Bethany my full attention, asking, "What do you want to talk about, honey", as she snuggled up close to me.

She wanted to ask about the two small glass bottles she was carrying in her hand, where had they come from, etc. She asked, "When can I put one of my teeth under my pillow like Andy does?" (Andy is her ten year old brother.)

"Daddy, what color is this?" (pointing to my shirt). "It is blue like your eyes and like the blue spots on your dress". We proceeded to discuss the color of most everything in the room in answer to her questions.

"What makes boogers in my nose?" Now boogers can be a troublesome thing in a three year old girl's nose; they sometimes bother her father—for that matter. She seemed as satisfied with the answer I gave her as if I had possessed an M.D. degree.

"Who painted these?", she asked, as she pointed to the white caps on her two bottles. "A man who works in a big building called a factory." "Oh!" "Who painted the trees?" "God painted the trees and the flowers."

She was gone as quickly as she came—with her happy little skip. I glanced at my watch. Our little visit had lasted exactly ten minutes—1/96th of my normal waking day. I felt exhilarated with the joy and sunshine her visit had brought, and ashamed that I had been annoyed with the tap on my door. I felt thankful for those who have been willing to listen to me.

I reflected how Jesus is always ready to listen when one wants to talk with Him and how good it is when one knows He has listened. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:" Matthew 7:7.

Editor's Note: Borrowed from *A Visit to Your Home*, Columbia Church. Thank you, Pastor Vandivort.

MEDITATIONS . . .

Let the words of my mouth, and the
meditations of my heart, be acceptable in thy
sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.
Psalm 19:14

Today was the last day for someone.
Today a new life began.
Today we have the sunlight.
Tonight the sunlight ends.
The light that shines from Heaven,
Sends its' beautiful rays from above,
Shines down upon all Creation
And shows God's wondrous love.
A light to lighten our pathway
That we need not stumble and fall.
Somewhere it is always called morning
Just beyond the dark nightfall.
Just another bright morning
May bring a Beautiful Day
When all the dark nights forever
Have finally vanished away.
Some day a Sun will be shining
And darkness will be no more.
Jesus will be the light
That will shine for evermore.

—Bessie Smiley
Bethel Church, ElDorado

Impatient people water their miseries and hoe up their comforts; sorrows are visitors that come without invitation, and complaining minds send a wagon to bring their troubles home in.—C.H. Spurgeon

An aged Christian, with snow of time on his head, may remind us that those points of earth are whitest which are nearest Heaven.—Chapin

It is with men as with wheat; the light heads are erect even in the presence of Omnipotence, but the full heads bow in reverence before Him. —Cooke

Missouri State
Home Mission Giving:
July 5 - Aug. 5, 1971

Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Lawrence Thompson
3416 N. Bellefontaine
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Thayer Church | 92.15 |
| New Rock Springs Church | 32.75 |
| Olivet Church | 90.00 |
| Mrs. Fae Davis | 5.00 |
| First Church Mtn. Grove | 3.00 |
| Earl Langley | 40.00 |
| Fourth Church | 54.00 |
| First Church Monett | 75.00 |
| O.T. Alred | 5.00 |
| National Home Missions | 29.30 |
| Hannon Church | 44.38 |
| First Church St. Joseph | 30.46 |
| Tom Barr | 5.00 |
| Mildred Wallace | 10.00 |
| Leadington Church | 68.25 |
| Bethel Church | 45.00 |
| Berkeley Church | 20.00 |
| Victory Church | 184.09 |
| Salem Church | 16.00 |
| Women's Aux. Belvoir, N.C. | 2.00 |
| Faith E. Lovelace | 5.00 |
| New Home Church | 20.00 |
| Coppermines Church | 7.00 |
| St. Francois Co. Qtly. Mtg. | 50.00 |
| Rock Chapel Church | 20.00 |
| Belton Church | 14.00 |
| First Church Joplin | 25.35 |
| Beacon Jr. Hi. Girls Class | 4.40 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Beacon Church | 6.00 |
| Myrtle Church | 15.68 |
| Zora C. Haynes | 40.00 |
| Mrs. Stella Moury | 2.00 |
| Bessie Rogers | 10.00 |
| Cuba Church | 5.00 |
| Alton Church | 10.00 |
| Willow Springs Church | 11.00 |
| First Church O'Fallon | 5.00 |
| Mine LaMotte Church | 10.00 |
| Royal Oaks Church | 97.50 |
| First Church DeSoto | 20.00 |
| Low Ground Church | 5.00 |
| South Side Church | 9.00 |
| Parkview Church | 43.00 |
| Central Church | 32.50 |
| Fellowship Church | 59.00 |
| Tressie V. Walker | 2.00 |
| Pleasant Grove Church | 10.00 |
| JoAnn Thomas | 12.00 |
| Evelyn Crossgrove | 10.00 |
| Neva Thomas | 5.00 |
| Archie Cooper | 25.00 |
| Mo. State Women's Aux. Con. | 25.00 |
| Hazel Creek Church | 5.00 |
| Cooperative Receipts - July | 931.64 |
| Total | \$2403.45 |

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES, 1971

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Belton | 48 | 53 | | | | | |
| Berkeley | | 335 | | | | | |
| Copper Mines | 82 | 78 | 91 | 99 | 97 | 91 | 95 |
| DeSoto | 71 | 73 | 79 | 91 | 85 | 84 | 91 |
| Farmington | 120 | | | 143 | 117 | 119 | 112 |
| Fredericktown, | | | | | | | |
| First | | 126 | 136 | 151 | 147 | | |
| Hannon | 65 | | 71 | 73 | 69 | | |
| Hurryville | 92 | | | | | | |
| Lebanon, First | 163 | 147 | 150 | 162 | 139 | 177 | 127 |
| Mill Creek | 42 | | | | | | |
| Mine LaMotte | 38 | 33 | | 52 | 37 | 37 | 47 |
| Monett, First | 169 | 173 | 188 | 183 | 161 | | |
| Mt. Pisgah | | | | | | 70 | |
| Mtn. Grove, | | | | | | | |
| First | 261 | | | | | | |
| Myrtle | 55 | 53 | 62 | | | | |
| Oskaloosa | | 22 | | | | | |
| Parkview, Desloge | 109 | 92 | 121 | 127 | 104 | 96 | 98 |
| Salem | 41 | 37 | 53 | 48 | 46 | 40 | 34 |
| Springfield, | | | | | | | |
| First | 212 | 195 | 214 | 221 | 217 | | |
| Trinity | 158 | | 211 | 196 | 170 | 159 | 132 |
| Victory | 121 | 113 | 137 | 106 | | | 97 |
| Waynesville, | | | | | | | |
| First | 101 | 79 | 119 | 133 | | | |
| West Plains, | | | | | | | |
| First | 142 | 127 | | 139 | 128 | 134 | 126 |
| Willow Springs | 95 | 89 | 90 | 103 | 96 | 97 | 100 |

Editor's Note: There are several blanks in the Sunday School averages. This is probably my oversight. Will you please forgive me, and send in the averages missing so the chart may be complete? Thanks much.

WANTED

FEMALE: AGE: Born Again

HEIGHT: Tall enough to reach heaven by prayer

WEIGHT: Lighthearted because she has cast her care on the Lord

LAST SEEN: In the state of Missouri; CHARACTERISTICS: Love, Joy, Peace Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance

CAN USUALLY BE FOUND: In groups called Woman's Auxiliary (sometimes known as Co-Laborers)

WANTED FOR:

1. Raising \$2,000 for the Missouri State Project "Wheels for Mom Willey"
2. Promoting missions in the local church
3. Praying and supporting State, Home and Foreign Missions
4. Setting aside the month of February for State Home Missions Emphasis and raising \$500.00 to be sent to the Mark Vandivort family for medical needs.
5. Attending a Woman's Retreat at the Missouri State Youth Camp on May 8 & 9, 1972
6. Inviting the National Field Worker to speak in the State of Missouri
7. Turning reports in to their Districts by May 31 each year and to their State by June 5th each year

NOTE: These women may be lead by Brenda Evans (President), Eunice Edwards (Vice President), Joan Woods (Secretary), Hazel Hutsell (Treasurer), Lucille Beatty (Field Worker), Kathy Lay (Woman's Page Editor), Barbara Harwell, Maxine Waggoner, Helen McAllister (members at large)

REWARD

"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven" Matthew 5:12a

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY'S CORNER



JULY 3, Cave Springs Quarterly Meeting assembled with Walnut Grove Church, near Myrtle. Twenty-one churches were represented with both letters and delegates. Two guest ministers, James Murray and Bill Adkisson, preached the 11:00 a.m. messages. Saturday night I attended the closing service of Alton's revival. Rev. Glenn Murray was the evangelist. Pastor Ehrhardt reports souls saved in the meeting. July 4, I delivered the morning sermon in the Royal Oak Church where I pastored many years past. Pastor Donie Morris reports souls being saved there recently.

July 11-15 Mrs. Beatty and I attended the annual meeting of the National Association held in Nashville, Tennessee. The preaching of God's word in every sense was wonderful; the attendance larger than usual; and business sessions were harmonious. The Wednesday night Missionary Service was a great service. Scores went forward committing themselves. The offering received was also a record offering.

Sunday morning, July 18, I filled the pulpit for Pastor A.B. Brown at the Bethel Church of Festus. They continue to win souls for the Lord. Sunday evening, I delivered the sermon in the DeSoto Church. They, too, continue to win souls for the Lord. They launched out and put Pastor Miller on full time. They have

finished their new sanctuary.

July 23 and 24, I attended the North East Association held with Hazel Creek Church. Rev. Frank Giunta preached five gospel messages, as their guest minister. Time was given for our Missouri Cooperative Program. This year 100% of their churches participated in the program.

In response to an invitation from Pastor Stitt and the Kirksville Church I was privileged to bring the message there Sunday morning, July 25. Sunday evening I delivered the message in O'Fallon Church. Pastor Lombard and the church are striving to complete their new sanctuary within one month. They are moving forward and winning some for the Lord, too.

Central Western Missouri Association assembled with Greenfield Church, July 28-29. Rev. O. T. Allred delivered the 11:00 a.m. message Wednesday for the Woman's Auxiliary. Missionary Lonnie Palmer preached the Wednesday evening Missionary message. The Association gave a cash offering to the Palmer account. I preached the 11:00 a.m. message Thursday, July 29. The crowds were large and the business sessions were harmonious.

We have exceeded our 1971 Cooperative goal; money received this year amounts to \$57,693.25. (The 1971 goal was \$56,000.00, ed.)

JULY, 1971 COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Alton | \$ 10.00 |
| Aulsbury Chapel | 98.33 |
| Beacon | 127.47 |
| Belton | 83.00 |
| Bethel (Festus) | 120.00 |
| Berkeley | 605.19 |
| Carterville | 23.99 |
| Cedar Ridge | 50.04 |
| less designated | 5.56 |
| Central (Kansas City) | 390.00 |
| Columbia | 28.33 |
| Copper Mines | 66.00 |
| Cuba | 115.25 |
| DeSoto | 66.00 |
| Farmington | 218.10 |
| Fellowship | 50.00 |
| Fourth (St. Louis) | 206.16 |
| Garfield | 19.20 |
| Gateway | 46.00 |
| Grace | 223.63 |
| Granby | 11.90 |
| Gray Summit | 20.80 |
| Hannon | 68.77 |
| Happy Home | 17.00 |
| Hickory Grove | 22.93 |
| Houston | 90.00 |
| Kirksville | 30.00 |
| Leadington | 120.45 |
| Low Ground | 90.00 |
| Marshfield | 24.82 |
| Martinstown | 60.00 |
| Merl's Chapel | 35.41 |
| Mine LaMotte | 14.57 |
| Monett | 176.42 |
| Mtn. Valley | 83.68 |
| Myrtle | 160.06 |
| New Home | 42.00 |
| New Rock Springs | 58.00 |
| Olivet | 120.00 |
| Parkview | 50.00 |
| Pleasant Hill | 10.00 |
| Pleasant Home | 79.66 |
| Pleasant Ridge | 14.45 |
| Richwoods | 156.47 |
| Rock Chapel | 25.16 |
| St. Joseph | 20.06 |
| Salem | 20.00 |
| South Side | 157.60 |
| Thayer | 136.28 |
| Trinity | 130.00 |
| Twin Oaks | 74.69 |
| Verdella | 30.22 |
| Victory | 184.10 |
| West Plains | 81.00 |
| | \$4,968.75 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 00.25% Superannuation | \$ 12.42 |
| 01.00% C.T.S. & S.S. | 49.69 |
| 04.00% GEM | 198.75 |
| 04.00% Youth Camp | 198.75 |
| 07.00% General Fund | 347.81 |
| 16.00% Promotional | 795.00 |
| 18.75% Missouri Missions | 931.64 |
| 51.00% 7 Missouri Depts. | \$2,534.06 |
| 03.00% Hillsdale College | 149.06 |
| 00.50% Theological Com. | 24.84 |
| 01.00% Layman's Bd. | 49.69 |
| 01.50% R.E.A.P. | 74.53 |
| 03.00% C.T.S. | 149.06 |
| 07.00% Home Missions | 347.81 |
| 10.00% Executive | 496.88 |
| 10.00% FWBCC | 496.88 |
| less designated | 5.56 |
| 13.00% Foreign Missions | 645.94 |
| plus designated | 5.56 |
| 46.00% 8 National Depts. | \$2,285.63 |
| 100.00% Total Disbursed | \$4,968.75 |