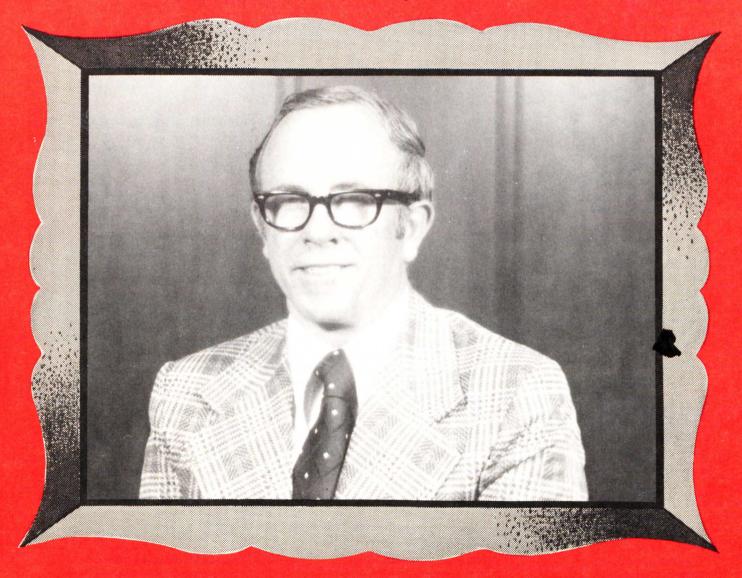
Volume 45, Number 7, July, 1975

Free Will Baptist

# GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"

**CLARENCE BURTON: New Promotional Secretary** 



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Farmington

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Rev. Harry Beatty
2244 Tenbrook
Arnold, MO 63010

#### THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM Published monthly by the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists

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Andy W. Lay, editor.

Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address.

Woman's Auxiliary news may be mailed to Mrs. Kathy Lay, 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO 64834.

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 State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 15th of the month preceding the issue month.

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Postmaster: Send form 3579 to the Free Will Baptist GEM, 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO 64834.

#### Burton Assumes Promotional Job



Rev. Clarence Burton was elected unanimously by the state general board as the new promotional secretary for the Missouri State Association, succeeding Rev. Harry Beatty who resigned from the position July 1.

Brother Burton is no stranger to Missouri Free Will Baptists, having pastored in the state for more than fifteen years at Fredericktown and Berkeley. During that time he has served as a member of the State Youth Camp Board, the State Home Missions Board, the General Board, and the Executive Committee and as moderator of the State Association.

A 48-year old native of Arkansas, Brother Burton served seven years in the armed forces, after which he attended Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, graduating in 1955. He pastored Oak Grove FWB Church near Charlotte, Tennessee, and the Balew Chapel FWB Church in Grubbs, Arkansas, before coming to Missouri in 1959.

Brother Burton will be moving to Lebanon this month with his wife, Vivian, who was raised in the Myrtle, Missouri, area, and his son John, who just graduated from high school. An older son, Steve, is pastor of the Verdella FWB Church near Liberal, Missouri.

Having pastored in two rural churches, a small town church, and a city church for a total of more than 21 years, Brother Burton brings to the office a varied background and a thorough understanding of Free Will Baptist work in the city and in the country. As one fellow-pastor put it, "We just could not have found a man for the job with any broader acceptance across the state. He is a straight preacher of the Word, he has a heart for the denominational

program in its entirety, and he has a compassion for the souls of men."

In addition to promoting the Cooperative Program, Brother Burton will be responsible to coordinate the Missouri Bible Institute program in the state and to edit the GEM. He will not assume the GEM editorship until later this year, however, after he becomes orientated to his other duties.

In a recent interview, Brother Burton made this statement:

"Isaiah the prophet said, 'And the Lord shall guide thee continually.' It is satisfying and comforting to know the Lord leads and guides His children. As we trust ourselves to Him we can have complete confidence that the way He leads is the right way and the best way for us.

"With this complete trust in God I look forward to serving as Promotional Secretary for the Missouri State Association. My wife and I prayed many hours as we waited on the Lord seeking His leadership. We recognize the very fine work Brother Beatty has done and we pray the work shall continue with God's blessings upon it.

"We request the prayers of every Christian that we shall serve faithfully the Lord Jesus Christ and Free Will Baptists of Missouri.

"I have truly enjoyed my labor in Missouri. I appreciate the wonderful fellowship of brother ministers and lay people throughout the state. I shall always remember and cherish the fond memories of serving the First FWB Church of Berkeley and the First FWB Church of Fredericktown. I pray the Lord will grant His blessings on this new endeavor in order that everything shall be done for His glory."



By Rev. James McAllister Pastor, Farmington Free Will Baptist Church.

The church becomes very quiet as the preacher begins speaking. Everyone knows that something extraordinary is about to transpire as the grapevine has been at work. The preacher embarrassingly fidgets with his eyeglasses, clears his throat, and begins, "Friends, I have a very important announcement to make. I am resigning as your pastor. I have accepted a church near the city where my parents live and am accepting this particular church for the following reasons:

The salary is better.

It is nearer my family and I can help them. I like the area there better than this city. I have never enjoyed living in this city.

There is more opportunity for advancement in the ministry.

I want a larger church, therefore, I am leaving your church."

A murmur is heard throughout the congregation as people whisper such remarks as, "Preaching for money," "He never did say that the Lord called him to the other church," "He sure is not much of a Christian with that kind of attitude," etc.

We have never heard of an actual incident such as cited and probably never will. If a Free Will Baptist preacher dared to make a similar statement, he would be ruined as a preacher in our denomination and be accused of being money mad instead of concerned about souls.

#### **Problems Created**

I have heard the same reasons for leaving a church and moving out of a city. No, not from the preacher, but from Sunday school teachers, trustees, deacons, song leaders, and CTS workers. Men and women who are the heart of the church get the urge to move away for a number of reasons. Most people who move away from the church do so because of:

Family ties, seeking to please men instead of God (Galatians 1:10).

More money, better pay-"Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matthew

Urge to move, seeking earthly pleasures (Colossians 3:1, 2).

People, who have wept and prayed over the church and suffered along with the preacher, seem to suddenly forget the church by moving to an area where there is no Free Will Baptist church. They plan to attend another denomination as a spectator and in the process grow cold and backslide. They quickly do the very thing which they would condemn the preacher for doing.

#### Effect On The Church

Sometimes it becomes absolutely necessary for church members to move from one city to another, but time will prove the necessity. God will provide a church should you feel forced to make the move. However, one should not move for the sake of comfort, relation, or more money. He should always do exactly the thing he would expect the preacher

Many of our churches today are suffering a great loss in support and in workers. Many formerly strong church members are sitting on the shelf because they decided to move away from their churches and some churches are gradually beginning to die from lack of faithful members.

#### The Solution

Before anyone moves away from his church he should do the following:

Ask himself, "Is this the Lord's will?" Determine if his work is through at the church. Decide if the move will hurt the local church. Foresee if spiritual harm will come to his family, especially the children. Statistics prove that a large percentage of psychologically affected adults come from families who constantly moved during their childhood breaking up friendships, school relations, and church ties, all causing a sense of insecurity. Decide if he will be able to serve the Lord as

effectively in a new area as in the present. This self-examination must be done honestly. Many people become very hypocritical when examining themselves concerning such a matter. They only think about what they want to do. They never consider that their moving might be an effort of the devil to undermine the progress of the local church.

Pray, know God's will in the matter, then act. Remember you can find another house, school, job, and friends, but you cannot find another church except God be with you. And God will not be with a man who refuses to take His will into consideration whenever making decisions. Jesus said in John 8:29, "And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him."

My prayer is that our people will stop the hypocrisy and remember it is no more a sin for the preacher to move for comfort or money than for a layman to do so. God has no two-sided ruler. He uses the same side for all of us.

## State Association Program

THEME: THIS IS THE HOUR (Esther 4:14)
Convening August 18-21 at the First FWB Church of West
Plains, Missouri. The evening services will be held at the
Holiday Inn of West Plains.

Monday, August 18

General Board Meets at 2:00 p.m.

Sunday School and CTS Board in charge of 7:30 p.m. service

Tuesday, August 19

9:00 a.m. Woman's Auxiliary meeting

2:00 p.m. Sunday school seminar with Rev. Harrold Harrison, Subject: "Procedures for Projected Church Growth."

7:30 p.m. "This is the Hour to Evangelize"—Rev. Charles Miller of DeSoto

Wednesday, August 20

9:00 a.m. Business Session

11:00 a.m. "This is the Hour to Have a Christian Home"—Rev. Millard Sasser, St. Louis

1:00 p.m. Business Session

7:30 p.m. "This is the Hour for the Incomparable Christ"—Rev. Rufus Coffey, Nashville, TN.

9:00 p.m. Reception honoring retiring promotional secretary, Rev. Harry Beatty.

Thursday, August 21

9:00 a.m. Business Session

11:00 a.m. "This is the Hour for a Growing Church"—Rev. Elmer Turnbough, Houston

#### **WEST PLAINS MOTELS**

For the convenience of those attending the State Association in West Plains, the following is a list of motels in the West Plains area recommended by host pastor, Rev. Dale Skiles.

Holiday Inn, North Highway 63. Singles \$11; Doubles \$16 and \$18. Each additional person \$3.00. Children under 18 free with parents.

Ramada Inn, Bypass 63 & 160 Singles \$11 and \$13; Doubles \$15 and \$17. Each additional person \$3.00. Children under 18 free with parents.

Butler Motel, 1124 Porter Waggoner Blvd. Singles \$7, \$8, and \$9. Doubles \$8.50, \$9.50, and \$11.50. Three people \$14.50

West Plains Motel Singles: \$8.32 and \$9.00. Doubles: \$14.56. Three people: \$15.60. Four people: \$16.64.

Pastor Skiles urges state association delegates to make their reservations as soon as possible, due to the limited number of motel rooms in the area and the fact that the state association comes during the peak of the tourist season.

### CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

#### EVANGEL REMEMBERS PASTOR'S BIRTHDAY

The Evangel FWB Church in Webb City surprised their pastor, Andy Lay, with a birthday party in his honor on May 31. The evening had been announced as an adult social; but, following a hamburger fry at the home of Marty Wilson, the Evangel folk began singing "Happy Birthday" quite to the surprise of Pastor Lay. He was presented with a set of commentaries on the New Testament by Lenski, The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church, and a New American Standard Bible.

Evangel Church reports souls being saved recently and the blessings of the Lord on their services.

#### REHKOPS SURPRISED BY GRACE CHURCH

On May 17, 1975, Rev. and Mrs. Glenn A. Rehkop were pleasantly surprised with a dinner in observance of their 25th wedding anniversary. The dinner was hosted by members of the Grace FWB Church in Arnold, Missouri, where Rev. Rehkop is the pastor. The dinner was held in the cafeteria of the Fox Elementary School in Arnold with many relatives and friends in attendance.

Rev. and Mrs. Rehkop received a number of lovely gifts in the silver line. They were also presented with a "Money Tree" which contained the folding variety as well as the silver variety.

After a time of fellowship the honored guests were escorted home in their decorated car by their two children: Beverly, a senior at Fox Senior High School, and Randy, a sophomore at the same school.



#### NEW WORK BEGUN IN ST. CHARLES

Rev. Gene McCully is pastoring a new Free Will Baptist flock that is meeting in St. Charles, Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis. He may be contacted at 210 Sierra Dr., St. Peters, MO 63376. Phone 925-1360.

#### SPURGEON GETS DEGREE

Pastor Russel B. Spurgeon of the Trinity FWB Church in Bridgeton graduated from Missouri Baptist College recently. His congregation surprised him with a Bulova Accutron watch with their congratulations.

#### RETIREMENT GIFT FOR BEATTY

Don't forget that August 1 is the deadline for having your love offering for retiring promotional secretary Harry Beatty to the committee chairman, Andy Lay. Each church in the state is asked to receive a love offering for Brother Beatty in appreciation for his years of labor for Missouri Free Will Baptists. Send all checks for this purpose to Andy Lay, 13 Tanglewood Drive, Carl Junction, MO 64834. Make checks payable to Harry Beatty.

#### SASSER RECEIVED DEGREE

Pastor Millard Sasser of the Fourth FWB Church in St. Louis was granted the BA degree from Missouri Baptist College on May 4, 1975. Correspondence from Brother Lemon Killian indicates the Lord's continued blessings on Fourth Church.

#### FWB STUDENTS AT MISSOURI SOUTHERN

Pastor Andy Lay of the Evangel FWB Church in Webb City would like to know the names of all FWB students attending Missouri Southern State College in Joplin this fall. If you know of students planning to attend, please inform Brother Lay at 13 Tanglewood Dr., Carl Junction, MO 64834.

#### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION PLANNED AT MINE LA MOTTE

The Mine La Motte FWB Church is planning a centennial celebration for July 18-20. The weekend celebration will include Friday and Saturday night services with Rev. Woodrow Matthews, a former pastor. Saturday night will be "Old Fashioned" night. All-day services are planned for Sunday, July 20. Afternoon services will feature the Harmony Singers. Former pastors and members will be recognized.

The Mine La Motte Church was organized in 1875 in the old Findly School at Mine La Motte. Services were held in the school building until 1895, when the congregation built the church building that is

still in use. In recent years the building had been redecorated and new furnishings have been installed. An addition to the original building contains classrooms and a fellowship hall. This church is the mother church of all the Free Will Baptist churches in the Leadbelt area. Members moved and organized other churches as mining operations expanded.

Pastor David Gibbons writes, "We praise the Lord that the Mine La Motte Church is still going and has never been closed in 100 years of serving this rural community. We invite all former pastors, members, and friends to join us in celebrating this joyous occasion with us."

#### PASTOR AVAILABLE

Rev. Allen Presley is available for a pastorate. He is 29 years old, married, and has two children ages six and ten. He has been preaching 14 years and has pastored two full-time churches. He is presently serving as assistant pastor of the Crossville, Tennessee, mission. His wife plays the piano. He may be contacted at Route 7, Box 78, Crossville, Tennessee 38555. Phone (615) 484-4876.

#### FARMINGTON CHURCH GROWING

In the past twelve months the First FWB Church of Farmington has grown as indicated by the following statistics: Sunday school attendance average from 135 to 265; 84 new members have joined the church; 36 have been baptized; more than 150 decisions have been made in altar services.

Rev. James McAllister, our State Moderator, is the pastor.

#### REMEMBER THE ADDRESS CHANGES

As of July 1, 1975, all Missouri State Cooperative offerings, money channeled through the State Office, and all correspondence with the State Office should be sent to the new promotional secretary's office at the book store in Lebanon. The address is P. O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536.

Brother Beatty will receive June Coop money as late as July 4 at the old address.

#### FROM THE HORTONS IN DES MOINES

Excerpts from a recent newsletter follow . . .

"It is exciting to see new people attend church regularly. One of the families was contacted late on Saturday evening after we had gone to the church to pray about the message for the first service in the church.

"It is exciting to see a young couple dedicate their lives to be soul winners. Then again in the evening service we saw another young married couple come forward for salvation.

"Our hearts are challenged to know that our gospel preaching church is located within reach of

thousands of souls. At present we are having prayer for two mobile home courts near the church. Join with us in this burden of prayer."

#### THREE MISSOURI MISSIONARY FAMILIES HOME

The Bill Fulcher family, who minister as foreign missionaries in Panama, are home on furlough this summer until August 18. Glenda Fulcher is a native Missourian; we therefore, claim the Fulchers as Missouri missionaries. Pray about having them in your church for a service and do remember to support them regularly with prayers and finances.

The Howard Filkins family, who minister in Ivory Coast, Africa, were scheduled to leave Africa July 4 for a six-month furlough in the States. They will also be available for missionary services and also

need our faithful support.

Dr. and Mrs. LaVerne Miley, 10-year veterans of the Ivory Coast missionary team, have also recently arrived in the States for furlough. Any of these missionary families may be scheduled for services in your church by writing Rev. Henry Van Kluyve, Director of Deputation, Foreign Missions Department, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

#### MAY 1975 COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

20.00% Mo. Missions
15.00% Mo. Promotional Dept
05.50% Mo. Youth Camp
04.00% Mo. State College
04.00% Mo. General Fund
02.50% Mo. Gem
01.00% Mo. CTS & S.S. Dept
52.% seven Mo. Depts
07.00% 07.% Hillsdale College
41.% eight Nat'l. Depts3,448.14
13.00% Foreign Missions
09.00% F.W.B. Bible College
07.00% Nat'l. Executive Dept
06.50% Nat'l. Home Missions546.66
03.00% Nat'l. CTS Dept
02.00% Dept. of Retirement
00.25% Layman's Board
00.25% Theological Comm
100.00% Total Disbursed

#### DESIGNATED MONEY GIVEN THROUGH THE STATE OFFICE, May, 1975

Columbia FWB Church
Missions
Cabool FWB Church
Promotional Department
Indian Creek Association
Four missionaries
Granby FWB Church
Two missionaries 54.00
First FWB Church, West Plains
One account
Evangel FWB Church, Webb City
Three missionaries
First FWB Church, Kansas City
One account
Total designated money

## On The National Front

#### MISSOURIANS SUPPORT FWBBC

Missouri individuals and churches sent \$4,450.77 to Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, in May. Outstanding gifts were from Berkeley FWB Church which sent \$500.00; Copper Mines FWB Church, \$230.00; First FWB Church of DeSoto, \$975.00; Grace FWB Church of Arnold, \$439.00; and Parkview FWB Church of DesLoge, \$166.50. This brings the total amount paid on the Library Wing Project adopted by the Missouri State Association to \$32,822. Every church is urged to support the \$125,000 project at the Bible College which ministers to so many Missouri youth. Read on . . .

Sandra Summers of Flat River, Missouri, was granted a BA degree at the Bible College in May. Diane Chapman of Marshfield, Joan Rich of Mountain Grove, Joseph Day of Lebanon, and Richard Greenup of Columbia all made the honor roll at FWBBC during the spring semester.

Missouri gave 87% of our quota to the general fund of FWBBC in the 1974-75 school year. Total general fund giving from Missouri was \$12,994.03. Our quota for 1975-76 is \$15,000. We can do this as we work together and get behind our colleges.

#### MANESS TO DELAWARE

Rev. Vergel Maness is presently on itinerate work for the National Home Missions Department prior to going to Wilmington, Delaware, as a home missionary. Brother Maness is originally from the St. Louis, Missouri, area and has pastored FWB churches in the state.

Let's rally behind this fellow Missourian and help him do what God has called him out of our midst to do.

#### WILSON RESIGNS FOREIGN MISSIONS POST

Nashville, Tenn.—J. Reford Wilson, General Director of the Department of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, submitted his resignation on May 5, 1975, after 13½ years of service in that capacity.

Although reluctant to accept the resignation, the Board of Foreign Missions did so with "deep appreciation and commendation" for his years of dedicated service.

After expressing gratitude to the board for their cooperation and confidence, to the staff, the missionaries, and the denomination for the opportunity to serve for these many years, Mr. Wilson added,

"But I am conscious of my inabilities to meet the growing complexities of administering the affairs of our tremendous worldwide ministries. After much prayer in seeking divine leadership and in consultation with my family, I have discerned that this is the time for me to submit my resignation."

Reverend Wilson has signed a teaching contract with Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Oklahoma where he will be employed as Professor of Missions and Bible. Termination date with the Department of Foreign Missions has been set as July 31, 1975.

A replacement for Mr. Wilson is presently under study by the Board of Foreign Missions. News of such appointment is expected to be released soon.

#### CTS PUBLICATION RECEIVES AWARD

Teen Action magazine has been named the "most improved magazine" winner in the 1975 Evangelical Press Association "Awards of Excellence" competition. The 1975 competition saw 91 periodicals enter the competition, 87 entering the Awards of Excellence (formerly Periodical of the Year) and 72 the Higher Goals Contest.

Jonathan Thigpen, assistant to the General Director of Church Training Service, serves as managing editor of this publication. According to Dr. Malcolm C. Fry, CTS General Director, and Executive Editor of *Teen Action*, this award is a result of the ingenuity and creativity of Jonathan Thigpen in bringing about the long sought goal of a change in basic format of the magazine.

A quarterly magazine for Heralds, Crusaders, and Ambassadors for Christ, *Teen Action* should be made available to and read by all youth of the Free Will Baptist denomination. This is the next major goal. The new and more colorful format includes news from teens across the nation, special fiction stories, feature articles, Action answer, teen reaction, coming events for teens, as well as a hang-up poster in each issue. Weekly program material is also included in the new *Teen Action*, produced and published by the Church Training Service Department.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE AVAILABLE

The Board of Retirement and Insurance of the National Association is pleased to make available a program of supplemental hospital benefits for ministers and employees of our churches and denominational agencies. Their families may be covered too.

This insurance, through the Fireman's Fund American Life Insurance Company, will pay \$20, \$30, or \$40 a day for every day one is in the hospital up to 500 days for each sickness or accident. It pays in addition to any other policy. With rising medical costs this additional protection is needed.

Our churches are encouraged to pay this for their pastor. For information write to the Board of Retirement and Insurance, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

#### INSURANCE FOR MINISTERS' WIVES

The Board of Retirement and Insurance of the National Association announces a new program whereby ministers' wives may be insured for \$5,000. This insurance, underwritten by the National Home Life Assurance Company, is available in permanent insurance (Whole life or life paid-up at age 65) or in a combination of \$2,000 permanent and \$3,000 one-year renewal term.

Sample monthly rates for \$2,000 whole life and \$3,000 term are: age 25, \$2.27; age 30, \$2.75; age 40, \$3.89; and age 50, \$6.48.

For complete information send her birthdate to the Board of Retirement & Insurance, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

#### Missouri State Home Mission Giving: May 5 through June 5, 1975

Fellowship	
Salem	
Grace	
Thayer	
Myrtle	
Mine LaMotte	
Victory	
Houston	
Fourth	
Cuba	
West Plains	
Low Ground	
South Fremont	
Aurora	
Rock Chapel	
Independence	
DeSoto, First	
Cabool	
South Side	
Hurryville	
Columbia	
Cooperative Receipts	
Total\$2,496.02	

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

Secretary-Treasurer

#### COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS MAY 1975

Flat River, First (3 months)	
South Side, (2 months)	
Bethel, Festus	
Garfield (Apr.)	
Beacon (Apr.)	
Buffalo (Apr.)	
Fordland (Apr.)	
Number One (Apr.)	
Willow Springs (Apr.)134.38	
Columbia (Apr.)	
Independence (Apr.)	
Divine Trinity, Potosi (Apr.)	
Hurryville (Apr. & May)	
New Home, Laclede	
Salem (Apr.)	
Belton (Mar. & Apr.)	
Pleasant Ridge	
Byrd11.75	

Thayer (Apr.)
K.C. First FWB Mission (Apr.)
Berkeley (Apr.)
Verdella
Central, K.C. (Apr. & May)
Marshfield (Apr.)
Pleasant Grove (Cope) (May)
Rock Chapel (May)
Mt. Pisgah
Cabool
Monett, First
New Life Free Will Baptist
Licking, Mo. Adopted
Happy Home, Ava
Grant Avenue (Mar. & Apr.)
Cuba (Apr.)
Copper Mines
Purdy, First
Carterville
Leadington (Apr.)
De Soto, First
Fourth, St. Louis Dist
Lebanon First, Liberty
Association
Granby (thru May 31)
Farmington, First (May)
Aurora (May)
Mine La Motte (Apr. & May)
Independence (May)
Pleasant Grove (Cope)
Houston, First (May)
Hartville (May)
Bethel, Festus (May)
Divine Trinity, Potosi
Cuba (Feb. & Mar.)
West Plains, First
New Rock Springs (May)
Willow Springs (May)
Gateway, St. Louis Dist. (May)
Fellowship (May)
Grace (May)
Sedalia FWB Mission-Adopted 6.76
New Hope FWB Mission, Richland, Mo. (Offering)
Eastern Gate FWB Mission,
Springfield (Offering)
Waynesville, First (Tithe
of one Sunday offering)
Beacon (May)
Belton (May)
Faith FWB, St. Louis
Evangel, C.W. Assn. (May)
A Cooperative Friend3.15
Hvec
Total Amount May-1975
Four new works sent first
contributions; plus 62 other
contributions=66

## SUPPORT MISSOURI CO-OP PLAN

#### Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Rev. Harry Beatty



Eight churches reported and represented in Greater Kansas City District Quarterly Meeting on Friday, May 2. This meeting was hosted by Independence FWB Church. I gave our Missouri promotional progress report with commendations to all eight churches who participate. The evening program consisted of special gospel singing and a business session.

On Saturday, May 3, I made a trip down to Springfield hospital to witness to George Bray, my former neighbor in Oregon County. He accepted Christ on Sunday morning. Praise the Lord!

On Sunday, May 4, I filled Pastor Johnnie Land's pulpit in First FWB Mission, Kansas City. Brother Land was in the hospital in Kansas City scheduled for surgery. Two souls were saved in that service. Pray for the Lands and their church.

On the same Sunday evening I delivered the message in Independence FWB Church. Pastor Dennis Bowman and the church continue to win souls to the Lord. The building program for their proposed new sanctuary, adjacent to the present building at 2104 James Downey Road, is being launched. Construction was to start the following Monday.

More than 20 churches of Mission Quarterly Meeting assembled with Wolf Creek FWB Church near Mansfield on Thursday, May 8. I gave the Missouri field worker's report. Several purchased Bibles from Missouri's portable Bible stand for Mother's Day gifts the following Sunday. Fifteen minute sermonettes were delivered by ministers, E. Altis, R. McDaris, and R. Bennett. The principal noon sermon was delivered by Rev. Ed Bruce. Pastor E. Turnbough, Houston's pastor, preached at 2:00 p.m. The Wolf Creek duet and quartet delivered several special gospel numbers. Pastor Helseley and congregation served an old fashioned country type dinner in the fellowship hall. They finished their business session by 4:00 p.m. and we were sent home early.

New Light FWB Church of Licking adopted the Cooperative Plan of Giving in May. Thus 65% of their churches currently participate in cooperative giving.

I shared with the local presbytery on Sunday evening, May 18, officially ordaining Richwoods' pastor, Elvis Reed, in the Richwoods Church. Rev. Hanson preached the ordination sermon. Rev. Welker, Brother Beatty, and three deacons (Sohn, Webb, and Reed) all participated in the laying on of hands portion of the service. Richwoods Church has

given more young ministers the privilege of receiving some pastoral experience than any church in Missouri State Association. Their church also gives each quarter to Missouri Cooperative Plan.

More than a score of ministers and laymen enrolled in the seminar held in the tabernacle on the Niangua Campgrounds. Ten other men attended one or more classes. Rev. Bill Jones of Hillsdale College taught the Word; Rev. Francis Boyle taught economics (budgets and finance for churches); Rev. Roy Thomas of National Home Missions Board preached and taught the Book of 1 Timothy. This was a fine seminar indeed! I gave a brief progress report for Missouri State Association. My successor, Rev. Clarence Burton, was unanimously elected by the General Board. Our new promotional secretarytreasurer and GEM editor certainly merits our support. We bid him Godspeed in this work and extend him our hands to help advance God's work in our wonderful state.

Mrs. Beatty and I went to Thayer and Rose Hill cemeteries to share with our people in Memorial Day decoration on May 24.

On Sunday morning, May 25, I visited Koshkonong Church. Pastor D. Combs preached a brief sermon. The church granted Brother Combs a 90-day leave of absence to help him convalesce and relax a bit. Rev. Charles Hollis will serve as interim minister.

We enjoyed a great joint Sunday evening service in Thayer High School football stadium right out under the stars. First Baptist pastor J. Bounds delivered the principal sermon to a large congregation. Our nephew, Jimmy Crawford, a layman who suffered an accident last August gave his testimony from a wheel chair. He appealed to lost men to get right with God and live for Him. He concluded with a text, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." Rev. Keith Johnson and Brother Beatty participated in this soul stirring service all the way.

On Saturday, May 31, eighteen churches of Liberty Association assembled with Marshfield

Church. Ministers preaching were Dannie Talbot and a new minister, Henry Gallion. He was issued a one-year license to preach the gospel. I gave Missouri Cooperative challenge and placed a few Bibles for our Lebanon Bible Store. Fifty percent of their churches currently support Missouri Cooperative Plan. Rev. G. McFarland is the pastor of the Marshfield Church.

On June 1 I preached the morning sermon in the new Springfield Eastern Gate FWB Church, 2241 Kearney Street. Their new congregation is growing. The church gave an offering to Missouri Cooperative Plan. Rev. Bill Swearingen is their pastor.

Pastor Jack Day and Black Oak Church dedicated their new communion set, pews, and carpet to the Lord on Sunday afternoon. I shared with them in this special dedication service. Black Oak Church supports the Cooperative Plan, thus the worldwide ministry of God's Word.

On Sunday evening, I shared the gospel message in New Hope FWB Church on Highway A, four miles north of Richland, Missouri. Rev. J. Bench and Brown are co-workers here. The church gave an offering to Missouri Cooperative Plan.

All in all, this was a real good cooperative mission month. Each of the four newest works in the Missouri State gave their first contribution in May, plus 62 other faithful contributors. We received \$8,410.09, bringing our 11 month total to \$80,325.33. That's good. I challenge all 60 nonparticipating churches in Missouri State Association to join ranks. Let's go for \$10,000 in June. Send an offering or follow the example of most missions begun in the past 10 years and send a tithe of your general offerings to Missouri Cooperative Plan. Then, through 16 departments of our gospel preaching and practicing denomination, you will help fulfil the Great Commission: "Preach the gospel to every creature" in America and as 2 Corinthians 10:16 records, "in the regions beyond" too. Maranatha!

As your co-worker in God's vineyard, thank you every one. May God bless you according to the riches of His grace. Amen.



'This good to be American, For all around us we can see, From the shoreline of Alaska To the isles of Hawaii, Scences of beauty, rushing rivers, Fertile fields, and mountains grand, Cattle feeding in green pastures, Beaches, lakes, and desert sands, Miles and miles of open country Thriving cities—and we're free: So let us live for God and nation, Let us be what we can be.

Now our youth should learn the story, How we came to power and might, How democracy is freedom and godless communism, a blight; We should fight all forms of evil, Take our stand for truth and right, Live as did our folk before us; Never compromise, but fight.

Did not God our Father say,

"If my people will but pray, Seek my face and turn from evil, I will bless them in that day: I will pardon them their sin, I will hear that sainted band. I will touch their blessed country, I will heal their sin-cursed land"?

Friend, they cannot shell His temple Nor dynamite His throne. They cannot bomb His city, Nor rob Him of His own; They cannot cause Him panic Nor cut off His supplies, They cannot take His kingdom Nor hurt Him with their lies; Though we face war and struggle and feel their goad and rod, This one thing we are persuaded, There always will be God!

-C. Walter Jordan

## Woman's Page Kathy Lay, Editor

Here are some of our co-laborers at work at the State Youth Camp last month.



Missionaries Dennis and Carol Teague at study.



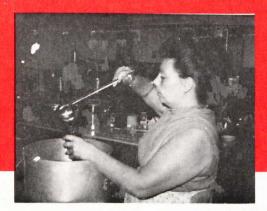
Geneva Gremminger lending a helping hand.



Vonda Johnson looking out for the blackbirds.



Judy Hoggard swinging a mean fly swat.



Sue Cummings dipping, but not what you think.



Mrs. Bowden getting all stuck up.

GEM CP OCT REV RALPH STATEN RT 6 WOODALE CHURCH RD KNOXVILLE IN 37914

# ATTEND MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION

August 18-21 First FWB Church of West Plains

THEME: "This Is the Hour"

SPEAKERS: Rev. Harrold Harrison

Mrs. Joan Filkins Rev. Charles Miller Rev. Millard Sasser Rev. Rufus Coffey Rev. Elmer Turnbough