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Contact

of the
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

JULY, 1954

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

INDIA

Land of Missionary Challenge

In a country only about five-eighths as large as the United States with a population of more than twice as many people, there is only one missionary to every 86,000. This is India, land of missionary challenge. In this country Free Will Baptists now have six missionaries. They are Miss Laura Belle Barnard, Rev. and Mrs. Dan Cronk, Miss Volena Wilson and Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna.

In this cover picture a native teacher in a religious school instructs boys and girls. This is a great and promising part of India's missionary challenge.



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Personally . . .

Every now and then an editor reads something which another editor has written and wishes that he himself had said it. In such cases, there are only two things to do—borrow it or steal it. To keep from breaking the eighth commandment we here and now give full credit to Rev. Ollie Latch, editor of the *General Baptist Messenger*, for the words below. The sentiment is ours, the words are his, and we quote:

Convention Time Questioned

"May I question why we always have our meetings, nationally speaking, in the middle of the week? A majority of the people in this section are farmers and cannot take off at that time, but they would like very much to go. If the meetings were scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, many more would probably make plans to attend these meetings, as they should. This is merely an observation as I am from the farm and see the handicap involved in trying to attend these meetings."—Rachel E. Wooten, Rocky Mount, N. C.

Sick Minister Writes

"I am enclosing money for my subscription to CONTACT. I have been sick for nine months and have been in bed most of that time. You publish a wonderful paper and I look forward to getting each issue. I wish I could get out and get subscriptions, for I feel that every Free Will Baptist ought to subscribe. Someday maybe I will be able to."—Rev. Aaron Lewis, Lindsay, Calif.

Paper Meets a Need

"As a subscriber and one who appreciates in more than words can express the benefits same blessings that have come through the coverages of CONTACT, let me say that I feel it is meeting a need in giving the news of our denomination in a general way. Enclosed you will find six subscriptions and you may be sure I will be sending in others as fast as I can obtain them."—Rev. G. W. Nobles, Cottonwood, Ala.

Contact

Official Publication of the
National Association of Free Will Baptists

W. S. MOONEYHAM
Executive Secretary and Editor
3801 Richland Avenue
Nashville 5, Tenn.

Member of
Evangelical Press Association

Subscription Price\$1.00 per year

Entered as second class matter at Nashville, Tennessee

CONTACT is published monthly under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Committee members are E. E. Morris, George Waggoner, J. C. Griffin, Mark Lewis, Henry Melvin, J. B. Bloss, William Mishler.

"The Baptist world is faced with a disturbing situation when it attempts to make denominational programs work in the face of the independence of the local church, a cardinal doctrine with us. It is crystal clear to every thinking person that the churches of our faith cannot accomplish their world responsibilities unless they work together. Any enterprise which is our responsibility takes all of us with all we have.

"On the other hand, the plans, projects and programs of the denomination must arise in some planning and promotional body such as the General Association. The plans are passed on to the local churches for projects. Now, since the local churches are a law unto themselves, the whole denominational program is at the mercy of the churches. All too often, ill-informed and narrow-minded leadership on the local level strangles the program. This is the occasion for wishing for rules "which have teeth in them." The bald truth is, however, that among Baptists no teeth in the world can change this. The local church is still the highest realm of ecclesiastical power among us. Thus it must remain.

"Since we cannot have unity which disannuls the power of the local church, we must appeal to another type of unity. And Paul puts that type before us with his immortal words, 'Until we all come into the unity of the faith.' When the representatives of our associations and churches assemble in the name of the Lord for the transaction of business, and when in the course of prayer, discussion and planning they bring before the churches a project which fills in on the program of Jesus, they have worked from the standpoint of faith. When those plans are rejected in the local church and among self-styled 'Spirit-led' men, it is a clean indication that someone is out of the unity of the faith. Since the Bible has clearly said, 'In the multitude of counsellors there is safety,' it ought to be plain who is out of step. Let us believe and work together in such a unity."

SUNDAY MORNING SOUNDS



India Diary

Raymond Riggs

Promotional Secretary, Foreign Mission Board

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second and final installment of the diary which was kept by Mr. Riggs and Rev. E. C. Morris during their tour of the Free Will Baptist mission work in India in the spring. Because every Free Will Baptist was vitally interested in this trip and in the things accomplished and observed, we are glad that we have been able to present their story.

PART TWO

Thurs., April 1—Baptized my first candidates on the mission field today. We went in the jeep to a village about 20 miles away for the baptismal service. I baptized six. (For picture of the event, see page .) We returned about 1 p.m. and loaded the jeep for the trip to Kalimpong in the Himalayan mountains. Left at 3:30 p.m. and drove hard across the plains to Siliguri and on into the mountains. The road was very rough, steep and crooked. Arrived at the mission rest home at Kalimpong at 9 p.m. We are now near the Nepal and Tibet borders.

Fri., April 2—Dan (Missionary Dan Cronk) woke us up early so we could see the snow-capped peaks of the Kangchenjunga range of the Himalayas. It was a beautiful site with the sun shining on the snow. We were shown around the missionary compound which houses and educates 550 children from birth through high school. Much of the support is coming from an organization in America which formerly supported a similar home in China.

Many mule pack trains pass here carrying goods into China. The journey across the mountains requires eight months. We visited a Buddhist temple and saw the prayer flags and people using the prayer wheels.

Sat., April 3—Up early today and after devotions and breakfast we started for Darjeeling, another station in the mountains. I have never seen such steep mountains and winding roads. One would get dizzy from looking over the sharp cliffs. We kept climbing, using all the gears in the jeep, until we reached Darjeeling, which is over 7,000 feet high.

We stayed at a Tibetan mission operated by Pentecostal missionaries. They are doing a fine work, especially among the children. I spoke at the Youth for Christ meeting and two young Nepalese ladies stood to confess Christ. In the afternoon we visited Mt. Hermon school, formerly supported by Methodists, but now supported jointly by them and Australian Baptists. Here we met a woman artist and teacher, who stayed with us all the time we were in Darjeeling. She was a Finnish refugee and a very unique person. Pray for her salvation.

Heathen Worship Service

Sun., April 4—Got up at 4:30 this morning and drove to the top of Tiger Hill, which is 8,500 feet high. Many come up here to see the sunrise, but it was cloudy today. We went to the Sunday school conducted here by the Winwards. The children sang beautifully for us and we enjoyed their Bible drill.

After service, we walked through the terraced streets to Observatory Hill and saw a heathen worship service where Buddha and Shiva were the objects of worship by hundreds. The priests invited us to join the service and said we could worship "Yisu" (Jesus). The priests receive an offering, of course. From here we went to a Nepali service at the Scotch Mission church. After dinner, we left the mountains for Sonapurhat.

Mon., April 5—Today we rested. In the evening the Christian workers from the different villages came to the mission house for prayer and service. The service was held on the front porch and Mrs. Cronk gave the message.

Tues., April 6—Up at 6:30 for devotions and a time of prayer with the Christians. There were many prayers and testimonies and a keen consciousness of the presence of the Lord. The entire morning was spent in fellowship with the Indian Christians. In the afternoon we drove to Baumanki and spent the night with some Brethren in Christ missionaries.

Leave North India

Wed., April 7—We were shown around the mission compound at Baumanki today and were especially impressed by the aluminum buildings. I hope we might get some for Sonapurhat some time. The Brethren in Christ now have 19 missionaries in this area.

On our way down we stopped at a grass house and visited with a dear old Indian preacher who worked some with Brother Woolsey when he was here.

Thurs., April 8—After a morning session with Dan, we had lunch and a prayer meeting before leaving for Bagdogra to catch the plane. We watched Dan and Trula from our plane window until the airport became a small patch of ground. They are a precious couple and we love them very much. We are praying that others may be admitted to India in the near future to join



A Nepalese mother holds her child for a traveler's camera. Through this country which lies along India's northern border pass mule pack trains carrying goods into Communist China. Mr. Riggs and Mr. Morris visited Nepal during their trip to India.

them in this needy field. Arrived in Calcutta at 6 p.m.

Fri., April 9—Left the terminal at 5:15 a.m. for the airport. We were amazed to see so many people sleeping on the sidewalks of Calcutta. Most of them were women and children. This is indeed a city of appalling poverty. We arrived at Madras about 1 p.m. and spent the afternoon with Dr. Sterrett. Late in the evening we took the train for Mattapalium. We shared a compartment with two Indians, one who had been educated in a mission school. He told us how much he appreciated the work done in his country by missionaries.

Young Preacher to School

Sat., April 10—Joseph, John and Wilson Raj met us at the station. Wilson Raj was en route to the Bible camp. He seems to be a fine young man. Pray that God may use him in preaching the gospel to his people. We enjoyed the ride up the hills to "Westfield." Again, I was thankful for the car and the way the driver has taken care of it.

Sun., April 11—We went with Miss Wilson, John Raj and the Bible woman this morning to a "sweeper" village where they
(Continued on next page)

India Diary

(Continued from page 3)

conduct a Sunday school. Mostly children came, and they were poorly dressed. Our own Sunday school at the chapel was very good with 104 present in seven classes. I brought the message through an interpreter at the morning service. After lunch we visited the bazaar in Kotagiri. Sunday, unfortunately, is market day. Crowds of people were milling about with many displaying vegetables and various other things for sale.

At 5 p.m. we were in service at the bungalow where Miss Barnard conducts a class for the Sunday school teachers. Following this was a very spiritual prayer meeting and after supper we visited several families in the valley and had prayer with the sick.

Mon., April 12—Today we visited a Toda village. These people have features similar to the Jews and may have some racial connection. They live very primitive and are a fast-vanishing tribe. We went into their huts through the only entrance, a door three feet high. We also visited a Kota village where Brother Paul, the native pastor, preached a sermon. Went to the local Methodist church tonight where Brother Morris preached.

Entire Village Pagan

Tues., April 13—Visited another Kota village today. After a service, they demonstrated the potter's wheel (Jer. 18:3) for us. We also saw their iron works and they played their crude musical instruments and demonstrated one of their tribal dances. There is not a single Christian witness in this village. Pray for them!

Wed., April 14—This day was reserved for rest and relaxation. Had conference until noon with Miss Barnard and had a brief conference with Miss Wilson.

Thurs., April 15—We hiked three miles to another Kota village where Miss Barnard gave witness. Also visited an orphanage run by Pentecostal missionaries and met "Jean," a new missionary. She was very nervous and came out to the car weeping. New missionaries certainly need our prayers.

Fri., April 16—Today was Good Friday. Had services in the school chapel at 8 a.m. and Pastor Arnold of the Methodist church preached. This was our last full day here and it was filled with many last minute things.

Convert Says Goodbye

Sat., April 17—After goodbyes all around we started for Mettupal in the car with Miss Barnard and Volena. Out on the road, waiting to tell us goodbye was the boy who was saved the first Sunday night in Kotagiri. My heart was full and I had to weep.

Sun., April 18—We had planned to attend Easter Sunday services at the Baptist church here in Bangalore, but the taxi driver who



Six natives who had been converted under the ministry of Missionary Dan Cronk were baptized by Mr. Riggs while he was in North India. The baptismal service took place in a river near one of the many villages out of Kishanganj, center of Free Will Baptist work in North India.

was instructed to come for us failed to show up. We did go to services at the church during the day, however, and the pastor played Steiner's records of the crucifixion.

Mon., April 19—We boarded the plane early and arrived in Bombay about noon. No space available to Beirut until Friday. Went to YMCA and arranged for rooms, but didn't stay because they were terrible. Bed bugs were much in evidence, so we got a room at the Majestic hotel.

Tues., April 20—Slept late this morning and enjoyed the rest. Took a walk and visited some curio shops.

Wed., April 21—After lunch, we took a long walk down the narrow streets of the city. Also went down to the bay and saw the "Queen Mary" docked in the harbor.

Thurs., April 22—It took all morning to pick up our plane tickets and go to the Foreign Registration office to inform police of our departing date. Afternoon was spent in rest and sight-seeing.

The Sights of Jerusalem

Fri., April 23—While going to the airport this morning we again beheld the many contrasting scenes of a huge Indian city, including the nauseating smell of a polluted waterfront. We spent the afternoon in Karachi waiting for the flight to Beirut. While at the air terminal we saw the garlanding of Aly Khan's youngest brother who was leaving for some place. Many strange sights appeared before our eyes as we watched the people move about.

Sat., April 24—A day of waiting in Beirut for a plane to Jerusalem.

Sun., April 25—Jerusalem! Our introduction to the city was through the Damascus gate. When we passed through, it seemed we were in another world. The narrow, cobblestone streets, congested with people, carried us back to Bible days. After devotions and prayer in our room, we took our first tour of the Holy City.

This day was Easter Sunday for the Greek

Orthodox Church and the Armenians, thus when we arrived at the Holy Sepulchre it was jammed with worshippers. We observed the Armenians as they conducted their service. It was very ritualistic with much chanting by both the bishop and people. We also visited Calvary, David's Tower and some old bazaars.

In the afternoon we drove to the Mount of Olives and visited the ascension place, saw the church of Pater Noster, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Church of All Nations, tomb of the Virgin Mary. We also drove to Bethlehem and visited the manger, the chapel of St. Jerome, the Crusader's Cloister and the Milk Grotto. Before going back to the hotel we had a view of some shepherds and the field of Boaz. This day will never be forgotten!

Down to Jericho

Mon., April 26—After breakfast we visited the Dome of the Rock, a portion of Solomon's Temple that still remains. Also saw the Aksa Mosque, the Wailing Wall and the Via Dolorosa, or the "Way of Sorrows" over which Jesus walked to Golgotha.

In the afternoon we started out for Jericho, which is about 22 or 23 miles from Jerusalem. On our way we stopped at Bethany and visited the house of Mary and Martha and saw the tomb of Lazarus. We also passed by the Good Samaritan's Inn which is now used as a police station. There are 35,000 Arab refugees in Jericho and they live mostly in tents and little mud houses.

We visited the old walls of Jericho, saw the Mount of Temptation and drove on down to the Jordan river. We washed our hands in the water and came back by the Dead Sea to our hotel.

Tues., April 27—Today we flew back to Beirut. The flight over the snow-capped Lebanon mountains and circling over the Mediterranean Sea was beautiful indeed.

(Continued on page 13)



The Prayer Fellowship

C. F. Bowen, Director

We have seen God answer prayer in wonderful ways during the recent session of the sixth Nationwide League Conference. There were many dedications to the Lord and three precious young people found Christ as their Saviour. Let us continue to pray for mighty things in order that God might bless us in mighty ways.

Thurs., July 8—(Gen. 1:1-19)—Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the success of the nationwide league conference.

Fri., July 9—(Gen. 1:20-31)—Pray for the Bible college students in their summer activities.

Sat., July 10—(Gen. 2:1-17)—Pray for the twenty-five graduates of our Bible college as they find their places in the Lord's service.

Sun., July 11—(Gen. 2:18-25)—Pray for your pastor today.

Mon., July 12—(Gen. 3:1-24)—Pray for the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention which is meeting today at Spartanburg, S. C.

Tues., July 13—(Gen. 6:1-22)—Pray for the opening session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Spartanburg, S. C., tonight. Especially remember Rev. C. F. Bowen, the keynote speaker tonight.

Wed., July 14—(Gen. 8:1-12)—Pray again for the National Association as it enters the second day. Remember especially Rev. Charles Thigpen who will speak.

Thurs., July 15—(Gen. 8:13-22)—Pray again today for the closing session of the National Association. Remember especially Dr. L. C. Johnson, who will speak.

Fri., July 16—(Gen. 12:1-9)—Pray for the hundreds of delegates who are on their way home from the National Association.

Sat., July 17—(Gen. 12:10-20)—Pray for your Sunday school and league.

Sun., July 18—(Gen. 13:5-18)—Pray for those who will make reports on the National Association today. Pray that our people may become inspired.

Mon., July 19—(Gen. 15:4-15)—Pray for the success of the Youth Conference at Cragmont Assembly in North Carolina.

Tues., July 20—(Gen. 16:7-16)—Pray for all the new churches that have started since last month's Prayer Fellowship notices,

Wed., July 21—(Gen. 17:1-14)—Pray for the new officers of the National Association as well as the new members of the various boards.

Thurs., July 22—(Gen. 17:15-27)—Pray for the revivals being held this month.

Fri., July 23—(Gen. 18:13-22)—Pray for the coming Billy Graham revival in Nashville, Tenn.

Sat., July 24—(Gen. 18:23-33)—Pray for the new converts in our churches.

Sun., July 25—(Gen. 19:1-11)—Pray for your pastor today.

Mon., July 26—(Gen. 19:12-28)—Give praise to God for more than 5,000 subscribers to CONTACT, our national paper. We asked for it; now let's thank Him.

Tues., July 27—(Gen. 19:29-38)—Pray for Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Stevens, our missionaries to Africa, now home on furlough, who are touring our churches.

Wed., July 28—(Gen. 22:1-14)—Pray for our orphanages.

Thurs., July 29—(Gen. 24:10-28)—Thank God for the wonderful response to the Lights for Cuba project.

Fri., July 30—(Gen. 24:57-67)—Pray for the leaguers as they launch into another campaign, this time to build a chapel in Cuba.

Sat., July 31—(Gen. 25:27-34)—Pray for our Home Mission workers.

Sun., Aug. 1—(Gen. 27:6-17)—Pray again for your pastor as he preaches today.

Mon., Aug. 2—(Gen. 27:18-29)—Pray for our missionaries in India.

Tues., Aug. 3—(Gen. 28:10-22)—Pray that God might lead many of our young people to enroll in our Bible college at Nashville, or in our college at Mt. Olive, North Carolina.

Wed., Aug. 4—(Gen. 31:1-16)—Pray for the many summer camps being held this month in our denomination.

Thurs., Aug. 5—(Gen. 31:43-55)—Pray for a great sale of Rev. Damon C. Dodd's new book, "All of mine for Him."

Fri., Aug. 6—(Gen. 32:9-21)—Pray for the conversion of your neighbors.

Sat., Aug. 7—(Gen. 32:24-32)—Pray again for the coming Billy Graham revival in Nashville, Tenn.

Missionary Tells Experience with Typhoon in India

SONAPURHAT, North India—There are many trying conditions on the mission field. Not the least among them is the climate and weather. A graphic picture of this was recently sent to Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary for Foreign Mission Board, by Dan Cronk, missionary in this section. He wrote:

"Soon after you left we really got into some hot weather. The winds had begun to blow a little when you were here, but each day after you left it got hotter and dryer. To add to the affliction, the east wind would blow all morning and the west wind all afternoon while the winds from various directions would blow almost all night.

"The temperature was 105 and above from 11 to 5 in our living room day after day with no letup, while outside the winds were scorching. I foolishly tried to drive home one day about 1:30. On the road it got so bad that the heat was burning the inside of my nose so much it was painful and my eyeballs felt like they would dry up. I was afraid I might not make it, and almost didn't.

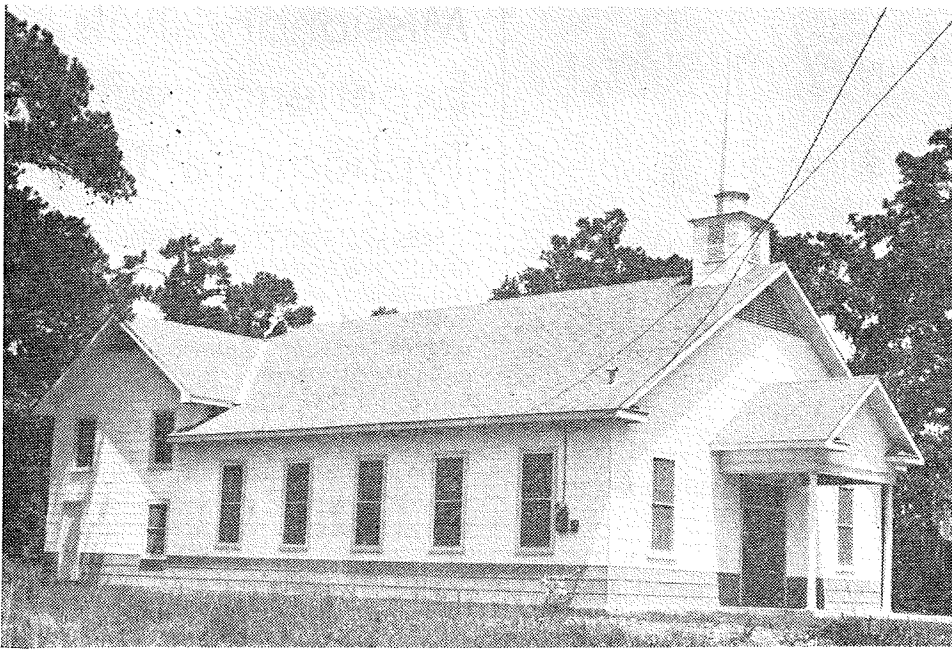
"When I got home, Trula helped me into the bathroom and poured buckets of cold water over me until I revived. The heat got more than Trula could bear, so she would soak a sheet in water and wrap it around her, head and all. The rapid evaporation from the hot wind made it cool inside. We were sort of fraying at the ends when it rained. The sudden drop in temperature was refreshing.

"A few nights later a typhoon hit. The sound of it coming woke us up, and I ran out to close the west shutters when it hit in its full strength. I was afraid that the tree at the corner of the house would come down, so I told Trula to go into the living room while I ran out to bring in the laborers who were sleeping in that conference shed. I heard the screech of tin, and in the brilliant flash of lightning saw the wall start to go over.

"I opened my mouth to yell, but immediately it was filled with water and wind. The rain was almost horizontal. I could hardly stand, and small branches and leaves were flying past me. I got the workers into the house, but was drenched to the skin despite my raincoat.

"No damage was done to our property, but many trees went over, tin roofs curled up, and some houses collapsed while many others had the grass blown off the roofs. Last year during the typhoon season we were in the tent, and only foresight in

(Continued on page 9)



In eleven years, the First Free Will Baptist church in Houston, Texas, has increased its physical properties to the new \$45,000 church plant shown above, plus a parsonage purchased about three years ago.

The formal opening for the new building was held March 7, 1954, eleven years after the organization. Besides the regular features in the auditorium, the plant has a three-story educational department with nine rooms and two assembly rooms. The baptistry scene is an oil painting of the river Jordan and is valued at over \$1,000. The church organization is complete in all departments. There are seven Leagues, a 7-Department Sunday school, and a standard Woman's Auxiliary.

Rev. Everett D. Hellard came to the Houston church in August, 1952. The church was worshipping in a temporary structure which has since been torn down and replaced with the new building. Additions to the church in the last fifteen months have totalled between fifty and sixty.

Two New Advertising Pieces Now Available

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Two valuable additions to aid local churches in their efforts to keep their activities and ministry before the general public have been brought out by the Executive Department of the National Association, according to a recent announcement.

The first of these additions to the ever-growing line of denominational material is a Free Will Baptist parsonage marker. Neat and simple, yet attractive, the marker is designed to be erected on the parsonage lawn to set the pastor's home just a little bit apart.

The marker is made of 20-gauge rustproof prime steel, and is 10 by 18 inches in size. It is finished in black baked enamel, with white reflective glass-bead lettering on both sides. The words, "Free Will Baptist Parsonage" appear at top, with the pastor's name on detachable plates at the bottom. The marker, complete with erection stand and two unlettered name plates is only \$7.95. Factory-lettered name plates are slightly higher.

The second item for church advertising is an illuminated outdoor bulletin board. Constructed of top-quality material, this board comes complete with local church name on name plate and a set of two and three inch letters for \$175. The over-all size of the board is 49 by 62 inches.

For additional information and free advertising material showing actual pictures of both the parsonage marker and the outdoor bulletin board, address an inquiry to Free Will Baptist Headquarters, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.

Oklahomans Conduct Sunday School Clinic

HASKELL, Okla.—Over 100 people representing 25 Sunday schools registered for the state Sunday School Workshop held here May 17. Rev. John H. West, Tulsa, who is chairman of the state Sunday School Board, presided over the session.

Rev. Ralph Staten, Wewoka pastor, brought the morning sermon on "Possessing Our Unpossessed Possessions." Workshop classes were conducted in the afternoon by Mr. West, who taught pastors and superintendents; Edmond Warner, Oklahoma City, adult department; Oron Estes, Haskell, senior department; Dorothy Waddle, Norman, intermediate department; Catherine Smith, Bristow, junior department; Gladys Elliston, Okmulgee, primary department; Inabelle Hamilton, Tulsa, beginner department; Kathleen Johns, Bristow, nursery and cradle roll, and Bessie Staires, Tulsa, secretaries.

The Sunday School Board announced that Mr. Warner had been named as promotional secretary for Sunday school work in the state on a part-time basis.

Members of the board, besides Mr. West, are Rev. N. R. Smith, Bristow; Rev. Benjamin Scott, Oilton, and Lowell Bates, Norman.

S.S. Conference Set For Labor Week End

CEDAR LAKE, Ind.—A Labor Day week end Sunday school conference will be sponsored by the National Sunday School Association at the Cedar Lake conference grounds here. The conference will begin on Friday evening, September 3.

Several Sunday school specialists have been invited to participate on the program. The featured speaker will be Dr. Warren Filkin, professor of Christian Education at Northern Baptist Seminary in Chicago. Dr. Filkin is vice-president of the NSSA.

Other speakers during the conference will be Rev. Dean Dalton, Christian Education consultant, Baptist Publications; Miss Dorothy Seaberg, executive secretary, Greater Chicago Sunday School Association; Rev. Gordon Johnson, Chicago pastor; Rev. Clate A. Risley, general secretary, and Miss Winona Walworth, associate general secretary of the NSSA.

For information about accommodations write direct to the Cedar Lake Conference Grounds, Cedar Lake, Indiana. The town is located fifty miles southeast of Chicago on US 41. A detailed program may be obtained by writing to the National Sunday School Association, 542 South Dearborn St., Chicago 5, Illinois.

Bulletin Orders Total 8,300 Folders Weekly

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Bulletin folders for the month of August are coming off the press while the response to the first bulletins which are scheduled for use in July is still coming in, according to Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary, under whose direction the bulletins are being prepared.

Orders for the July bulletins totalled 8,300 a week, Mr. Mooneyham said, with several orders being taken at the nationwide League conference in June. The goal is for a weekly circulation of 10,000.

Themes for August include "Our Father . . .," "Christian Obligation," "Privilege of Parenthood," "Summer Symphony," and "Come Unto Me." Free samples of the bulletins will be sent upon request to Free Will Baptist Bulletin Service, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.

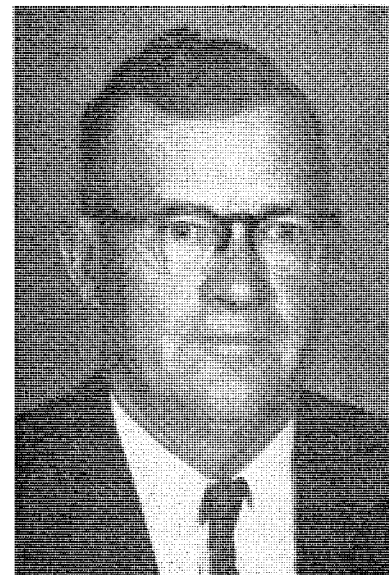
Meet the State Secretaries



DELBERT AKIN, *Oklahoma*



BURKETTE RAPER, *N. C.*



O. T. ALLRED, *Missouri*

Almost every year one or more state conventions within the National Association of Free Will Baptists adds a promotional or executive secretary to the list of their officers. While the duties of these men vary from state to state, they generally are charged with the promotion of both the program of the state association and that of the national association.

Already at least five states have full-time or part-time secretaries. We would like for you to meet them and know something about their work.

Several years ago the state of Oklahoma decided that its work was big enough to demand the services of a part-time secretary, so the office of executive secretary was created in 1949 and Rev. J. Reford Wilson

was elected as the first secretary. That office is now held by Rev. Delbert Akin, pastor of the church at Tecumseh.

As executive secretary for the state association he assists in the promotion of the entire program and acts as executive officer of the state association and its executive committee.

Charged with supervising and promoting the programs of the largest state convention in the National Association is Rev. Burkette Raper, Snow Hill, N. C.. Mr. Raper's office directs the activities of the nearly 50,000 Free Will Baptists in North Carolina.

His duties are also part-time and are shared with his pastorate of Hull Road church. Mr. Raper is a member of the National League Board.

One of the newest promotional offices is in Missouri where Rev. O. T. Allred is finishing out his first year as moderator-promotional secretary combined. Mr. Allred has served as moderator of the Missouri state association for some time and has been active in the National Association for many years. He brought to his office a wide knowledge of both the work in his state and the National Association.

His office is also on a part-time basis since he is pastor of a full-time church near Monett.

One of the oldest promotional offices is to be found in the state of Georgia, where Rev. E. C. Morris directs a full-time program of state-wide promotion for both state and national causes. He is the "dean" of state secretaries, having served in that capacity in his state since the office was established six years ago.

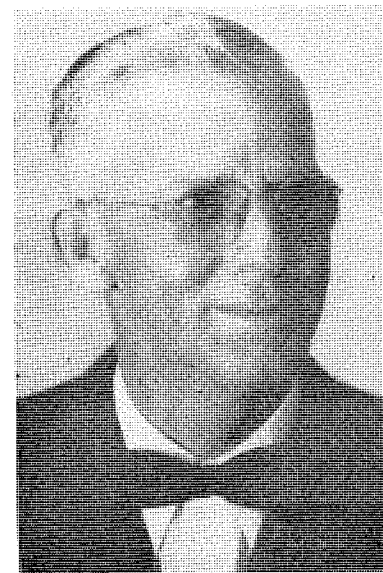
The Georgia state association collects and disburses funds under its own "Unified Program." This is the responsibility of the state secretary and there have not been many years that the state association has not met its suggested quotas from the departments of the National Association.

The newest full-time promotional secretary is Rev. D. W. Poole, who fills the office created last year by the Florida state association. From his office in Dothan, Ala., (on the Florida line) Mr. Poole directs the expanding program of that progressive state.

May the day be hastened when many more states will elect men "in whom the Spirit of God is" to promote the programs necessary for a forward-moving denomination.



E. C. MORRIS, *Georgia*



D. W. POOLE, *Florida*

Arminian Baptists in England

EDITOR'S NOTE: No feature in CONTACT has met with such wide acclaim as this history of the Free Will Baptist movement by Mr. Dodd. This is Part Four of the series which is slated to run for several months. If the demand is great enough, the series will then be issued in book form. Because of the wonderful heritage of the Arminian movement as represented by Free Will Baptists, and because of God's blessings upon it, we are proud to present this fourth installment of "The Free Will Baptist Story."

In the presentation of this portion of our Free Will Baptist story, we are coming closer to our present-day status. This installment will carry in it the first actual connection with the early Free Will Baptists on the continent of North America. It would be well just here to review the highlights of the preceding stories so as to establish the connection throughout. Perhaps this brief outline will help:

I. The early predominance of hyper-Calvinism in religious life as advanced by John Calvin. Review the five cardinal points of his doctrine.

II. The introduction of Arminianism by Koornhert and Jakobus Arminius and the striking contrast between the doctrines of Calvin and Arminius. Review the comparisons in the table given in the April issue of CONTACT.

III. The opposition to Arminianism and the alignment of forces on either side.

IV. The departure from Calvinism by new religious groups as they appear and the advent of new differences, such as mode of baptism, ecclesiastical order and authority, infant baptism, apostolic succession, transubstantiation, and separation of church and state.

V. Rise of the Anabaptist movement and its effect on the religious world.

VI. The Reformation and its subsequent influence, followed by persecution and a struggle for church supremacy.

Baptist Movement Recounted

Having fastened these salient facts in mind, we are ready to follow the rise of the Baptist movement in England and thence to the North American continent where the Free Will Baptist denomination came into actuality during the 18th century.

History records the fact of the existence of Anabaptist churches in England during the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James I. However, it is to the Separate

Damon C. Dodd

Promotional Secretary

Home Mission Board

Baptists that we must turn for a complete account of the Baptist movement in England.

Robert Brown, a Puritan preacher and teacher, began the movement for the Separate Baptists about 1580. He preached a pure democracy in church government and insisted that it was both the right and duty of Christians to withdraw from corrupt churches. Those who followed him in this "come-out" movement were called "Separatists."

Colonists Mentioned

A Separatist church was organized at Gainsborough, sixty miles north of London in 1602 under the leadership of John Smyth, who was a graduate of Cambridge and one of the first scholars of his time. He had been a minister in the church of England for a short time but had come out against prevailing corruptness in the church.

Among the members of this Separatist Church were John Robinson, William Brewster, and William Bradford, all of whom were to figure prominently in colonial history. They later withdrew and established a church at Scrooby. In 1607 they went to Amsterdam and the next year to Leyden. They met with poor encouragement in these places and on petition, they were allowed by the English government in 1620 to lead the colony to Plymouth Rock.

About 1606 or 1607, Smyth and many of the members of his church left Gainsborough under persecution and went to Amsterdam, Holland, where there was "freedom of worship for all men." They organized a church there which was called "The Second Church of Amsterdam," inasmuch as there was already a church there called "The Ancient Church." In a short while Smyth was at odds with the Ancient Church. He contended that true spiritual

worship was hindered by the use of hymn books and a printed Bible, unless that Bible were in the original Hebrew or Greek. In 1609, Smyth and his church came out against infant baptism and declared the Ancient Church to be in gross error. Smyth and his followers renounced their former baptism, dissolved their church, and entered into a new and different covenant.

Groups Were General Baptists

This new group was faced with a grave problem. There was no baptized person among them. This question was settled when Smyth baptized himself and then proceeded to baptize the others of his company. This act of Smyth in baptizing himself was immediately set upon by his opponents who branded him as "Smyth, the Se-Baptist." This opposition aroused in Smyth an uncertainty as to the right of himself and his congregation to institute a new baptism. He adopted many of the Mennonite views and sought to turn his members to that group.

A minority of the group, led by Thomas Helwys and John Murton, deposed Smyth and 30 of the members. The 9 or 10 remaining members kept the church intact and in 1611 and 1612 they decided to go back to England. Accordingly they returned to London and built their first church at Newgate. By 1626 they had grown to five churches and in 1644 there were 47 churches. In 1660, their membership had increased to 20,000.

All these churches were known as General Baptists, a name which signified that they were not Calvinistic, but Arminian in theology.¹ It is to one variety of these General Baptists that the Free Will Baptists owe their origin, since Paul Palmer was of that faith.

Doctrinal Positions

Since we are now in the act of establishing our historical basis, let us see about doctrinal and practical aspects of these General (Free) Baptists. It has been established that from the very first they were opposed to infant baptism. Their first confession of faith shows that they stood for liberty of conscience and democracy in church govern-

¹Crosby, *History of England Baptists*. Vol. II. Appendix IX.

ment. They also believed in and practiced open communion and were *immersionists* in their practice of baptism. In the year 1660, all the General Baptist churches of England, numbering 20,000 members, sent representatives to London, where they formulated and put forth a Confession of Faith. Article II of this confession stated, "That the right and only way of gathering churches, is first to *teach* or preach the Gospel to the sons and daughters of men, and then to baptize."²

Another article of the Confession of Faith of the General Baptists had to do with the church-state relationship. It stated that, "Civil government is recognized as having a right to the allegiance and support of members of the church, in peace, with tribute, customs, and all other duties, and in war with their lives and all that they have. . ." It further states that, "the magistrate is not by virtue of his office to meddle with religion, or matters of conscience, to force or compel men to this or that form of religion or doctrine."

Progress Was Slow

This position in itself did much in clearing the way for the progress of the General Baptist Church. No longer could they be declared enemies of government and society and even their bitterest foes admitted that they were "neither heretics nor schismatics, but tenderhearted Christians."

The progress of the General Baptists was at first painfully slow. The church that returned from Amsterdam probably numbered about forty members. In 15 years they had churches in London, Lincoln, Sarum, Coventry, and Tiverton. In Crosby's "History of English Baptists,"¹ a reference is made to a pamphlet published about 1620 in which the General Baptists are said to be making "multitudes of disciples." In 1614 they began publishing their views and pleading for liberty of conscience in a series of tracts, said to be the ablest expositions on that doctrine still extant. After 1626, with the accession of Charles I, severe measures were taken to suppress all dissenters and Puritans and to drive them from the kingdom. In spite of this, the General Baptists continued to grow and by 1690 they reported 30,000 members.

Leaders Become Arminian

Another hindrance to growth of the General Baptists was the fact that they were Arminian. This caused them to be regarded with suspicion in a nation that was sold on Calvinism as was England in the first half of the 17th century. Arminianism was classed by orthodox writers of that time with Socinianism and Pelagianism. However, before 1640 many of the higher churchmen of the Church of England had become Arminians, among which was William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury. This in itself is testimony of the attractiveness of the doctrine to the popular mind.

After Laud in 1640, had ceased in his efforts to Episcopalize England, the Presbyterians sought to establish their church as the state church. Their leaders stated publicly their abhorrence of toleration in religious matters and besought Parliament to "forbid all dipping (baptism by immersion) and take the inevitable course with all dippers—burn them at the stake." They refused to make any concession to the Independents and were joined in this stand by many London ministers. Accordingly Parliament passed severe laws against "dippers" and other heretics.

Presbyterians and Quakers

The Presbyterian regime was ended in 1654 by Cromwell who put in its place a kind of state church. According to one historian, this church, "recognized no one form of ecclesiastical organization; it had no church courts, no church assemblies, no church laws or ordinances. Nothing was said about rites or ceremonies, nothing even about the sacraments. The mode of administering the Lord's Supper and . . . baptism was left an open question to be determined by each congregation for itself. . . The church buildings were regarded as the property of the several parishes and in one was to be found a Presbyterian minister, in another an Independent, and in a third a Baptist.¹ This era under Cromwell came to be known as the Time of the Protectorate.

About 1647, during the Protectorate, a new doctrine arose which wooed many of the persecuted and harried Baptists to its embrace. It was known as Quakerism and was fostered by George Fox, who preached the doctrine of the Inner Light. He was a zealous and able preacher and was able in a short time to win many followers. He made such deep inroads in London among Baptists that reports became widespread that all Baptists had become Quakers. However, the Baptists came up with a "burning and powerful plea for Biblical Christianity against the views of the Quakers and Ranters." One concession that was made by these Baptists to the Quaker doctrine was that the ministry need not be supported. The ground thus yielded has never been entirely regained.

Persecution Broke Out

In spite of the fact that Cromwell had offered protection for the Baptists, there were many in England who had not approved his action. Upon his death, Charles II was invited to return to the throne, which he did. Almost immediately a group of Baptists presented a petition pledging him their fidelity and asking for his guarantee of religious liberty. The king gave his word that "none should trouble them on account of their consciences in things pertaining to religion."

Whether or not he was conscientious in this matter is a matter of speculation. The fact remains that almost immediately horrible persecution broke out and riotous

Miss a Paper?

We have received a few complaints from subscribers who have failed to receive the paper. Sometimes we have found we were at fault and had failed to make an addressing stencil although the subscription had been entered. On other complaints we have found everything in order here and assume the paper was lost in the mail. At any rate, if you fail to receive your CONTACT by the 15th of each month, we want to hear from you. Only if we know about it can we check into it.

Typhoon in India

(Continued from page 8)

placing the tent amidst a clump of bamboos and the protection of the Lord, to be sure, kept the tent from going. The Woolsey's had such an experience in a tent while they were here, too.

"But the storm was almost a week ago and the weather is again hot and the air humid, but the wind is fast drying it out again. The few days of showers gave us a new lease on energy and the grass got green, so we feel better all around."

parties, composed of the enemies of Puritanism and the partisans of the Episcopacy rode about the country with swords and pistols, hunting out non-conformists, ransacking houses, and terrorizing all in their wake. This lasted for 10 or 12 years before it finally spent itself.

Compromise Hopes Smashed

The effect of this persecution was to draw the Baptists, both General and Particular, closer together and the General Baptists showed a willingness to compromise with their Particular Baptist brethren on the matter of their greatest difference, Arminianism and Calvinism. For awhile it seemed that the two groups would come to terms. But in 1689 these hopes were dashed to the ground when the Particular Baptists adopted a creed with a greater emphasis on Calvinism, which became a vicious form of hyper-Calvinism. Of such belief was the famous Dr. Ryland when he said to young William Carey, who was urging the missionary obligation on England Baptists, "Sit down, young man, when the Lord gets ready to convert the heathen, he will do it without your help or mine."

All of these happenings combined—the doctrinal errors, the personal jealousies, the denominational desires for supremacy, the rigidity of Puritanism, the terrible persecutions, and the awful indifference to religious truth, brought about a deeply unsettled condition in England and Wales, so that with the opening up of the New World for colonization, many people were ready to venture out, led by the hope that with such new beginning in a new world they would find the long-sought for Utopia where they could live and worship unmolested. The next installment of our Free Will Baptist story will bring us to North America and the new colonies.

²Crosby, *op. cit.* Vol. II, Appendix IV.
¹Vol. 1, p. 139

¹Paschal, *History of North Carolina Baptists*, p. 33.

Home Missionary Teams Assigned



Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Lee, Jr., and Melinda

A brand new page will be written into the Free Will Baptist record when six home missionaries take their places on the field this summer and fall.

For the first time since 1910 the Home Mission department has been able to place workers in strategic localities in the homeland. Two stations will be set up at once with the third one to open as soon as feasible.

At the time of the merger between the General Conference of Free Will Baptists and the Northern Baptist Convention there were a number of Free Will Baptist Churches in Nebraska. Immediately the Northern Baptists began to bring suit to take over all property belonging to Free Will Baptists. The measure of their success can be gauged by the fact that only one Free Will Baptist church remains today in Nebraska—the Elm Island Church, near Kenesaw. Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Lee, Jr., of Calhoun City, Mississippi, will go to this church as home missionaries. Perhaps a brief sketch of the life story of Mr. and Mrs. Lee will be of interest.

Mr. Lee was born in Mississippi twenty-two years ago, the son of Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Lee, Sr. He grew up in and around Calhoun City, Mississippi, where he graduated from high school in 1950. He joined New Gauley Free Will Baptist Church in Mississippi in August, 1942, where his membership yet remains. He received the B. A. degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College in June, 1954.

Mrs. Maurine Edwards Lee is a native of Illinois. She was converted in March, 1946, and joined the Free Will Baptist Church. In July, 1946, she was baptized. In 1948 she graduated from Sesser, Illinois High School, after which she entered Free Will Baptist Bible College. She received the B. A. degree from the College in 1952 and taught there in

(Continued in column 3)

Perhaps one of the most opportune fields for the gospel message in the homeland is to be found in Ybor City, Florida. This is home for 15,000 Cuban people, many of whom do not speak or understand English.

Rev. and Mrs. Robert Wilfong will go to Tampa after September 1 to be our missionaries to the Cubans.

Mr. Wilfong was born in Missouri and is 28 years old. He attended school in Esther, Missouri, graduating from high school in 1943. He served in the Marine Corp during World War II and upon returning home he enrolled in the Flat River, Missouri, Junior College.



Rev. and Mrs. Robert Wilfong and Jo Ellen

He was converted in April, 1947 and united with Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Flat River, Missouri. Shortly thereafter he acknowledged his call to the ministry and enrolled in Free Will Baptist Bible College for further training. In 1949 he and Mrs. Wilfong went to Cuba as missionaries, where they worked for three years.

On returning home, Mr. Wilfong re-entered Free Will Baptist Bible College for work toward his B. A. degree. He was called to the pastorate of Heads Church, Cedar Hill, Tennessee, where he is working at present.

Mrs. Wilfong is also a native of Missouri and a graduate of Esther High School, where she was employed for several years. She came from the Methodist Church to the Free Will Baptist in September, 1947. She is a licensed practical nurse and also a bookkeeper and secretary.

The Wilfongs were married in June, 1946, and have one daughter, Jo Ellen, 3½ years old. They will make their home in Tampa while engaged in their new work in Ybor City.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Crawford are under assignment to Oregon and as soon as a definite opening is secured there, a Free Will Baptist home mission point will be established.

In the meanwhile, the Crawfords will be living in Bakersfield, California, where he will be pastor of the Free Will Baptist church.

Mr. Crawford is a native of North Carolina, having been born there in 1926. He was converted and united with Goshen Free Will Baptist Church in 1942.

He served in the U. S. Army during World War II, returning from active duty in 1946. In September of 1950, Mr. Crawford enrolled in Free Will Baptist Bible College and attended one semester. In September, 1951, he resumed his studies in the Nashville college, where he has been until June, 1954.

Mrs. Crawford is also a native of North Carolina and was a student at Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1952. She and Sylvester were married in December, 1951, and are the parents of a daughter, born in May of this year.

They were to have gone to Springfield, Oregon. However, when the Free Will Baptist Church there withdrew from the denomination and went independent, the Home Mission Board was forced to change its plans. The Crawfords will be assigned to a work in Oregon as soon as one is available.



Rev. and Mrs. Sylvester Crawford and Sharon

(Continued from column 1)
1952-53.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee were married in August, 1951. They have one child, a daughter, Melinda Kay, five months of age. They plan to leave for the field after August 15. In all probability they will live in Kenesaw, Nebraska, and take care of the work in Elm Island.

Services in Georgia Boost Home Missions

Missionary enthusiasm and denominational cooperation characterized the itinerary conducted in Georgia May 22-31 by Rev. D. C. Dodd in the interest of national home missions. Rev. E. C. Morris, state promotional secretary, arranged for the services and accompanied Mr. Dodd to each church.

A total of thirteen contacts was made during the tour. However, in many of the services there were from three to nine churches represented. Three Union meetings in which at least twenty churches were represented were included in the itinerary.

These services resulted in Georgia exceeding her Home Mission Quota by more than \$200.00. Ozias Church, near Waycross, paced the churches in giving with a \$67.25 offering. Memorial Church, Surrency, was next in line with \$58.56 followed closely by New Light Church, Morgan, Georgia, with \$54.91.

Jakin Church gave \$44.75, Bay Church, Moultrie, \$35.20 and Mt. Gilead Church, near Bainbridge, \$35.00.

Other gifts were: Blakeley \$25.00; Beulah Springs (Georgia Union Meeting) \$25.00; Columbus, First, \$29.80; Spring Hill (Union Meeting) \$10.00; Lyons (Union Meeting) \$11.06; Philadelphia (near Folkston) \$14.60; Enterprise \$5.77.

"From many angles this was one of the most successful itineraries ever conducted," said Mr. Dodd. "The spirit of cooperation shown by the Georgia churches was unexcelled."

The latest home mission accomplishment in Georgia is the organization of a new church in Poulan. This church was officially constituted in March, 1954, with twelve charter members. Rev. Lamar Parrish is pastor.

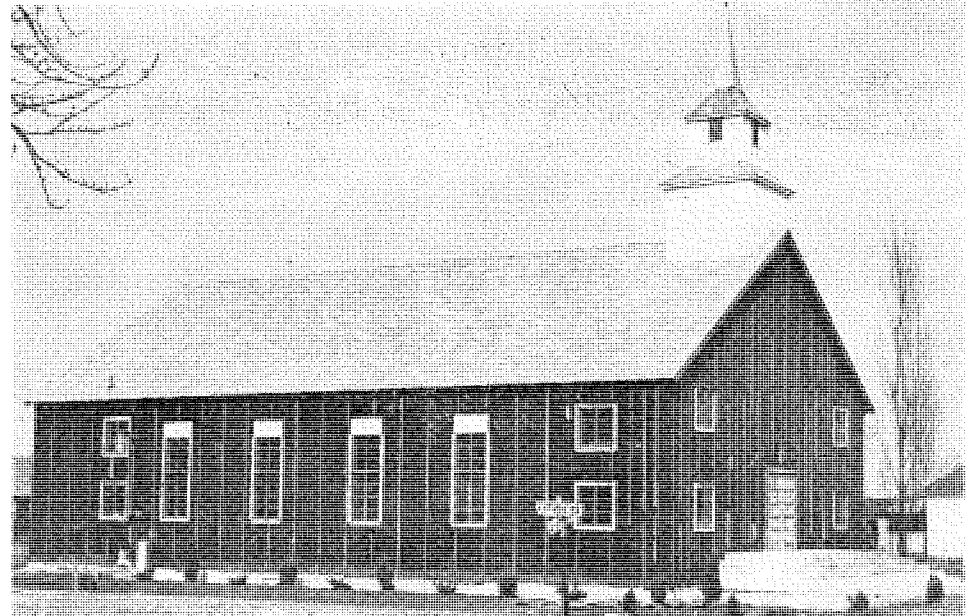
Five States Exceed Home Missions Quota

With home mission receipts zooming to a new high, Oklahoma becomes the fifth state to exceed her quota this year and other states will likely follow suit before the month is gone.

Thus, California, Tennessee, Georgia, Arkansas, and Oklahoma compose the big five for home missions as we come down the home stretch in 1953-54.

Gifts are coming to the home mission office directly from the local churches in Oklahoma. This is a part of Rev. Ernest Kennedy's promotional campaign to put Oklahoma over the top.

Rev. Claud Hampleman is conducting a home mission itinerary in Illinois and indications are that victory is assured in putting this state over. Rev. George Ritter, the state home mission director, has arranged the services. A check from Illinois last month for \$400.00 set the stage for Illinois to meet her full home mission quota of \$1,000 this year.



First Free Will Baptist church at Kirksville, Mo., will not be a year old until October, but they are already nearing completion of this \$25,000 building. Everything was finished except laying the brick when the picture shown above was taken, and the brick-laying has now been started. The church was organized October 1, 1953, by Rev. D. C. Dodd and Rev. Rolla Smith with 32 charter members. The new congregation, under the leadership of Pastor Lester Jones, supports a complete denominational program.

A Vacation Bible School held in June by the church resulted in 21 decisions for Christ out of the 67 enrolled.

National Convention Meets Next Week

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Around 1,500 to 2,000 ministers, delegates and visitors are expected to attend the eighteenth annual session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists which will meet next week (July 13-15) at Spartanburg, S. C. The announcement was made by the Executive Office of the national association on the basis of inquiries received in recent weeks.

The session will open Tuesday night with the keynote message, "The Urgency of the Burning Heart," by Rev. C. F. Bowen, Nashville, Tenn. Other speakers during the convention include Rev. Charles A. Thigpen, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., Greenville, S. C.; Rev. Damon C. Dodd, and Rev. Raymond Riggs, both of Nashville.

Among the important items of business to be acted upon will be a recommendation to amend the constitution to allow for increased representation from the states to the national convention and a proposed Cooperative Plan of support for the denominational agencies. Attention will also be given to a plan to set up a denominational supply center in Nashville and to a proposal from the Home Mission Board for denominational participation in an Arminian Baptist Fellowship.

Theme of the convention is "Revival Now!"

Wolverine Association Holds Annual Session

DETROIT, Mich.—The 13th annual conference of the Wolverine Association met June 3-5 at the Highland Park Free Will Baptist church with Dr. Willard C. Day, pastor of the Free Will Baptist church at Mountain Grove, Mo., as feature speaker.

The association elected officers as follows: Rev. Mark Lewis, moderator; Rev. H. C. Beasley, assistant moderator; Mrs. Mildred Daniel, clerk; Mr. Cart, assistant clerk, and Rev. Van Paschall, treasurer.

In the business session the delegates adopted a cooperative plan in harmony with the one which will be presented to the National Association this month. Each church is requested to tithe its quarterly income to the association which will disburse the funds as follows: Associational General Fund, 40 per cent; Cooperative Plan of the National Association, 40 per cent; Associational Home Mission Board, 12 per cent, and Associational Superannuation Board, 8 per cent.

Rev. William Mishler, pastor of Philadelphia church, was commended for his work over the past years. He resigned his offices in the association to become promotional secretary for the National Sunday School Board on September 1. The association voted to recommend Rev. Paul Lee, pastor of Flint First church, to the National Association as their representative on the General Board.



Woman's Auxiliary

"His Command — Our Task"

MRS. H. B. SLOAN, Executive Secretary



Rev. and Mrs. Harold J. Stevens, missionaries to Africa who are home on furlough, will lead the opening service of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention July 12-13 at Spartanburg, S. C. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens have conducted services in many Free Will Baptist churches since returning from Africa in the spring. They spoke at a service during the sixth nationwide League conference last month in which more than 40 young people came down dedicating their lives for foreign or home missionary service.

They will also present a film at the Auxiliary convention showing their missionary work in Africa.

the convention and Mrs. Mary Bates is secretary. The convention is composed of eight Auxiliaries with about 130 members. The next meeting will be held August 28 at the Wilson Chapel church near here.

* * *

LOUISA, Ky.—A district Auxiliary convention was organized June 7 when representatives from several area churches met at the Kentucky Children's home here. This meeting was preceded by a fellowship meeting held May 19 at the home of Mrs. B. H. Cox in Paintsville to explore the possibilities of a district organization. Four churches were represented at this fellowship meeting. The names of permanent officers were not available, but Mrs. Seldon Bullard and Mrs. Homer Willis served as temporary chairman and secretary.

* * *

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—New officers for the Social Band district Auxiliary convention were elected May 17 when the convention met at the Sutton church near here. Delegates were present from Auxiliaries at Sharum, Sutton and Pocahontas. New officers are Mrs. Earl Smith, president; Mrs. Fred Kincaide, youth chairman; Mrs. Dewey Graham, youth chairman; Mrs. I. C. Staten, program chairman; Mrs. Ruth Swan, stewardship chairman; Mrs. E. L. Bibbs, benevolence chairman; Mrs. Billy Rogers, prayer chairman, and Mrs. George Broadway, secretary-treasurer.

Rev. J. Reford Wilson, Pocahontas pastor, spoke at the meeting. An offering was received for the Bible College library fund totalling \$7.08. The next meeting of the convention will be August 16 at Sharum church.

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Reports from the Field

DETROIT, Mich.—Mrs. C. F. Bowen, literature chairman for the WNAC, spoke at a district workshop held at the Highland Park here May 15. About 100 attended the session, which was described as the best ever held in the district. Mrs. Jack Montgomery, president, presided during the day.

At the morning service Mrs. Bowen spoke on "Five Big Things in Your Life." She told the Auxiliary workers that it is not where you are that counts, but how you react to your location; it is not what happens to your body that counts, but what happens inside your heart; it is not what you suffer that counts, but your reaction to pain; it is not the opposition you meet that counts, but your attitude toward it, and it is not what you do that counts, but your purpose in doing it.

Workshop sessions in the afternoon were conducted by Mrs. Charles Thigpen, Mrs. Solon Maynard and Mrs. Bowen. The young people from the host church presented

a playlet, "Farmer Brown's Conversion to the Doctrine of Stewardship."

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NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Mrs. H. B. Sloan, executive secretary of the WNAC, has issued a statement urging delegates to the annual convention to study carefully the 1953 minutes of the convention. She also advised that delegates will need to bring a Bible, their Yearbook, a Manual of Methods and note paper and pencil. "Pray for the leadership of the Holy Spirit, that His will be done in all things," she concluded.

* * *

NORTON, Va.—The district Auxiliary convention of Southwest Virginia met May 29 at the Southside Chapel here. Rev. Mack Fisher, host pastor, brought the morning sermon. Mrs. Della Salyer is president of

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The supply of 1954 GTA program books is gone, Mrs. H. B. Sloan, executive secretary of the WNAC, has announced. However, the literature department has a few copies of the 1953 program books which may be ordered at twenty cents each, she said.

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NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The headquarters furniture campaign was a little over three-fourths completed by June 15, according to the WNAC office. Offering totalling \$606.-10 have been received to purchase furniture for the reception and conference rooms. This leaves a balance of \$195.90.

States which still have a balance on their quota are Alabama, \$26; Florida, \$2; Kentucky, \$17.50; Missouri, \$30.90; North Carolina, \$11; Oklahoma, \$7; South Carolina, \$72; Tennessee, \$48; Texas, \$2, and West Virginia, \$5.

India Diary

(Continued from page 4)

Home to America

Wed., April 28—Today in Beirut I had an interview with Shafie (pronounced Sha-feek) Ziady, brother of Sam Ziady, who has made application to our board. He seems to be a fine Christian young man and hopes to attend our Bible college. We enjoyed this visit and had prayer together before we left him. After a seven-hour delay we left for London at 6:30 p.m.

Thurs., April 29—From Beirut we flew over the island of Cyprus and our first stop was at Istanbul, Turkey. The flight from London across the Atlantic was fine. We took the northerly route and could see "Greenland's icy mountains." Flew over Labrador, Canada, Maine, Boston, and landed in New York about 2:15 Friday morning. Very, very tired and sleepy.

Fri., April 30—Checked through customs and said goodbye to Brother Morris as he went to the Greyhound Lines and I to LaGuardia field. It is good to be back in the USA.

Giving Until It Hurts Is Wrong Exhortation

The exhortation "Give until it hurts!" is utterly stupid. The people who agonize over the departure of each dollar are stingy souls. They hate to see the money go, partly because they love the stuff and partly because their conscience tells them to give, and they are smothering conscience.

The man who objects to offerings and financial canvasses is the church member who knows that he ought to give, or that he ought to give more generously, but who is too tight to do so. He just doesn't like to be called on.

The happy givers are the generous givers. They are proud of themselves. They have done something which lifts them in their eyes and in the eyes of their fellow church members. And the more they give, the more they enjoy it. It is true that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver, but the cheerful giver also loves the Lord—and everybody else. He is a happy soul. And we add to the sum total of human happiness when we persuade people to give, not until it hurts, but until they enjoy themselves.

I once wandered into a little church out in Iowa which had been recently renovated. On the wall was a list of the members with the amount that they had been assessed, and whether or not it was paid. Fifty dollars was tops, and everybody who had been asked for that amount had come through. The same was true of the thirty-five and twenty-five dollar people.

The unpaid assessments were for ten or fifteen dollars—and at that level they were having a hard time getting the money. This is one proof that giving a little hurts a lot.—Selected

Great Missionary Service Highlights Sixth Nationwide League Conference

by C. F. BOWEN

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—More than forty young people dedicated their lives to service in home and foreign mission fields in a glorious climax to the missionary hour in the recent session of the sixth nationwide Free Will Baptist League conference, held in the Bible college at Nashville, Tennessee. Leading the service were Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Stevens, missionaries to Africa, now home on furlough.

The league conference, sponsored by the Cumberland League Convention of Tennessee, registered 663 from seventeen states. It was conservatively estimated that more than 700 were actually in attendance. During most of the services there was standing room only with approximately 100 on the outside for the evening services. North Carolina was the leading visiting state in attendance with 75.

An outstanding feature of the conference was the report on the "Lights for Cuba" project which showed a balance needed of about \$400.00. All of this amount was raised either in cash gifts or pledges with the Horsebranch Church, Turbeville, S. C., leading with a pledge of \$100.00.

The conference was then challenged by Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary of the National Foreign Mission Board, to raise \$3,000 to help build a chapel in our Cuban mission district within the next few months. Hundreds of leaguers raised their hands in acceptance of that challenge. The National League Board will consider this project in its regular meeting in Spartanburg this month. The East Nashville leagues have already sent in the first offering on this new project.

The Thursday evening program of the conference was highlighted by the nationwide Intermediate Sword Drill conducted by Mrs. C. F. Bowen of Nashville, Tenn. There were eleven contestants, nine girls and two boys, from as many states. Winners of this drill were: first place, Adell Taylor, North Carolina; second place, Billie Louise John-

son, South Carolina; and third place, James Evans, Arkansas. The first two winners received beautiful, engraved Bibles. The third place winner received an official league pin.

The Wednesday evening service featured the regular offering usually received at each conference. The amount of this offering was \$274.57, which was sufficient to pay all bills of the conference not handled by the treasurer of the Cumberland League Convention.

Four class sessions were held during the conference with members of the National League Board serving as instructors. Examinations are being prepared for those desiring them and certificates of merit will be awarded within the next few weeks. Members of the National League Board are Rev. Henry Melvin, chairman; C. F. Bowen, secretary, Van Paschall, Rev. R. B. Crawford, and Rev. W. B. Raper.

In the opinion of many, the conference was a decided asset to the Bible college. Scores of young people, impressed with what they saw of the college, indicated that they were planning to attend school here. Said Dr. Johnson, "I will be happy to discuss your plans to enter school with you." It has been suggested that future sessions of the conference be held at the college, but observers pointed out that without increased room and available facilities, such a plan would not be feasible.

The next nationwide league conference will be held in June, 1956. The site of the conference has not yet been determined. One tentative invitation has been received but chances are—with more room and facilities—the 1956 conference will be held again at the Bible college.

This one thing is true: wherever it is held it will set new patterns and precedents for other national meetings. Always there is something new and exciting about our nationwide league conferences. And 1956 will be no different.

HOW TO MULTIPLY A PROBLEM



I Believe in Missions

Because the greatest mission ever known was when God sent His only begotten Son into the world to save it.

Because the world will never be brought to Christ until men bring Christ to the world.

Because Jesus Himself taught us that missions was the only way to make disciples.

Because I am a disobedient lover of Jesus is I do not obey His command when He said, "Go."

Because if salvation means everything to me, I cannot be happy unless I share it with others.

Because a Christian who does not believe in missions always gets narrow and loses his world vision.

Because the missionary is the greatest hope of the world in its present historical crises.
—Charles M. Sheldon

Glancing Around the States . . .

BEN BARRUS, News Editor

Mishler Heads Sunday School

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Rev. William Mishler will become full-time Sunday school promotional secretary on September 1. Mr. Mishler has resigned as pastor of Philadelphia Free Will Baptist church, Detroit, Michigan. His office will be located at the headquarters building in Nashville.

Returned Missionary Addresses Woman's Auxiliary Convention

PIKEVILLE, N. C.—Mrs. Harold Stevens delivered the convention message at the meeting of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary on May 20. Mrs. Stevens is on furlough from Africa with her husband, Rev. Harold Stevens. Over four hundred attended the meeting which was held at the Pleasant Grove church.

Trinity Moves To New Home

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—On May 30, 1954, Trinity Free Will Baptist church held its first service in their new church home at 324 Cleveland Street. The church was organized in 1942 by Rev. I. J. Blackwelder. Rev. Lonnie Da Voutt has been pastor since October, 1953. Under his leadership, the Sunday school has increased from 112 to 163. The church has purchased a bus to provide transportation for some of its members.

The previous church home, located at 210 Foster Street, will be sold to another church group.

Missouri Announces Youth Encampment

VERSAILLES, Mo.—The eighth annual session of the Missouri state Free Will Baptist youth encampment will be held July 19-24 at Camp Sharon, Versailles, Missouri.

Plans are being made to offer Bible and stewardship lessons to those over the age of 10. For the younger set, special instruction, including flannelgraph lessons, will be featured. Three hours and a half each day will be set aside for supervised play which will include hikes, softball, volley ball, and horse shoes. Total cost for the stay at camp will be \$10.50. Reservations are to be made before July 15 by writing to Rev. William Reeves, Niangua, Missouri.

Postlewaite Brothers Organize New Church

MILTON-FREEWATER, Oregon—A new church was organized in Milton-Freewater, Oregon. The group is meeting in a Primitive Baptist church until further plans can be made. Rev. Johnnie Postlewaite

preached the revival preceding the organization. Rev. Wade Postlewaite, Box 601, Milton-Freewater, Oregon, will pastor the new church.

Pastor Resigns Cushing Church

CUSHING, Okla.—Rev. W. V. McPhail has announced his resignation as pastor of the Cushing Free Will Baptist church. It will become effective July 1, 1954.

Santa Paula Church Elects New Pastor

SANTA PAULA, Calif.—The Rev. Robert Maxwell, Jr., has assumed duties as pastor of Santa Paula church. Mr. Maxwell, formerly of Stigler, Oklahoma, replaces Rev. W. Gregory, who has gone to the church at Bell Garden, Calif. Santa Paula has 142 members.

Franklin County Quarterly Meeting Held at Thebes

THEBES, Ill.—The Franklin County quarterly meeting was held at the Alexander Free Will Baptist church on May 28-30. Rev. Carl V. Williams, of Mt. Vernon, served as moderator. The principal speakers were Rev. Riley Burton and Rev. Howard Flota. Mr. Flota was ordained at the Saturday session, May 29.

Six Mid-west Churches Conduct League Rally

ODESSA, Texas—The First Amarillo church was host to a district league rally with six churches participating as follows: Amarillo, Texas; Odessa, Texas; Crowell, Texas; Kermit, Texas; Hobbs, New Mexico; and Sayre, Oklahoma.

Plans were made for the next rally to be held at the Odessa church on August 25. Mr. Roy Thomas, Air Force Station, Roswell, New Mexico, will be the speaker.

State Youth Camp Board Acquires Camp Grounds

UNICOI, Tenn.—The Tennessee State Youth Camp Board has obtained use of the Optimist camp grounds near Unicoi, Tenn. Rev. Harvey Hill, chairman of the camp board, stated that plans are being made for the camp session which will be opened June 21-July 2.

Ministers and Deacons Hold Quarterly Meeting

PORTERVILLE, Calif.—The California state ministers and deacons' quarterly conference convened May 28-29 at the Porterville Free Will Baptist church. Rev. Joe Mooneyham was the keynote speaker.

Mt. Olive Church Host To Albermarle Union

PLYMOUTH, N. C.—The Albermarle Union League and Sunday School Convention met at the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist church, Plymouth, N. C., on May 29-30. Rev. L. E. Ambrose opened the session with a message on "Evangelism in the Local Church." The convention sermon was delivered by Rev. T. O. Terry.

Young Pastor Wanted For Illinois Church

MAYWOOD, Mo.—Rev. J. E. Corey has resigned the two union churches near Mt. Sterling, Illinois, to accept a pastorate at one of the churches in the northeast Missouri association. The churches Mr. Corey left desire a young pastor. Anyone who is interested should write Rev. J. E. Corey, Route 4, Maywood, Missouri.

South Carolina Plans League Encampment

CHERAW, S. C.—The annual League camp at Camp Forest, Cheraw, S. C., will meet August 22-28. The Rev. Paul Ketteman announces the total cost will be fifteen dollars. For additional information, write to Mr. Ketteman, Pamplico, South Carolina.

Virginia Association Will Meet at Bristol

BRISTOL, Va.—The Virginia state association will meet at the West Bristol Free Will Baptist church here on June 18-19. The Rev. O. P. Stokes is the host pastor. The Rev. Winston Sweeny, Virginia state foreign mission director, announces that lunch will be served both days of the conference.

New Church Organized In Owensboro, Kentucky

OWENSBORO, Ky.—The Christian Fellowship church, 2221 Main Street, Owensboro, Ky., was organized into the Fellowship Free Will Baptist church June 6 under the leadership of the Rev. E. A. Craft, moderator of Cumberland association. The church lists 30 charter members. Rev. Sidney Henry conducted a revival in the new church May 30-June 13. Rev. Wilbur Karrick serves the church as pastor.

Center Association Elects New Officers

PARLIER, Calif.—The Center association of California convened last month at the Parlier church. Rev. W. Lawless, pastor of Selma church, was elected as moderator. Members of the executive board were

Glancing Around the States . . .

ected as follows: Rev. C. Thurman, 5 years; Rev. Finney Berry, 4 years; Rev. J. E. Bridges, 3 years; Rev. L. Talley, 2 years; Rev. W. Lawless, 1 year.

County-wide Revival Scheduled in Georgia

BLAKELY, Ga.—Seven churches will participate in a county-wide revival here on July 16-29. Rev. J. B. Bloss of Columbia, Tennessee, will be the revival speaker. Rev. K. V. Shutes is chairman in charge of arrangements.

Church Organized At North Fresno

NORTH FRESNO, Calif.—A new church was organized in North Fresno with twenty-five charter members. Following the organization, Rev. Winston Lawless conducted a revival for the church. Rev. Cecil Thurman has been called as pastor.

Missouri Yearly Meeting Scheduled for August 5-7

MINE LAMOTTE, Mo.—The Southeast Missouri yearly meeting will convene on August 5-7 at the Mill Creek Free Will Baptist church. Rev. James Franklin, St. Louis, Mo., will deliver the opening address. Rev. James Barker will serve as moderator.

Southern Illinois Group Hold Yearly Conference

BENTON, Ill.—The Southern Illinois yearly conference met for their annual

session at the youth tabernacle on the Sunday School Alliance grounds, Benton, Illinois, on June 2-5. All three quarterly meetings comprising the yearly conference were represented.

Rev. George E. Ritter and Miss Opal Hiltibidal, state directors, reported on home and foreign missions. Rev. Leroy Forlines gave a report on the Bible College. Mr. Forlines is an instructor at the college. A revised constitution was considered, but final action was delayed until the next session. A religious play was given Saturday night by the young people. George W. Waggoner served as moderator for the session.

Georgia Camp Meeting Scheduled for August 15-20

ASHBURN, Ga.—Plans are now being made for the Georgia camp meeting to be held August 15-20, according to Rev. K. V. Shutes, chairman. The camp site is located four miles north of Ashburn. The total cost per person is one dollar a day. Rev. T. O. Terry, from Cove City, N. C., will be the main speaker for the encampment.

Center Association Meets At Parlier, California

PARLIER, Calif.—The Center association held its annual meeting at the Parlier Free Will Baptist church on May 13-14. Over two hundred attended the meetings. Mrs. Norma Voss announced a daily vacation Bible school for early June.

Campbell Accepts Church In North Carolina

NEW BERN, N. C.—Rev. Cecil Campbell, formerly pastor at Monett, Mo., is now serving St. Mary's Free Will Baptist church here. He assumed the pastorate in April. Rev. James T. Davis, formerly at the First church in Columbia, Tenn., accepted the Monett pastorate as of June 6.

New California Church Preparing to Build

OXNARD, Calif.—Two large lots on highway 101 freeway to Los Angeles have been purchased by the newly organized Free Will Baptist church here. The church, which was organized with 29 charter members, is served by Rev. Arthur Billows.

New Church Organized At Conway, Arkansas

CONWAY, Ark.—Eighteen charter members joined the new Free Will Baptist church organized April 13 here. The organizational services were under the direction of Rev. Lawnie Coffman. Others assisting were Rev. Homer, Rev. Jessie Pratt and Rev. O. T. Dixon. The new group has an active League, Sunday school and Woman's Auxiliary. Rev. R. G. Lane is pastor.

Northwest Missouri Association Meets

HADDAM, Kansas—The quarterly meeting of the Northwest Missouri association was held May 23 at the Free Will Baptist church near here. Messages during the day were brought by Mrs. Mary Eichman and Rev. John D. McKown.

Tennessee Church Has Special Services

COLUMBIA, Tenn.—Two special services were held during May at the Loyal Chapel church here. On Mother's Day flowers were given to Mrs. Sadie Price, the oldest mother present; Mrs. Leon Calvert, youngest mother, and Mrs. Sidney Johnson, mother with the most children present.

At the night services on May 23 the Woman's Auxiliary of Heads church, north of Nashville, presented the playlet, "Aunt Tilly Learns To Tithe," and their pastor, Rev. Robert Wilfong, brought the message.

Men's Brotherhood Organized at Okmulgee

OKMULGEE, Okla.—Joe Zummer was elected president of the men's brotherhood of the First church, which was organized May 14. Other officers included Ed Reed, vice-president; Ed Bohuslavicky, secretary-treasurer, and John Elliston, assistant secretary. The men's first project was to clean off the lots which have been purchased for building.

Fourteen Churches Report Revivals

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Heading the list of revival reports to CONTACT this month was a meeting conducted at Canebrake, W. Va., with 57 decisions for Christ and 29 additions to the church. In Swannanoa, N. C., a revival saw fifty decisions with 26 additions and the church at Amory, Miss., experienced a great revival with 40 decisions and 18 additions. The revival in East Tupelo, Miss., was marked with scores of dedications and highlighted by a service which saw some twenty young people surrender their lives for Christian service.

CONTACT is glad to report revivals for our readers when results are reported promptly with the information given below:

Church	Evangelist	Pastor	Date	Dec.	Add.
East Tupelo, Mississippi	Raymond Riggs	L. D. Gibson	June 6-13	9	19
Canebrake, West Virginia	Willard Porter	Willard Porter	April 19- May 20	57	29
Swannanoa, N. C.	Frank Thompson	Wayne Smith	May 9-22	50	26
Amory, Mississippi	Louis H. Moulton	M. L. Hollis	May 30- June 6	40	18
Turley, Oklahoma	Glenn Dipboye	Doyle Dipboye	June 6		
Henryetta, Oklahoma	Harry Staires	Homer Young	June 6		
Fourth Church, St. Louis, Missouri	Bill Buster	Bill Turnbough	May 2-16	7	5
Holdenville, Oklahoma	Ed Morris	Elvis Priest		5	6
McAlester, Oklahoma	Eldon Wood	J. J. Postlewait		4	7
Elizabethton, Tennessee	Bob Hill	Harvey Hill	June 2-12	10	6
Columbus, Mississippi	Raymond Riggs	J. D. O'Donnell	May 16		
Phillips Chapel, Springdale, Arkansas		Tommy Day		13	2
Conway, Arkansas	O. T. Dixon	R. G. Lane	June	1	1
Loyal Chapel, Columbia, Tennessee	W. S. Mooneyham	J. B. Bloss		9	4
Fayette, Ala.	J. B. Bloss	O. L. Fields	May 30- June 6	28	16
Stobtown, Okla.	Ward Fellabaum	E. J. Guinn	May 30- June 11	21	10
Tucson, Ariz.	L. C. Pinson	B. W. Hutchinson	June 9-21	8	1

For Your Information

Our list of columnists and writers keeps increasing. Rev. Ben Barrus joins the staff this month as news editor. He will edit the "Glancing Around the States" feature every month. Mr. Barrus was a student in the editor's journalism class last semester at the Bible college and will do a good job with this most popular feature of our paper. The young minister has another new job—he became pastor of East Nashville church on June 14. . . . Rev. Paul Kettelman, chairman of the arrangements committee for the national association, called this week and asked us to pass on the information that the dietician at Wafford College in Spartanburg plans to serve three meals a day in the banquet hall of the auditorium during the convention. Meal ticket will be \$3 a day and you can eat all you want as long as it lasts. . . . WNAC is making plans to go into the business of printing salvation tracts. We hope they will, and predict a wide and immediate circulation for anything they produce. For too long we've had to use somebody else's material.

You'll be interested to know that our circulation this month is between 3,400 and 3,500, which is still a good ways from 5,000. "Contact Sunday" so far has produced only about 750 new subscribers—just one-half the number of posters sent out. . . . CONTACT is now the owner of a new Rolleicord flash camera. Watch for more and better pictures in future issues. We may not turn out the same quality pictures which Life magazine does, but at least we have the same type camera. . . . Will we see you at Spartanburg next week?

May S.S. Averages

	S. S.	League
Arkansas		
Phillips' Chapel, Springdale	172	
Mt. Harmony church, Saffell	64	28
Missouri		
Fellowship church, Flat River	167	67
Leadington church	116	
North Carolina		
St. Mary's church, New Bern	317	
Canton church	232	
Swannanoa church	225	
Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie	127	39
Oklahoma		
Capitol Hill church, Oklahoma City	244	
Lewis Avenue church, Tulsa	183	
Lawnwood church, Tulsa	172	
Airport church, Tulsa	72	
Lindsay church	60	
Greenbrier church, Adair	59	
Tennessee		
First church, Elizabethton	218	
Midway church	139	
Bethlehem church, Ashland City	111	
Oaklawn church	107	
Heads church, Cedar Hill	81	
Dodson Branch church, Cookeville	72	

Spiritually Unbalanced

Dwight L. Moody once said, "I have had more trouble with myself than with any other person I know." Mr. Moody was not the first or last to realize the tremendous task of mastering one's self. This is the number one problem of every one who desires to live a righteous life.

Every Christian is a gallant warrior who has won the victory over evil in the great fight of life on the battlefields of his own heart. The fight starts when we attempt to give Jesus Christ complete control over us. The evil is willing to rule any amount of us when he finds out that he can't have full dominion. Jesus says, "All or none."

A well-balanced character must be supported from four angles. This is clearly taught in Luke 2:52; "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." From the day Christ was born he grew physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. If he had not developed in this manner, he could not have been an example for the world.

A criminal is seldom found who doesn't know right from wrong. He usually is the type that has a strong body, a keen mind and perhaps a sociable personality, but has

never developed spiritually, therefore he is spiritually unbalanced.

Some parents think that just because they give their children a good education they have done their part, but that is only one step in the right direction. The curriculum of the secular school is divided thus; eighty per cent intellectual growth, seventeen per cent character building, and only three per cent spiritual development.

Someone said, "Nature forms us, sin deforms us, school informs us, but only Christ can transform us." Paul said, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). The soul that is spiritually dead is also spiritually incapacitated.

Christ is the answer! The surest way to curb juvenile delinquency and bring the world into universal tranquillity is to put Him back into our public schools, and teach the forthcoming generation that self-denial and godly living is God's plane for our lives.

Sinner friend, in this busy world, why not retreat from the fight for fame, money, and pleasure and take time to feed the spiritual part—the soul—that God will bring into judgment in the end?—Willard C. Day

