

# Contact

of the  
National Association  
of Free Will Baptists

DECEMBER, 1953

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



*(See story on last page)*



# Personally...

Bingo and raffles are legal in New Jersey now. That doesn't mean that they are right—they are just legal. Early last month the voters went to the polls in that state and made them respectable for charity and other good causes by a resounding 3-to-1 vote.

## Kirksville Church Progresses

"The new church here at Kirksville is going forward in the construction of a nice brick church. God is blessing in every way, for which we are most thankful. We feel good about our new denominational program. I sincerely believe we are going to do things for God."—Rev. Lester Jones, Kirksville, Mo.

## Learns to Tithe

"I have just read a testimony in *The Free Will Baptist* regarding tithing. I always enjoy reading and hearing testimonies like this for it verifies God's faithfulness. It was in 1947 that I really decided it was my duty and privilege to tithe. A prejudice had filled my mind toward the doctrine since my conversion some twenty-three years ago. In part, it was due to not understanding the Bible on this truth and the legalistic presentation of this subject by an inexperienced pastor who made a personal issue of it.

After reading many testimonies and the Bible on the subject, I began to see that giving should be voluntary on the part of the individual and practiced from a sense of gratitude and love to God who has done so much for us."—H. L. Joyce, Wapanucka, Okla.

## New Church Will Tithe

"Our work here is growing slowly, but surely. In August we voted to tithe all our offerings. Enclosed is that part of our church tithe for foreign missions. Even though this is a home mission work, we still want to share in our foreign work."—Rev. Ernest Pearson, Springfield, Oregon.

## Contact

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The shocking thing about all of this is that it was passed largely because of the influence of the Roman Catholic church. While most Protestant ministers condemn bingo as gambling and therefore a moral evil, the Roman Catholic church defends it as an innocent game of chance that helps raise money for many a parish cause. Following this line, a front-page editorial in the *Advocate*, official newspaper of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Newark, declared: "It is not gambling, but the abuse of gambling that involves the immoral act."

Against the referendum were the Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans and Episcopalians, as well as the State Federation of Women's Clubs and the New Jersey Congress of Parents and Teachers. *Time* magazine reported that Protestant pulpits resounded with anti-bingo sermons. Said Methodist Bishop Fred P. Corson: "Gambling is a destructive force in personal and community life. It is just as evil . . . when disguised under the cloak of charity or religion as when it appears openly in the form of slot machines and numbers rackets."

We take our side with the bishop and the array of other moral-minded persons. Bingo and raffles are wrong. They are as wrong in a church as they are in a passing carnival on the town's vacant lot. And even if they were not wrong, what a cheap way it is of supporting God's work. What blessing is there in putting five grains of corn in row? Wonder if they've ever tried tithing?



## The Best Christmas Present

# God's Unspeakable Gift

W. S. MOONEYHAM

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."—II Corinthians 9:15.

The scenery around Bethlehem may have changed somewhat in the last 1953 years, but most of the things are about the same as they were when Christ was born.

On the night of Christmas Eve sleep will envelop the city with its normal population of 10,000 as it has for thousands of years. This year, too, all the inns and hotels will be filled by the influx of the many visitors as they were the night Joseph and Mary tried to find a room. There will even be singing—not an angel choir, but worshippers in the Church of the Nativity.

This church is a masterpiece of architectural beauty. It is decorated with precious metals and jewels and money cannot buy it. Jews and Arabs have fought each other for centuries for possession of this shrine, but if you have God's Christmas gift, you are richer than if you had title to the church at Bethlehem.

### Christmas Blessing Immeasurable

The blessing of Christmas is immeasurable. The Sinai Codex, ancient parchment of the Old Testament written in Hebrew, has been valued at \$500,000. But if you have a twenty-five cent New Testament and believe it, particularly the 263 words of Luke's Christmas story, you are richer than if you owned the Sinai Codex.

It is said that Raphael's glorification on canvas of the Christ-child and his mother could not be bought for \$5 million. But if you have seen Christ by faith and let Him glorify your life, you have a blessing that makes \$5 million seem paltry.

What gives this incomparable greatness to Christmas? If Christmas day is to bring a blessing to you, it will have to come as a result of a Christ-centered faith, joy and confidence that says, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

In the verses preceding this one in II Corinthians 9 Paul has just discussed the grace of giving. Then, in this last verse, he expresses thanks to God for His gift. Of what gift does he speak? The gift of eternal life? The gifts of the Spirit? Or the gift of wisdom? All of these are great, but there is one gift which Paul declares is "unspeakable."

### Beyond Expression

Paul is not just toying with exaggerated superlatives nor is he simply trying to use impressive phraseology. Perhaps he stopped his pen for awhile to think this over before writing further. The idea is that God's gift cannot be completely expressed. If Paul

could not express with words what he felt in his heart, can we even through the mediums of art and music?

It is impossible. All other gifts can be measured and valued—from the smallest gift under your Christmas tree to the gift the subjects of the Aga Khan present him of his weight in diamonds—but God's gift supercedes human terms. All the economic experts together cannot place a monetary value on the blessings of God's gift.

No scientific treatise can explain what John says in simple words: "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us; and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father." All the wise men of the world cannot explain the incarnation—how the babe in swaddling clothes lying in a manger was the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The Christmas mystery of God defies analysis and explanation.

### Mercy Is Great

The mercy which is granted to us through the birth of Jesus also falls into the "unspeakable" category. The supreme and saving truth is that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." The mercy which is unspeakable is that the all of this was done for God's enemies. The angels did not offer joy to a selected few, but "joy to the world." Jesus came to save to the uttermost and no sin is too great for Him. Not only did He come to save, but He also came to bring a positive, doubt-destroying assurance of salvation.

This gift of God's is "unspeakable" because it is eternal. Other gifts will decay and other loves may fade, but God's love and gift are eternal and changeless. Jesus does not change—He changes things. He changes things externally because He first of all changes things internally. His dynamic transforming power works "unspeakable" miracles in human hearts when they are surrendered to Him.

Contemplating the mystery of this unspeakable Christmas gift, is it any wonder that Paul breaks forth into a shout of praise: "Thanks be unto God!"? The majesty and glory of it all calls from within every Christian exultant cries of thanksgiving. And yet there are those who do not lift their hearts with ours. Is it because they have never seen the glory of God's unspeakable gift?

### Actions Must Back Words

It must be. Only blatant sinners, self-

satisfied, spiritually dead whose greedy eyes have been fixed on the dollars and cents of Christmas can refuse to join in. The tinkle of the cash register can drown out the carolling voices of angels and the glitter of earthly tinsel can blind the eyes to the radiance beaming from the manger.

"Thanks be unto God!", but gratitude must not be restricted to words. The worst ingrate is that person who expresses his thanks for the gift but doesn't think enough of either gift or giver to accept that which is offered.

But someone is going to say, "How can I give thanks when I am beset by hardships, my employer gives me no Christmas bonus, my sorrows far outweigh my joys and my difficulties are mounting higher?" The personally directed Christmas message shows you the compensation in Christ. "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor that ye through his poverty might be rich."

### Message for Lonely

Are you sick, lonely or misunderstood? Christmas has a message for you, too. Listen as Paul again declares: "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things." You can draw on the resources of heaven to make yours a Christmas of unspeakable joy and peace.

With His healing hand on a broken heart,

And the other on a star,

Our wonderful God views the miles apart,

And they seem not very far.

O it makes us cry—then laugh—then sing,

Though 'tis all beyond our ken;

He bindeth up wounds on that poor crushed thing,

And he makes it whole again.

"O come, let us adore Him." The appeal is to all, no matter what are your circumstances. The shepherds came—men of average means. And the wise men also came and offered their treasures at the feet of the Babe. But if you have no gift to bring, He asks only the adoration of your soul. Let us gather around the manger this season and behold the love which came down at Christmas.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
CHRIST, THE LORD!

And as we come, behold and sing there will echo and re-echo through the corridors of our hearts these words of Paul: "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

# God's Man of Great Faith

## Pioneer Preacher Tells of Merger in Interview

by *Damon C. Dodd*

Seventy-five years as a Sunday School teacher and nearly 54 years as a Free Will Baptist preacher is the record of Rev. John H. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Nebraska. Brother Wolfe, now retired from the ministry but still active as a Sunday School teacher, will celebrate his 91st birthday on January 7, 1954.

Born in Olin, Iowa in 1863 of German parentage, Mr. Wolfe was reared in that state. His father was killed while serving with the Union Army in the Civil war, just two days before the hostilities ceased. His mother stayed on to keep the land which they had homesteaded.

In 1877 a revival meeting was conducted at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist church in Olin. Mr. Wolfe, along with his two sisters and about 30 other young people was converted and united with the church. At the same time his mother, who was a German Lutheran, also joined the Free Will Baptist church in Olin.

### *Goes to College*

Having completed his high school work, young Mr. Wolfe now looked eagerly to the future. Feeling that the Lord had called him to preach the Gospel, he began to lay plans to enroll in Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan. In the meantime he made one of the most important decisions of his life. He met Miss Delia Scriven. Friendship blossomed and ripened. Courtship ensued and on October 14, 1884 they were married. Five years later they went away to Hillsdale College.

Life in Hillsdale College for the young couple proved to be a Godsend. They studied together, taking the same classes. Among other courses, they completed three years of Classical Greek, one year of Biblical Greek and one graduate course in Greek, as well as two years of Hebrew and the prescribed course in Latin.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe worked their way through college. He worked as assistant librarian five hours per day and she did whatever work could be had around the college. In his senior year Mr. Wolfe was assistant pastor at Jackson, Michigan. He also played a leading role in the Free Will Baptist youth movement, serving for five years on the Executive Board of the national youth organization.



REV. JOHN H. WOLFE

### *Accepts Nebraska Church*

Upon graduating from Hillsdale in 1897, the Wolfes went to Lincoln, Nebraska, and assumed pastorate of the church there. Times were extremely difficult due to the terrible Nebraska famine of 1893-96 which had just come to a close.

While assistant pastor at Jackson, Brother Wolfe heard the first proposals for merging the Free Will Baptists and Northern Baptists. The Rev. Henry M. Ford, who was Secretary of Home Missions of General Conference of Free Will Baptists and the Rev. Harry S. Meyers, youth secretary, were the advocates of the movement and actually started the ball rolling. According to Brother Wolfe's first-hand information, they believed that a merger would enhance their possibilities for personal prestige.

### *He Opposed Merger*

Under the direct insistence of Meyers and Ford, the idea of merger was promulgated. In 1898 a committee was appointed by the General Conference to work with Northern Baptists on the possibilities of merging the two groups.

At the 1907 meeting of the General Conference the articles of merger were officially presented. The northeastern Free Will Baptists were solidly in favor of the merger. Westerners balked on the proposals to leave all questions of doctrinal differences to strict Biblical interpretation. They asked who was to do the interpreting—the Free Will Baptists or Northern Baptists. Said Brother Wolfe, "We feared that the old Northern Baptist doctrine of predestination and

eternal security would become the official doctrine."

At Ocean Park, Maine, in 1910 the merger came up for a vote. Prior to the actual vote, Professor Anthony of Bates College in Maine, declared, "Brethren, we are not voting on organic union. This is merely to be a fellowship arrangement." Immediately two of the men who had previously been against it on the grounds of merger, now registered in favor if it were actually to be a fellowship measure.

### *Ferguson Cast Lone Vote*

Once the vote had carried the question was raised, "What about the money? What are we going to do with the funds which Free Will Baptists have given to designated causes? Can we rightfully spend it for something else?" Whereupon Professor Anthony waved his hand aloft and shouted, "Away with the old dead hand of the past."

Finally, proposals were made as to appropriating the various funds. Every time a proposal came to a vote, the Rev. T. C. Ferguson of Missouri voted a lone dissenting vote. At last, turning to Brother Wolfe, Ferguson reprimanded him, saying, "Come on Brother, let's express ourselves against them." Came the reply from Wolfe, "Inasmuch as they've already decided to hang us, I don't care what kind of rope they use."

The opposition to the merger was led by Wolfe and Morris of Nebraska, Ferguson of Missouri, and Maywhorter of Indiana. Soon after the merger, court action forced the Free Will Baptist churches in Nebraska to go to the Northern Baptist movement. Only a few churches contested the action and they were soon defeated. This action was upheld by the Supreme Court of the state of Nebraska.

### *Yearly Meeting Exists*

Some of those who came out of the lost movement formed other Free Will Baptist churches. At one time there were 15 churches in the Nebraska yearly meeting. Says Mr. Wolfe, "In reality, the Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptists was never dissolved. It still exists officially." Records show that Brother Wolfe is moderator and chairman of the Executive Board of the Nebraska Yearly Meeting. However, there is only one church left in the Free Will Baptist fold—the Elm Island Free Will Baptist church—ten miles north of Kenesaw, Nebraska. Brother Wolfe maintains his membership there.

(Continued on page 6)

# Reponse to First Issue Of *Contact* Is Gratifying

## *Circulation Is above 1,300 with Goal Half-reached*

It's half done! And, my, how you did it! By the dozens and scores subscriptions to *CONTACT* have been arriving every day since the first issue went out in November until right now we stand half-way toward our goal of 2,500 subscribers.

Actually, we're a little above 1,250—probably a few more than 1,300—and your response makes us believe this is only the beginning. Many of your letters said you would be sending other subscriptions and we believe by January 1 we'll be nearing the initial of 2,500.

How we thank God for your response! A prayer went out with that first issue that you would respond, but you did it better than we had even dared hope for. Many of the letters which came in contained more than one subscription. Some subscribed for friends and relatives while others talked to friends and associates and secured their subscriptions.

### *Two Share Top Honors*

Particularly deserving of honors are Rev. Rupert Pixley, Ft. Smith, Ark., and Rev. E. E. Morris, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. From the Fort Smith pastor came a record-making seventy subscriptions and Reverend Morris, who is moderator of the national association, climbed toward the record with fifty-four. It would be impossible to list or write a letter to every person who sent anywhere from two to fifty subscriptions, but please be assured of our grateful appreciation—everyone of you.

Your letters were most encouraging. They were shared by all who occupy the headquarters building, for we were all eager to know your reaction. We would like to share a few of them with you in the space below. Here's what you thought of *CONTACT*, Vol. 1, No. 1:

### *One Copy Worth Price*

"The first copy was worth one dollar."—John Wilson, Relief, N. C.

"I want to be a charter subscriber to *CONTACT*. Thanks for giving me this opportunity to subscribe to this wonderful paper for so small a sum as one dollar."—Mrs. W. J. Boyett, Bristol, Ga.

"Yes sir, I want to be one of the first to subscribe to *CONTACT*. I have just been looking over the first issue and I think it is wonderful. I feel that particularly in this section of the country too few of our people know what is going on in our denomination. I feel that *CONTACT* will help eliminate some of this indifference."—Lloyd C. Cole, Johnsonville, S. C.

"Thank you for sending me a copy of *CONTACT*, our national publication. Enclosed you will find my subscription. I am of the opinion that the paper will fill a much-needed place in our national program."—Rev. Fred A. Riverbark, Durham, N. C.

### *From Michigan*

"I was just leaving the house on some pastoral calls when I came through the living room of the parsonage and saw Mrs. Lewis reading a paper. Like a flash I saw the word *CONTACT* on the front cover. I knew in a moment that the first issue had arrived—that history had been made. I was never so proud! I hereby pledge my complete cooperation in keeping it wonderfully alive, and I shall not be satisfied until it goes into every home in my church."—Rev. Mark Lewis, Hazel Park, Mich.

"Our hearts were very much thrilled as we looked on the first copy of our national publication. It was a time when dreams had been realized and prayers had been answered. Enclosed is our dollar."—Rev. Lester Jones, Kirksville, Mo.

"I have just received my first copy of *CONTACT*, and, as you stated in your letter, 'made history.' I like it very much. It is something I have been looking forward to for a long time."—I. L. Stanley, Greeneville, Tenn.

### *Pro and Con*

"I received a copy of *CONTACT* and was pleased to get it. Enclosed is my check for a two-year subscription. Permit me to say, however, that I do not like the name."—Warren Moffitt, Winigan, Mo.

"I think you have the right name. Keep up the good work."—Dr. J. W. Daugherty, Charleston, W. Va.

"Please add these names to the list of subscribers to our new paper, *CONTACT*. I received my first copy this week and it made me feel that we have accomplished something that will do much for our cause in the publishing of a national paper."—Rev. Robert King, Monticello, Ark.

"Yes! Yes! Send it on for I like it fine. I have been pastoring churches since 1909, am now 74 years of age and am not weary in the journey toward home. May God bless the work."—Rev. E. B. Joyner, Alma, Ga.

### *From East to West*

"Enclosed find three subscriptions to *CONTACT*, the best religious paper on the market today. I am so proud of it."—Mrs. J. E. Frazier, Ashland City, Tenn.

"Please find enclosed my subscription to *CONTACT* for two years. I received the first copy this week and it thrilled my heart to read of the progress our denomination is making."—Rev. Roy Pembroke, Walnut Creek, Calif.

"The first issue of *CONTACT* was even better than I had expected. Of course, I have read every word of it. I am especially grateful to the Alumni association of the Bible college for being so thoughtful in sending the missionaries the paper."—Miss Lucy Wisehart, Pinar del Rio, Cuba. (*Editor's note:* Through the courtesy of the Alumni association a copy of *CONTACT* goes air mail each month to all of our missionaries.)

### *And in Between*

"Enclosed are six subscriptions for *CONTACT*. Our Auxiliary is sponsoring this drive, and I'll have more later. The paper is certainly an answer to prayer. It is without a doubt the best publication Free Will Baptist have ever had. I'll send some subscriptions for Christmas gifts next week."—Mrs. Melvin Bingham, Tulsa, Okla.

"I say this to us Free Will Baptists—congratulations for finally making contact in a fine paper called *CONTACT*. The list of names I am sending are those who want to be charter subscribers. We hope many more from here will be subscribers soon."—Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, Columbus, Miss.

"I read the paper you sent me and found help in it. I read 'A Church that Needs No Money' in our prayer meeting and gave 'A Creed for Sunday School Teachers' to our teacher."—Alfred L. Moger, Bonnie, Ill.

"I received my first copy of *CONTACT* and enjoyed it very much. I feel a national paper has been a great need in our denomination for a long time. The contents of the first issue proves that we will be kept better informed of our national work. You can depend on me to do all I can to help promote this publication."—Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Elizabethton, Tenn.

### *Alabama Writes*

"I was glad to get a copy of the paper. Put my name on the list for year. Only the Lord knows how I feel about the way Free Will Baptists have prospered in the work in Nashville."—W. M. Whitmon, Mobile, Ala.

"I have just received my first edition of *CONTACT*. I am well pleased with it. I have been wanting just such a paper for a long time, and I believe that it is just what the church needs to strengthen the unity among our members."—Rev. W. A. Todd, Kannapolis, N. C.

"I think it is one of the greatest steps that Free Will Baptists have taken in a long time, and I feel confident that it will be a great blessing to our great denomination. Enclosed find eight subscriptions."—Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma, Calif.

"Enclosed are new subscribers to *CONTACT*. Many of our church received the complimentary copy and enjoyed it very much."—Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Desloge, Mo.

### *Sends Subscriptions*

"Please enter these subscriptions to *CONTACT*. We received the first issue and every page was a blessing. Thank God for  
(Continued on page 8)



# The Prayer Fellowship

Rev. C. F. Bowen, Editor  
Pastor, East Nashville Church

*"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17).*

Perseverance in prayer always wins. The men and women who have prayed without ceasing, not only have had their prayers answered, but have enriched the world and lifted it spiritually. George Muller prayed for the conversion of three friends; and he said he knew they would become Christians, for he was going to pray until they did. Livingstone died on his knees, and he opened a continent for the gospel. "Over a hundred years ago, a number of students in Yale University rose each morning before daybreak, and through the long winter months pleaded with God for a revival. The revival came, and it is said that every student in the university surrendered to Christ."

Are you following through in the Prayer Fellowship? Remember, there are hundreds, maybe thousands, who are praying with you. Don't give up; the answer will come!

The first few days of the month are omitted in this issue due to the delay in publishing CONTACT.

Tues., Dec. 8—Many of our churches are having revivals this month; pray for them.

Wed., Dec. 9—Pray today for the thirteen new churches reported in last month's CONTACT organized through our home mission work.

Thurs., Dec. 10—Pray for the "Lights for Cuba" program sponsored by the national league board and then send an offering to Rev. C. F. Bowen, 518 Woodland St., Nashville, Tenn., to help install electric lights in our Cuban mission school.

Fri., Dec. 11—Pray that Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens, missionaries to Africa, will have a safe trip home. They will arrive Sunday for a furlough.

Sat., Dec. 12—Pray for our new Cuban missionary, Miss Lucy Wisheart, that her first Christmas in Cuba will be wonderful, and that her work will glorify God.

Sun., Dec. 13—Pray for our churches in worship today.

Mon., Dec. 14—Pray for our students as they study for their life's work in our Bible college.

Tues., Dec. 15—Pray for Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of our Bible College.

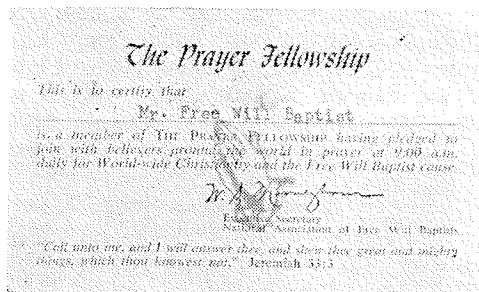
Wed., Dec. 16—Pray for the Bible college students who may not see their way clear to return to school after Christmas.

Thurs., Dec. 17—Pray today for our Bible college family as it leaves for a vacation at home. Pray for safety on the highways.

Fri., Dec. 18—Pray for world peace.

Sat., Dec. 19—Pray for those who lead us in world affairs.

Sun., Dec. 20—Pray for our churches in worship today.



**Editor's note:** Pictured above is the card which is issued to members of "The Prayer Fellowship." Already nearly 250 Free Will Baptists are carrying these cards in their billfolds and are joining the headquarter's staff in daily prayer for the requests listed in this column.

While we encourage our members to observe the 9 a.m. prayer hour, if it is impossible for you to join us at that time you are still eligible for membership if you observe another time for prayer each day. As you will read on the WNAC page, three auxiliaries have already enrolled their members in the fellowship. Others are doing the same thing.

But the crusade is not for women only. We want to enlist men, young people, boys and girls—5,000 people who will join us daily in prayer for world-wide Christianity and the Free Will Baptist cause. Send your name and address to national headquarters for your membership card, or better still, send a list of names.

Mon., Dec. 21—Pray for the thousands of pastors in our churches. The churches will grow spiritually as the ministry grows spiritually.

Tues., Dec. 22—Pray that our churches will make a special Christmas offering to foreign missions or to some other phase of our national work.

Wed., Dec. 23—Pray that the Lord will lead you to be a blessing to some needy person or family this Christmas.

Thurs., Dec. 24—Pray for the millions on earth who do not know the Prince of Peace.

Fri., Dec. 25—Pray that Christ may be glorified in Christians' homes on this day.

Sat., Dec. 26—Pray for the work of our children's homes.

Sun., Dec., 27—Pray for our churches in worship today.

Mon., Dec. 28—Pray again for our new executive secretary, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

Tues., Dec. 29—Pray today for our many retired ministers.

Wed., Dec. 30—Pray that many hundreds more may join The Prayer Fellowship before the new year begins.

Thurs., Dec. 31—Pray that God may help you to profit by the failures you might have made during the past year and to give him the glory for all the accomplishments you might have realized. Pray for a more glorious year in His service than you have ever had.

## Man of Great Faith

(Continued from page 4)

Brother Wolfe was instrumental in the reorganizing of Western Free Will Baptist forces. One day while in conversation with Mrs. Wolfe and the Rev. G. S. Lattimer, pastor of the Free Will Baptist church, Haddan, Kansas, the question arose, "Why can't we have a Conference of Free Will Baptists of the west?" The three of them planned it all out and the following fall met with the Missouri State Association and laid the proposal before them. It was accepted by Missouri and the time and place of the first meeting was set.

### Cooperative Association

On December 28, 1916 the representatives from Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas met at the Old Philadelphia (Muddy) Church near Plattsburg, Missouri and perfected the organization. They wanted to call the organization "General Conference" but could not, due to the Free Will Baptists of the south, who had vowed never to have membership in anything that was called General Conference. This was due to the fact that the original General Conference had refused to accept them into its fellowship because they practiced slavery.

The name "Cooperative General Association of Free Will Baptists" was chosen and Brother Wolfe was elected moderator. This first meeting lasted three days, coming to a grand climax on the closing day, December 31, 1916.

### Tecumseh College Started

At a called session in Tecumseh, Oklahoma, in 1917, a Free Will Baptist College was dedicated, with the Rev. R. F. Pittman of North Carolina preaching the sermon. The college buildings, along with a financial gift of \$1,000 had been presented to the Cooperative Association by the people of Tecumseh. Brother Wolfe was chosen president of the College and was asked to move to Tecumseh to take charge. There was no salary specified.

### A Spiritual Giant

Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe moved to Oklahoma and took over the reigns of the College. They received \$33 a month for teaching. In addition to their teaching and administrative duties, they led in the moving of the *New Morning Star* paper from Texas to Tecumseh.

The Rev. Wolfe now lives on a small farm near Pawnee City. He has his own living quarters and can move about very well. Mrs. Wolfe passed on about five years ago. Brother Wolfe is mentally alert and spiritually a giant. He depends on the gifts sent him by friends and relatives on his birthday and at Christmas for subsistence. And he well deserves every gift that you might send, for he is "The Grand Old Man of Free Will Baptists."

**(EDITOR'S NOTE: It will add joy to your Christmas to remember Brother Wolfe with a card and a cash gift. Address it Rev. John H. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Nebraska.)**



# Woman's Auxiliary

"His Command — Our Task"

MRS. H. B. SLOAN, *Executive Secretary*



MRS. LUTHER GIBSON

## Orders for Literature Already Being Filled

Orders for 1954 literature for Woman's Auxiliaries are already being filled, the executive secretary of the WNAC announces. She expects the rush to start soon and urges local secretaries to place literature orders now so they can be mailed before Christmas.

Orders should be addressed to the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee. "Please do not ask us to charge literature, send it C.O.D. or send it on approval since we are not equipped to handle such requests," Mrs. Sloan said. Payment for the literature by check or money order should be included with the order.

Here is the literature price list:

1954 Year Book .....	50c
1954 GTA Program Book .....	35c
1954 YPA Program Book .....	50c
Manual of Methods .....	50c
Working with Our Youth .....	30c
Achievement Charts .....	25c
(Please indicate if you want them for WA, YPA or GTA)	
Individual Report Slips .....	20c per 100
GTA Manual .....	30c
YPA Manual .....	30c
Secretary's Record Book .....	\$2.00
(Woman's Auxiliary only)	
YPA Leader .....	30c
TRACTS:	
"When Money Talks" .....	40c per 100
"Simple Arithmetic" .....	40c per 100
Stewardship Pacts .....	15c

## Georgia Women Send Refrigerator to India

THOMASTON, Ga.—Mrs. Edith Shiver, president of the Georgia State Woman's Auxiliary Convention announces that they have sent \$350.50 to India for the purchase of a refrigerator.

Auxiliaries and individuals who had a part in making the gift included Columbus First church, Glennville First church, Hamock Springs of Donalsonville, Memorial of Surrency, Ebenezer of Glennville, Oak Grove of Colquitt, Voldosta First church, St. Mark church of Phenix City, Bellevue of Colquitt, White Pond of Damascus, Philadelphia of Folkston.

First church of Jakin, Patmos, Satilla, Zion, Traveler's Rest, First church of Thomaston, Corinth, Pine Level, Enterprise, Macedonia, First church of Colquitt, Harmony, Mt. Zion and Midway.

Ozias, Cedar Springs, Mrs. Alma McDonald of Colquitt, and the Ruth Kinnon Union Meeting of the Little River association.

## Two New Women's Groups Are Reported

OKMULGEE, Okla.—Mrs. John Elliston has been elected president of the newly-organized Woman's Auxiliary here. Three state Auxiliary officers assisted in the organization. They were Mrs. Ralph Staten, Wewoka; Mrs. Paul Pursell, Shawnee, and Mrs. Ralph Staires, Tulsa.

The Auxiliary began with eleven members and has already grown to 14. Other officers which were chosen included Mrs. Ralph Conway, vice-president and enlistment chairman; Mrs. Kenneth Beveridge, program chairman; Mrs. Joe Zummer, youth chairman; Mrs. Anna Howard, study course chairman; Mrs. Zola Phillips, personal service chairman; and Mrs. Howard Conway, secretary-treasurer.

\* \* \*

SPRINGDALE, Ark.—A Woman's Auxiliary has been organized recently at the Phillips' Chapel church near here. Mrs. Jim Davinson was elected president.

## GTAs Write Letter to Indian Missionary

There must be a warm heart way up in Kishanganj, North India, about now, for a group of letters from some little girls in Washington, N. C., are just about arriving in Mrs. Dan Cronk's mailbox.

The letters, written by seven members of the Go-Tell Auxiliary of the new Washington Free Will Baptist church, would warm anybody's heart. For example, Linda Spain wrote the missionary, "I will pray that you may teach more people about the gospel. May God bless you and be with you forever and ever." Jessie Carney told her, "We have been in prayer for the missionaries in the foreign lands. I hope you will be a success through all the rest of your life. I will still be in prayer for you all. God be with you."

The leader of the GTA, Mrs. Leona Wallace, sent the letters to Mrs. Cronk along with a picture of her group in appreciation of a program which the missionary wrote in the 1953 program book.

## Cumberland Auxiliaries Have District Workshop

ASHLAND CITY, Tenn.—"Improving Our Auxiliary Know-How" was the theme of a recent workshop conducted here by the Cumberland district Woman's Auxiliary convention. Women from eleven churches were present for the meeting, and two visit-

## Program Is Announced For Quarterly Workshop

Following through with the suggestion of the Woman's National Auxiliary convention that quarterly district workshops be held all over the denomination in 1954, Mrs. Luther Gibson, study course chairman of the WNAC, has prepared a program for the first such meeting.

The theme of the workshop to be held some time during the first quarter is "Know God's Word." Themes for the rest of the year will be "Know God's World," "Know God's Work" and "Know God's Workers."

The program suggested by Mrs. Gibson is as follows:

9:30 a.m.—	Registration
10:00	—Hymns and prayer
10:10	—Greetings and devotional
10:25	—Recognition of Auxiliaries
10:40	—Topic 1, "God's Word Sanctions Women's Work"
10:50	—Hymn for the year
10:55	—Topic 2, "God's Word Teaches Stewardship"
11:05	—Message in special song
11:10	—Topic 3, "God's Word Commands Missions"
11:20	—Class period, or separate departmental discussions
12:00	—Lunch
1:00 p.m.—	Devotional
1:15	—Calendar of activities for the year
1:30	—Topic 4, "God's Word Challenges Youth"
1:40	—Hearing from our GTAs and YPAs
1:50	—Topic 5, "God's Word Rewards Personal Service"
2:00	—Have You a Question?
2:30	—Missionary playlet
3:00	—Adjourn

ing churches were represented. One of the visiting Auxiliaries, Loyal Chapel of Columbia, Tenn., was accepted into the district convention.

Devotions during the day were led by Rev. Lonnie DaVoult, pastor of Trinity church, Nashville, and Rev. Clyde Clearman, Shady Grove pastor. A special feature of the afternoon session was a playlet presented by the Bible college Auxiliary.

The next district workshop will be held at the Head's Free Will Baptist church, near Cedar Hill.

(Continued from page 5)



REV. C. F. BOWEN

the opportunity to subscribe to this wonderful paper!"—Mrs. Carl Vallance, Huntington, W. Va.

"Enroll me as a charter subscriber. I think it is the best way to help Free Will Baptists know each other better."—Rev. William E. Armstrong, Booneville, Miss.

"Our hearts were made to rejoice because of the paper. From here it looks as if this paper may become the best denominational paper we have had in our day. God bless you richly in this great work of informing our people through the printed page. To show our appreciation, we are sending eight subscriptions for our church."—Rev. F. A. McCage, Salinas, Calif.

### Act in Three Ways

So you have spoken! Now we must act in behalf of CONTACT. Your action can take three forms:

*Give Contact for Christmas.* You have church friends and relatives for whom you would like a nice, but inexpensive gift. What could you give better than CONTACT for a year? They will receive it beginning with the January issue and when it comes the first of every month it will be Christmas all over again.

*Solicit subscriptions from friends.* Talk

Thurman Pate, Knoxville, assistant moderator; Mrs. L. W. Vinson, Newport, clerk, and Mrs. J. C. Howington, Elizabethton, assistant clerk. Sessions of the 1954 association will be held at Sparta, the delegates decided.

to your church associates about the paper and ask them for their subscription. Show them your copy and let them know if it has blessed your life. Talk up CONTACT at your associational and state meetings.

Join us in "CONTACT SUNDAY" December 13. To make all of our people aware of this new paper, we are declaring the second Sunday in December (the 13th) as "CONTACT SUNDAY." We are asking pastors and people to make special announcements and special efforts on that day to gain subscribers. Even talk about it in Sunday school and League. Let's saturate the denomination with information about CONTACT on "CONTACT SUNDAY."

Then—rush those subscriptions to national headquarters so in the January issue we can report not only "half done," but over the top!

## Bowen Renamed as Tennessee Moderator

COOKEVILLE, Tenn.—Rev. C. F. Bowen, East Nashville pastor, was re-elected moderator of the Tennessee state association of Free Will Baptists which met here October 21-23. About three hundred were present for the sessions, which was said to be the best attendance in the history of the organization.

One important resolution passed by the delegates changed the method of representation to the association, allowing more delegates from each district and including all ordained deacons as standing delegates. The change is expected to at least double the representation.

Mr. I. L. Stanley, superintendent of the children's home at Greeneville, was named to head a Youth Encampment committee. Others appointed to the committee included Rev. Lonnie DaVoult, Nashville; Rev. Harvey Hill, Elizabethton; Mrs. Paul Woolsey, Greeneville, and Rev. Roger Reed, Nashville. The committee immediately announced that a statewide camp will be held in the summer of 1954 at the Tennessee state park in Cumberland county. Facilities will be rented, they said, until a suitable site can be purchased.

Other officers of the association are Rev.

## Three Auxiliaries Enlist Their Members to Pray

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Three Woman's Auxiliaries have already enlisted all or nearly all of their memberships in "The Prayer Fellowship," according to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, executive secretary of the WNAC.

The first local Auxiliary to respond with the names of 26 of their members was the First church of Greenville, N. C. They were followed by the Drumright, Okla., Auxiliary with 37 members and the women at Comanche, Texas, with 25 names.

For complete information on "The Prayer Fellowship" see the column on page 6 of this issue. Membership cards will be sent upon receipt of the names.

## Revival Campaigns

Each month under the heading "Revival Campaigns" we will carry the tabulated reports of revivals held the preceding month. In sending reports be sure to list the church, evangelist, pastor, professions and additions to the church. Sixteen revivals were reported this month. Some of these meetings

were held in October, but most of them were November revivals. Please send your reports promptly and we shall be looking forward to receiving reports of recent revivals for the January issue which are not listed here.



"Just a second, Dear! Let me get it in before you take it out."

### Church

Grimsley, N. C. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hazel Park, Mich. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Philadelphia Church, Detroit, Mich. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mountain Grove, Mo. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Blue Eye Church, Mo. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Monett, Mo. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Verdella, Mo. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hickory Grove, Mo. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lewis Avenue Church, Tulsa, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shawnee, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wewoka, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bristow, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tecumseh, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Russellville, Ark. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Smithfield, N. C. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Capitol Hill Church, Oklahoma City, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_

### Evangelist

C. B. Craddock \_\_\_\_\_  
 Charles Thigpen \_\_\_\_\_  
 H. A. Pitts \_\_\_\_\_  
 H. E. Staires \_\_\_\_\_  
 O. T. Allred \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winford Davis \_\_\_\_\_  
 Willard C. Day \_\_\_\_\_  
 Paul Williams \_\_\_\_\_  
 J. R. Hall \_\_\_\_\_  
 H. E. Staires \_\_\_\_\_  
 Johnnie Postlewaite \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elvis Priest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weldon Wood \_\_\_\_\_  
 W. S. Mooneyham \_\_\_\_\_  
 C. F. Bowen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wayne Smith \_\_\_\_\_

### Pastor

L. E. Ballard \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mark Lewis \_\_\_\_\_  
 William Mishler \_\_\_\_\_  
 Willard C. Day \_\_\_\_\_  
 Francis Clark \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cecil Campbell \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kenneth Turner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad Williford \_\_\_\_\_  
 E. M. Kennedy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Paul Pursell \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ralph Staten \_\_\_\_\_  
 N. R. Smith \_\_\_\_\_  
 Delbert Akin \_\_\_\_\_  
 O. T. Dixon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Earl Glenn \_\_\_\_\_  
 E. E. Morris \_\_\_\_\_





REV. DELBERT AKIN

## Oklahomans Elect Akin Executive Secretary

NORMAN, Okla.—Rev. Delbert Akin, Tecumseh pastor, was elected executive secretary of the Oklahoma state association of Free Will Baptists at their annual meeting here October 21-22. The young pastor will fill the office in connection with his pastorate.

Rev. John H. West, pastor of Tulsa First church was chosen moderator by the delegates. As his assistant the body elected Rev. Harry E. Staires, pastor of Lawnwood church, Tulsa.

Rev. Weldon Wood, Ada, was renamed as clerk and Rev. Robert Duncan, Norman, was elected assistant clerk. Rev. Staires addressed the delegates in the introductory sermon.

Other speakers during the session were Rev. Robert Maxwell, Stigler; Rev. John Bean, Oklahoma City; Rev. Wade Jernigan, Modesto, Calif.; Rev. N. R. Smith, Bristow, and Rev. Paul Pursell, Shawnee.

Delegates accepted the invitation from the Stigler Free Will Baptist church for the 1954 session and elected Rev. Dale Munkus, Allen, to preach the introductory sermon.

## Oklahoma Women Elect Mrs. Pursell President

NORMAN, Okla.—“Light Reflectors” was the theme of the 13th annual session of the Oklahoma state Woman’s Auxiliary convention which met here October 20. Mrs. Paul Pursell, Shawnee, was elected president to succeed Mrs. Ralph Staires.

Other officers elected were Mrs. Elvis Priest, Holdenville, vice-president; Mrs. Ben Scott, Oilton, enlistment chairman; Mrs. Marie Roberts, Tulsa, youth chairman; Mrs. Johnnie Postlewaite, McAlester, study course chairman; Mrs. Ralph Staten, We-woka, program chairman; Mrs. Oleta Pate, Ada, benevolence chairman, and Mrs. A. F. Pippis, Tulsa, secretary-treasurer.

## Sermon of the Month

Since CONTACT is only a monthly, it is impossible for the editor to use very much original material. Each month, however, we will carry a feature called “Sermon of the Month.” The feature will be an original devotional article for the inspiration of our readers.

We will award two one-year subscriptions to CONTACT for each article selected. These subscriptions will go to the writer and any person he may designate.

Sermons submitted for this feature should be between 1,200 and 1,300 words in length and, if possible, should be typed double-spaced. They should reach the editor at least by the 10th of the previous month of publication. Days with special emphasis (New Year’s for January, Easter for April, Fourth of July, etc.) should be kept in mind when preparing manuscript.

We should like to have a New Year’s message for the January issue and will accept material up to 15th of December for the January “Sermon of the Month.” We cannot return any material unless sufficient return postage is enclosed.

## Three Hundred Attend Optimistic Session of Texas State Association

BRYAN, Texas—Sparked by a spirit of optimism and enthusiasm unparalleled in its history, the Texas state association of Free Will Baptists, meeting here October 27-29, left a blaze of glory in its wake and mapped out a plan of work for its future that promises to make it one of the leading states in the denomination.

Three hundred ministers and delegates from five district associations and twenty local churches were registered for the meeting. The Rev. C. B. Thompson, Fort Worth pastor, presided over the sessions as moderator and Rev. Herbert Richards, Dallas, was clerk.

While there was no particular theme designated for the program, the Holy Spirit seemed to lead each messenger into the idea of consecration. Rev. Charles Sapp, pastor of the host church, and Rev. Alvin Halbrook, pastor of Bright Light church near here, both presented stirring messages on the need of consecration.

One night in the middle of the association was designated as “Home Mission Night,” with Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary for the National Home Mission Board, in charge.

Rev. Gaston Clary, Henderson, was elected moderator for 1954, with Rev. Everett Hellard, Houston, as assistant moderator. The association voted to retain Rev. Herbert Richards as clerk. Other officers are Rev. Charles Sapp, Bryan, treasurer; Rev. Noah Tuttle, Henderson, publicity; and Rev. R. E. Conner, Buffalo Springs, statistician.

## South Carolina Makes Plans to Entertain National Association

JOHNSONVILLE, S. C.—The six districts composing the South Carolina state association of Free Will Baptists have pledged a total of \$2,000 with which to entertain the national association which will meet at Spartanburg, in western South Carolina, in the summer of 1954.

This action was taken during the sessions of the state association which met at the Little Bethel church near here early in November.

Reports during the association showed the Free Will Baptist Leagues had more growth during the year than any other department. Rev. Paul J. Kettman, youth leader from Pamplico, reported that plans were being perfected for a summer encampment. He also announced that arrangements have been made for a chartered bus to take their young people to the nationwide League conference meeting in June at Nashville, Tenn.

Delegates to the association re-elected Rev. L. A. Holliday, Manning, as president of the convention. Rev. A. F. Lawter, Lockhart, is vice-president, and Rev. Seldon Bullard, Darlington, is secretary-treasurer. All officers were elected for a two-year term.

Nine new churches reported to the association. These churches, organized since the last convention, were at Darlington, Florence, Sumpter, Columbia, Charleston, Lancaster, Abbeyville, one near Anderson and one near Spartanburg.

## Maybe You Don't Need A Teachers' Meeting

In the last issue of CONTACT we described the church that doesn't need money. In this issue we would like to give you the description of a church that doesn't need to have a Sunday school officers and teachers' meeting.

Here it is:

If the attendance in all the departments of your Sunday school is equal to the enrollment, you do not need to have an officers and teachers' meeting. If all your pupils are 100%, if your officers and teachers need no encouragement or preparation and if your pupils are all Christians and church members, don't schedule a meeting.

If your teachers presented the lesson in such a way last Sunday that it could not be improved on and if every class member was present, you don't need a meeting. If every class in your Sunday school meets and maintains the Standard of Excellence and if every class on Sunday morning is all that it possibly could be, a meeting would be of no value to you.

If your Sunday school is all this, it would be a waste of time for you to have an officers and teachers' meeting. But if it is not all this, you ought to schedule a meeting and do it right now!

# Olivet Church Has Missionary Rally

GUTHRIE, Ky.—A one-day missionary conference was held November 15 at the Olivet Free Will Baptist church near here. A full program during the day developed the theme "Look on the Fields" under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. Ben Barrus.

Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary for the Board of Foreign Missions, was the principal speaker. Several missionary candidates from the Free Will Baptist Bible college were also on the program. Among these were Sammy Wilkinson, Glennville, Ga.; Jane Berry, Houston, Texas, and Tommy and Barbara Willey, Cuba.

Olivet church had already assumed the support of a native Cuban pastor, and one of the highlights of the conference came when the pastor read a letter from the director of the Cuban work naming Melitino as the full-time native missionary underwritten by the church.

During the day an offering of \$141.59 was received for foreign missions. Home missions was also featured during the conference by an original pageant. The pageant was the outgrowth of the study of the book, "Go Home and Tell Thy Friends," by Rev. D. C. Dodd, promotional secretary for the Board of Home Missions.

"Gratified by the results of the conference, Olivet wishes to encourage more churches to have a 'Missionary Day' in order to keep the laity of the church better informed regarding the needs, progress and future outlook of missions," the church reporter wrote.

## Arkansas Quota for Missions Nearly Made

Arkansas is well on the way to being the first state to reach its goal for foreign missions. As of November 1 the state lacked only \$136.32 reaching their \$1,100 quota.

Most of the amount which came in was the result of an itinerary in the state by Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary of the Foreign Mission Board. A total of \$657.80 came as a result of the tour, Mr. Riggs said, and he expressed his appreciation for the response.

"I traveled almost seventeen hundred miles, and I want to express my gratitude to every pastor for his cooperation," he said. "Unless I miss my guess, Arkansas will nearly double her quota this year for foreign missions."

Below is Mr. Riggs' report of the services:

Place—Ass'n.	Amount
State Mission Board	\$120.00
Offering at state ass'n.	54.25
Received at state ass'n.	3.50
Highway No. 71 church—Zion Hope 2	16.25
Armour Ave. church, Ft. Smith—Zion Hope 2	73.05
Russellville church—Antioch	40.45
Pine Bluff church—Saline	20.06
Willoughby church—Saline	63.85
Greenbrier church—New Hope	35.00
Mt. Harmony church—Polk Bayou	23.00
Alice Brooks church—Social Band	28.25
Sutton church—Social Band	16.14
Arbor Grove church—Social Band	34.00
Pocahontas church—Social Band	130.00



REV. SAM ZIADY

## Lebanese Student Applies as Missionary To Native Country

Rev. Sam Ziady, from the country of Lebanon in Near East, has applied to the Board of Foreign Missions to return to his native country as a gospel preacher under the auspices of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

The announcement comes from the office of Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary of the Board, who said that the candidate met recently with the Board.

The young minister was ordained by the South Carolina conference and is described as a "dynamic preacher." He spoke at the missionary conference which met in October at the Bible college. He has been in the United States for almost four years and is now attending the University of South Carolina.

He will meet with the Foreign Mission Board again in the spring to discuss further plans for a Free Will Baptist work in the Near East. Mr. Riggs asks for much prayer in behalf of the matter.

## Alabama Is Advancing Toward Mission Quota

Alabama Free Will Baptists had raised more than \$1,000 of their \$2,500 quota up to November 15, Rev. Raymond Riggs said. Nearly \$650 of this amount was received from churches at the state association or during a brief itinerary in the state by Mr. Riggs.

"There are 20,000 Free Will Baptists in the state of Alabama," the secretary said, "and while they are not doing all they could, they are off to a fine start and I believe they will more than make their quota this year."

## Oklahoma Itinerary Scheduled by Riggs

TULSA, Okla.—Two city-wide missionary rallies will highlight a two-weeks' tour of this state by Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary for the Board of Foreign Missions. The first rally will be held Sunday afternoon, December 6, at the Lawnwood church here. Rev. H. E. Staires is the pastor.

The other rally will be Sunday afternoon, December 13, at the Capitol Hill church in Oklahoma City where Rev. E. E. Morris is the pastor. Mr. Riggs will speak at two other Tulsa churches on the opening day of the itinerary, December 6. He will be at the Lewis Avenue church for the morning service and the First church on Sunday night. The pastors are Rev. E. M. Kennedy and Rev. John H. West.

Mr. Riggs hopes to help the state raise a good part of its \$5,500 quota for foreign missions.

Besides the engagements in Tulsa, the secretary will also make the following appearances:

- Monday, Dec. 7—Drumright church, Rev. Harry Beatty, pastor.
- Tuesday, Dec. 8—Wewoka church, Rev. Ralph Staten, pastor.
- Wednesday, Dec. 9—Ada church, Rev. Weldon Wood, pastor.
- Thursday, Dec. 10—Ardmore church, Rev. E. J. Wilson, pastor.
- Friday, Dec. 11—Norman church, Rev. Robert Duncan, pastor.
- Saturday, Dec. 12—Tecumseh church, Rev. Delbert Akin, pastor.
- Sunday morning, Dec. 13—Central Ave. church, Okla. City, Rev. Jack Dodson, pastor.
- Sunday afternoon—Capitol Hill church, Okla. City, Rev. E. E. Morris, pastor.
- Sunday night—To be filled.
- Monday, December 14—Bixby church, Rev. Jess Stepp, pastor.
- Tuesday, Dec. 15—Haskell church, Rev. Bill Ketchum, pastor.
- Wednesday, Dec. 16—Stigler church, Rev. Robert Maxwell, pastor.

## "Lights for Cuba" Tops Thousand Mark

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—In one month the "Lights for Cuba" campaign almost doubled the amount which has been received since July, Rev. C. F. Bowen, secretary of the National League Board, has announced. From October 15 to November 15 receipts for the special campaign totalled \$435.69. Prior to that time contributions had amounted to \$573.58.

The fund to provide power lines from the city of Pinar del Rio to the Free Will Baptist mission station and Bible school now stands at \$1,009.27, according to Mr. Bowen. This amount is less than half of the \$2,500 needed to provide "Lights for Cuba."

Receipts during the last month were as follows:

Horse Branch church, Turbeville, S. C.	\$ 25.00
Snow Hill church, N. C.	4.00
Hickory Chapel church, Ahsoski, N. C.	29.15
Bethel church, Neptune, Tenn.	20.00
Tidewater Quarterly Meeting, Norfolk, Va.	50.00
McAlester church, Okla.	6.65
Reedy Branch church, Winterville, N. C.	8.00
City League Union, Nashville, Tenn.	1.60
Cumberland District Auxiliary convention, Tenn.	50.00
Pocahontas church, Ark.	5.91
Morehead City church, N. C.	35.90
Porterville church, Calif.	10.00
First church, Elizabethton, Tenn.	25.00
Highland Park church, Mich.	100.00
East Nashville church, Tenn.	9.48
First church, Warwick, Va.	25.00
Little Bethel church, Jacksonville, N. C.	25.00
Cowart's Creek church, Ala.	5.00

# Thanksgiving in India

"Are you bringing the fatted calf to the Harvest Festival today?" Miss Laura Belle Barnard, director of Free Will Baptist mission work in India, asked Stephen, an old man who had been baptized only last June.

Quietly he answered, "Yes"—that was all. "I never dreamed he was serious, for I wasn't," writes Miss Barnard, "so you can imagine how I was touched when later I saw his little grandson leading the calf to the church."

The year-old calf being led up the hill along the footpath through the eucalyptus forest is making its way to the church to be given as a thank-offering at the annual Harvest Festival of Thanksgiving at the Immanuel Free Will Baptist church in Kotagiri, South India.

## *All Bring Offerings*

From another direction a devoted young couple, only five months old in the Lord, are bringing a young hen which they have raised and set aside for the occasion. Others bring bananas and other fruits, while many bring grain, fresh vegetables or eggs. One schoolgirl has brought homemade sweetmeats and another a bouquet of flowers from her humble garden.

All come with an offering of some kind. Tables and benches are laden with the beautiful array.

School children who have learned "Bringing in the Sheaves" open the thanksgiving service with a resounding chorus. Singing and thanksgiving fill the air for a time, then the harvest offerings are dedicated. The calf tied outside bleats in bewilderment and the hen cackles in confusion, but the harvest sermon proceeds: "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. . . . He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

## *Goods Are Auctioned*

It is a timely and searching message and there is evidence that God has blessed it to humble hearts.

All join together in "There shall be showers of blessing," and when the hymn is finished the auction begins as the harvest offerings are sold. Bids are enthusiastic—this the Lord's business. ("It is Saturday, of course," Miss Barnard continues.)

Several wanted to buy the calf which Stephen had given, but no one had a place to keep it. Accordingly, the pastor suggested that Stephen keep the calf for a few days while a stall was built. But the old man was mellow with sentiment, and replied: "It has been consecrated to the Lord. Can I take back to my house again an offering which I have laid on His altar?"

## *Money for Bibles*

The missionary writes by way of explana-

tion: "Stephen can neither read nor write, but often indeed he refreshes us with his simple faith, steadfast devotion and fearless witness. Once when asked if he was going on in the Christian life, he said, "Brother, when I took hold, I caught hold with both hands!"

When all the offerings are sold and the proceeds are totalled, there are sixty Rupees to send to the Bible Society to help send the written Word to other places still in darkness. "This Book has brought light and freedom to us," they express, "and it is fitting that our thanksgiving offerings should go to help bless others in the same way."

Miss Barnard continues: "This, is surely a part of the harvest which home friends and fellow-laborers have waited with long patience for and now deserve to reap. It is the harvest of your sowing, in a real sense."

## *Spiritual Harvest, Too*

"My thoughts have gone out today in a special way," she says, "to our four consecrated young people, John, Wilson, Ahiezer and Chellamal, who are away studying and preparing for a lifework in His service. They are a special part of our thanksgiving harvest, and as this harvest goes on multiplying our faith rises to a vision of the great ingathering which eternity will reveal.

"As I have sat here by the fireside at the close of this good day and talked of the deeper things of God with one of our newest Christians, my heart has been humbled by the evidence of God's gracious working. This young man, with his wife, has a passion to go all the way with the Lord, bearing the cross in true discipleship.

"He is hungry to know the Bible better, resolved to win souls and is diligent in preparing for the Sunday school class recently entrusted to him. When he poured out his broken and contrite heart in prayer tonight, pleading with God to use him to bring others to Him and to further His Kingdom, I felt the Lord was seeing in him the travail of His soul and was satisfied."

## *Teaching under Obstacles*

In citing special objects of prayer, Miss Barnard tells one story of particular interest. On a tea estate eight miles from the church there are six members who were baptized by Rev. Paul Woolsey early in 1952. She says their spiritual growth has met with every disadvantage. But let her finish the story:

"Greatly burdened for these dear souls who at baptism had truly separated themselves from idol worship, but had not really had opportunity for instruction, we waited earnestly in prayer for a plan to reach them

and meet their need.

"Finally we were able to arrange a weekly meeting after working hours late Thursday evening in the house of Brother Peter Rangusamy. But not without obstacles.

## *Lesson Almost Ruined*

"Four small children in the home are always hungry at evening time, for the mother has been in the tea fields all day and no full meal has been provided. The room, six by twelve feet, serves as family bedroom, kitchen, living room, woodshed, meeting-house and all. The fire must be lit for the meal, and since there is no outlet smoke fills the room.

"I set up my flannelboard while our pastor gets the hymns ready. By the time we are into the Bible lesson the children are crying and the mother is scolding, the smoke belches out of the mud oven in great billows until the dim lantern light is eclipsed and the figures on the flannelboard are mysterious.

"Fumes of red-hot peppers mingle with the smoke and our eyes sting and burn, throats choke and speaking is possible only by special grace. Added to these distractions, Satan has frequently managed to occupy the men with some urgent task or errand just at meeting time, so that they come very late or not at all.

## *A Miracle Provided*

"We were heavily burdened for we seemed to be getting nowhere. We prayed with deep concern. Then last week—a miracle! Every Christian in the village was gathered, waiting for us to arrive.

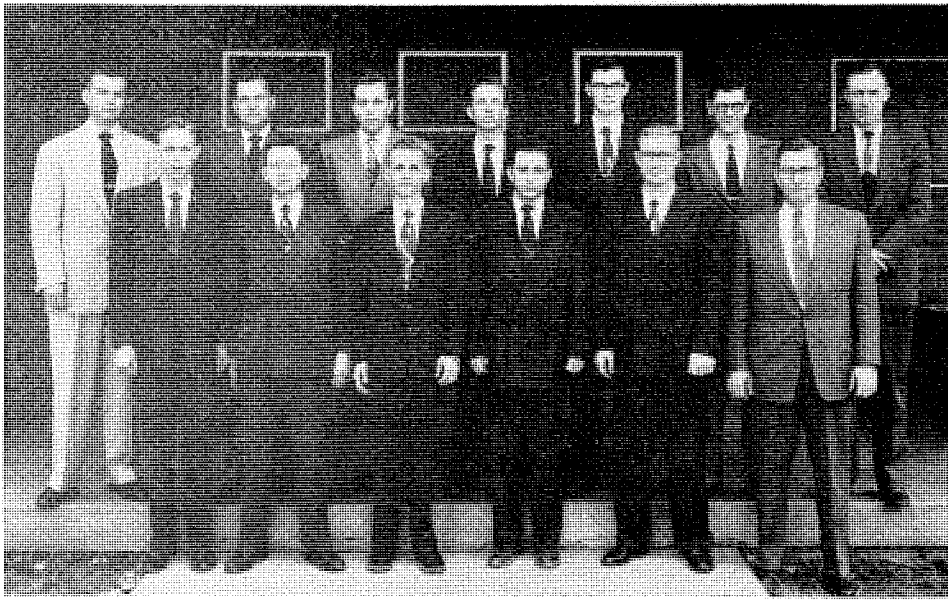
"Peter's wife, Lydia, had made other arrangements about the supper and did not even light the fire until we left. She sat down with the baby on her lap and the children around her to listen carefully to the lesson. No pepper fumes, no smoke, no disturbance of any kind. It was a great answer to prayer.

"Are we to take it that God is brooding over the chaos of these lives and once more commanding light to shine out of darkness and order out of confusion? If so, and I believe so, I am sure you will want to join us in praying for the 'perfecting of the saints' in that difficult place."

## *Prayer Requested*

"I have tried to picture the situation so that you may see us each Thursday evening and hold us up in prayer. Satan does not approve of last week's blessing, and we may be sure he will not approve of us continuing without disturbance.

"This is the season of tedious sowing and watering. Water with your fervent prayers as we sow. God has promised that seed time and harvest shall not fail!"



**Student Pastors**—Fourteen ministerial students at the Free Will Baptist Bible College travel 2,500 miles every week in ministering to a combined membership of more than 2,000 Free Will Baptist members. Shown above are thirteen of these student pastors. Twelve of the churches which they serve are in the Nashville area, one is in Alabama and one is in Mississippi. Twelve of the congregations are rural and two are urban.

On the front row, left to right, are Billy Walker, Pleasant View, Tenn.; Carey Watkins, Cary, N. C.; Johnnie Floyd, Marion, N. C.; Bill Hill, Lemay, Mo.; Lonnie DeVault, Moore, Okla.; and Robert Edwards, Beulaville, N. C. Second row, Ben Barrus, Norfolk, Va.; Wilburn Beasley, Winfield, Ala.; Bob Hill, St. Louis, Mo.; Clarence Burton, St. Louis, Mo.; Joyce Gore, Tupelo, Miss.; Robert Wilfong, Flat River, Mo.; and Ira C. Gow, Red Bay, Ala. Another student pastor, not shown in the picture, is Roger Reeds, Lemay, Mo.

## McDonald Goes to Chicago Conference

Always alert in keeping abreast with evangelical education, the Free Will Baptist Bible college was represented at the recent Chicago meeting of the Friends of Christian Higher Education October 26-28.

E. B. McDonald, college treasurer, expressed appreciation for the program of helpful ideas and methods of administration. The program featured lectures and forums by outstanding leaders from some of the foremost evangelical Christian colleges in America.

"The operational costs per student at Free Will Baptist Bible College compare favorably with the best among similar institutions," Mr. McDonald said. According to him, Christian colleges are expecting their enrolments to be doubled during the next five years.

Representatives from about one hundred Bible institutes and Bible colleges from Toronto, Canada, to Texas and from California to Delaware attended the three-day conference.

## Extension Course Is Conducted in Alabama

Rev. Leroy Forlines, director of the Extension Department of the Free Will Baptist Bible college, conducted the school's first extension session November 16-27 at Eldridge, Alabama.

Classes were conducted in the educational building of the Free Will Baptist children's

home. Rev. W. H. Ryland, superintendent of the home, directed the advertising in the surrounding.

The Extension Department is designed to make training available to those who cannot enrol for resident credit in the college. Further information may be obtained by writing to the Bible college.

## Day of Prayer Is Held November 20

One of the highlights of any year at the Free Will Baptist Bible college is the day of prayer when classes are suspended and the time given over to prayer and services.

The day of prayer this year was held Friday, November 20. After assembling in the auditorium at 8 a.m. for the opening service, the entire student body was divided into groups of eight. After praying in the groups, each class assembled for a class prayer meeting followed by private devotions.

At 11 a.m. the students assembled back in the auditorium for a period of thanksgiving and testimonies. In this meeting several decisions for missionary work and other special service were announced. Students and faculty both agreed that the day of prayer was a rich blessing to their lives.

## Churches Respond To Library Campaign

Churches and various groups have already begun to respond to the appeal from the Free Will Baptist Bible college for books to increase the volumes in the college li-

## College President Announces Campaign To Clear Indebtedness

Faced with an indebtedness of nearly \$40,000, Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, announced in the college *Bulletin* last month plans to begin an all-out campaign to clear the amount by April 1, 1954, when the spring Bible conference meets.

Here is the plan as outlined by the president: A special service is planned for Thursday morning, April 1, during the Bible conference. Dr. Johnson is asking every church in the denomination to have a special gift on hand for this service.

"Where it is possible we are requesting every church making a gift to have a representative present to make the gift on behalf of the church," he said. Where this is not possible, someone at the Bible college will present the gift in the name of the church.

A huge blackboard will be erected and as the gifts are announced they will be tabulated by states in view of the audience. "We expect that when these gifts are all announced the total will be at least \$38,000. If so, we can stamp 'Paid in Full' on everything under the name of the Free Will Baptist Bible college," he said.

Rev. J. L. Welch, chairman of the Board of Trustees, presented the challenge to the Cumberland association in Tennessee in its recent session and received pledges totalling \$1,324. More pledges were made at the annual meeting of the Tennessee state association, and already more than \$3,000 has been promised toward the campaign.

Dr. Johnson then presented the proposal to the student body of the Bible college and they voted to make a gift of \$1,000. Members of the college faculty added to this to make the total gift from students and faculty more than \$1,500.

The president believes there are at least six churches in the denomination which will be able to make a \$1,000 gift each. "Then there must be another half dozen individuals who will make similar contributions," he added, and there are quite a few churches and individuals who can give \$500 of the total amount.

"Then most any church which will go to work on this project in time will be able to have a \$100 gift on hand for the special service," the president expressed.

"I realize it is a big undertaking and that much hard work must be put into it, but I am willing to do all I can to eliminate this indebtedness and cease the waste of interest money being paid to our creditors," he concluded. "I call on every pastor in our denomination and every interested layman to join hands with us in this campaign of hard work and sacrificial giving."

brary, says Mrs. J. P. Barrow, librarian. One of the first to respond was the Adult League at Trinity church, Nashville, with a special offering. The Woman's Auxiliary of that church added to the amount making possible the purchase of seven new books.

## California Sets Pace With Four New Churches Reported

Skyrocketing from only one Free Will Baptist church in 1945 to more than 70 in 1953, the state of California continues to set the pace in new organizations, with four reported since August 17.

On August 17, a Free Will Baptist church was organized in Visalia, California, and the Rev. Joe Mooneyham was elected pastor. There were 13 charter members.

The Rev. F. C. Berry is pastor of the new church in National City, California. This is near San Diego and will be the Free Will Baptist church that serves the huge naval base there. It is located at 123 West 3rd Street in National City.

Twenty charter members made up the Free Will Baptist church at Long Beach, California, when it was organized August 31. The Rev. L. L. Davis was elected pastor of this promising church. The address of the church is 1731 Artesia Avenue, North, Long Beach, California.

The Rev. J. L. Waltman, state home mission director, led in the revival and organization of a Free Will Baptist church in Reedley on October 22. The 13 charter members called the Rev. Cecil Morris, of Selma, as pastor. This church is located at 430 11th Street.

A letter from the Rev. Horace Teague of Route 16, Knoxville, Tennessee, tells of a new organization in East Tennessee. The church, to be known as Gospel Temple Free Will Baptist church, was organized October 25 with 10 charter members. The Revs. Paul Woolsey and J. D. Bright, both of Loudon, Tennessee, were in charge of the organization. Rev. Bright was called as pastor. The congregation has acquired a church building valued at \$3,500 and is having full-time service. They have 35 enrolled in Sunday school. The church is near Maryville, Tennessee, and is the first Free Will Baptist church in Blount county.

The Rev. Elvis Johnson of Arkansas, has recently gone to Auburndale, Florida, and set up a Free Will Baptist church. Auburndale is located near Winter Haven, Florida, and there are a number of Free Will Baptists in that area. This will be an especially strategic center, since the Home Mission Board plans to start a work among the Cubans in Ebo City, Tampa, not too far away.

A new work in Jacksonville, Florida, is reported to be a flourishing project. The Rev. Q. Hansley, pastor, has led the new group into the purchase of lots in Jacksonville and they will start a building program soon. This will be the fourth Free Will Baptist church in that city.

Roxana, Illinois, in the East St. Louis-Edwardsville area is the location of the newest venture in Illinois. The Rev. Wallace Malone, of Sesser, is the evangelist. An organization is planned for the immediate future.

Arkansas figures in the "new church news" with a new Free Will Baptist church

## "New Church of the Month"



*Organized in May, 1952, the Jameson Memorial Free Will Baptist Church of Henderson, Texas, has more than doubled its membership with 63 now on the roll. Under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. Noah G. Tuttle, the lovely new building shown above was constructed. The building is valued at \$17,000. "It is not complete," he says, "but complete enough to be comfortable." Besides the sanctuary, the building contains a beautiful baptistry, a kitchen and three rest rooms. One of the rest rooms will be furnished with junior-size fixtures.*

*The church is located on a corner lot on Richardson Drive in a new addition near the new Henderson high school. Mr. Leeman King, a deacon in the congregation, was in charge of construction. The church is named in memory of one of the most outstanding ministers of that locality, Rev. E. S. Jameson. We salute this church as our "New Church of the Month."*

## Reviving Nebraska Work Is Considered

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Following a brief tour in Nebraska surveying Free Will Baptist possibilities, Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretary for the Board of Home Missions, has announced that the board is seriously considering sending a missionary team to that state next summer.

During his visit to Nebraska in late October, Mr. Dodd spent some time with Rev. John H. Wolfe, a pioneer minister of our denomination who did not go along with the merger of 1910. Mr. Dodd obtained some interesting and important information from this retired preacher which you may read in his story on page 4.

Immediately following the merger between Free Will Baptists and Northern Baptists, the Nebraska Free Will Baptist churches were claimed by the Northern Baptists. As a result, most all of the 32 Free Will Baptist churches in the Nebraska Yearly Meeting were wiped out. So far as the Home Mission Board has been able to determine, one only church remains—the Elm Island church, ten miles north of Kenesaw.

This church has Sunday school every Sunday. They have a preaching service in North Little Rock, Arkansas. This church was organized October 18 with 19 charter members. Revs. R. G. Lane, of Conway, and Lawnie Coffman, Rose Bud, assisted in the organization.

## New Church Organized in Little Rock, Arkansas

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Sixteen charter members came into a new Free Will Baptist church organization here October 18. The organization service was presided over by Rev. R. G. Lane, Greenbrier pastor.

At least six other persons were expected to become charter members, bringing the roll to 22. The initial service was held in the home of Mr. Chester Cotton, 705 West 41st Street. On the organizational council were Rev. Lane, Rev. Lawnie Coffman, Mr. O. S. Sawrie, Rev. R. D. Pruitt and Rev. Jess E. Pratt.

The Council chairman read the Scripture and presented the Bible to the group. Rev. Pratt gave the consecration prayer and the other three members of the Council alternated in reading the Articles of Faith. Mr. Sawrie gave the hand of fellowship and Mr. Clifford Sawrie read the church covenant.

Rev. Homer Parker was extended the call as pastor. Mrs. Audrey Cotton was elected church clerk.

only on occasions when a home missionary or Christian worker happens to come by for a service.

The board is planning to look into the matter further with a view to sending someone to Kenesaw to take over the work of the Elm Island church and establish others in the vicinity.

# Glancing Around the States . . .

## **Paintsville Adopts 1954 General Budget of \$6,500**

PAINTSVILLE, Ky.—A general budget of \$6,500 has been adopted by the Southside church here for 1954. All fifth Sunday offerings will be turned into the denominational program for missions and the Bible college, the pastor, Rev. Homer Willis, says.

## **Leagues Buy PA System for Henderson Church Nursery**

HENDERSON, Texas—The Leagues of the Jameson Memorial church have financed the installation of a public address system in the nursery of their church so that mothers may hear the service. A Stromberg-Carlson was purchased at a cost of \$150. Rev. Noah G. Tuttle is pastor.

## **Jack Dodson Speaks at District Auxiliary Meeting**

TECUMSEH, Okla.—Rev. Jack Dodson, pastor of Central Avenue church in Oklahoma City, was the speaker for the district Auxiliary convention of the First Oklahoma association November 12. The convention met at the associational assembly grounds near here.

Mrs. Paul Pursell, Shawnee, is president of the convention and Mrs. Floyd Cash, also of Shawnee, is program chairman.

## **Albemarle Conference Holds Meetings at Hickory Chapel**

AHOSKIE, N. C.—Three meetings of the Albemarle conference were held on the fifth Sunday week end of November at the Hickory Chapel church near here. On Saturday the Union Meeting convened while the district League convention met Saturday night. The Sunday school convention was held on Sunday. Rev. Walter Reynolds is pastor of the host church.

## **Texas Church Plans for Educational Building**

DALLAS, Texas—Dirt was turned recently at a five-lot site in South Oak Cliff section here as the formal start of construction for the new educational building of the First Free Will Baptist church. Completion is scheduled for January. The tile brick structure underway represents the first phase of a master building plan approved by the church, Rev. H. Z. Cox, pastor, said. An auditorium of corresponding design will be built later.

## **California Conference Meets at Calwa Church**

CALWA, Calif.—The annual conference of Free Will Baptist ministers and deacons met here November 26-28. Rev. Garrett Pusley was scheduled to bring the opening sermon. The final morning session was devoted to missions with Rev. Winston Lawless giving the report of the state Mission Board and Rev. Earl Jenson discussing the importance of mission work.

## **Oklahoma Orphanage Gets New Superintendent**

RINGLING, Okla.—Mr. Clyde Cain assumed the position of superintendent of the Free Will Baptist children's home October 25, according to announcement of the state Executive Board. Mr. Cain succeeds Mr. H. J. Eslick who has held the position for over three years.

## **Reedy Branch Ends First Year on Full-time Basis**

WINTERVILLE, N. C.—Reedy Branch church on November 1 ended its first year on a full-time basis with Rev. Henry Melvin as pastor. Highlights of the year's work included the addition of more than fifty members to the church and the organization of four leagues.

## **District League Rally Is Organized in Texas**

AMARILLO, Texas—The district league rally of the Northwest Brazos association was organized in a meeting here November 6-7 with five churches represented. Rev. James F. Minor, pastor of the Amarillo First church was elected president. All of the other officers were from the Odessa church and included Weldon Huston, vice-president; Rebecca Robinson, secretary-treasurer; R. E. Ziegler, chorister, and Bettye Hobbs, pianist.

The Odessa church won the attendance banner with the Amarillo First church taking the program banner. Other churches present were Amarillo Second church, Memphis, and Sayre, Okla. Sermons during the session were brought by Rev. Edd Abbott, Rev. Ken Walker and Rev. E. A. Hobbs. Appointed on a committee to help organize Leagues in other churches were the president, Walter Baker, Amarillo, and Jack Shinn, Odessa.

## **Tulsa First Church Has Youth Revival**

TULSA, Okla.—A revival sponsored by the young people of the First Free Will Baptist church was scheduled to begin November 29. Rev. John H. West is the pastor.

## **Ayden Church Ends First Year on Full-time Basis**

AYDEN, N. C.—Fifty-five members were added to the Free Will Baptist church here during its first year on a full-time basis with Rev. Charles Craddock as pastor. During the year the congregation also raised a \$6,063 budget besides contributing \$2,830 toward building a parsonage.

## **Paintsville Pastor Heads Local Ministerial Group**

PAINTSVILLE, Ky.—Rev. H. E. Willis, pastor of the Southside Free Will Baptist church here was named president of the Paintsville Ministerial association beginning November 1.

## **State-wide Youth Rally Scheduled for Alabama**

CORDOVA, Ala.—Sam Ziady, student at the University of South Carolina, from Lebanon and missionary candidate to the Near East, will speak to Free Will Baptist young people from all over the state at a rally here December 19. Rev. Charles Hollingshead, state League convention president, said the rest of the program will be by the young people of the various churches and he urged each church to bring its talent along.

The program will begin at 10 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. following the night service. Those planning to attend should write the host pastor, Rev. Paul Long, Cordova, Ala., stating the number in the group. Further information regarding the rally may be secured by writing the president at 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee.

## **Texas Pastor Leads New Mexico Revival**

HOBBS, N. Mex.—A week's revival at the Free Will Baptist church here early in November resulted in six professions of faith and twelve additions to the church. Rev. E. A. Hobbs, Odessa, Texas, was the evangelist. Rev. L. C. Pinson is the pastor. The Intermediate League of the Odessa church presented a drama, "The Spirit of Missions," at the Hobbs church Friday night, November 13, which resulted in one rededication and two professions.

## **Kinston Church Has Revival with Jernigan**

KINSTON, N. C.—Seven members were received by baptism at the close of a revival here in October led by Rev. W. L. Jernigan of Timmonsville, S. C. This brought the total number of members received since October 1, 1952, when Rev. James F. Miller became pastor, to 73.

## **Okmulgee Auxiliary Has Fellowship Supper**

OKMULGEE, Okla.—A fellowship supper was held in November for the families of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist church here. Mrs. Ed Reed, Mrs. Claude Pope and Mrs. John Elliston presented the program.

## **Parsonage Completed by Selma Congregation**

SELMA, Calif.—A new parsonage, valued at \$10,000, has just been completed by the congregation of the Free Will Baptist church here. Rev. Winston Lawless is pastor of the church and is occupying the new house.

## **Carolina Conference Meets at Hugo Church**

KINSTON, N. C.—The Central Conference of Free Will Baptist churches met at the Hugo church near here November 4-5. It was the 105th session of the conference.

(Continued on next page)

## Glancing Around States

(Continued from page 14)

### Tulsa Churches Have Combined Training School

TULSA, Okla.—The Free Will Baptist churches in this city, together with the Blue Bell and Allen churches near Sapulpa, held a combined training school for officers and teachers October 26-30. The Lawnwood church here was the host church and the pastor, Rev. H. E. Staires, served as director. Eighty-five were enrolled in three classes. The instructors included Rev. John H. West, pastor of Tulsa First church, who taught "The Power of the Human Mind"; Rev. E. M. Kennedy, pastor of Lewis Avenue church, who taught "The Study of Method," and Mrs. Ralph Staires whose course was "The Six-Point Record System." Fifty-three certificates were awarded at the close of the week.

### Arkansas Association Sponsors Advertisement

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—The Social Band association of Free Will Baptists has inserted a full-page advertisement in the Pocahontas *Star-Herald*, a daily newspaper here, inviting people to worship at their churches. Included in the advertisement were the names, addresses and pastors of the twenty-two churches, a brief history of the Free Will Baptist denomination and a statement of doctrinal beliefs.

### McAffery Accepts Oklahoma Pastorate

SULPHUR, Okla.—Rev. A. L. McAffery, Phoenix, Ariz., has accepted the pastorate at the First Free Will Baptist church here. Before moving to Arizona, Rev. McAffery held pastorates at Spring Hill, near Lexington, and at Stratford, Okla. He succeeds Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, who resigned the church to become executive secretary of the national association.

**December 13  
Is "Contact Sunday"**

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## Nineteen Churches Give October Average

Nineteen churches from seven states started off this feature in CONTACT by sending in their Sunday school averages for October. If your church would like to be included, simply write the monthly average on a card together with the name of the church and address it to CONTACT, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.

Those reporting for October were:

<b>Arkansas</b>	
Phillips Chapel, Springdale .....	143
Mt. Harmony church, Strawberry .....	54
Pocahontas church .....	167
<b>Florida</b>	
First church, Panama City .....	25
<b>Kentucky</b>	
Southside church, Paintsville .....	177
<b>Missouri</b>	
Mountain Grove church .....	195
<b>Oklahoma</b>	
Felker church .....	50
Cisco church .....	40
Archie church .....	50
Water Mill church .....	25
First church, Ada .....	205
Okmulgee church .....	52
Weleetka church .....	97
First church, Sulphur .....	120
Lawnwood church, Tulsa .....	140
Trinity Temple church, Tulsa .....	77
<b>Tennessee</b>	
Elizabethton church .....	198
Dodson Branch church, Cookeville .....	60
<b>West Virginia</b>	
Thomas Memorial church, Huntington .....	221

### Home Mission Board Meeting

As the paper goes to press the national Board of Home Missions is in session at Swannanoa, N. C., with many of the state directors for home missions. The meeting was scheduled for November 30-December 2. Rev. Wayne Smith is the host pastor.

Items of business being discussed by the board include the sending of a team to Ebo City, Florida, to work among the Cubans there and the sending of other teams to strategic places, promoting a national "Stewardship Month" in April and designating a national evangelist.

## Georgia Association Adopts \$23,500 Budget

THOMASTON, Ga.—Georgia Free Will Baptists over-subscribed their state budget last year by \$3,000, according to the report of their promotional secretary, Rev. E. C. Morris. He gave this report at the seventeenth annual session of the state association meeting here November 10-12.

The 1954 budget was set at \$23,500, which is \$3,500 above the budget for the previous year, and there is every indication they will go above this, the secretary believes.

He also reported that every church in the state had a part in making the success which marked the past year's activities. One hundred seventeen churches out of the total of 126 had contributed to the state's Unified Program, and the other nine had made offerings to one or more phases of the work. "This is by far the greatest record yet made," he said.

Rev. Morris was re-elected to his position as promotional secretary. Rev. T. G. Hamilton, Glennville, was elected moderator to succeed the Rev. H. L. Knighton, Columbus, who declined the nomination after serving five years in the moderator's chair. Rev. J. B. Lovering was named as his assistant, and Mr. Ernest Barker, Rochelle, was re-elected clerk.

Messages during the association were brought by Rev. Louis H. Moulton, Savannah; Rev. Damon C. Dodd and Rev. Raymond Riggs, both of Nashville, Tenn., and the newly elected moderator.

The next session of the association will meet with the Midway church at Moultrie.

### Stewardship Emphasis Month

Through special arrangement with the Stewardship Commission, the National Home Mission Board will sponsor "Stewardship Emphasis Month" next April.

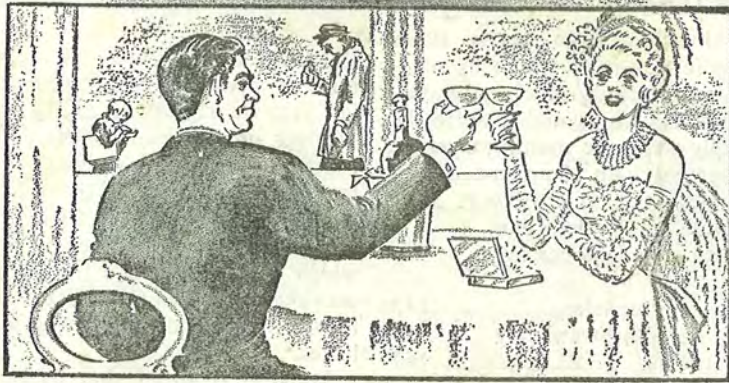
Materials are now being prepared and will be available in the late winter. Included will be a stewardship study course book, "All of Mine for Him," by D. C. Dodd, playlets, tracts and stewardship posters.

Upon recommendation of the National Association, schools of stewardship will be promoted in all Free Will Baptist churches during the month.

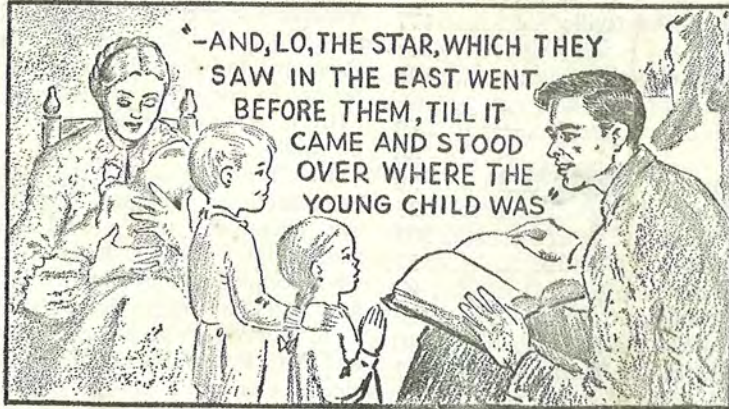
### Lumen Advertisements

Free copies of the *Lumen*, Bible college yearbook, will be given for all half- or full-page advertisements, according to an announcement from Clarence Burton, business manager for the yearbook. A full-page advertisement is \$35 and a half-page is \$20. Orders for space in the yearbook should be in by February 1, 1954.

← Fill out this form and mail today



TWO CHRISTMASSES



—AND, LO, THE STAR, WHICH THEY SAW IN THE EAST WENT BEFORE THEM, TILL IT CAME AND STOOD OVER WHERE THE YOUNG CHILD WAS

## Florida Adopts Budget Of \$15,500 and Elects Promotional Secretary

COTTONDALE, Fla.—A \$15,550 state budget was adopted at a history-making session of the Florida state association, which met October 30-31 at the state camp near here.

The biggest part of the budget was designated for the state encampment. This amount was \$6,500. The second biggest slice of the budget will go to the promotional office, which was set up on a full-time basis. Rev. D. W. Poole, Dothan, Ala., was elected as promotional secretary. The amount set aside for the promotional office is \$3,350.

Other amounts of the budget are as follows: Free Will Baptist Bible college, \$1,000; Foreign Missions, \$1,000; Alabama orphanage, \$1,000; National Home Missions, \$700; Radio-TV Board, \$500; Student Loan Fund, \$500; state and national superannuation, \$600, and state evangelistic fund, \$400.

A large representation was present from six districts, with eighteen local churches representing direct. The clerk declared that the reports during the session showed the past year to be the greatest in the history of their work. Three new churches—Chipley, Panama City and Auburndale—reported to the association by letter.

Rev. Daniel F. Pelt was re-elected moderator by the delegates and Rev. Rufus Hyman was renamed to the position of clerk.

## Go Ahead and Do It

*The bumble bee, he did not know he wasn't built for flight  
His chassis over heavy, and his wings spread not quite right;  
He knew not engineering, nor science plain and true,  
So this ignorant fellow just went ahead and flew;  
Now when a thing's impossible, don't stand around and rue it;  
Just take a lesson from the bee; GO RIGHT AHEAD AND DO IT!*

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