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FREE WILL BAPTIST

APRIL, 1972
VOLUME 42
NUMBER 4

Gem

He is Risen

Personal from the Editor



THERE ARE items of pressing concern that must be taken up in the beginning. If space permits, we may follow the regular form of this section.

First, there are some address changes. Please note them and use these new addresses. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT.** Sending material to the incorrect address will cause it to arrive late, will often cause it to cost more to send on, and might cause it to get lost completely. As Brother Beatty said in his page of news, the building in St. Louis has been sold and the Promotional Department which receives *GEM* subscriptions and the Cooperative Funds has been moved to his home, the Book Store is now well situated in Lebanon, and it would be more convenient for Brother Beatty if items for the *GEM* were sent directly to Springfield. Please note the following addresses:

Mail including Cooperative money, subscriptions for the *GEM*, and matters relative to the Promotional Department should be sent to:

Rev. Harry Beatty
2244 Tenbrook Road
Arnold, Missouri 63010
Phone: (314) 296-9242

Missouri Home Missions should be sent to:

Rev. Lawrence Thompson, Treasurer
Missouri Home Missions Board
3416 N. Bellefontaine
Kansas City, Missouri 64117
Phone: (816) 454-2559

Missouri Youth Camp money should be sent to:

Rev. Frank Giunta, Treasurer
Missouri State Youth Camp Board
1317 Moreland Avenue
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
Phone: (314) 635-8248

Orders for Sunday School material, Bibles, Books, and Daily Vacation Bible School Materials:

Lebanon Bible and Book Store
303 W. Commercial Street
Lebanon, Missouri 65536
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 645
Lebanon, Missouri 65536
Phone: (417) 532-9516

News of Woman's Auxiliary or items for the "Woman's Page" of the *GEM* should be sent to:

Kathy Lay
2301 Connecticut
Joplin, Missouri 64801
Phone: (417) 623-1014

News items for the *GEM* or questions relative to the mailing, but not subscription money, should be sent to

The Free Will Baptist *GEM*
830 S. National
Springfield, Missouri 65804
Phone: (417) 865-9789

Some of the above addresses you already have and some are even printed in other places in the *GEM*, but it seemed good to print them all together in one place so they could be handy to identify what material was sent to which address by referring to only one page. You might wish to file this issue in a convenient place for ready reference.

Those persons working with the *GEM* in the Sunday School Printing Service are, I believe, doing a fine job in printing an attractive magazine. They work under at least two major limitations: trying to keep the printing cost within the *GEM* budget, and having material sent to them to print. You are a very important part of the latter limitation. We are especially appreciative of those folk who send in material on a regular basis. As editor I have done a minimum of assignments because I had hoped your interest aided by the influence of the Holy Spirit would cause you to write and send in that which was sincerely on your heart. Thank you, pastors, who send your programs and newsletters from your churches. This is a source of much of the material for the *GEM*. You well know that as you see it reappear there. Thank you church reporters who have sent in news of the work in your various congregations. For

continued on page 10

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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Eddie Altis, Editor

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News items should be sent to the Editor Eddie Altis, 830 South National, Springfield, Missouri 65804.

Woman's Auxiliary news to Mrs. Kathy Lay, 2301 Connecticut, Joplin, Missouri 64801.

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.

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POSTMASTER: Send form 3579 to the Free Will Baptist Gem, 2244 Tenbrook, Arnold, Missouri 63010.

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS

The Fourth Church, St. Louis, reports they are climbing in attendance with a goal of 200 to be reached in Sunday School by the last Sunday in March. April 16 has been set for Homecoming Day at Fourth with special services planned for the entire day, through the evening service. The work and dedication of the church is evidenced in the many who have been won to the Lordship of Christ and the twenty-two who have united with the church since the first of the year.

"God is in His heaven and His blessings continue to be poured out upon our church and her people" is the feeling at Trinity Church, Bridgeton. Many have been called into the Kingdom and followed Christ in baptism and affiliated with the church. March 7 showed a record attendance in Sunday School of 252 as the Hillsdale College Choir joined in the service through the presentation of a program of inspirational and contemporary music.

March 19 marked the birthday of the Fellowship Church, Flat River. Special services and fellowship over a basket dinner helped make the day a blessed one. Revival is set at Fellowship April 24-30 with evangelist Eustace Riggs. Fellowship's bus ministry has grown so they now operate two buses. Sixty-six attended Sunday School, Sunday March 5, by way of the buses.

Mission Association C.T.S. Youth Rally was hosted by the

Cabool Church and Pastor Glenn Murray, March 18. Bible Bowl competition was won by the Pleasant Grove team. The Association finals will be held Saturday, April 15 with Rock Chapel Church as host. The program will include competition in all areas with the awarding of trophies and medals. An evening hayride and weiner roast with camp fire devotions will conclude the day's activities.

The Willow Springs Church, Mtn. Grove, has just completed the building program which added several new class rooms and bath rooms to their church plant. They are enjoying increased blessings as they labor effectively for the Lord. The increased attendance, souls being saved, and the spirit of revival give us reason to rejoice with the Willow Springs Church and Pastor Bud Hill.

Rock Chapel Church, Norwood, purchased a bus recently to aid in their church program. It is hoped the bus can be used effectively to get young people, especially, to church. It will be used to provide transportation for group trips of the Church program. It's long trip initiation will be the Mexico Missionary Trip sponsored by Teenage Institute of Missouri Evangelism of the Eleventh Hour Missionary Crusade, Inc. and planned for August 5-20.

100,000 delegates (80% of them college and high school students) are expected at Explo '72" in Dallas June 12-17. Billy Graham is honorary chairman of the Campus Crusade for Christ sponsored training conference. The session is an attempt to prove that "together we can help change the world." Emphasis will be placed on every person filling his role in the great commission in his generation and students will be challenged to commit and dedicate their entire life to the Lord. Mass rallies will be held in the Dallas Cotton Bowl. It will be a glorious time of inspiration and

challenge. I wish I could go with you. Added information may be obtained from: Explo '72; 3625 Rawlins; Dallas, Texas 75219.

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Copies of the 1971 Minutes of the National Association of Free Will Baptists will be mailed from the Executive Department in March to associational clerks.

Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey stated that the minutes were being mailed directly to each associational clerk so that they may be distributed more rapidly and widely than in times past. In previous years, they have been distributed at the state level.

Any interested Free Will Baptist may obtain a copy at the next meeting of his local association.

JESUS IS LORD OF VISITATION

This is the theme of the week beginning March 13th. Does this mean that everyone should visit for Christ? Perhaps not. Read the following article and make up your own mind.

"You are excused from visiting, if you believe that the world is not lost and doesn't need a Savior; if you believe that Jesus was wrong when He said to go into all the world and preach the Gospel; if you believe that the Gospel of Christ is not the power of God and cannot save the lost; if you wish that salvation had not come to your ancestors and that we ourselves had never been won to Christ; if you believe that the pleasures of this world are better without Christ than the blessings of God are with Christ; if you believe that you are not accountable to God for the work He has entrusted to your hands; if you believe the above with a sincere heart, then you are excused from visiting—otherwise, God will hold you accountable."

Borrowed from the Newsletter of Trinity Church. Thank you Pastor Spurgeon.

STUDENT NEWS

Bible College Rated "A" By University Of Tennessee

Students attending Free Will Baptist Bible College and later transferring to other schools will find their credits being accepted more readily due to a new rating recently released on the school. University of Tennessee, which rates all schools within the state, has given FWBBC an "A" rating, which means that no limitations or restrictions are placed on the transfer of credits from the Bible College.

The Bible College is believed to be the first non-regionally accredited, non-state operated college in Tennessee to receive this rating.

Since 1955 the school has operated under a "BC" rating, which means that two years of credits would transfer, but only upon the satisfactory performance of the transferring student. But many schools had already improved on that rating. Bible College students have transferred successfully into several universities on the graduate level and have made excellent academic records.

The new rating will open more doors for students seeking transfer credits and is a noteworthy achievement. Gains such as this, while not compromising the fundamental nature of the school, enable the Bible College to more effectively serve the Lord and those students dedicated to His service.

Bible College Summer Session To Offer Courses For Pastors, Music Directors

The 1972 Summer Session offered by Free Will Baptist Bible College will make a number of courses available to pastors and other Christian workers to strengthen their ministries. Up to three semester hours of college credit may be earned during the two-week session, May 15-26.

The following courses will be offered:

- Principles of Church Administration
- Inter-Testament Period
- Church Music Materials
- General Epistles
- Song Leading
- Biblical Interpretation
- Methods of Bible Exposition
- Current Theological Trends
- Missionary Program in the Local Church
- Parliamentary Law

Churches should consider underwriting the expenses of their pastor and/or music director who attend Summer Session. The cost, including registration, room, board, and tuition for three hours, is \$118.

Full information on Summer Session may be obtained by writing: Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205.

494 Register At Bible College This Year

A record enrollment of 494 students was set this year at Free Will Baptist Bible College. This included day students only and does not take into account either evening school registrants or those who attended 1971 Summer Session.

Those from Missouri newly enrolled for the first time this semester are: Kent Tallent, St. Louis; Jim Turnbough, Viburnum; and Judy Turnbough, Viburnum.

At the end of January, Missouri had given \$8,050.90 toward the budgeted quota of \$14,000.00. This is \$356.67 less than was given the same period last year.

THE COMEBACK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

by Loretta Smith

Yes, the comeback. I have attended church regularly for the sixteen years of my life, and I remember hearing about God the Father and God the Son, but very little about the Holy Spirit until a couple weeks ago when I felt He was almost all over me. All sixteen years I thought I was about as good a Christian as any until I felt I had been missing something. I know it couldn't be love or money because I have always lived in a Christian home and had just about anything and everything I really needed—Thank God for Christian homes.

When I was attending a Lay Witness Mission with some friends in our home town everyone was touched by the Holy Spirit and were really blessed. Girls who had been sworn enemies were loving, hugging, and crying with each other. Boys who were known for their smoking, cursing and drinking have quit and our school has been completely changed. The students feel they need strength each day so we meet and pray together. I've been a fake Christian for sixteen years, now I realize that and I thank God for showing me before it was too late.

Those who have turned to Christ in our school have been called names and made fun of, but praise God we are still working for His glory and honor.

I know I speak for every boy and girl in my school who have turned to Christ when I say, "Pray for us and help us to bring the three-person Trinity back into reality, especially the Holy Spirit as we can feel this most strongly."

Ed. Note: Loretta Smith is a junior at Liberal High School and attends church at Oskaloosa. She is active in Youth for Christ and leads singing at her church.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS—The National Association of Free Will Baptists will convene here July 10-13, 1972, for their 36th annual session.

Daily business sessions and evening public services will be held in the Tarrant County Convention Center. Business sessions will be for the receiving of reports from the eight national departments, electing executive officers, and enacting legislation relating to the work of the denomination.

One of the reports to be heard will come from the committee appointed last July to restudy our relationship with the National Association of Evangelicals. This committee will make recommendations concerning our future relationship with N.A.E.

In addition to the general sessions at the Convention Center, full programs are being planned both in the center and in the nearby headquarters hotel for children and youth beginning Sunday, July 9. The Woman's National Auxiliary Convention will hold their national conclave Tuesday, July 11. A presession meeting is scheduled for the members of the denomination's General Board.

All reservations for hotel accommodations will be handled by a central agency. This will eliminate overselling by the hotels and better guarantee that all reservations will be honored as confirmed. The April issue of CON-TACT, the official magazine for Free Will Baptists, will carry a listing of the hotels and a reservation form.

The National Association has not been hosted by the state of Texas since 1939 when the meeting was held in Bryan.

Missouri State C.T.S. competition will be held June 3, 1972 at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Lebanon. You should be receiving materials relative to the competition in adequate time to meet the May 15, 1972 deadline for registration. Rules for National competition will be followed and this will include the dress code this

year. In years past the dress code has been overlooked to not place any young person at a disadvantage; however, sponsors and parents must assume responsibility for this requirement. The basic dress is dark skirts and trousers with white blouses or shirts except teams may wear other colors as long as the team dresses consistently. Teams and individuals must be present when they are scheduled to compete or that round will be forfeited.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- 9:30 Roll Call
- 10:00 Bible Bowl Competition
- Tic-Tac-Toe Competition
- 12:00 Lunch (Each group will make their own arrangements, lunch will not be served at the church)
- 1:00 Sword Drill
- 1:30 Declamations
- Complete Bible Bowl and Tic-Tac-Toe competition following the presentation of the declamations.

Youth Camp Receipts, February, 1972

Bethel Church	\$ 10.00
Cabool	10.00
Grant Avenue	10.00
Grant Avenue	13.00
Hannon	15.00
Central Western Association	35.22
Missouri Cooperative Giving	171.50
Mountain Grove	10.00
Myrtle	15.00
New Home	17.95
New Rock Springs	7.00
Olivet	10.00
Olivet	10.00
Pleasant Home	15.00
Vada Reeves (for long distance telephone calls)	15.97
Thayer	10.00
Verdella	10.00
Waynesville	2.00
Waynesville	2.00
Willow Springs	10.00
Total Receipts	\$399.64
Balance brought forward	\$720.96
Total	\$1,120.60
Less Accounts Payable	506.64
Balance on hand March 8, 1972	\$613.96

Frank Giunta, Treasurer
Missouri State Youth Camp Board
1317 Moreland Avenue
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101

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

When you're feeling really important;
Sometimes when your ego's in bloom;
Sometimes when you take it for granted
That you're the best qualified in the room;
Sometimes when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole;
Just follow this simple instruction
And see how much it humbles your soul.
Take a bucket and fill it with water;
Put your hand in it up to your wrist;
Pull it out and the hole that's remaining
Is a measure of how much you'll be missed.
You can splash all you please as you enter.
You can stir up the water galore.
But stop, and you'll find in a minute
It looks about the same as before.

—The proud would sooner lose than ask the way.

—Charles Churchill

—One may be humble out of pride.
—Montaigne

—Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
—Proverbs 16:18

—When pride cometh, then cometh shame.

—Proverbs 11:2

In general, pride is at the bottom of all great mistakes.

—Ruskin

—If your troubles are deep seated or of long standing try kneeling.

—Unknown

A Gift Blindeth The Wise

Exodus 23:8

by Len Gardner
Macks Creek, Mo.

AS THE CHILDREN of Israel journeyed from Egypt to the promised land, God was with them in such mighty power that it brought fear upon other nations. Even the ungodly nations could see that God was with them, and was fighting their battles for them.

On their journey they camped by the border of the land of Moab. As Balak the king of Moab looked upon their camp, he was afraid of what they might do to his land and his people. Now there was a man by the name of Balaam that seemed to have power with God. The king of Moab had taken notice to the fact that whatsoever he blessed was blessed, and whatsoever he cursed was cursed. You can be sure the world knows whether you have power with God or not. So Balak sent honorable men with rewards to Balaam asking him to come and curse the children of Israel for them that they might prevail against them.

When these men came to Balaam and presented their cause, Balaam asked them to lodge there that night, and he would inquire of the Lord what to do. Now this was a noble thing for Balaam to do. It is always good to seek the will of the Lord before acting any time. When he inquired of the Lord, "God said unto Balaam, thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people; for they are blessed." Numbers 22:12. Now what plainer language could anyone expect than that. An answer like that should be sufficient for anyone to know the will of the Lord. I sometimes wish I could receive an answer as plain as that concerning the will of the Lord. The answer was plain enough for

Balaam, so he refused to go.

When these men returned to Balak with their report that Balaam would not come, then Balak sent more honorable men with greater rewards, and promises to promote Balaam to great honor, if he would come and curse the people for him.

Now when these men came and patted Balaam on the back a little, and offered him rewards and honor, it was a little too tempting for him. He asked them to lodge there that night and he would inquire of the Lord what to do. Now that sounds like the right thing to do, but I want you to see that he had already inquired of the Lord concerning this very thing, and had received the answer not to go. So, Balaam already knew the will of the Lord. The thing he was doing this time was begging the Lord to let him go, so he could receive the rewards and honor promised him. It was just like a child after he is told not to do something, begging to do it. So Balaam went to beg of the Lord, "Lord won't you let me go and receive these rewards and honors Balak has promised me."

This time the Lord said, "Go, but yet the word that I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou say." In other words I believe the Lord is saying to Balaam, "Balaam, if you had rather have the rewards and honor offered you by Balak than to have the blessings and power of the Lord, you can go but you cannot curse my people."

I believe God allows man to choose whom he will serve. We can either choose to be obedient to God and receive his blessings, or we can choose to

disobey His command and go on in our own way and lose the blessings of the Lord. Yet if we choose to go our own way, God has set limits that we can only go so far.

Again I want us to see that the Lord had already made his will known concerning this thing. Now it is always good to seek the will of the Lord when that will is not known, but it is bad to rebel against the will of the Lord when His will is plain. I have heard people say, "I am just waiting for the Lord to lead me to be baptized," or "I am just waiting for the Lord to lead me to join the church". Now if you are just waiting for the Lord to lead you to be baptized, or to join the church, you have already rebelled against the Lord. He has already led and you didn't follow. His will is plain concerning these things in his word. He has made his will plain in his word, the Bible, and it is up to you to follow.

But Balaam loved the promise of reward enough to rebel against God. Jude says, "Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward." Jude 1:11. 2 Peter 2:15 says, "Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness."

Next we see Balaam on his way to Balak, hoping to curse God's people for reward. Then God stands His angel in the way to hinder him, and we see Balaam's anger stirred. Oh, sometime how peoples anger is stirred when God places some hindrance in their way to try to stop them from going on in rebellion against Him.

Even after he was rebuked by the dumb animal speaking to him, and by the angel of the Lord, Balaam was still willing to go on seeking the reward of Balak.

When Balaam came to Balak, they went out to where they could see the camp of Israel, and there they built altars, and offered sacrifices. Then God appeared unto Balaam and put the words in his mouth that he should say, but instead of cursing Israel he blessed them. This they did three times from three different locations, but each time the Lord blessed Israel. Oh, how powerless we are before the Lord. Even Balaam had no power only that the Lord had given him, and he could not curse Israel, even though I believe he would have for reward if he could.

Then Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam because he blessed his enemies instead of cursing them, and he said, "I thought to promote thee unto great honor, but lo, the Lord hath kept thee back from honor." Numbers 24:11. Now doesn't that sound just like the devil? He would have you believe that serving the Lord keeps you from honor, or that you can't have a good time and serve the Lord. He would have you believe that you have to give up too much to become a Christian. The fact is, serving the Lord is a great honor and a great pleasure. Balaam had such honor for serving the Lord that it was known for miles around that what he blessed was

blessed, and what he cursed was cursed. Wasn't that a great honor? But he lost that honor, seeking the honor Balak would bestow upon him, and then he had neither the honor of God nor of man.

Now Balaam still wasn't ready to give up. God would not allow him to curse His people, but Balaam was still wanting the rewards and honor Balak had for him, so he says, "Now listen Balak, God would not allow me to curse Israel for you, and I don't have the power to curse them against God's will, but if you will listen, I will advise you what to do. You just be good friends to them and worship with them, and get them to worship with you, and intermarry with them, and soon you can lead them away from their God. Their strength is in their God, and when they turn away from Him, you can overcome them." Now we don't find these exact words in the Bible, but we do find in Revelation 2:14 where it says, "But I have a few things against thee because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit fornication." If we read the story, we find that is exactly what happened, and it was because of the advice of Balaam. Oh, how far man will go in rebellion against God's will, once he starts disobeying the plain command of God.

I would like for us to see that there are many yet today that hold the doctrine of Balaam. It is the doctrine of compromise, and many today advocate compromising with the ways of the world that we might win the world to Christ, but it just won't work. Israel lost their power with God through compromise, and Christianity today has lost its power through compromise.

There is much more to this story of Balaam, but one more important point I would like to mention is what finally happened to Balaam. We find that God told Moses to send his armies out and slay the Midianites, so Moses sent his armies and slew all the men of the Midianites, "And Balaam also the son of Beor they slew with the sword" Numbers 31:8b.

Now in conclusion let's evaluate just what happened. To begin with Balaam had a special power with God. Whatever he blessed was blessed, and whatever he cursed was cursed. He was dedicated and wanted to know the will of the Lord before he acted upon anything. Then we find the temptation for wealth and honor overcame him and he began to beg God to let him do that which was contrary to God's will. Next we find him disobeying God's command. Then we find him working on the devil's side against God's people.

Now for the results. Balaam lost his power with God, the favor of man and finally his life. The whole camp of Israel was led into sin, and many died because of their sins. All because of one man's disobedience.

It pays to be obedient to God's commands. "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice" 1 Sam. 15:22b.

A HISTORY OF THE *Gem*

by Robert E. Picirilli

Readers of the *Gem* will be interested in some historical facts about this important denominational magazine. We have now obtained a complete file of all issues ever published, except for one missing issue: November, 1944. *If any reader has one of that date, please send it right away to me* at Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205.

This file is for the National Association's Historical Collection. Many good people have donated copies to enable us to put together the collection, including Winford Davis, Kenneth Turner, Lloyd Jeffreys, Jim McAllister, Harvey Hill, Mrs. A. E. Dare, and several others.

The *Gem* was begun in January, 1929, and succeeded the *New Morning Star*. For seven months in 1946 (May-November) the paper was not published, and for three months (July-September) in 1955. On two other occasions a month was skipped: May, 1930, and September, 1947. Except for these every month has seen an issue of the *Gem* until the very present.

Technically, the current volume number is wrong, resulting from earlier errors. The years 1945 and 1946 were both numbered volume 17. Even worse, all three years 1956-58 were numbered volume 27! Actually, then, this year's issues (1972) really ought to be

volume 44. Notice might also be taken about the size of the magazine. During the years 1942-46, it was the size of a handbook, about 6 by 9 inches. All the rest of the time it has been approximately the same size as now.

Brother B. F. Brown was the first editor. At the time, he was serving, I believe, as president of Tecumseh College in Oklahoma, and so the first issues were published from Tecumseh. In May, 1930, the paper was moved to Purdy, Missouri. Brother Brown continued as editor until June, 1939. No later editor ever served so long a period.

In July, 1939, John Rollins became editor, and the paper was relocated at Monett, Missouri, where it was to stay until 1955. Rollins was assisted, part of the time, by Herbert Henderson. C. B. Dees was the next editor, and served from February, 1944, through April, 1946. The next seven months saw no issue published. Then Brother B. F. Brown, the original editor, was called upon to rescue the work. He served as "Acting editor" from December, 1946, through August, 1947 (part of the time assisted by Sherman Oakes).

The later editors have been: Winford Davis (Oct. '47-Dec. '49); Lloyd Jeffreys (Jan. '50-June '55); Eunice Edwards (Oct. '55-Aug. '56); Albert Halbrook

(Sept. '56-Aug. '59); Roger Reeds (Sept. '59-June '62); Bud Hill (July '62-Sept. '69); Alton Lovelless (Oct. '69-Sept. '70); and Eddie Altis (since Oct. '70). From October, 1955, through September, 1963, the printing was done at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, by the General Baptist Press. Since that time, a number of different printing arrangements have been made.

The *Gem* has been much more than a state paper, especially in its earlier years when state papers were not so common. In those days, the *Gem* and the *Free Will Baptist* (Ayden, N.C.) were the two denominational papers. Other papers started and stopped; these two carried on.

It does not seem possible to overestimate the importance of the contributions made by the *Gem* to the Free Will Baptist denomination, particularly in those formative years when the programs of the new National Association were just getting established. Almost every issue carried lengthy promotional information about the Bible College and Foreign Missions. The *Gem* certainly helped get these programs off the ground, and played a tremendous part in educating Free Will Baptists—especially in the West—to these ministries. We ought to be grateful to the Lord and to those whose vision provided us with this good magazine.

Ed Note: Catherine Henry, an English instructor and part-time student at California Christian College, is a member of the West Plains Church. She has been in Fresno since August, 1971. Although she considers her time at California Christian College among her greatest blessings, she will be returning to Missouri and teaching in the elementary school. Miss Henry is a graduate of Southwest Missouri State College, Springfield.

AS I LEFT Missouri last July, I felt a little as Abraham must have felt when the Lord told him to leave his homeland and go where He told him. I had the advantage, however, for I knew where I was going, and I had a Phillips 66 roadmap to show me how to get there.

I was going to California Christian College in Fresno, California. Two years ago I had hardly heard

of Fresno, California and had certainly never heard of California Christian College, but here I was, safe and sound, though somewhat shaken from my first encounter with California traffic.

And I was certainly not prepared for what I found! Having graduated from SMS in Springfield in January, 1970, my concept of a college campus was that of a large tract of land with beautiful modern buildings, trees, sidewalks, and flowerbeds. At CCC I found the trees, sidewalks, and flowerbeds but the buildings were not large and modern. The property was once a huge ranch, and the buildings have been converted to their present use. The beautiful old colonial mansion is surrounded by olive trees, palms, and flowers of every description. One would scarcely guess that beneath those graceful pillars and behind that heavy oaken door there are housed offices of administrators, faculty, and staff, classrooms, a

library, and dormitory facilities for 12-14 young ladies. However, located right in the middle of the campus stands the beginning of a dream—the new dormitory—the first phase of an extensive building program which will, in a few years, transform CCC into that typical college campus complete with beautiful modern buildings.

But CCC is not typical. It is unique. It is a Free Will Baptist Bible College—founded on the principles of God's Word and dedicated to the task of training young men and women for God's service. Academically, CCC ranks with the best. Instructors are competent, dedicated men and women. Spiritually, the college is tremendous. There are numerous opportunities for service; there are frequent spirit-filled chapel services and daily periods of private devotions.

So I will return to Missouri and elementary education and I will be a better servant because of the experiences God gave me at CCC.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES, 1971-1972

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Central												120	128
Copper Mines	78	91	99	95	91	95	100	90	91				
DeSoto	73	79	91	85	84	91	100	106	125	114	105	100	115
Farmington			143	117	119	112				122			
Fellowship											192	203	217
Fredericktown	126	136	151	147	139	115	130	139	145	137	152		153
Lebanon, First	147	150	162	139	177	127	144	189	189	152	150	137	
Monett	173	188	183	161	163	166	181	211	211	188	201		
Mine LaMotte	33	41	52	37	37	47	35	40	39	41	45	35	
Myrtle									57	56	57	48	
Parkview	92	121	127	104	96	98	103	99	105	95	93	86	94
Salem	37	53	48	46	40	34	39	39	40	44	43	44	46
South Fremont					53	53	53	59					
Springfield, First					199	184	207	213	196	202			
Thayer						131	133	132	133	136	139		
Trinity	162	211	196	170	159	192	146	181	215	186	190	169	178
Victory	113	137	106			97	105	111	117	105	97	110	125
West Plains	127		139	128	134	126	130	149	150	148	151	137	141
Willow Springs	89	90	103	96	97	100	99	98	97	96	104	88	



My Friend

As I look out into the world and see
 All the kids around me with no responsibility
 No hope or no love for each other
 Not caring what happens to their brother
 It makes me sad to see the world in this condition
 But then for youth it's just a tradition
 To be proud and different rebellious and strong
 To ignore the differences between right and wrong
 But when I'm glad I have a friend
 Whose love for me has no end
 Neither color nor race nor creed
 Will have any bearing upon your need
 All you have to do is just believe
 And with Him all your troubles leave
 Yes the world's in a sad shape it's true
 But with Jesus beside me I can't be blue
 He gives me strength to face each day
 And gives me guidance and help along the way
 Yes, Jesus is coming again real soon
 And this world will change her tune
 She'll bow down on her knees and her sins relate
 But she'll find it will be too late
 I'm begging you now before your times through
 That you will have Jesus as your Saviour too.

Ed Note: Dana Methany is a 15 year old member of the Berkeley Church. Thank you Dana for the poem.

(continued from page 2)

the most part, I must get the news from you. I wish to especially thank you Sister Ackerson for your faithfulness in reporting for the DeSoto Church. That is the one report I can always count on. Just a post card, but it has the Sunday School average and a bit of news and has only missed two months in the past two years. Any project of God's people will succeed only to the extent that "the people have a mind to work."

I have only a small space left to say as strongly as I can that Easter is probably greatest because it proclaims more than anything else that God really cares for his creation. He not only meets the physical needs but he did not forget the greatest need of man—his spiritual need.

He sent Jesus with great promises for man. The promise to be able to rise to new life. A new and better life on earth and the great new life entered by the

way of death. For with Jesus' death on the cross and his resurrection our hope can be made complete. God offers us the gift of eternal life. He does not leave us here on earth to simply perish. In the resurrected Christ He offers us the hope of eternal life. Gloriously and triumphantly the risen Christ assures us, "I am the Resurrection and the Life; He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

Does God care for Man? You may be sure that He does; for in Christ He has made every provision for man's welfare—from the moment life begins until God takes the believer to His home in heaven, where he will live forever in the company of the Saviour and his believing loved ones.

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all Thy wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exalt in Thee, I will sing praise to Thy name, O Most High."

Dear Missouri Free Will Baptists:

I am writing in behalf of the Pi Gamma Chi Society of Free Will Baptist Bible College. You have probably already heard about the recent death of our brother, the Reverend J. R. Davidson. He was one of the founding fathers of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Our society is raising funds to give to Mrs. Davidson in honor of her late husband. He was instrumental in raising money for the school in years when it was hard to raise money for educational purposes. He traveled across the denomination preaching the Gospel and emphasizing the need for Christian Education. No doubt in your church today you are in some way reaping the rewards of this man's work for the college.

Now, we are giving you and your church an opportunity to take part in giving his wife a monetary memorial to express our love and appreciation for his dedicated service for the Bible College. Any contribution large or small will be deeply appreciated.

Make all checks payable to the Pi Gamma Chi Society, c/o Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205.

We Thank You in the Name of Christ,

Archie Ratliff, President
 Pi Gamma Chi Society

Woman's Page

NOTES AND NEWS

Hazel Creek Church in Northeast Missouri has organized a night time Mission Action Group. Carol Pinkerton, missionary appointee to Africa was guest speaker. This group plans to make Easter favors for a local nursing home . . . West Plains Auxiliary sent \$10.00 to the Cronks and \$10.00 to Jefferson City. A children's choir presented special music and the ladies shared their conversion experiences together . . . Joplin church had a special speaker from TEEN CHALLENGE who told of her work in New York and showed slides . . .

BULLETIN HI-LITES

Under announcements in a church bulletin the following was found . . . "This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends."

NOTE FROM A LOVING MOTHER

In just a few months my son will take a big step in his life. He will graduate from high school. He has been a better than average student, played in the High School band, and lettered in two sports while in school. He is a member of several outside school organizations. My son is a member of our local church and has been a Christian for 6 years. He helps with the Junior Boys S.S. class at church and sponsors many youth activities. He sings in the choir and leads in devotions when asked. His goal in life is to do what the Lord wants him to do and to go wherever He leads. He's my son and I'm proud to say he is mine. Oh, yes . . . he has long hair.

CLIP AND SAVE . . . RETREAT

WHEN???	May 8 at 10:00 a.m. to May 9 at 12:00 noon
WHERE???	State Youth Camp, Niangua, Missouri
COST???	\$4.00 for registration and \$.50 for insurance (\$4.50 total)
THEME???	"Woman's Role in Missions" Matthew 28:19
SPEAKER???	Joy Jones, from Moore, Okla., Former missionary to Ivory Coast, Africa
WHAT???	Fun Time, Get Acquainted Time, Prayer and Praise Time, Show and Tell Time
BRING???	Yourself, other women, bedding, personal articles, hobby or handiwork, light-humorous skit, and BE READY TO RECEIVE MANY BLESSINGS FROM THE LORD.

Why is it we can believe that a laser beam can penetrate a huge mountain and yet we have so little faith when we pray?

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY'S CORNER



MORE THAN twenty churches of the First Mission Quarterly meeting assembled with the Salem Church Thursday, February 10. Ministers delivering sermonettes in the morning services were: Herbert Vandivort, Russell McDavis, and Brother Blair. Rev. Leland Horton, guest minister from Bettendorf, Iowa, delivered the 11:00 a.m. sermon and our Home Missionary, Frank Giunta delivered the afternoon sermon. Brother Beatty was given plenty time for the Missouri Promotional Cooperative Program. Visiting ministers were: Rev. Paul Kettelman, Roger Harwell, and Elmer Turnbough. Pastor Courtney and the Salem Church did a fine job hosting this meeting.

Friday evening, February 18, the Victory Church hosted the Greater Kansas City Quarterly Meeting. Each of their eight churches was represented with delegates. Rev. Cliff Bowman delivered the sermon. Brother Beatty gave the promotional program during the business session. One

hundred percent of their churches support this program. Pastor Thompson and the Victory Church did a fine job hosting this session including an evening meal served in the church basement.

Sunday morning, February 20, I delivered the sermon in our Olivett Church. Pastor Bowman and the church continue to win souls for the Lord. Olivett Church is in the process of building a Sunday School annex adjacent to their church to take care of their growing congregation. Olivett Church is a good missions supporting church, too.

Thanks to fifty churches, February cooperative receipts were \$4,900.00. Thus we are ahead of schedule toward our \$60,000.00 annual projected goal.

The Headquarters Building in St. Louis has been sold. Please send all correspondence previously sent to 3100 Mt. Pleasant, St. Louis to Brother Beatty's new address: 2244 Tenbrook Road; Arnold, Missouri 63010. PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESS CHANGE.

FEBRUARY COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS 1972

Gray Summits	\$ 20.80
New Rock Springs	49.60
Parkview, Desloge	50.00
Hannon	85.44
Willow Springs	109.67
DeSoto, First	125.00
West Plains, First	125.00
Beacon	222.34
Hickory Grove	20.64
Hurryville	75.00
Pleasant Grove	27.59
Garfield	26.34
Berkeley	404.33
Bethel, Festus	40.00
Granby	13.05
Viburnum	110.74
Farmington	178.41
Marshfield	32.93
Salem	20.00
Pleasant Ridge	24.15
Houston	212.00
Olivett	140.00
Verdella	48.09
Number One	18.15
Mine LaMotte	11.05
Carterville	21.90
Rock Chapel	18.11
Columbia	17.30
Thayer	76.22
Gateway	67.00
Cabool	80.98
Grant Avenue	270.66
Grace	293.41
St. Joseph, First	18.49
Happy Home	24.00
Victory	219.85
Union Grove	80.00
Copper Mines	75.00
Monett	262.63
Neosho	50.00
Merl's Chapel	22.77
Fourth	245.85
Fellowship	50.00
West Plains, First	100.50
Parkview	50.00
Beacon	185.45
South Side	170.89
Pleasant Grove	25.11
Willow Springs	80.30
Hurryville	86.08
A Friend	10.20
Cedar Ridge	52.18
designated 10%	5.80
Total	\$4,900.00

Disbursements	
17.75% Missouri Missions	\$869.75
16.00% Promotional Dept.	784.00
04.00% General Fund	196.00
03.50% Youth Camp	171.50
05.50% GEM	269.50
01.00% Sunday School & C.T.S.	49.00
00.25% Superannuation	12.25
04.00% Book Store	196.00
52.00% 8 Missouri Depts.	2,548.00
03.00% Hillsdale College	147.00
13.00% Foreign Missions	637.00
plus designated	5.80
10.00% F.W.B.B.C.	490.00
less designated	5.80
09.50% Executive Dept.	465.50
07.00% Home Missions	343.00
01.50% REAP	73.50
00.50% Theological Com.	24.50
03.00% C.T.S.	147.00
45.00% 8 National Depts.	\$2,205.00
100.00% Total disbursed	\$4,900.00