

Contact

of the
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

DECEMBER, 1955

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



"JOY TO THE WORLD . . . THE SAVIOUR REIGNS"



EDITOR'S NOTE: This column is open to any of our readers who would like to express themselves on any subject which would be of interest to a large number of our readers. Please keep your letters to four hundred words or less. The editor will select each month the letters to be used.

New Church Supports Work

Dear Editor:

Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of \$35.34 for the Cooperative Plan of Support. We are thankful that we have the privilege of sharing in the support of a world-wide ministry. The church here in its very first meeting of the official board voted to send ten per cent of the income to the Cooperative Plan. We expect to give a special offering each month above this for home missions. Although our church is trying to get enough money together to buy a lot and build, we feel that by helping others God will bless us and make us able to help ourselves.

We sincerely desire the prayers of our people everywhere for this new field of labor. We are few in number, but we have some real conscientious Christians who have a mind to work for the cause.

I would like for you to mention in the next issue of CONTACT that we would like to have the addresses of Free Will Baptist people anywhere in Washington or Oregon. They may send them to me at Box 601, Freewater, Oregon. That way I may be able to get enough families together in different towns to start some Sunday schools.

Rev. Johnnie J. Postlewaite
Freewater, Oregon

Lessons Available

Dear Editor:

I have four lessons on the subject, "Can a Child of God Be Lost?", which are a part of the Bible Correspondence Course that I will send out for \$1. If any of your readers would like information on the full 52-lesson course, they may write me at Box 345, Fredericktown, Mo.

Rev. Willard C. Day
Fredericktown, Missouri

State Missionary Secured

Dear Editor:

The state mission board of Arkansas has officially employed Rev. and Mrs. Homer Parker as our state missionaries. As far as we know, this is the first state to have a full-time man on the field whose responsibility is the organization of new

churches. We will assign him to different cities within the state where there are good prospects for an organization. The state mission board will pay the rent for a location for the first month. We expect they will spend about two months at each new organization helping the congregation get established in a building and a financial program. Each new organization will be expected to adopt a plan of support both for the local church and the state and national programs.

Brother and Sister Parker have done an outstanding job at Newport. (See story of organization on page 6.) We have not decided what city will be next on our list. We have many good prospects before us. However, we are badly in need of some full-time pastors to take over these new organizations. Pray for us.

Rev. Lawnie B. Coffman
Searcy, Arkansas

Wants Opportunity to Preach

Dear Editor:

I have had to give up my church work in Arkansas because of the death of my helpmate, but I do not want to be laid on the shelf. I now make my home with my only son in North Hollywood and would like to have the opportunity to preach somewhere as a supply preacher or in a series of meetings. I have credentials from the Arkansas association. I can be reached at 11815 Addison St., North Hollywood, Calif.

Rev. Bertis A. Artman
North Hollywood, Calif.

Makes Contact Through Paper

Dear Editor:

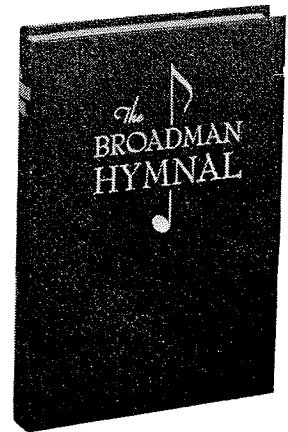
I would like to express our sincere appreciation to CONTACT. You published our letter concerning our work here in Albuquerque and a man who has been a Free Will Baptist minister for 34 years sent that issue of the paper to his son, David Joslin, a fine Christian boy who is eighteen and stationed here with the air force. David wrote us and asked if we could meet him at the YMCA. My husband told him that since we did not know each other he would have a copy of CONTACT in his hand.

As we walked up, he glanced at the CONTACT and his eyes sparkled. It was hard for me to keep back the tears. I thought to myself that it could be my son out in this sinful world looking for Christian people. He now comes on weekends and helps us in our mission here.

I wish that our Free Will Baptist boys who go into the service would be careful to list their church preference as "Free Will Baptist" instead of just "Baptist." It would mean much to ministers who have churches near a service base. Out of 7,000 men stationed at Kirtland Air Base, we found only three listed as Free Will Baptists.

Mrs. W. W. Winters
Albuquerque, N. Mex.

Need Hymnals?



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Contains 503 hymns and songs, 60 responsive readings. Cloth binding. Round and shaped notes. *Hundred*, \$125.00; *dozen*, \$17.50.

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We can supply many other hymnals. Write us about the book you want. We will send you a returnable sample copy of any book without obligation.

Free Will Baptist Headquarters

3801 Richard Avenue
Nashville 5, Tennessee

Contact

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For Every Man

Marguerite Le Roy

On one of the busiest corners of New York City is a modest six-story brick building. It is almost lost in the shadow of the skyscrapers that stand on the other three corners. Yet the influence that flows from this small structure reaches into all parts of the world. For this is the headquarters of the American Bible Society—whose 139-year-old constitution states, "its sole object is to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment."

The Bible Society was organized in May 1816 in the Board of Estimate Room of the New York City Hall, with a distinguished group of clergy and laymen present. True to its purpose, in November of that year an edition of 10,000 Bibles was issued from the presses of the Society. In the first four years the Society had distributed Scriptures in nine languages.

By 1829 it undertook the first of four campaigns to supply a Bible to every destitute home in the United States. By 1850, the Society had printed the Scriptures in 26 languages and distributed them in 33 more—a total of 59.

With the steady out-reaching of its work, and following the trend of other businesses, in 1853 the Bible Society moved into a new Bible House at Astor Place, its headquarters for 83 years. Not a cent of the money given for the distribution of the Scriptures was used for this purchase. It was built from funds donated for the express purpose of providing much needed larger quarters for the work.

Work Includes 40 Countries

This building, the first in New York City, to occupy an entire city block, was the Empire State of its day. The "red brick Bible House," as it was known, was a modern structure. Its floors were well lighted from the many windows, some of which overlooked a large open court, around which the Bible House had been built, so that according to the directors "fresh air was easily available for the 'respectable females'," many of whom worked in the Society's Bible printing and binding departments.

Miss Le Roy is administrative assistant in the Churches Department of the American Bible Society.

As business continued to move uptown, the Bible Society purchased its third building, coming to its present location in July 1936. Its work has now expanded to the point where in this country it maintains 16 offices located at various strategic points in the country, four of which give special attention to Scripture work among the Negroes. Abroad, fourteen agencies supervise the Society's work that extends into more than forty countries.

In order to provide the Holy Scriptures, the Society has set up a four-point program, which covers translation, publication and distribution. Within the last few years the Society has recognized its obligation, not only to provide the Scriptures, but to assist people in "opening the Book" and learning to absorb its contents. This part of its program is called "Encouragement of use."

Translating Described

Before the Bible can speak to people all over the world, it must first be translated from the original Hebrew and Greek into language as clear and vivid as the original. Where such translations exist, the Church grows; where translations are cloudy and obscure, the new Church stumbles and is confused.

To help translators attain this necessary clarity, the translation department is developing new processes. The most helpful seems to be advice and counsel given personally on the field. Carefully trained people, with linguistic abilities, have been chosen and are now working with a group in the Philippine Islands, in Mexico and other parts of Latin America. Dr. Eugene A. Nida, Secretary for the Society's Translation Department, with Mrs. Nida, travels thousands of miles a year so that he may become acquainted with the many problems that beset the missionary as he deals with difficult problems of sound analysis, linguistic relationships and translation problems.



December 11 is Universal Bible Sunday, an annual observance sponsored by the American Bible Society. Theme for the special day is "Take—Read."

A translator's library is being developed from which a selected list of lexicons and commentaries may be loaned to translation and revision committees throughout the world.

"Holes in My Heart"

"There is no language into which the Bible cannot be translated," Dr. Nida says. When he is asked why such concern that the Bible be in the language and hands of people, he replies that precisely because the Bible is different from any other book in the world, even any so-called holy book. The Bible is the book by which the Spirit of God reveals the Living Word, who said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me." The Word of God must not only be in the language and the hands of people, but also in their hearts.

And often Dr. Nida tells of a little Luba-Lulua lad in central Congo who sat listening with fixed gaze as the missionary read from the Scriptures. As soon as the service was finished, this small school boy hastened to the missionary and asked, "Oh, sir, may I have that book, so that I may read it to the people of my village off in the forest, for those words made holes in my heart." The Bible must speak in the mother-tongue of all the people that it may indeed "make holes in the heart."

Six Languages Added

Last year the American Bible Society published the first Scriptures in six languages. One of the important tasks it is now engaged in doing is seeing through the press the first complete Navaho New

(Continued on page 10)

Mt. Olive College Trains For Life and Service

WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER

"There are approximately 500 Free Will Baptists in colleges and universities in North Carolina this fall. This number will reach 1,000 within the next fifteen years and many of these young people will turn to us for their college education if we are prepared to meet their needs.

"If we fail to provide the kind of education program they seek, they will go from us, and many of them will never return. We can have an enrollment of 250 students by 1960 if we will grow and build an adequate educational institution. This is our hour, and to fail now is to forfeit our right to ever succeed again. Never could so little mean so much to so many."

This is what I said last month to the Board of Directors of Mount Olive Junior College. It expresses our hopes and plans for the future.

Mount Olive College is owned and operated by North Carolina Free Will Baptists. Its objective is to train and educate young men and women for Christian life and service, thus preparing them for useful vocations and successful living in the home, the church, the community, and the world.

The college began operation as a Bible Institute in September 1952, at the state assembly grounds, Cragmont, near Asheville, N. C. The Rev. Lloyd Vernon served as the first president and opened the school with twelve students. It was originally named Mount Allen College for the mountain on which it began.

From the beginning it was realized that Asheville was too far removed from the center of our people to serve as our state educational headquarters. In September 1953, the state convention authorized the Board of Christian Education to purchase available property in the town of Mount Olive. This property consisted of an entire city block of three acres, located in the best section of town, with a sturdy twenty-room school building which the local high school had outgrown. Mr. Vernon continued as president and teacher for the school year 1953-1954 during which only night classes were held.

In the spring and summer of 1954 the Board of Directors of the college, under the leadership of the Rev. David W. Hantsley, began to lay plans for the operation of a full scale junior college with a Department of Business Education. The Rev. James A. Evans, Wilson, N. C., was

chosen to serve as director of public relations, and under his leadership students were enrolled and much groundwork done for the future growth of the college. The courses of study were arranged to meet the needs of laymen as well as those going into full-time church work.

In August 1954, the Rev. Burkette Raper, a student of the Free Will Baptist orphanage at Middlesex for eight years, and a graduate of Duke University (A. B. 1947) and the Duke Divinity School (B. D. 1952), Durham, N. C., was elected president. Six new members were added to the faculty and during the school year 111 students were enrolled as follows: 24 full-time day students and 87 night students. In addition to these students approximately 300 others took short courses in "Evangelism" taught by the Rev. Joe Ange, Durham; "Missions" taught by the Rev. Raymond Riggs; "Sunday School Administration" by the Rev. Raymond Sasser, president of the state Sunday school convention; and a vacation Bible school clinic sponsored by the state woman's auxiliary convention under the leadership of Mrs. Bagley Morris, Fremont.

In the beginning, the critics of Mount Olive College were many and loud, but the grace of God and the crying need of our youth prevailed. During the past twelve months, the income from all contributors and student fees has amounted to approximately \$50,000.

Library: In September 1954, the library consisted of approximately 25 volumes; today it has grown to 5,000. Many of these books were contributed by the citizens of

Mount Olive, Goldsboro, and surrounding areas, and others by Free Will Baptists throughout North Carolina. In the library is a solid mahogany table, 3½'x12', given by the Cox Brothers, local merchants.

Science Laboratory: A new laboratory has been installed this year at a cost of \$5,000 and will be adequate for the teaching of all the college science courses. Money for the laboratory is being given by individuals who are responding to a challenge fund.

Endowment: The first step toward an endowment was made when Dr. C. C. Henderson, a local physician, gave the college a gift of \$5,000 in stock in the Mount Olive Pickle company. Dr. Henderson's gift is a challenge fund for the laboratory, and will not be final until Free Will Baptists have given \$5,000 for the science laboratory.

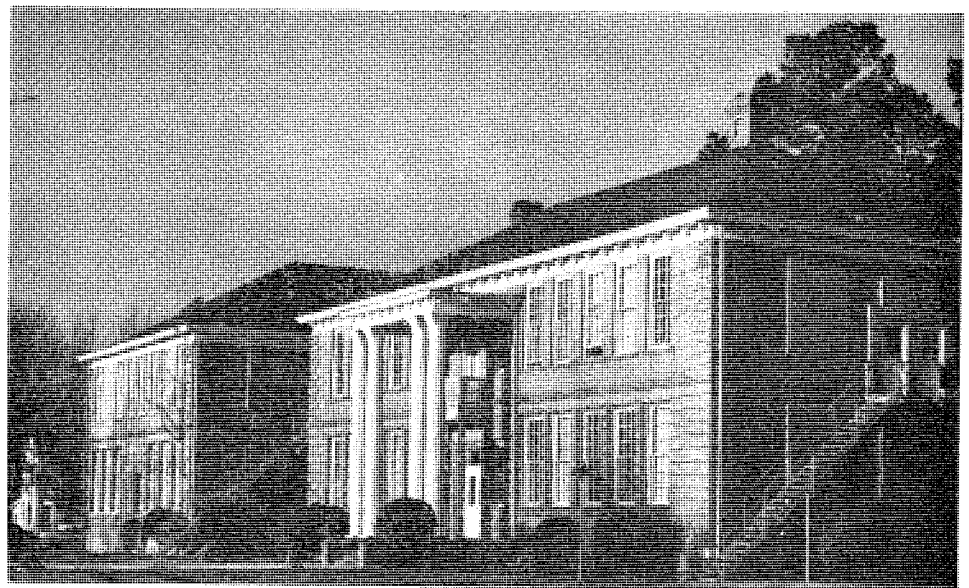
Cafeteria: The kitchen and cafeteria are modern and well equipped with stainless steel. Built at a cost of approximately \$6,000, the cafeteria maintains a sanitation grade "A" from the State Department of Health.

Enrollment and Accreditation: About twice as many full-time students enrolled this school year as last year. Plans are being made to develop Mount Olive into an accredited junior college, and as soon as this is done, the enrollment is expected to grow even more rapidly. The president and board of directors have set September 1956 as the time by which they will strive to have met all the requirements for accreditation by the State Department of Education.

Departments of Study

Mount Olive College seeks to maintain a high standard of scholarship and a Christian atmosphere for study. The courses of study are designed to meet the needs of the students and are divided into three different fields.

Regular Junior College: Mount Olive proposes to offer every subject normally



The property purchased for Mount Olive Junior College includes these buildings and three acres of land in the city of Mount Olive, N. C.

Mr. Raper is president of Mt. Olive Junior College, an institution of North Carolina Free Will Baptists.

taught in junior colleges by teachers who hold graduate degrees from recognized institutions of higher learning. The junior college department is designed for those who plan to go into the ministry, teaching, law, medicine, or related vocations. Students may transfer from our junior college department to a senior college for their last two years of work. Every student is required to take Bible.

Business Education: Many Christian young men and women prefer to receive their training for office or business work in a Christian college. A large number of the students in the business education department take electives in religious education and are thus prepared to not only work in an office but also to teach Sunday school and take places of leadership in their local churches. Most of the students who come to us for studies in business education would otherwise have received their training in business schools where they would not have had courses in Bible, music, speech and daily chapel.

Religious Institute: It is perhaps safe to say that one-half of the ordained ministers of our denomination do not have a formal high school education and will never receive any special training unless it is put on their level. Men who do not have a high school education can hardly enroll in regular college courses, so special training is necessary for them. Mount Olive College has a Christian worker's course that is especially designed for ministers who are now in the pastorate and cannot leave their churches in order to go to a far-off school.

However, a large number of these pastors are able to drive to Mount Olive for courses in Bible, Missions, Evangelism, Church Music, Church History, Church Administration, Homiletics, Journalism, and other studies that have direct bearing on their work. We have arranged for these students to take a course of study on Tuesday through Friday of each week and thereby have the full week-ends at their churches.

The college has also arranged for the Christian worker's course to be taught at night. In the near future the college will offer extension courses in different churches throughout the state.

Heretofore, the laymen has been largely overlooked in Free Will Baptist educational plans, but Mount Olive College realizes that the future of our denomination depends as much upon trained lay leadership as it does a trained ministry. Unless there is a response from the pew, the pulpit is but "sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." All the classes at Mount Olive are open to laymen and a special course of study has been arranged for laymen who wish to become better prepared to render an effective service in their home churches to God. In our religious institute courses the college tries to put the fodder low enough for the dumbest ox and yet some of it is placed high enough that the tallest giraffe will have to stretch for it.

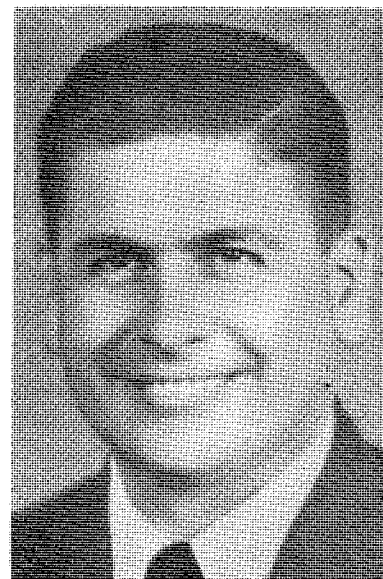
Expenses

Expenses for the students are kept at a minimum. The total cost for resident students is approximately \$600 per year including room and board; students who room and board at home or with relatives can cut their expenses to the college to approximately \$200 per year. Special students who attend at night find the cost even less.

Naturally, what the students pay is not sufficient to meet all the expenses of the college. Friends and churches must match what the students pay. It costs to operate colleges, but it has cost our denomination far more not to train its youth than it would have cost to train them.

Looking Ahead

The ultimate objective of Mount Olive College is to become a four year college, that is Christian in every respect and also fully accredited from a scholastic view-



WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER

point. In due time a high school department must be established in connection with the college. Free Will Baptists cannot expect their best youth to attend schools that are academically inferior. We shall either provide our youth with colleges that are scholastically sound or they will turn to other schools. Denominational loyalty will not suffice as a sufficient basis for our youth to select their colleges; we must be able to offer them an educational institution that is inferior to none. This necessity for accredited schools is especially true for our laity.

Out of every one hundred high school graduates in the United States, forty-four are now furthering their education. This percentage can be expected to steadily increase in the next few years, and unless Free Will Baptists are prepared to train and educate our high school graduates in accredited colleges, we shall lose a large number of them. The denomination that does not train its youth today will cease to exist tomorrow. The foreign mission doors are closing fast to candidates who are not educationally qualified. Unless we rapidly improve our educational program, we will be forced off the foreign mission field within another generation if the present trend continues.

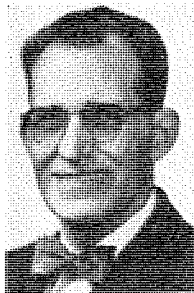
We complain about secularism and immorality prevailing in our public schools, Free Will Baptists can hardly be justified in their complaints. We have had no schools qualified to produce Christian school teachers who would be accepted by the various states. The Church in general has gradually been withdrawing from the field of education and the result is that the government has been forced to take over the nation's educational program.

The only way to have Christian schools is to have Christian teachers, and we cannot expect pagan colleges to produce Christian teachers. The hope of America lies in a sound program of Christian education that will point our youth to God and not materialism. Mount Olive College is a small step in this direction.



Whether it's science or psychology, every class is given the Christian emphasis at Mount Olive. The school's objective is to train and educate young men and women for Christian life and service.

Arkansas Missionary Organizes First Church



Homer Parker

NEWPORT, Ark.—Rev. Homer Parker, newly appointed state home missionary for Arkansas, has just completed the first new organization. Since taking over his position. The church was organized here November 25, just twenty-five days after the first survey of the city was made. A church census showed favorable

prospects for the new church, so a revival was begun November 17. On November 25 Mr. Parker presented 30 prospective members to the organizational council. On the first Sunday the membership increase to 35 and the charter membership roll was left open until December 11.

Rev. Lawnie Coffman, chairman of the state mission board, paid tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Parker for the efficient organizational work. Mr. Parker will serve the church for a short time until the services of a full-time pastor can be secured. He will then be assigned by the board to another town for organizational work. In the second service, the new church adopted the Cooperative Plan of Support.

Before becoming state home missionary, Mr. Parker served the church in North Little Rock. Prior to this, he organized and pastored the First church at Pine Bluff.

Alabama Association Adopts \$30,550 Budget

DOTHAN, Ala.—The Alabama state association, in its annual meeting here November 10-12, adopted a state budget totalling \$30,550. Of this amount, 70 percent will go to the national program with 30 percent going to the state budget until the state budget has been met, at which time all undesignated funds will be sent to the national cooperative budget.

In keeping with the expanded program, Rev. Charles Craddock, former pastor of the First church here was named state promotional secretary on a part-time basis. Rev. J. L. Lavender is moderator.

The convention also approved establishing a "Dollar Club" to assist new church organizations. They unanimously approved a motion to invite the 1957 session of the national association to Alabama and appointed a committee to investigate a possible site. The next session of the state convention will be held at Cordova.

"World Day of Prayer" Materials Available

WHEATON, Ill.—For the tenth con-

secutive year the National Association of Evangelicals is providing worship material for the World Day of Prayer, February 17, 1956, for churches desiring a service with Bible-centered emphasis.

"The Spirit of Power" is the theme, with the day's program outlined in five parts. Material can be obtained by writing the NAE headquarters office, 108 North Main St., Wheaton, Ill. Posters announcing the service are available in December and booklets containing the order of service will be supplied in January.

No charge is made for the material, but it is requested that a free will offering be received at the service to assist with the cost.

Florida Names Chipley Pastor as Moderator

PERRY, Fla.—Rev. W. B. Hughes, Chipley pastor, was named moderator of the Florida state association in the annual session November 4-5 at Mt. Carmel church. Rev. Daniel Pelt, Marianna, who served the convention as moderator for many years was named vice-moderator. Other officers include Rev. W. A. Hansley, Jacksonville, clerk, and Mr. G. W. Cloud, Jacksonville, treasurer.



W. B. Hughes

Mr. Cloud was also named coordinator of the state program which will be promoted by the district moderators. This new system of promotion will replace the office of promotional secretary. The district moderators have been authorized to keep 20 percent of funds collected, the state coordinator is allowed 10 percent, and the remainder will be divided equally between the state and national programs.

The 1956 session will be held at Plant City.

Mount Olive College Looking for Teachers

MT. OLIVE, N. C.—Applications are being taken for four faculty positions at Mount Olive Junior College, according to Rev. W. B. Raper, president. The college is a co-educational, liberal arts college supported by North Carolina Free Will Baptists. It is in its second year of operation with 37 full-time students.

"We have openings for four teachers who hold Masters degrees in Biological Science, French, Music (Theory, Voice, and Piano), and History or Social Studies," Mr. Raper said. Applicants should also be qualified to teach in one of the following fields: Speech, Mathematics, Business Education, Psychology, Physical Education, Education, Polit-

ical Science, Sociology, or Economics.

Employment can begin January 15 or September 1, 1956, the president said. Salary will be based on training and experience, but in no case will it be lower than North Carolina state public school teachers' salary, he added. Applications should be sent to Mr. Raper at Mount Olive, N.C.

Bible Society Says No RSV Bibles Printed

NEW YORK, N. Y.—"The American Bible Society has no plans for publishing the Old Testament in the Revised Standard Version," Rev. A. Paul Wright, associate secretary, has announced, "and we do not publish and have not sponsored the Revised Standard Version Bible."

The announcement was made to clarify published reports to the contrary. Mr. Wright went on to say that since the American Bible Society serves 55 major Protestant denominations, they do print a small number of Testaments and gospel portions in the Revised Standard Version for those denominations which use them. He said, however, that less than 3,000 RSV Testaments were distributed in 1954 as compared with over three-quarters of a million King James Testaments.

Texas Convention Adopts \$16,000 Budget

HOUSTON, Texas—A budget totalling \$16,000 was adopted at the recent annual session of the Texas state association. The convention was held November 1-3 at the First church here. The budget provides for 62 percent of the total to go to the national cooperative budget and 38 percent for the state work.

The following officers were elected: Rev. E. D. Hellard, Houston, moderator; Rev. Gaston Clary, Henderson, assistant moderator; Rev. C. E. Oliver, Henderson, executive secretary; Mrs. C. B. Thompson, Fort Worth, clerk; Mrs. Gaston Clary, Henderson, statistician; Rev. C. F. Ferguson, Henderson, parliamentarian, and Ray T. Trant, Iola, assistant clerk.

Convention speakers were the Reverends Gaston Clary, D. C. Dodd and J. O. Fort.

Georgia Convention Gets New Budget Allocations

COLQUITT, Ga.—A reallocation of the state budget was approved by delegates attending the Georgia state association held November 15-17 at the New Salem church. The new budget provides for 54½ percent to go to state enterprises with 45½ percent going to agencies of the national association.

Delegates also voted to extend an invitation for the 1957 session of the national association to meet in Savannah. The following officers were elected: Rev. T. G. Hamilton, Glennville, moderator; Rev. J. B. Lovering, Valdosta, assistant moderator; Rev. Ernest Barker, Rochelle, clerk; Rev. H. J. Kelly, Columbus, assistant clerk, and Rev. E. C. Morris, Tifton, promotional secretary. The 1956 session will be held at Camp Mt. Bethel.

Calverys Review Work at Close of Year In Japan

TOKYO, Japan—On November 14 Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery celebrated their first anniversary as Free Will Baptist missionaries in Japan. After that anniversary, Mr. Calvery wrote as follows:

"It has been a short year and a happy one. Last year at this time we were on the *Philippine Bear* and had never seen the land that we have already come to love so much. We praise the Lord for sending us here. I'm sure as we continue to learn the language we will like it even more. November 14 will always be a day remembered as one of the greatest events in our lives. It hardly seems possible that one year has already passed.

"Last week we had a 'weekend revival' in our garage with meetings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There were seven who made definite decisions to follow Christ. We trust that all of them were truly born again. One lady stood at the close of the meeting Sunday night and said she wanted to give her testimony. She told how she could not believe in Christ before, but how since coming to our meetings she had learned to believe in Him.

"She is about forty years old and is an asset to our meetings since most of those who come are quite young. Please pray for her. Her husband is a lover of strong drink. She is one of our closet neighbors and we are so happy to have at least one Christian neighbor.

"Our Sunday school is doing fine. In fact, some of the children are out in the street now singing choruses they have learned in Sunday school. They really look forward to the class. Many of the small ones in the street ask me every day if tomorrow is the day for Sunday school. We have two young men helping us now. One of them is Timothy Sakagami, who is fifteen and a high school student. The other is Peter Miyatani, who is twenty.

"We had quite a surprise last week. My brother from Texas came by and spent about ten hours with us. He had re-enlisted in the army and was on his way to Korea. He will be back in Japan after about a year and plans to stay for about three years. His wife is Japanese. She plans to come back here next year. Her family is not yet Christian, but we have made contact with them.

"Aileen and I both are teaching English Bible classes in Japanese high schools. She teaches in a town of 40,000 people which has a church of forty members. I teach in a town of the same size with no church at all. Japan still needs the gospel. Pray for us."



Rev. Mark M. Lewis, chairman of the Foreign Mission Board, presents seven missionaries for commissioning at the annual missionary conference November 22-24. Left to right are Rev. and Mrs. Daniel R. Cronk, missionaries to India; Miss Esther Ruehle, Hopkins, Mich.; Rev. and Mrs. Fred Hersey, Clinton, N. C., and Rev. and Mrs. Thomas H. Willey, Jr., Pinar del Rio, Cuba.

Seven Missionaries Commissioned at Missionary Conference; 500 Attend

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—About 500 people attended the annual missionary conference held November 22-24 on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College. The conference was sponsored jointly by the departments of foreign and home missions.

Climaxing the conference program was a commissioning service conducted for foreign missionaries and candidates. Five candidates and two missionaries were commissioned in the impressive service on Thanksgiving morning.

A missionary offering amounting to over \$700 was given on Wednesday night in response to an appeal from the departments. In a meeting prior to the conference, the Foreign Mission Board named Rev. Thomas Willey general director of all Latin American fields. He will continue as director of the work in Cuba. The board also authorized a survey trip to South America for the new director and Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary for the department.

Besides the new field in South America, the board approved the opening of a new field in Africa. Investigation is now underway, but Mr. Riggs announced that it would probably be located either in French West Africa along the Ivory Coast or in the Belgian Congo.

The departments announced that the dates of the conference next year will probably be changed from Thanksgiving week in order not to conflict with local activities.

How Much Shall I Give?

In asking yourself how much you and your church should give for missions in the coming year, here are some thoughts which you should carefully consider:

1. If you refuse to give anything to missions this year, you practically cast a ballot in favor of the recall of every missionary in both the home and foreign fields.
2. If you give less than heretofore, you favor a reduction in missionary forces proportionate to your reduced contribution.
3. If you give the same as formerly, you favor holding the ground already won, but you do not favor any forward movement. Your song is "Hold the Fort." You have forgotten that the Lord never intended His army to take refuge in a fort. All of His soldiers are under marching orders at all times. They are commanded to "Go!"
4. If you advance your offering beyond former years, then you favor an advance movement in the conquest of new territory for Christ. Shall you not join this class: "RESOLVED, I do believe in greatly increasing the present number of our missionaries; therefore, I will increase my former offerings to missionary work."

Armageddon Organized

"For conscientious cussedness on the grand scale, no other aggregation of Americans is a match for Jehovah's Witnesses," says Stanley High.

They keep no roll of membership, have no churches or ministry, deny that they are a religious organization; yet they may be seen on the streets of any town in America distributing their literature and proclaiming their doctrines. They are openly hostile to the church and refuse to serve in the army of their country in time of war. Who are these people? How did such a group originate? And what do they believe?

The movement now known as Jehovah's Witnesses was begun by Charles Taze Russell in 1872 in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Russell, although he called himself "Pastor Russell" was not an ordained preacher. He was brought up in the Presbyterian Church, but later in life became a lay member of the Congregational Church. However, as one might suppose, he was not very active in the Congregational Church.

Formed in 1884

Seeking a few minutes of rest from his work in the haberdashery which he owned in Pittsburgh, Russell walked down the street to a poolroom. An atheist was in the midst of a denial of the existence of heaven and hell. These atheistic ideas were new and fascinating to Russell. It caused him to go home and begin to study his Bible. Later he attended a meeting of the Second Adventists "to see if the handful who met there had anything more sensible to offer than the creeds of the great churches." What he heard there was "sufficient under God, to re-establish my wavering faith in divine inspiration and to show that the records of the apostles and the prophets are indissolubly linked."

Although young Russell became an ardent student of the Bible and began to expound the Scriptures with great assurance, it was not until 1884 that he formally organized the group and secured incorporation papers in the state of Pennsylvania. The name of this first organization was changed in 1914 to Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society.

In 1798, Russell established a magazine, *Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence*, and about 1880 published his

Floyd B. Cherry

first book, *Food for Thinking Christians*. Russell was tireless in the production and circulation of literature. His followers claim that his *The Divine Plan of the Ages* has been translated into thirty-five languages. His seven volumes *Studies in the Scriptures* also been widely circulated.

Storm of Controversy

Although Russell proved himself a capable leader of his organization, his activities kept him in the midst of a storm of controversy. His wife sued for divorce on the grounds of adultery and even though she was not able to prove this to the satisfac-

tion of the court she was granted a divorce on other grounds. *The Brooklyn Eagle* charged him with causing "Miracle Wheat" to be sold at sixty dollars a bushel. He was also accused of inducing sick people to make over their fortunes to his organization.

Death came to Russell on one of his preaching tours on board a transcontinental train on November 9, 1916. His funeral oration was delivered by J. F. Rutherford. In the oration Rutherford said, "Our dear brother sleeps not in death, but was instantly changed from the human to the Divine nature, and is now forever with the Lord."

Rutherford, "The Judge" became the head and spokesman for the group. He proved himself an able and capable leader for the organization. Before coming to Brooklyn, New York as attorney for the group, Rutherford was a practicing attorney in Missouri. He sometimes served as sub-



We are glad to present to our readers this new series of articles dealing with the origin and beliefs of many of the false cults in America today. They are written by Dr. Floyd B. Cherry, Ayden, N. C. Mr. Cherry, who is a native of Alabama, is a former editor-in-chief of the *Free Will Baptist Press* and has served as moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. He is pastor of Black Jack and Rose Hill churches near Greenville, N. C.

stitute judge on a traveling circuit. Hence the "Judge" became attached to his name.

Name Changed in 1931

Under the leadership of Rutherford, the organization continued to grow. Millions of books and pamphlets continued to be circulated all over the world. With the passing years Russell and his writings fell more into the background. While they are still sold, they are not advertised or pushed. Meanwhile the Rutherford books and pamphlets were being circulated by the millions.

In 1914, the *International Bible Students' Association* was incorporated in New York. The corporation in Pennsylvania was continued. Apparently the one in New York was formed for the purpose of holding property belonging to the organization there. At the suggestion of Rutherford in 1931 at a convention in Columbus, Ohio, the name of the organization was changed to Jehovah's Witnesses.

The "Judge" died January 8, 1942 at the age of seventy-two. He left active direction of the movement to Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Knorr who succeeded him in the presidency. Knorr has continued the activities of the organization very much along the same lines as his predecessor. However, it seems to be the policy of Knorr to let his writings remain anonymous since many articles that are presumed to be his have come from the press unsigned.

Work in 86 Countries

The most important phase of the work undertaken by Jehovah's Witnesses is their publishing activity. It has its own great modern printing plant in Brooklyn, New York. There the weekly magazine the *Watch Tower* is printed in eight different languages. These people have literally covered the earth with their witnessing. The 1948 *Yearbook* contains annual reports of their work in eighty-six different countries. It is doubtful that any group in the history of the world has ever exceeded the zeal of the Jehovah's Witnesses in their attempts to spread their doctrines.

Jehovah's Witnesses obtained and copyrighted the Emphatic Diaglott Version of the Bible. This is a Greek text with an interlinear and paraphrase translation by a small town newspaper editor. In 1950, they published their own translation of the New Testament, which they call the *New World Translation*. This translation contains many passages "translated" to suit their beliefs.

Prideful Martyr Complex

Those who are active in the work of the group are zealous. They appeal to the prejudices of the poor and uneducated. They seem to have a prideful martyr complex designed to appeal to disappointed and morbid minds. According to the belief and teachings of the organization, a Jehovah's Witness is not one who has joined an

organization, but one who has made a contract with God to carry out his will. And they believe that one can carry out God's will only by a fanatical loyalty to the organization and a zealous propagation of its beliefs.

Marcus Bach in his book, *They Have Found a Faith*, tells about a conversation between a woman and a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses with regard to the United States flag.

For a moment the woman stood with her back against the door. "You don't even believe in saluting the flag, do you?" she accused.

"That's right," nodded the Witness. "We don't."

"Why not?" she asked without moving.

"We consider the flag a symbol," Jehovah's Witness was saying. "We consider it an image of what it represents. We are taught in Exodus 20 not to bow down to images or worship them. Saluting the flag is a ceremony which to us would be the same as worship."

"So you don't love the flag?" the woman retorted in an even tone.

Flag Respected, Witness Says

"We respect it," answered the Witness. "We have it in most of our Kingdom Halls."

"I didn't know that," she said. "I thought you hated the government."

"I wouldn't say that," he went on in his confident way. "We simply love Jehovah God's government more. We do not believe that any government on earth is doing Jehovah's will."

Just what is this doctrine that these people teach? Space will not permit a detailed study of the doctrines of the group. So we list below a few of their negative and positive beliefs. For those who are interested in a more thorough study of the doctrines of Jehovah's Witnesses, we refer to the bibliography listed at the end of this article.

Doctrines Listed

They do not believe in the eternal punishment of the wicked.

They do not believe in the deity of Jesus.

They believe that Jesus returned to this earth in 1914, but is not yet visible.

They believe that the millennium is coming soon and that "millions now living will never die."

They believe that the church is an instrument of Satan and that all clergymen are tools of Satan.

According to Jehovah's Witnesses, only 144,000 out of all those who have ever lived on earth will go to Heaven. They take this number from Revelation 14:1.

Jehovah's Witnesses consider the Ten Commandments no longer in force. Therefore, they maintain that it is not necessary to set aside one day of the week for worship.

Claims Rejected

William Harding Kneedler in *Christian Answers to Jehovah's Witnesses* lists four reasons for rejecting the claims of Jehovah's Witnesses:

1. "Their methods of playing fast and

loose with Biblical interpretation are thoroughly un scholarly."

2. "Their dates for the creation of the world and of man are contrary to scientific and archaeological evidence. Other dates are built up without good Biblical evidence. Their whole system depends on these dates."

3. "The idea that people completely cease to exist when they die and are later recreated from God's memory of them is both contrary to the Bible and also an utter impossibility, since the 'recreated' beings could not be the same people.

4. Their false dream of everlasting life on earth is the cult's principal appeal, though it is an idea not even invented until the cult had been in existence for half a century.

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I Did Not Stay for Church

"I told my church that I did not need it." I received all the spiritual power I need in the Sunday school.

"I told the minister that his work was useless." All the effort he put into learning what God wanted said, all the work in preparing that message to make it effective, all his energy in delivering it—these were of no use, at least to me.

"I told my family it would be better for us to go home than to remain for the hour of worship." I told them we would receive a greater blessing by going home than by staying to worship God.

"I told the children in Sunday school that it is not necessary to stay for preaching in order to be a good church member." I told them by going that one hour a week is all that God needs of our time.

"I told my unsaved friend that I was not interested in him finding Christ as his Saviour." I know that he will likely never be saved if he does not attend church services. But I am not particularly concerned, so I went home.

"I told Christ I had heard enough about Him for one day." I did not care to hear any more about Him. I did not care to hear my pastor lift up Christ to a lost world. I did not care about having fellowship with my Christ, so I went home.

Every Man

(Continued from page 10)

Testament for the many thousands of these Indians in the western part of our country. The Testament, it is expected, will come from the press and be ready for distribution sometime early next year. In the meantime, from presses in this country, from printing plants in Mexico and other places, "first" in Gospels and New Testaments, reach the Bible House and are started on their journey to the missionaries who will distribute the books to the eager new Christians, waiting to read the great truths in a language they can understand.

One of the notable productions by the Bible Society this last year was the Illustrated New Testament. This is the first publication of its kind, designed to give both the Biblical scholar and the ordinary reader a new insight into the life and times of Jesus and the Apostles. It has been produced in rotogravure in modern "picture book" style and has been given the title "The Good News." Described by the Bible Society as a milestone in the printing and distribution of the New Testament, it involved over five years of planning and research and was the creation of Dr. Gilbert Darlington, head of the Publication Department.

14 Million Copies

But this particular milestone in the Society's publication program is only one of the books that are continually coming from the presses for its work. It is expected that the Bible House publication figures will reach nearly 14,000,000 copies this year, including 500,000 Bibles and over 750,000 Testaments.

Another popular publication is the special edition of the Easter and Christmas Gospels, found in specially prepared and attractively colored covers. These have found a warm welcome in the Latin American countries, so that many thousands of these special Gospels have been published in Spanish. A Christmas Gospel has also been made available this year in Korean, and will be distributed by the Secretary of the Korean Society, the Rev. Young Bin Im.

Distribution in the United States has been at a very high level due to more intensive area distribution. For the third successive year the Society's Secretary from his headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, reports a distribution of more than a million volumes. This high figure is reached through cooperation from denominational bodies and trained field workers, whose first sowing of a Gospel, is followed by a distribution of complete New Testaments and Bibles, to feed the interest in the Gospel story that has been aroused by the reading of the small Scripture Book. In the United States, Scriptures in nearly a hundred languages are used each year to meet the needs of the people.

Projects Are Varied

Many and varied are the projects that are being developed in the Society's work abroad. Dr. Ralph Mortensen, the Society's

former Secretary in China, has been appointed to special services among the millions of Chinese in Southeast Asia. A young missionary couple has been assigned to the Society's first agency in Liberia. While the emphasis must be on translation and a Bible reading program for some time, a daily radio program keeps the work of the Society continually in the minds of the listeners and much cultivation work is being done through the Society's moving pictures and other visual aids.

The development of highly trained colporteurs to carry on the Society's work in Latin America is under the supervision of a former missionary, well aware of the boundless opportunities that confront the Society in these countries to the south of us. Of the Society's distribution abroad last year, nearly one half of the six million copies reported, were required for its work in Latin America. Many times, the calls for books cannot be answered and yet last year the Society distributed more Scriptures in Latin America than in any previous year.

Bibles for the Blind

In 1835 the Bible Society began its work for the blind. It has distributed to the sightless embossed Scriptures in 40 languages and systems. In addition, the entire Bible has been recorded on 170 talking book records, that those who are not able to decipher the raised symbols may still have the comfort of the Scriptures.

The tap of a cane on the sixth floor of the Bible House announces the arrival of a blind visitor. Sometimes they come alone—often with a friend or relative but always there is a welcome and his request for one of the large Braille volumes (it takes 20 of these to make a complete Bible) or a Talking Book Record is always filled, never does he go away empty-handed.

"Last week I received the Braille Bible that you had sent to me," read one neatly typed message received by the Blind Department. "Nothing I can think of will give me more hours of pleasure than the Bible. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Bible Reading Promoted

"The Bible is said to be the best seller, but do people read it?" the Society is often asked. To help answer this question the Society recently enlarged its program by setting up a special department whose first obligation is to promote the use of the Society's special leaflets that contain helpful suggestions for a person who does not know where to start his search in locating the wonderful riches in its pages.

One of the most helpful plans has been the development, over the last 12 years, of the Society's Worldwide Bible Reading program. The Society prints a list of helpful daily readings suggested for use between Thanksgiving and Christmas, with Universal Bible Sunday, which is generally observed on the second Sunday in December as the high point of the program. On this Sunday pastors of thousands of Protestant churches join with the Society in stressing the importance of the Bible. When the Bible Reading program was started a modest million copies of the list—conveniently

That All Might Read

"One of the most precious beliefs of Free Will Baptist churches is that the Bible was 'written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and is God's revealed word to man'. While we hold the Bible dear, it is not enough to 'hold' the Word of God. It must be shared," wrote W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary, to the denomination's pastors recently.

The American Bible Society, of which we are members, is the churches' agency for translating, publishing, and distributing the Bible. They are doing a job for Free Will Baptists that we do not have the men or means to do for ourselves. Churches are urged to make a special offering during December for the work of the Society. Send it to denominational headquarters marked for "American Bible Society."

Share the Bible

Jungle Bita is a small village in North India. Dan Cronk, a Free Will Baptist missionary, used to visit it before he came home on furlough.

He ministered to a congregation of about fifteen or twenty souls, counting women and children. Only two of the men work and the average income for the village is about \$10 a month. Despite their extreme poverty, one Sunday they handed Missionary Cronk the equivalent of \$15 and said, "This is for the Bible Society that Bibles may be given to people less fortunate than we."

Little wonder then that Mr. Cronk feels so strongly that we should give so much more.

shaped like a bookmark to fit in the Bible—were published. This year the printing was over fifteen million. The mails are heavy with requests for this helpful bookmark.

Set Apart, But Not Aside

"I know of three families," wrote one man to the Society, "who started reading the Bible by using this Thanksgiving list and from that have become regular and enthusiastic readers of the Bible."

In either November or December of each year the Bible Society holds a meeting of its Advisory Council, whose members come from the denominations that recognize the Society as its authorized agency for global Scripture work. Last year there were representatives of 55 denominations present at the Bible House. The Rev. W. S. Mooneyham came from the Free Will Baptists. After hearing the Society's report of work already accomplished, of unfulfilled needs that press for action, it was agreed that the clear duty to bring God's Word in man's language to all the world rests upon the churches. Your American Bible Society is responding to the need for the Word of God in the world mission of your denomination. To do its task your Society is set apart, but must never be set aside!



The Prayer Fellowship

J. REFORD WILSON, Leader

What has prayer meant to me? Through prayer I have communion with God, I find guidance for the day, I receive strength for the task, my love for others becomes more intense, and as I petition God for things unseen my faith is challenged. Through the answers I receive from God I am disciplined, encouraged and amazed. I believe that what is true of an individual through his prayer relationship can also be true of a church and denomination, so join with us this month in prayer for the following requests:

- ▶ Pray that each church will give the right emphasis to the celebration of the birth of Christ in this Christmas season. "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).
- ▶ Pray for the work of the Woman's Auxiliary department, particularly for the enlistment program. "And certain women were with Christ and many others which ministered unto him of their substance" (Luke 8:1-3).
- ▶ Pray for Ray Turnage, promotional secretary for the Free Will Baptist League Board. With our youth it is "The kingdom of God first" (Matthew 6:33).
- ▶ Pray for my health. I have had three operations on my right eye and must now undergo surgery on my left eye.—Mrs. Mae Foster, St. Louis, Mo.
- ▶ With more of the churches demanding full-time service of their pastors and with more doors opening to missionary fields at home and abroad, there is the need for more laborers. "Pray the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38).
- ▶ With an increase of missionaries on the field, there must be an increase in giving. Pray for the Cooperative Plan of Support and that more Free Will Baptists will give their tithes and offerings to the Lord's work. "Therefore, as ye abound in everything . . . see that ye abound in this grace also" (2 Corinthians 8:7).
- ▶ Pray for the officials of your city, county, state and nation, for "righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:4). "I exhort, therefore, that supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all that are in authority" (1 Timothy 2:1, 2).
- ▶ Pray for our home and foreign missionaries that the depressing loneliness will not take from them the joy of celebrating Christmas in their respective fields of labor. Pray that anew the promise, "Lo, I am with you," shall lift up their hearts.
- ▶ Pray for the retired and aged ministers and Christian workers who have given themselves to the service of Christ and their church.

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Women's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

Women at Work

Hints for Holiday Helpfulness

MRS. EVERETT HELLARD

The work of the personal service chairman and her committee is unlimited. Here are a few suggestions that will help in that work during this holiday season.

1. *The need of service.* The chairman must first see the need of service. These scriptures will help open your heart to the needs. "Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2). "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35).

Our manual tells us that the personal service chairman may do much to win souls to Christ by careful and prayerful planning and leading. Too often sinners are driven from the Lord because of tactlessness. Let us use kindness in our efforts to win the lost. Kindness goes a long way in anything we do, but especially in soul-winning. Use the holidays for launching forth special soul-winning efforts.

2. *The spirit of true benevolence.* Christ told his disciples to take care of the poor, the sick, and the outcasts. There are all of these in your community and it is your opportunity to minister to their needs. Use the holidays to emphasize these needs and to do something special for them. "He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack; but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse" (Proverbs 28:27). A Christian is usually known by his kind deeds, and these holidays would be a great opportunity to do good.

3. *Cottage prayer meetings.* Try to secure places where there are sick, shut-ins, or sinners. After this has been done, plan your programs so they will be interesting. The theme of your program many hinge around the coming holidays. Take advantage of all of them. Never hold too late. In sick homes, make your programs short and interesting so you will not worry those

who are ill. Here are a few do's and don'ts for visiting the sick:

Do be pleasant, read the Bible, pray with them. *Don't* speak of unpleasant things, stay too long, speak too loudly. These scriptures are good to read to the sick: Deut. 33:27, Psalm 23; Isaiah 41:10, 1 Cor. 10:13.

4. Here are some do's and don'ts for your orphanage work this season. Do write director for information and place his requests before the auxiliary. *Don't* send old items that are not usable and don't forget to keep in touch with them the year around. Maybe some auxiliary would like to "adopt" a boy or girl and be responsible for their clothing for one year.

5. *Our superannuates.* It would cheer our aged ministers to know they have not been forgotten. They have given their lives in the service of God and we should not forget them now that they are no longer active.

Remind your members often of their duty to send greetings, gifts, etc. Secure a list of their birthdays. Send greetings. Remember them at Christmas time with gifts. If in doubt what to send, remember that they can always use money.

Quota Standing On India Visual Aid Project

STATE	QUOTA PAID	BALANCE
Alabama	\$ 45.00	— \$ 45.00
Arkansas	20.00	— 20.00
California	45.00	— 45.00
Florida	25.00	— 25.00
Georgia	60.00	— 60.00
Illinois	30.00	— 30.00
Kentucky	20.00	— 20.00
Michigan	60.00	— 60.00
Mississippi	25.00	— 25.00
Missouri	100.00	21.60 78.40
North Carolina	175.00	— 175.00
Ohio	20.00	10.00 10.00
Oklahoma	100.00	— 100.00
South Carolina	80.00	50.00 30.00
Tennessee	100.00	52.00 48.00
Texas	55.00	— 55.00
Virginia	20.00	— 20.00
West Virginia	20.00	— 20.00

Mrs. Hellard is personal service chairman of the WNAC and is from Houston, Texas.

Mrs. B. W. Clenney, Colquitt, was named president of the Georgia state woman's Auxiliary convention when it met November 15 at New Salem church. Other officers are Mrs. Opal Howard, Lake Butler, Fla., vice-president; Mrs. S. T. Shutes, Colquitt, secretary; Mrs. O. B. Everson, Colquitt, assistant secretary; Mrs. H. J. Kelley, Columbus, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Ruby Wells, Thomaston, field worker. The following chairmen were also named: Mrs. J. W. Franks, Tifton, youth; Mrs. C. C. Sheffield, Newton, study course; Mrs. E. C. Morris, Tifton, personal service, and Mrs. H. L. Knighton, Albany, stewardship-prayer. Miss Peggy Eubanks of Albany won the declamation contest.

The fall meeting of the Tidewater auxiliary convention was held at the Richmond church. Convention theme was "Youth for Service." Those appearing on program included Anna Bryan, June Rivenbark, Mrs. Ronald Creech, Patricia Parker, and Mrs. Sue Johnson. Mr. Hubert Clotfelter brought the convention message. . . . New officers for the auxiliary at Airport church, Tulsa, are Adeline Baker, president; June Duck, vice-president; Bonnie Murray, secretary-treasurer; Bessie Prock, study course chairman; Dorothy Maxwell, program chairman; Anne Turk, personal service chairman, and Nora Mae Dobson, youth chairman. The auxiliary recently sponsored a "clean-up, paint-up" project for the Sunday school rooms.

Sixth annual session of the Florida state auxiliary convention met October 22 at Piney Grove church, near Chipley. Theme of the program was "Here Am I, Send Me." Appearing on the program were Mrs. Bertie Baxter, Mrs. Vera Owens, Mrs. Oma Owens, Mrs. Thelma Grondin, Mrs. Corrine George, and Mrs. Etha Mae Owen. Rev. Chester Pelt brought the morning sermon. Next session will be held at Traveler's Rest church, near Clarksville, on October 27, 1956. . . . Women at Hobbs, N. M., gave a sacrificial offering of \$20 during pre-Thanksgiving week of prayer to assist in the organization of a new church at Albuquerque. Average daily attendance was six. Mrs. W. V. McPhail is president. . . Bakersfield, Calif., auxiliary sponsored pre-Thanksgiving prayer services with special speakers each night. Different auxiliary members were in charge of the programs.

Southern association district auxiliary convention met at Taft, Calif., on November 11. Rev. Gene Shaw brought the morning sermon. Convention decided to conduct a stewardship workshop January 14 at Bakersfield. Mrs. Lettie McFarland will conduct the course. Mrs. Beatrice Dudley, Tulare, is convention president.

Choosing the better part...



MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS

Three-year-old Beth was helping her mother prepare the evening meal.

"I wish we had a miss'nary," lisped Beth.

Startled, her mother said, "What did you say?"

"I said I wish we had a miss'nary," Beth patiently replied.

"What in the world for?" asked the astounded mother.

"So daddy would come home," answered Beth.

"Beth! What *are* you talking about?"

"Well," Beth explained, "our Sunday school teacher told us a miss'nary was somebody who told people about Jesus, and then pretty soon the people don't fight anymore. And see, mommy, if we had a miss'nary maybe you and daddy wouldn't fight anymore and daddy could come back home and we could have a lot of good times together again."

As the mother listened, amazed, a wave of conviction gripped her heart. Before her mind there flashed the violent scenes which had split their home. She sensed the hurt which the little girl felt. She looked down into Beth's innocent, upturned face and her own face turned crimson with shame. Rising tears blurred her vision. She remembered the Sunday mornings when Beth had been bundled off to Sunday school while they lounged around the house. She thought of the neglected Bible on the television set.

She was ashamed—ashamed of the times when she had dashed off to social events leaving Beth at a neighbor's and a make-shift dinner in the icebox. With tears streaming down her face she fell on her knees and prayed, "Oh! Father! How could I have been so blind? Please forgive me. I've been stupid, but worse than that I've been consumed with my own foolish lusts. I have wasted my home and hurt my little girl. I have failed to realize that the love of a good husband is the most precious thing in the world. Please, God, help me right the wrong I've done and I will never neglect my family again."

She gathered Beth close to her as she reached for the telephone, saying "Beth, darling, this family has a miss'nary."

What Shall I Give Him?

The sun has gone on his long wanderings and will not return until springtime. Nature's resplendent garments have faded and the beautiful green carpet that just a few days ago enhanced the beauty of the world has changed to burnt brown. All of these things remind us that as the years go flying by we, too, are getting older and soon we will begin to fade with age and finally go to our reward.

But those thoughts are pushed aside by the gaiety of this season of giving! We go over the list of names of those to whom we are giving gifts. We single out from the list those who have been liberal in giving to us and decide on a special gift for each to show our appreciation.

In this time of giving, what shall we give God? David came to this place and this question in Psalm 116. He asked, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" Have you in this busy season thought of God's unspeakable gift and of the thousands of additional



gifts that he constantly bestows—the clothing you wear, the food you eat, the air you breathe? But God's greatest gift is salvation from sin.

It is not possible to evaluate this gift. When we try we are made aware, as was David, that there is nothing made by mortal hands that can equal the gift of redemption. There is something, however, that God esteems more highly than the treasures of earth and that is the gift of a wholly consecrated life.

Maybe you should check your gift list again. Is God included? Someone has said, "Wise men always bring gifts to Christ." In this celebrated season why not start as did the wise men from the East and search until you find the Son of God. Then follow their steps into His house and there bow down and worship him. Open the treasure chest of your heart and give him what you have. He will cleanse the sin-darkened heart making possible a white and a merry, merry Christmas.—Willard C. Day.

EXCUSES

Someone has compiled the following list of excuses for not going to church:

Have to stay at home and read the papers. (Is Dick Tracy more important than Jesus Christ?)

I don't like the minister. (He doesn't ask you to like him; he wants you to love God.)

I know some of the church members who are not good Christians. (True, but if the church were only for perfect people, you wouldn't even be on the roll.)

The church is always talking about money. (That is not so, but what time is spent on the matter could be given to more important things if you and others like you would accept their full share of the work.)

Only three people spoke to me last time I went to church. (That's three more than spoke to you at the movies and you still attend.)

There is no excuse that can make it right for you to neglect your church. Christ died for His church. He only asks that we live for it.—The Tie

Honor Roll

"Every Church Family" Plan

- Fellowship church, Flat River, Mo.
Rev. Rolla Smith, pastor
- Southside church, Paintsville, Ky.
Rev. Homer Willis, pastor
- Pocahontas church, Ark.
Rev. J. Reford Wilson, pastor
- Airport church, Tulsa, Okla.
Rev. Robert Duck, pastor
- Blythe church, Calif.
Rev. Joe Blair, pastor
- Bakerville church, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
Rev. George Waggoner, pastor
- First church, Tulsa, Okla.
Rev. John H. West, pastor
- Oak Ridge church, Tenn.
Rev. Milton Crowson, pastor
- First church, Savannah, Ga.
Rev. Louis H. Moulton, pastor
- Beech Springs church, Saltville, Miss.
Rev. Wilburn Beasley, pastor
- New Hope church, Joelton, Tenn.
Rev. Robert Hill, pastor
- Myrtle church, Mo.
Rev. George W. Scott, pastor
- Horse Branch church, Turbeville, S. C.
Rev. J. B. Chism, pastor
- Leadington church, Mo.
Mrs. Eunice Edwards, pastor
- First church, Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. Mark M. Lewis, pastor
- Modesto church, Calif.
Rev. O. H. Doss, pastor
- First church, Russellville, Ark.
Rev. Dale Munkus, pastor
- Thomas Memorial church, Huntington, W. Va.
Rev. Carl Vallance, pastor
- First church, Panama City, Fla.
Rev. Wayne Hicks, pastor
- Northside church, Phoenix, Ariz.
Rev. Elvis Priest, pastor
- New Prospect church, Long Lane, Mo.
Rev. William Reeves, pastor
- Wellston church, Mo.
Rev. Harry Asher, pastor
- First church, Ardmore, Okla.
Rev. Russell Allen, pastor
- East Side church, Florence, S. C.
Rev. William Buster, pastor

GLANCING AROUND THE STATES

New Church Organized In Virginia Town

CARDWELL TOWN, Va.—A Free Will Baptist church has been organized here following a revival conducted by Rev. Frank Thompson of Johnson City, Tenn. A total of 248 decisions for Christ were registered during the meeting and another which was held at Saltville, an adjoining town. The church was started with 44 members and the congregation has already constructed a basement as the first part of a building program. Evangelist Thompson was assisted in the meeting by Rev. Milton Hollifield of Canton, N. C.

Scott Resigns Church Because of Health

MYRTLE, Mo.—Rev. George W. Scott has resigned the pastorate here because of ill health. His decision came following a heart attack which hospitalized him for some time. His present address is 717 Dyrrell St., Myrtle, Mo.

Arkansas Conference Has Quarterly Meeting

BATESVILLE, Ark.—The quarterly conference of the White River district met October 28-29 at Allan's Chapel church with eleven churches reporting. A deacon, Alfred Myers, was ordained during the session. The next meeting will be January 27-28 at Ballew's Chapel church, near Grubbs. M. B. Williams is moderator.

California Names Billows As Missionary

CERES, Calif.—Rev. Arthur Billows, a native Mexican who was converted several years ago, has been named as a missionary to the Spanish-speaking people in California. His appointment was made by the state mission board, which will be responsible for his support. Mr. Billows has served several pastorates up to this time.

New Church Organized In Slocomb, Alabama

SLOCOMB, Ala.—A new church was organized here November 6 by Rev. Rufus Hyman and Rev. Charles B. Craddock following a revival conducted by Mr. Craddock. Ten members united with the church. Officers were elected as follows: Mrs. Rufesta Hyman Boutwell, clerk; E. L. Hidle and Drew Bolin, deacons; E. L. Hidle, treasurer, and Rev. Rufus Hyman, pastor. A lot has already been given to the con-

gregation and a building program is planned soon. The organization was sponsored by the mission board of the Union Hill association.

Thompson Resigns Texas Pastorate

FT. WORTH, Texas—Rev. C. B. Thompson has resigned as pastor of the First church here after having served the congregation for four years. He has accepted a position under the state home mission board as state home missionary. His address now is 2313 Loving Ave., Ft. Worth, Texas.

Arkansas District Leagues Will Meet

SPRINGDALE, Ark.—The quarterly meeting of the Old Mt. Zion association league rally will be held at Pilgrim's Rest church on December 18. Seven churches were represented at the last meeting. Junior Watson is president.

Minister Wants Prospective Members in Brownsville, Texas

BROWNSVILLE, Texas—Rev. Braxton Chaffin, who has recently moved here from Ft. Worth, Texas, wants to contact prospective members for the purpose of establishing a new church. There is no Free Will Baptist church in the city. His address is 1215 W. Elizabeth, Brownsville. Before coming here he was pastor at Love Temple church, Ft. Worth.

Oklahoma City Church Dedicates New Building

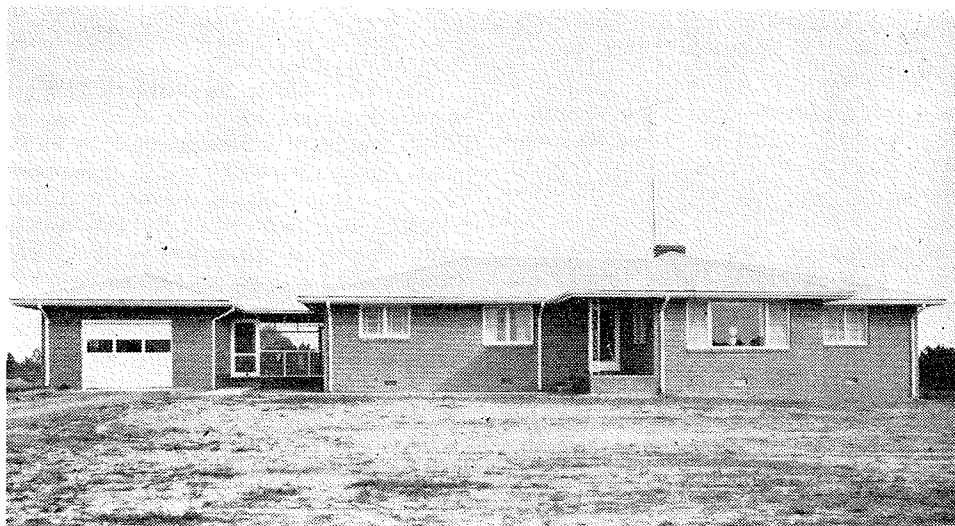
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—Dedicatory services were held October 31 for the new educational building which has recently been completed by the Central Avenue church. Rev. F. A. McCage, a former pastor, preached the sermon. Rev. Jack Dodson is pastor.

Staires Named President Of Oklahoma Conference

WETUMKA, Okla.—Rev. Harry E. Staires, Tulsa, was named president of the Oklahoma ministers' conference at the semi-annual meeting here November 7-8. Other officers are Rev. Jack Dodson, Oklahoma City, vice-president; Rev. Homer Young, Henryetta, secretary-treasurer, and Rev. Russell Allen, Ardmore, assistant secretary. The next meeting will be held May 7-8 at the children's home, Ringling.

Tennessee Presbytery Ousts Two Ministers

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The presbytery of Cumberland association in a session October 12-13 voted to annul the ratification of the credentials of Rev. Ben Barus and Rev. Boyce Wallace. Both ministers had held pastorates in the association and the action against them was taken after an investigation had revealed that both held to the Calvinistic concept of "eternal security."



PARSONAGE A new ranch-style parsonage has recently been completed by the congregation of the Sherron Acres church, Durham, N. C. The new home has seven rooms and two baths and is valued at \$20,000. The lot for the parsonage was given by Mr. and Mrs. Claude C. Lynn and much of the labor for construction was contributed. Rev. Wayne W. Smith is pastor.

GLANCING AROUND THE STATES

Craddock Resigns Alabama Pastorate

DOTHAN, Ala.—Rev. Charles Craddock has resigned as pastor of the First church here and will become director of religious programs and public relations at WDIG, a local radio station. Mr. Craddock read his resignation to the congregation on October 23 to become effective in ninety days.

Oklahoma Church Reports Steady Growth

ARDMORE, Okla.—Thirty-two members have been added to the First church here in the past year, bringing the membership to 116, according to Rev. Russell D. Allen, pastor. The average Sunday school attendance has increased 26 during that time, he said.

Contacts Sought In Louisiana Town

LAKE CHARLES, La.—Rev. Malcolm Fry, an air force sergeant who is stationed near here, would like to make contact with anyone in the vicinity who would be interested in a new Free Will Baptist church. A meeting place has already been secured and services are being held. Any of our readers who can assist with this request may write him at 902 Eleventh St., Lake Charles.

Social Band Leaguers Will Meet at Pochontas

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—The district league rally of the Social Band association will be held January 1 at the Pochontas

church. An attendance banner will be awarded. It was won by the Jonesboro church at the last meeting which was held October 2 at the O'Kean church.

New Nashville Church Purchases Property

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—One of Nashville's newer churches has purchased property and is getting ready to build. The congregation in Donelson, organized this year, has bought property on McGavock Pike. Services are being held temporarily at the Elm Hill clubhouse. Rev. Robert Owen is pastor.

Texas Leaguers Meet At Pine Prairie Church

HUNTSVILLE, Texas—The Central Texas youth rally met at Pine Prairie church October 1. Five churches were represented—Bryan First church, Fellowship at Bryan, Pine Prairie, Huntsville, and Cross. Rev. Huey Gower brought the sermon.

Pastoral Changes

James Earl Raper to Arcadia, S. C., from Valley Falls, S. C.

Benjamin Scott to Fredericktown, Mo., from Oilton, Okla. (Effective January 8, 1956).

J. B. Chism to Warwick, Va., from Horse Branch church, Turbeville, S. C.

A. L. Baber to Love Temple church, Ft. Worth, Texas.

Revival Campaigns

Church	Evangelist	Pastor	Date	Dec.	Add.
Amory, Miss.	Louis H. Moulton	M. L. Hollis	11/21-25		
Black Jack church, Greenville, N. C.	Charles Thigpen	Floyd Cherry	10/17-26	23	21
Trinity Temple church, Tulsa, Okla.	Raymond Riggs	Melvin Bingham	10/	2	
Wewoka, Okla.	John H. West	N. R. Smith	10/31-		3
Kirksville, Mo.	Rolla Smith	Lester Jones	10/31-11/6	7	10
Hazel Park, Mich.	John E. Floyd	Mark M. Lewis	11/13-20		
First church, Tulsa, Okla.	Bill Ketchum	John H. West	11/13-20		
First church, Ardmore, Okla.	L. C. Pinson	Russell Allen	11/6-16	34	
Canton, N. C.	H. A. Pitts	Milton Hollifield	10/3-14	12	7

Cooperative Fund Drops Slightly in November

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Cooperative receipts for November were about \$80 under the previous month, according to an announcement from the executive office. Total receipts were just over \$2,000, but the minimum budget requirements are \$3,500 monthly. All eight agencies of the national association share in every cooperative dollar, the executive secretary said, and urged an increase in cooperative giving to meet the budget by the end of the year.

Those churches who wish to give to the denominational program through the Cooperative Plan, and whose states do not have this type of program, may send their money to the Executive Department, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn., marked for the Cooperative Plan. November receipts and disbursements were as follows:

RECEIPTS	
ALABAMA	
First church, Dothan	52.90
Goodwater church	
Slocumb	10.00
Alabama State Unified Program	22.60
	85.50
ARKANSAS	
State Association	7.83
CALIFORNIA	
Churches of California	240.85
FLORIDA	
Northeast Florida Union Meeting	2.00
Central church, Tampa	7.00
	9.00
ILLINOIS	
Webb's Prairie church, Ewing	13.96
Gertude Bowe, Chicago	10.00
Bakerville church, Mt. Vernon	25.00
Pleasant View church, Dix	25.00
Bethel church, South Roxana	9.15
	83.48
KENTUCKY	
Southside church, Paintsville	
	49.08
MISSOURI	
State Association	314.78
NEBRASKA	
First church, Shelton	13.76
NORTH CAROLINA	
First church, Swannanoa	117.35
Goshen church, Belmont	70.58
	187.93
OKLAHOMA	
State Association	412.63
TENNESSEE	
Palmer Memorial, Nashville	47.47
East Nashville church, Nashville	120.00
Heads church, Cedar Hill	37.80
	205.27
TEXAS	
Mt. Olive church, Laneville	15.81
VIRGINIA	
Fairmount Park church, Norfolk	
	323.44
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$2,049.36

DISBURSEMENTS	
Executive Department	918.89
Foreign Mission Board	456.57
Bible College	306.31
Home Mission Board	163.36
Superannuation	81.69
Sunday School Board	61.25
League Board	40.86
Radio-TV Board	20.43
Total Disbursements	\$2,049.36

New

Roadside Sign



Every church should have one of these all-new, completely weather-proofed church signs on every highway leading into town.

Long-lasting enamel paint has been baked on 20-gauge steel for durability. The words, "Free Will Baptist Church," are lettered in dark blue over a light blue cross on a white background for easy reading from a passing automobile. Size is 18" by 28". Three holes make for fast mounting on a single wooden or metal post.

Only \$5.00 plus shipping charges.

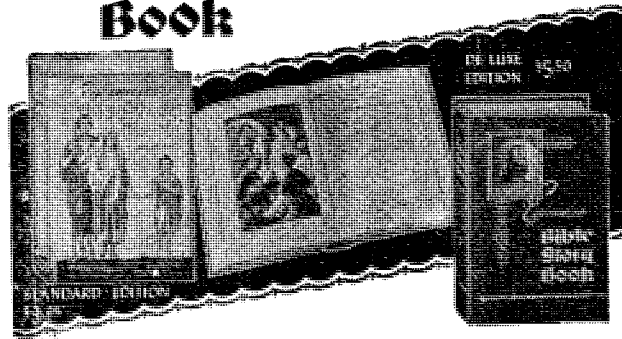
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