

Contact

Mr. Virgie Cantrell
Miss M. M. Cantrell
of the
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

FEBRUARY, 1956

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



Sunday School Issue



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.

From Convention City

Dear Sir:

Your letter of January 9 received and the contents carefully noted.

Mayor Theurer will be more than pleased to have you use our city auditorium for your convention. We have talked to Rev. Carl Vallance, chairman of the arrangements committee, and he was real pleased with the set-up.

We hope you have as many people attending as you plan; and the mayor and all of the city officials will do everything in their power to make your stay in Huntington a pleasant one.

John W. Herndon
City Clerk
Huntington, W. Va.

Soldier in Korea

Dear Editor:

Enclosed you will find an order for two copies of *The Free Will Baptist Story*. My main reason for writing to you, however, is to find out the address of Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery, missionaries in Japan. Since I am stationed in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division of the U. S. Army, I am entitled to a seven-day rest leave soon. I would like very much to spend those seven days in Japan helping and getting to know Mr. and Mrs. Calvery.

My father is a Free Will Baptist minister in Modesto, Calif. When I finish my tour with the army I wish to go into full-time Christian work with young people. I would like very much to attend the Free Will Baptist Bible College and major in music.

I have been working as a chaplain's assistant while in the army. This keeps me in much closer contact with the Lord's work and helps me be victorious in my daily life. I request your prayers that not only will I be a good soldier for our country, but a better one for our Lord.

Pvt. Donald K. Doss
Camp Casey, Korea

Likes News Coverage

Dear Editor:

I am enclosing my renewal to *Contact*. I think it is the most wonderful paper for its size being published today. It not only gives us denominational news, but it covers the news of the world as it relates to religion. I look forward to its visit each

month and do not want to miss a single copy.

Mrs. Stella Knight
Glennville, Georgia

Wants Preaching Appointment

Dear Editor:

Starting the last of January, I will be in Bible college in Birmingham, Ala. I am living in Sylacauga so that I may commute to school. At present, of course, I have no pastorate and for the next two years will have to live close to Birmingham so I may complete my work. During this time I would be happy to make any appointments or perhaps fill in for a departing pastor.

Rev. Ira C. Gow
906 N. Anniston Ave.
Sylacauga, Ala.

Contact

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Personally...

For this special Sunday school emphasis issue, we are happy to turn this column over to Rev. William Mishler, promotional secretary for the Sunday school department, who discusses a matter of importance to every Sunday school worker. He writes:

Are there people in your church who should be active in the Sunday school, but aren't? Maybe they would like to teach a class, but you do not need another teacher now. Or perhaps they feel that they cannot teach because they haven't had the training or, more than likely, the thought of standing before a class just plain frightens them.

The home department gives excellent opportunity for such Christians to share in the work of reaching others for Christ. It requires the efforts of many different kinds of people, from the young mother to the grandmother and from the young man just out of college to the successful business man.

The home department is primarily a visitation work, reaching those who cannot attend Sunday school. Through regular visits the home department worker cheers, encourages, and brings spiritual help to these whom the Sunday school cannot reach any other way.

The visitor takes quarterly study material to the members

which is the same as that studied by the Sunday school class. The visitor also keeps the member informed on what is going on in the church and denomination by bringing the church bulletin and *Contact* regularly. A tape recording of a better special service may also be used to make the stay-at-home member feel he is a part of the church.

The visitor must be sincerely interested in the personal problems, needs, and circumstances of each member. He should take every opportunity to discuss spiritual matters and the Bible-study material with the member. Of course, he should avoid "preaching."

As the visitor makes each call a pleasant and inspirational occasion, the members will look forward to his coming regularly. And as he shows genuine interest in the home and family of each member and seeks to link each home to the church, new members will be brought into the Sunday school also.

If you do not have a home department in your Sunday school, you are missing an important spiritual ministry. For complete information on how to organize one, write to our national Sunday school department. It is time to begin to teach the unreached in your community through this vital Sunday school department.

Stepchild or Heartbeat?

William J. Mishler

An Analysis of the Church-Sunday School Relationship

Reverend Ralph M. Riggs says there are three kinds of Sunday schools: The Independent, the Branch, and the Integral. The independent Sunday school of course is thought of as a community Sunday school or a union Sunday school, separate and apart from any church organization, made up of different denominations.

The branch Sunday school is called such because it is a branch of a larger church Sunday school. It is primarily conducted to reach the unreached with the Sunday school lesson; those unable to attend because of distance, illness, etc. This Sunday school is staffed by workers from the larger church Sunday schools.

Then there is the integral Sunday school. This Sunday school is conducted in the church building proper, before the regular church services. This type Sunday school is descriptive of by far the greater number of Free Will Baptist Sunday schools. However, the branch Sunday school is becoming very popular in some of our more progressive churches.

Must Be Correlation

Since most of our Sunday schools are the integral type, there must be correlation, an interweaving, and an interdependent relationship between the church and the Sunday school.

Many of our church people today do not thoroughly understand the ministry and mission of the Sunday school as it relates to the church. This thinking often reflects the attitude of many who regard the Sunday school as a separate, or independent, body of the church. Too often we hear the statement, "The Sunday school and church service," which obviously reflects the thinking of most persons concerning the Sunday school. Yet, the Sunday school is as much a church service as any other service.

A certain Sunday school worker has said, "The Sunday school is the heartbeat of the church." This is true in most cases, for as the Sunday school goes, so goes the church program.

Not a Separate Body

The Sunday school must not be thought of as a separate body, but all activities of the church should be integrated into the whole of the church program, with the pastor as the head counselor. All of the Sunday school activities are to be of the church, for the church, and by the church; thus, every member of the church, both old and young, should be a member of the Sunday school.

The Sunday school, in the past, has been called the stepchild of the church, but in most cases it is evident that the church is a product of the Sunday school, rather than the Sunday school a product of the church. Sunday schools were planted which finally developed into thriving churches. Thus, one can readily see the importance of a harmonious relationship between the church and Sunday school.

Dr. Dawson, in *Prophets in Babylon* says, "Churches, like armies, live by conquest. When conquest ceases, mutiny begins." This is as true of churches as of armies. Those charged with responsibility should, at the beginning of the church year or before, lay out a definite program of conquest. This conquest should not be one-sided, but should include all of the essential features of Sunday school growth and efficiency.



Pastor Is Key

A definite program of enlargement must always be projected into every Sunday school. A Sunday school superintendent who has had thirty years experience made the following statement: "I have observed that when we had a pastor who was interested in Sunday school, not only did the Sunday school increase in attendance and interest, but the church built up. When we had a pastor, no matter how great a preacher he was, who neglected the Sunday school, not only did the Sunday school decline, but the church itself did not prosper."

According to the latest statistics there has been an increased interest in Sunday school attendance. The increase from 1926 to 1942, a sixteen-year period, was approximately one million, or an average annual gain of 65,000 for 200,000 Sunday schools. In other words, it took three Sunday schools

over one year to get one new pupil to attend.

During the last five years there has been an average gain of 2,000,000 a year in our Sunday schools, or approximately eight new pupils for every Sunday.

Five Year Gain Noted

Of fifty-four denominations reporting on Sunday school enrollment, thirty-four show a gain, nine show a loss, and eleven show little or no change.

According to our own Sunday school statistics, in 1950 we had approximately 1,267 Sunday schools, with an enrollment of 103,252. In 1955 there was approximately 1,743 Sunday schools, with an enrollment of 134,596. Over this five-year period, we had a gain of 476 Sunday schools, and an enrollment gain of 31,344.

An increased interest is reflected from these figures which makes it very evident that more people are brought into contact with church through the Sunday school than any other single agency. In fact, the first introduction that most people have to the church is through the Sunday school. This makes it an integral part of the church, worthy of the wholehearted support and faithful attendance of the whole church.

Church Sponsors Sunday School

However, according to the same statistics, we have approximately 2,000 churches, and we say that the Sunday school furnishes the greater portion of the membership to the church. This would be approximately 15½ members per church over this five-year period.

According to this figure, it is very evident that we are failing to channel the pupils of our Sunday schools on into the church proper.

One of the greatest reasons for this, I am sure, is the failure on the part of our church leaders to recognize the true relationship between the Sunday school and church. The Sunday school does not sponsor the church, rather the church sponsors the Sunday school. Training of Sunday school workers, proper facilities, indoctrination of Sunday school members, and emphasis on evangelism are most basic in every Sunday school program, and all of these must be sponsored under the leadership of the church.

Agency of Evangelism

The Sunday school is one of the principle agencies of evangelism in the church. In fact, the chief business of the Sunday school is to win its pupils to the Lord Jesus Christ. There is a greater potential for evangelism in the Sunday school than in

(Continued on page 7)

Mr. Mishler is promotional secretary for the national Sunday School Department.

For the Superintendent . . .

Plan the Year's Work Wisely and Well

CLATE A. RISLEY

Let's take a look at the year ahead. There are four quarters and four seasons. There are 52 Sundays, 366 days and 8,784 hours. What you accomplish this next year will depend largely on what you plan to accomplish. Planning is the forerunner of preparation and proper preparation is certainly a close relative of efficiency.

Immediately we ask who is responsible for planning? The more inclusive the list the more responsive the cooperation. A common weakness of pastors and superintendents is to take too few into their confidence in planning and then wonder why their own plans don't receive more enthusiastic approval. People enjoy helping to "put over" what they have helped plan.

Key planners for the Sunday school should be the pastor, the Sunday school superintendent and the Board of Christian Education. These must in turn consider and counsel with the department superintendents and teachers who will in turn seek to gain the interest of the classes and ultimately the whole church.

There is no easy answer to effective planning. It takes a lot of time and energy—more time and labor than some may be willing to spend.

We cannot plan wisely until we know our needs. This means surveying the present school. I think this is what Marion Lawrence meant when he said every superintendent should have two schools in mind—the one he has and the one he wants to have. We can only plan the future well as we interpret the past accurately.

Basic Questions

Here are some basic questions to help you. Opposite each question consider the coming year's goal.

How many enrolled in Sunday School?

What per cent gain has there been in the last 12 months?

How many in each department?

What is per cent gain in each department?

Which department has made greatest gains? Why?

Which department has made least gains? Why?

Arrange departments and even classes according to per cent gain.

How many teachers and workers in each department?

How many rooms? How many classes?

What was the average attendance for the year?

Compare a year ago? Two years ago, etc.?

How many have affiliated with church through the Sunday school? Last year? Last 5 years?

Chart some of the above for the school and for the departments and show illustrations to faculty, Sunday school and church. Use these facts and figures in church bulletin.

Rate Your Teachers

Have teachers made effort to win pupils to Christ?

How many teachers' meetings last 12 months?

What per cent of teachers have attended?

Have these meetings been profitable?

What teacher training efforts have been carried out.

Do teachers come on time? Regularly?

Rate Your School

Do pupils come on time? Rate Departments.

What efforts have been made to contact absentees and follow up visitors?

Has there been a planned program to see that strangers and newcomers were made to feel welcome and at home?

Are assignments given? Why or why not? Do students study Sunday school lessons?

Are Bibles brought to Sunday school? Are they used?

What is the per capita offering of the Sunday school?

Rate Your Church

What per cent of church membership attend Sunday school?

Do the officers of the church take an active interest in Sunday school?

Do Sunday school teachers and pupils attend church and junior church?

It is impossible to plan a year without taking into consideration special days. These days give us an excellent opportunity to publicize particular events. Notice should be given to at least two special weeks—National Family Week and National Sunday School Week sponsored by the NSSA.

It is wise in your planning to pay attention to missionary emphasis, stewardship and temperance teaching.

Make a Year Book

It is not difficult to make a year book for superintendents out of a loose leaf notebook and 52 pages. Date each page for a Sunday and begin to build your program. Add another 12 pages, one for each month, and plan the workers conferences for the year and other things to be done month by month.

Shall We Have Sunday School Socials?

Every Christian agrees that Sunday school teaching is important. But not every Christian, apparently, believes that Sunday school socials are also important.

If God is interested in every phase of our lives, perhaps we should be interested in our pupils socially as well as spiritually. We forget that the Lord can use a party as well as a prayer meeting. Often our socials flop because Christians who would not think of teaching prayerlessly think nothing of putting on a prayerless social.

The fact that Christ himself went to a wedding feast—when He might have gone elsewhere—and that he furnished the best part of the wedding refreshments, should influence us.

A poorly-planned picnic, a weakly-attended party, or a limply-announced outing neither exalts Christ nor gives the guests a good time.

And in the final analysis, the purpose of every Christian social is twofold: the guests should enjoy themselves, and God should be glorified. If either requirement is missing, failure results, whether it be a camera hike for teenagers, a valentine party for beginners, or a Thanksgiving banquet for teachers and officers.

How may the guests enjoy themselves? Through the good feeling they get in anticipating the event as they hear catchy announcements of the affair and as they get clever invitations which arouse their curiosity.

Through the appropriate decorations which meet their eye as they enter the room, decorations which help them relax in just the right atmosphere. Through the warm reception they receive at the door, and through the interest and humor aroused in the games, comments, and program.

Through the fun of being together with the right-sized crowd of fellow-Christians of their own age and interests. Through the laughter which is encouraged by those in charge. Through the refreshments—watch a group of adults when the odor of coffee begins to waft into the room!

Through the brief devotional service when they enjoy singing a few favorite choruses and hearing a genuine testimony from one who knows and loves the Lord. Through simply relaxing in these tense days and experiencing again the truth of Proverbs 17:22, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine".

God is exalted when some half-interested pupil is now drawn closer to Sunday school and church because of getting acquainted with other Christians. He is pleased because his people are obeying his command to forsake the world and are yoking themselves together with believers.

Plan a few good socials for every Sunday School department, meet this twofold requirement, and your pupils will truly say, "Thank you for such a nice time!"—*Eunice Fisher*

Mr. Risley is general secretary of the National Sunday School Association with offices in Chicago, Ill.

Many Idle Workers Are Waiting for Enlistment

LYNN HAMILTON

We need some "householders" in Free Will Baptist churches who will follow the example of their counterpart in Matthew 20:1-16. This story is an example of enlistment, which is of prime necessity to us today.

The householder went out early in the morning to hire laborers to work in his vineyard. He went again the third, sixth, and ninth hour, each time hiring all of the workers who were idle. Then at the eleventh hour the householder went again to the marketplace and found many idle who were capable of working. When he asked them, "Why stand ye here all the day idle," they gave him the same answer we hear today: "Because no man hath hired us."

When we become Christians there is within us a deep desire to help others. This strong compassion for the lost is like a current flowing through us that could not be contained were it dammed up. If we apply this energy to the glory of God in the most useful way, we will use the talents we have to carry the gospel to the lost.

Some find in this flow of energy the call to be evangelists, others pastors, and many others teachers. Some others are not sure. Yet it is the same Christ who cries out to all, "The fields are white unto harvest." This last group are the ones who stand idle in the marketplace because no man has hired them. The Lord places the emphasis in this story on someone hiring them.

We see classrooms in the Sunday school empty or without teachers because the householders have not gone out into the marketplace and hired or enlisted the idle, most of whom are very capable of working in the vineyard. A man is not born as a sailor or soldier in the armed services. First comes the enlistment of those eligible. After this comes "boot camp," then advanced training, followed by schools of instruction and finally, before going into action, a complete briefing. Isn't God's work just as important?

We must realize now the importance of enlisting and training the idle church members in the "marketplace" to fill the empty and teacher-less Sunday school rooms in this eleventh hour. If we fail in this task, we will have failed the next generation.

God is looking for the man who can do things, not for the man who can explain why he did not. It is time for the householders (pastors and superintendents) to go into the marketplace and hire the ones who are idle. Enlist them into service for God. Train, educate, and equip them for the task ahead that the vineyard of the Lord may be well-kept.

Mr. Hamilton is a teacher in the Sunday school of the First church, Tulsa, Okla., and was formerly superintendent of the Sunday school.

For the Teacher . . .

How to Teach a Lesson

WILLIAM BOYD

The Sunday school teacher is one of the most faithful and useful members of the church and community he serves. If he confines himself, however, to reading the printed text and then expounds upon it at random or uses the text as a basis for a sermon on spiritual concepts he is falling short of his duty as a teacher. As Sunday school teachers have quite a task to put across a message from God. We must keep in mind that each lesson is a very short chapter from God's message. Does God as he observes our methods of teaching, approve of the way in which we tell his story?

A Sunday school teacher is a sower. He sows seeds in the hearts and minds of his students and he should expect them to produce an abundant harvest. How can this be accomplished in the short time allotted us? We can do a lot about this in the way that we prepare and teach each Sunday's lesson.

A Sunday school lesson should be so organized as to include three general steps: the background, the lesson itself and the application. A previous step for the teacher, as well as the students, is preparation. There is no use in trying to tell a story which you yourself do not know. You must have every detail clearly in mind before you attempt to tell it to others. This requires a lot of time and work. There is not better or more rewarding experience than being able to tell His story accurately and knowing that those who hear it are impressed.

Before any lesson can be taught thoroughly, its general historical and social background must be understood. A lot of preparation is needed for the teacher to be able to give this background. The political situation, at the time the story takes place, is very important. Which nations were strong or weak, which were hostile to Christianity or friendly? Which group of people were in control of the government? If these situations had been different then the events in the lesson might have been different.

To understand the social background is important because it played an equally important role in the story as it unfolds in the lesson. Were the people involved rich, living in hewn stone and ivory, or were they in poverty and slavery? How many times in the Bible do geographic conditions play a major role? In almost every lesson there is a mountain, a river, a wilderness, or even a road that has bearing on the outcome of the story. Would not then a fairly

good knowledge of the setting of the story, with all its geographic limitations help us greatly in interpreting the story?

Throughout the history of the Bible, people alternated between the worship of God and that of various heathen gods and many of those who worshipped God were not sincere. In understanding of the lesson implied we need a better understanding of these religious situations. Who were these people? What conditions existed? What was being taught by these people and their contemporaries, both Christian and non-Christian? A fair knowledge of these people, their teachings, and the conditions that existed will bear heavily upon our final reaction to the lesson.

The lesson itself, when this background has been developed, takes on a more vivid, and often a completely different meaning, to the students. Class participation should be encouraged. Students will express themselves if they are permitted to feel relaxed and at ease. The only foolish question is the one not asked. Group discussion helps students to gain a genuine understanding of and to respect, each others feelings and viewpoints. We all interpret any story by comparing it to our own past experiences and in so doing we learn from each other.

The final analysis of the lesson is the application of its moral and spiritual values to our own moral and spiritual conditions. Does it modify our behavior? How is what we have learned going to affect our lives and our way of thinking? The study of the physical aspects of the lesson is important in that it paves a way for a better understanding of the message God is giving us, but these alone are not educational.

The whole idea and the real purpose for teaching the lesson in the first place is to find its spiritual concepts as they govern our relations to God and to our fellowman. The student should be led to think for himself, to figure out these concepts and to connect them with others he has learned. Thus he will attain a better organized knowledge of the teachings of the Bible and will use this knowledge as he grows into a better Christian, a better citizen, and a better member of your Sunday school class.

Mr. Boyd is a teacher in the Sunday school of the Sylan Park church, Nashville. He is a former public school teacher who is now connected with the textbook business.

Three Steps Toward Success with Primaries

BILLIE DAVIS

In order to reach a goal it is necessary first to establish objectives. If a Sunday school worker is to succeed he must first of all have well in mind the general objectives of the Sunday school. Some of them are:

1. To teach the knowledge of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
2. To develop appreciation for the Holy Bible as the Word of God and the guide to Christian living.
3. To cultivate attitudes of worship and reverence; appreciation for prayer, meditation, and participation in group worship.
4. To impart knowledge of Biblical text and principles.
5. To prepare Christians for active service and leadership.
6. To work toward the building of the church and the accomplishment of Christ's purpose as stated in "The Great Commission".

In addition the worker must be aware of special objectives of the Primary Department. He may work out a list which may include:

1. To develop appreciations and attitudes which will form the foundation for all future teaching.
2. To lead pupils into worship experiences and train them in group worship.
3. To encourage friendly associations with other pupils and workers.
4. To encourage expression and participation in study, worship, and service activities.
5. To lay the foundation for evangelism and seek to guide each individual according to his needs and responses toward ultimate acceptance of Christ. (This does not mean to press the issue of "conversion" among primaries, but to guide them wisely and be prepared to give them any spiritual help possible.)

After the objectives are understood, the worker must consider the factors which are involved or will be involved in his plans for reaching the objectives. First he will consider the general characteristics of the primary age as distinguished from other age groups. Perhaps among the most significant are: entrance into public school; development of interest in group activity; early stages of reason; development of purpose and direction; development of sense of time and order; awakening moral responsibility; tendency toward disillusionment (as in Santa Claus); development of religious tendencies.

When the worker has established his objectives and considered the related factors, he is ready to take the third and most difficult step toward administration of a Primary Department. This is to use the knowledge of objectives and factors to outline a program suited to the needs of the pupils; satisfying and pleasant for them; effective in attainment of the objectives; and within the range of practical operation.

For example, a worker may have as one

Problem Boys Become Model Junior Class

There were twelve of them. And they were juniors. And they were boys. They had had a teacher, but his term of service was short because he moved out of the community. After that the superintendent did the best he could, but he seemed unable to find anyone who was willing to take the responsibility of teaching them regularly. So they had substitutes—a different one almost every Sunday. And the situation was getting worse each week.

Finally, as if in answer to serious and earnest prayer, a young man came along and accepted the challenge. His first Sunday was pretty rough, but he stood up to it, and after that one could see an improvement each week. The day came when those boys were the model group in the whole school.

The new teacher began by giving those lads a good talking to. He had not planned anything like that, but within ten minutes after he had started they had tried every trick on him. You see how far they had drifted in discipline and respect for the school.

He decided to explain to them just why they were there. If any boy was determined that he didn't want to learn anything about the Bible and how to live a Christian life, then he had better stay home. This was the house of the Lord, and as such it deserved a certain reverence. He was to be the new teacher and he intended to be a *good* teacher, but he was going to have

objective "to develop appreciations and attitudes which will form the foundation for future teaching". As he studies the factors involved he will consider that the primary has begun to develop a definite religious tendency, and is becoming aware of purpose and direction, developing a sense of time and order.

From this the worker will conclude that he should plan an opening service which begins exactly on time. There will be no pause for discussion with the pianist, no place for hesitation or confusion; for he knows that primaries tend to respond to order and purposeful action. He will see that the seating arrangement is such that will prevent confusion—that the chairs do not move easily and noisily.

He will select a simple hymn or worship chorus in place of a noisy motion song for the opening number. He will be conscious all the time that the impressions made and the appreciations stimulated are even more important than the verse which is taught or conduct which is suggested. Therefore, he will keep the Bible in evidence as he teaches a memory portion or tells a story.

Nothing is done without reason and direction. A worker who has this plan will not be seeking constantly for superficial "ideas" or gadgets.

—From *Link*

their attention and their cooperation or else.

"Gee, that guy's tough," whispered the class bully to his nearest understudy. "But mebbe he's got something".

From that moment, those twelve boys began to draw more and more closely about that teacher. It was not only what he *taught* them. He gave them well-prepared lessons, but he also *lived* before them. The hour in Sunday school was only one of many hours in the week. His interest and effort followed them every day of the seven.

He took hikes with them, took them swimming, went fishing, and joined in their hobbies. And in every single activity he showed himself to be a fine Christian. In a few weeks he knew all about each one of his boys, what his interests were, his hobbies, his home background, and his problems.

I was walking down the street with this teacher and four times he stopped a moment to ask a question, or offer a suggestion, or to make a comment to some boy we passed.

"Is your mother better, Dick?" I heard him ask a bright looking chap who smiled his reply.

"Did you make the team last night?" he asked a second boy. "Congratulations! I'll be down to see you play. Make it good!"

And so it went. The expression on those boys' faces revealed the deep respect and affection they had in their hearts for him.

Occasionally he was called upon to settle some dispute between some of his boys, and he always did it with such a degree of fairness that they accepted his decision as final. He was in constant touch with them all through the week and they looked forward to every minute that he spent with them.

When Sunday morning arrived they were all present. If any member was absent without a reason, a special committee was soon on its way to bring him in—if he lived within short distance of the Sunday School.

It is not difficult to see that the first great factor in the lives of those boys was the deep personal interest that teacher had in each one of them. The next great force was his personal consecration. He was genuinely spiritual and regarded the work of a teacher as God's call.

No class is hopeless! But it may require a great deal of effort, and patience, and diplomacy, and prayer. When the class responds, as this one did, the satisfaction far outweighs all the effort it entailed. The Lord always blesses persistent and sincere Christian endeavor. He blesses both the pupil and the teacher.

Stepchild or Heartbeat?

(Continued from page 3)

any other service. Seven times more persons are won to Christ from the ages of 12 to 16 than any other period of life. It is true that many persons are won to Christ through mass evangelism, yet many of them are only acting on knowledge they received through a Sunday school class or teacher.

The Sunday school is also dedicated to the task of indoctrination of its members. As the little girl said, "I learned to love my teacher, I learned to love my teacher's Christ, I learned to love my teacher's church." To thoroughly indoctrinate is to help men know what they believe and why they believe it. The apostle in I Peter 3:15 said, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." There is no other agency in the church so well-suited for the task of indoctrination as the Sunday school.

Lack of Cooperation

The curse of lack of cooperation has stifled the growth and efficiency of many of our Sunday schools. This strained relationship between the church and Sunday school has come about many times because of an over-conservative board of deacons or trustees. Especially is this true when there is need of added space or facilities.

I have assisted in the reorganization of a number of Sunday schools, and I have never yet found one single place where at least temporary space could not be obtained somehow or someway for the growth of the Sunday school. The difficulty can be overcome when these officials are shown the possibilities of reaching more boys and girls and men and women for Christ through the Sunday school by adding this necessary space and facilities. Then the financial problem which they fear so much will invariably fade into obscurity.

However, I believe a lot of our trouble is simply selfishness on the part of the leaders. Many have become self-satisfied and have no initiative to do any greater things. How true the statement by the great English essayist, Macaulay, speaking of "divine discontent." He said, "This is the soil in which improvements grow. Those who are content with present achievements will not be likely to exert themselves either to formulate or reach higher ideals."

Room for Improvement

I trust in this great multi-million dollar business we shall not be like the lightning bug as described by the poet:

*"The lightning bug is brilliant,
But he hasn't any mind.
He just stumbles through existence
With his headlight on behind."*

The Sunday school can serve as a channel for the output of the energy and life of the church. The Sunday school can serve as a force for teaching, evangelizing, instructing, upbuilding of Christian character, and opening a door of usefulness on a

larger scale than the church has ever known. The statement has been made that, "No statistician will ever be able to count up the contributions of the Sunday school to the Kingdom of God. Think of the countless thousands who year-by-year are conducted to the Gates of the Celestial Kingdom and introduced into the Master's presence by this Christian force. Think of the armies upon armies of young people who have gone to heaven shouting the Redeemer's praises as they went. They were the fruit of the Sunday school."

Free Will Baptist Sunday schools are a multi-million dollar business functioning for God in the outreach, indoctrination, and evangelization of the church.

The largest room in the world is the room for improvement.

Pastoral Changes

Adrian Condit to Coffeyville, Kansas.
Leo R. Curtis to Blakely, Ga., from Lebanon, Mo.
J. E. Blanton to Oakland church, Nashville, Tenn.
Owen Ganey to Glenwood church, Rockingham, N. C.
Bobby L. Jones to First church, Dothan, Ala.



Yes, "Champions for Christ" is the theme for the ALL-BIBLE Vacation School Lessons during this year of Olympic Games. It's ready now! The 1956 edition of the "complete-to-the-last-detail" ALL-BIBLE Vacation School Plan. Brimful of proved suggestions that assure success in conducting a VBS that really reaches the entire family for Christ. Includes a preview of 1956 ALL-BIBLE Vacation School lessons and handwork.

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Activities for Juniors

AL SEDGWICK

If yours is the job of teaching active, curious, fun-loving juniors and you are wondering what to do next to keep their interest inside and outside of Sunday school, why not consider some of the following?

1. Collecting Curios

Juniors are natural collectors. They collect anything from postage stamps to bottle caps. Put this natural interest to work by providing a Junior Missionary Museum. Secure names and addresses of missionaries from various fields and have your juniors write to them during the pre-session time requesting inexpensive items of interest from their respective fields.

2. Reading

Since he loves to read, you can provide your juniors with good literature that will help mold his life for God. A bookcase (made out of orange crates if necessary) can become a valuable junior library with the right selection of books. Books that are suited to his interest, (missionary adventure, Christian fiction, biographies of outstanding Christians, etc.) that are printed in large type, with not too many words to a page, and with a lot of illustrations—with more action than description, are sure to interest him, and have a definite influence upon his spiritual growth.

3. The Worship Service

Who is a more natural worshipper than the junior? The Lord's presence can be realized in your departmental worship service through a worship program planned by and for Juniors. Meet with a group of your pupils before Sunday school begins, to plan the worship service. Guide them in their thinking and help them to choose the theme of the service, and then to select the hymns, Scripture portion, etc., that will carry out the theme.

4. Memorizing Scripture

Some authorities have called the Junior age the "golden age of memory" since at this age the pupil is quick to memorize, more so than at any other age. If Scripture memorization is made attractive and interesting, juniors can be led to hide large portions of God's Word in their hearts, "that they might not sin against Thee". One method used to aid learning, which juniors enjoy, is to write each word of a verse on a separate oblong piece of paper backed with flannel and put the words scrambled on a flannelboard. Pupils can take turns trying to put the words in their proper order. During the exercise, the teacher guides the conversation to the meaning of the verse.

5. Outside Activities

Organized sports like soft-ball, volley ball, relay games, etc., appeal to the junior as do most games of skill and help foster a group spirit among the members of your class. They give you an opportunity to "get next to them" and make them your "pals". Parties for your group will do the same thing.

—From Link

The Church of Mrs. Eddy

In 1872 a man and a woman traveled together from Lynn, Massachusetts to Boston to submit manuscripts to a publisher. The man had written a story of the sea. The woman had a prospectus of a book on healing. On the return trip to Lynn the man was elated, his manuscript had been accepted for publication. The woman was despondent, her prospectus had been rejected. Suddenly the woman reached out and stopped her companion.

"George!" she exclaimed, pointing to a church—"Some day, I shall have a church of my own."

The man was George Clark and his story of the sea has almost been forgotten. The woman was Mary Baker Eddy and her book was *Science and Health* which was later published and became the philosophy upon which Christian Science is founded.

Frail of Body

Mary Baker Eddy was born July 16, 1821, in New Hampshire. She was the youngest of six children, frail of body and subject to nervous "turns." At least one physician called these "turns" tantrums. The Christian Scientists have built up such a myth around Mrs. Eddy that it is difficult to know the real facts concerning her life.

Her whole life seems to have been marked by misfortune and strife. When she was twelve years old, Mary Baker was received into the Congregational Church, after having a violent argument with the minister and her father. When she was twenty-two years old, she was married to George Glover of South Carolina. Glover was a prominent man who had been given the honorary title of Colonel by the governor of South Carolina. Mr. Glover died less than a year from the wedding leaving the young Mrs. Glover a widow. Soon after the death of her husband, Mrs. Glover gave birth to her only son, George Washington Glover II. By the time she had recovered from the birth of her son, her mother had died.

After the death of Mrs. Glover's mother, her father married a well-to-do widow, a Mrs. Duncan, sister of the lieutenant governor of New York. From the beginning Mrs. Glover was unable to get along with her step-mother. Because of this, Mrs. Glover and her son went to live with her

Floyd B. Cherry

sister, Mrs. Abigail Tilton. Soon she and her sister were quarreling over the children to the extent that it became necessary for Mrs. Glover's son to live with another family forty miles away.

Divorced Second Husband

Mrs. Mary Baker Glover's second marriage was to Dr. Patterson, a dentist; but she was able to get along with him no better than she had with her stepmother and her sister. This marriage lasted for about two years ending in separation and subsequent divorce.

During the early years of the Christian Science movement Mrs. Patterson was often the object of persecution and many accusations. There is no doubt that some of the accusations were unfounded. However, it cannot be denied that she must have been a difficult person to live with.

On New Year's Day 1877, Mrs. Patterson was married to one of her students, Asa Gilbert Eddy. Mr. Eddy was one of her most promising students and no doubt she thought that he could be of help to her in her work. Thus she became Mary Baker Glover Patterson Eddy.

Injured by Fall

On a winter evening in 1866 in Lynn, Massachusetts, Mrs. Patterson fell on the icy sidewalk. She was carried into the home of S. M. Bubier where she was treated by a physician. At this date the extent of her injuries cannot be determined. Christian Science sources say that she was critically injured and became unconscious. Unfriendly sources say that she was not injured very badly. This accident happened on Thursday evening. Mrs. Patterson was not carried to her own home until Friday. On the following Sunday she sent for the minister.

Before the minister arrived, Mrs. Patterson asked a neighbor who was at her bedside to bring her a Bible and leave her alone for awhile. Telling about it later, Mrs. Patterson said that she opened the Bible to the ninth chapter of Matthew and read:

And, behold, they brought to him a man

sick of the palsy, lying on a bed; and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son be of good cheer: thy sins be forgiven thee.

And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts

For whether is easier to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise and walk?

But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go into thine house.

And he arose, and departed to his house.

Taught Healing Lessons

Mrs. Patterson claims that she was miraculously healed and that this incident started her on what she called the "search for truth." Her philosophy upon which Christian Science is founded evolved over a period of years.

Finally, Mrs. Patterson wrote her philosophy into a book. She first presented a prospectus of it to Adams and Company Publishers of Boston. They told her that the kind of book she had in mind had no possibilities and advised her to give up writing such a book. She would not give up. And after much study and writing the completed manuscript was given to the W. F. Brown and Company to print. In October of 1875, the first edition of *Science and Health* came off the press and was ready for sale.

Five years prior to the publication of her book, Mrs. Patterson had begun to teach lessons in healing. She charged one hundred dollars for ten lessons. However, students who could not afford to pay were taught free. With some of her students she made arrangements to get ten per cent of their earnings after they had graduated from her course. These courses she later developed into the Massachusetts Metaphysical College.

Church Is Organized

Apparently Mrs. Eddy and her followers did not intend at first to organize a new church. They wanted their new doctrine to be accepted by the church that already existed. But they soon learned that this would not happen. Then they began to make plans for a permanent organization.

In 1875, a group of about twenty people would gather in Lynn, Massachusetts for fellowship and instruction in the new "science" that Mrs. Eddy had discovered. They called themselves the Christian Science Association. On April 12, 1879, twenty-six members of this association met in the home of Mrs. Margaret Dunshee in

This article on Christian Science is the third in a series. The author is pastor of Black Jack church near Greenville, N. C.

Charleston, Massachusetts, to form a church "without creeds to be called the Church of Christ, Scientists."

Despite the statement that they were forming a church without creeds, and Mrs. Eddy's statement in her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, that the group has no doctrinal beliefs, Mrs. Eddy later in the same book lists six "important points or tenets of Christian Science."

Characteristics Named

George Channing, a Christian Science lecturer and practitioner, writing in *Look* magazine said: "Christian Science is truly a Protestant religion, although it embodies several distinguishing characteristics."

What are these "religious tenets" to which Mrs. Eddy refers and that Mr. Channing calls "distinguishing"?

In answer to the question, "What is God?" Mary Baker Eddy said that God is mind, and that the attributes of God are justice, mercy, wisdom and goodness. Moreover, she says, "Principle and its idea is one, and this one is God. . . ."

The official statement of the Mother Church in Boston, Massachusetts, reads: "God is divine Mind, the conceiver of man and the universe, and Mind is all that exists. Mind expresses itself and its expression is man."

View Is Pantheistic

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy says:

Mind is God. The exterminator of error and it is the great truth that God, good, is the only Mind, and that the supposititious opposite of infinite Mind—called devil—is not Mind, is not Truth, but error, without intelligence or reality.

Thus it is evident that the Christian Science view of God is pantheistic. They believe that man, the universe, and all the creation as a whole is God. Such a view denies God's personality. It denies the existence of the finite, at the same time destroying the Infinite of self-consciousness and freedom.

This pantheistic view of God is basic in Christian Science. All their doctrines and practices hinge upon this belief. One cannot hope to understand the beliefs and practices of the group unless he understands this pantheistic concept of the universe.

Book Equal with Bible

Christian Scientists claim that this view is original with their founder, Mrs. Eddy. However, one need only to find a philosophy book that deals with the ideal world of Plato to see that this philosophy was in existence even before the birth of Christ into the world.

Christian Scientists believe that the Bible is the Word of God. The King James Version is used in their services. They feel that Mrs. Eddy's book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, offers "the complete spiritual meaning of the Bible." It is evident that Mrs. Eddy herself considered her work a revelation from God and, therefore, on an equal with the Bible. They feel that one

cannot know the real truth of the Bible without the aid of Mrs. Eddy's book.

The doctrine of the Trinity is not accepted by Christian Scientists. They believe that Life, Truth and Love are "the triune Principle called God." They believe that Jesus was not God but was the son of God. Their founder, Mary Baker Eddy, is to them the Comforter foretold by Jesus.

Deny Sin and Sickness

Since they deny the existence of matter, Christian Scientists must of necessity deny the existence of sin and sickness. According to them the only reality is mind and therefore the only place that sin and sickness exists is in the mind. If one is a sinner or sick, according to them, it is because he has been thinking wrong thoughts.

Christian Scientists believe that false beliefs are destroyed by "spiritual truth prayer." This, we are told, is the method used by the practitioners to heal the sick.

The customary Sunday morning service in a Christian Science church consists of prayer, music and a "lesson sermon" closing with a benediction. The lesson sermons are prepared in advance by a central committee and are the same for all Christian Science churches throughout the world. There is usually the reading of a passage from the Bible and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. There is no preaching; although sometimes the teachings of Christian Science are presented by trained lecturers.

Membership Not Known

Almost all the adherents of Christian Science are city people. The group has never been successful in planting its doctrine in rural areas. The five states claiming the largest membership are Illinois, California, New York, Ohio and Massachusetts. There is no way of knowing the exact number of adherents to Christian Science because there is a prohibition in the manual forbidding "the numbering of people and the reporting of such statistics for publication."

The vast Christian Science organization is ruled by the Mother Church in Boston. There are more than 3,000 local branches throughout the world. There is a Board of Directors with headquarters at 107 Fal-mouth Street, Boston. There are also many subsidiary organizations such as the Board of Education, the Board of Lectureship, the Committee on Publication, Trustees Under the Will of Mary Baker Eddy, and the Publishing Society.

Healing Claims Attract

The great attraction of Christian Science is doubtless the many cures it claims to have wrought. There are so many sick and suffering people in the world that almost any group or doctrine that holds out any kind of help can readily gain followers. Nor do we question that many have been cured. Someone has said that Christian Science is an imaginary cure for a real sickness and a real cure for an imaginary sickness.

Dr. I. M. Haldeman when he was pastor of the First Baptist Church in New York City summed up the danger in Christian Science in these words:

Christian Science has one supreme aim. Its aim is to take away Jesus Christ as the alone Saviour of men. It denies His actual birth, repudiates Him as the Christ, makes Him to be as full of errors as other mortals, rejects the Atonement of the Cross, says He never died, never was buried, and never arose, does not exalt His name above every name, refuses to bow to Him as Lord and God, teaches that He does not sit upon the infinite throne, and that He is not in heaven at all. In short, it turns his body into an apparition, His blood to nothingness, His cross to a myth, His death to a fiction, His burial to a mockery, and Himself to a personality that was never real and no longer exists.

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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Nashville 5, Tenn.



The Prayer Fellowship

J REFORD WILSON, Leader

How important is prayer? At the writing of the Constitution in our country, Benjamin Franklin proposed that prayer be offered to God for divine guidance. Just after the battle of Bull Run, Abraham Lincoln was seen kneeling before an open Bible asking for the help of God. Because of the prayer of George Washington, Valley Forge is remembered as a place of prayer rather than as a site of war.

God is concerned not only with the affairs of nations, but also with the conduct of individuals and churches. Let us join prayer this month for the following requests:

- ▶ Pray for Rev. Charles Thigpen, moderator, and Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary, who with others will be planning the program for the 1956 convention.
- ▶ Pray for the cooperation of every church in the United Evangelistic Crusade. This evangelistic effort is sponsored by the Home Mission department with the theme, "Calling to Repentance—Challenging to Service."
- ▶ Pray for Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Lee, Jr., home missionaries in Nebraska.
- ▶ Pray for your state moderator and various officers and board members of your state association.
- ▶ Pray for Mt. Olive College that it may be able to meet all the requirements necessary for accreditation this year.
- ▶ Pray that more laymen will realize how much the church depends upon their gifts to do the work of God. Let us pray for abundant givers as we pray for abundant blessings.
- ▶ Pray for Rev. J. O. Fort, editor-in-chief of the Free Will Baptist Press.
- ▶ Pray for the youth of your church that from among them God will choose some for the preaching and teaching of the gospel.
- ▶ Pray for Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville.
- ▶ Pray for Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna, missionaries in North India.
- ▶ Pray for your Sunday school teacher and others who teach the Bible, especially the faculty in our colleges.
- ▶ Pray for Rev. and Mrs. Robert Wilfong, home missionaries in Ybor City, Fla.
- ▶ Pray for an unsaved friend and ask God to help you win that soul to the Lord this month. If there is a member of your family unsaved, pray especially for courage to witness to that one.
- ▶ Pray for the "practical work" groups of students at the Bible College who conduct special services in and around Nashville.

CHURCH OF THE MONTH



Eighteen people formed the charter membership of the Cramerton Free Will Baptist church when it was organized eleven years ago out of a cottage prayer meeting. The present membership is now over 300 and the congregation has built this complete church plant under the leadership of Rev. Roy Rikard, who has been pastor of the church since the beginning. Also on the church property is an 8-room parsonage and a Boy Scout hut. To help get people to the growing Sunday school, which now averages 350 in attendance, the church owns two busses and a station wagon. Nine ministers have come out of the church since its founding and two churches, East Belmont and Lowell, have been organized out of the Cramerton church.

Missionaries Tell of Christmas Services

In India—

Miss Laura Belle Barnard, senior missionary in India, writes as follows regarding the Christmas services in South India:

"Our Christmas season was a blessed one. We had over 200 in Sunday school and 300 in the church service. It was a thrill to see it. Five of our young men—products of our own church—gave brief messages on 'The Shepherds Received Him,' 'The Wise Men Sought Him,' 'The Innkeeper Neglected Him,' 'The King Rejected Him,' and 'What Will You Do with Him?'"

"In all the Sunday school class rallies held during Christmas week (we have seven classes in the Sunday school now) there was real blessing. In our intermediate and senior boys groups, 14 boys either took their stand for the first time for Christ or (four of them) renewed their vows and asked for baptism.

"In the women's class 26 were present and one of the greatest joys of all was to see the little woman who during our dedication time was under the power of demon-possession but for whom the church had prayed, now joining in all the fun and inspiration and testimonies. She hasn't missed a Sunday since she started.

"There are more earnest inquirers than ever before. Even out on the tea plantation among the Indians in that large village, who have been so hard and indifferent, it seems the Spirit is moving. Our own teacher, Ahiezer, goes out each Sunday afternoon now and conducts a Sunday school for the children there."

In Japan—

From Tokyo, Japan, Rev. Wesley Calvery writes:

"On Christmas morning we attended English-speaking services in downtown Tokyo for missionaries in this area, but our real joy came in the afternoon and evening with our Japanese friends. In the afternoon we had a Christmas service in our garage for the children.

"There was singing, Bible stories and slides. Each child received a little box of candy which was bought from their own Sunday school offerings. They also each received a Scripture verse pencil as a gift from 'Wsuri San and Airlin San' (Wesley and Aileen). They were really happy. You should have heard them as they said 'ureshii' (I'm happy) and then bowed together and said 'Thank you very much.' We trust that all of them have learned to love the Lord Jesus Christ and the true God. Some of the older ones have expressed a desire to become Christians.

"In the evening there was a Christmas service for the adults. There were seven or eight Christians among the thirty who were in attendance, most of whom have become Christians as a result of our meetings. The service was held in our neighbor's living room. It was in the form of a candle-lighting service with each person lighting a candle from a large candle on the Bible. It was an impressive service and reminded me again of the thousands in this land who have not received the 'Light of the World' into their hearts."

Fund Established for Families of Missionaries

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The "Five Missionary Martyrs Fund" has been established here for the families of the pioneer missionaries who were slain recently in the Ecuadorian jungle. Members of the quintet were Nathaniel Saint, Huntington Valley, Pa.; T. Edward McCulley, Jr., Milwaukee, Wis.; Peter Fleming, Seattle, Wash.; James Elliot, Portland, Ore., and Roger Youderian, Billings, Mont.

On January 10, the U. S. State Department notified the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association that five missionaries were lost, and possibly wounded or dead, in Ecuador. Three days later, discovery of the bodies confirmed that all five had been killed in their attempt to evangelize the Auca Indians on the Curaray River, an upper tributary of the Amazon.

This fund was established by public demand to do something for the widows and children. Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College, is chairman of the committee to control the fund. Other members are Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, executive secretary of EFMA, and Lt. Gen. William K. Harrison, Jr., army command chief of the U. S. Caribbean Command, which assisted in the search.

The "Five Missionary Martyrs Fund" will receive gifts through P. O. Box 385, Washington, D. C.

Mount Olive College Gets Library Endowment

MT. OLIVE, N. C.—Mount Olive Junior College moved another step nearer accreditation as a liberal arts junior college in January as the result of an endowment fund for the college library made possible by the Reverend J. C. Moye, Sr., Snow Hill, N. C. The announcement was made by Rev. W. Burkette Raper, president, who said that the fund will ultimately reach \$12,500.

Already \$5,000 of this amount has been invested and the remaining \$7,500 will be given by Mr. Moye during his lifetime or will come from his estate.

The income from the endowment is to be used for the advancement of the college library, which will be named the Moye Memorial Library. One of the requirements for an accredited junior college library is an expenditure of \$500 annually for new books, and the \$12,500 endowment fund virtually assures the college a sufficient income for the library to purchase the necessary volumes, the president said.



J. C. MOYE, SR.

Dr. C. C. Henderson of Mt. Olive gave the college its first endowment last spring in the amount of \$5,000. This amount was matched by gifts from the churches for the equipping of a new science laboratory.

Willis Accepts Position With N.C. Mission Board

PAINTSVILLE, Ky. — Rev. Homer E. Willis, pastor of the Southside church for the past four years, resigned January 15 to accept a position with the North Carolina state mission board.

His resignation will become effective March 5, the announcement said. He will become state missionary for the North Carolina state convention. He is a member of the national Home Mission Board and moderator of the Kentucky state association.

Before coming to Paintsville, Mr. Willis had held pastorates in Nashville, Tenn., and Detroit, Mich. His family will move to North Carolina after June 1.

NAE Prepares Advertising Giving Evangelical View

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The evangelical Protestant position as based on the Word of God will be presented in a series of ads that is being made available by the National Association of Evangelicals, according to an announcement by Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, NAE secretary of affairs.

The ads are designed to meet a long-existent need of clarifying the Protestant position due to misconceptions that have arisen from other advertising, particularly that of Roman Catholics sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The ads, however, will go beyond this immediate need, providing for the general public a clear-cut presentation of the plan of salvation according to the Scriptures.

An initial series of thirty ads is planned in three groups of ten each. These will be provided in mat form without charge to local groups and organizations that will sponsor them in local newspapers.

A sample of the first ad, "Strange Tales about Protestants," and other information concerning the program may be secured by writing to the National Association of Evangelicals, 1405 "G" Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Appeal Sounded to Get Herseys to Japan



REV. AND MRS. FRED HERSEY

couple within two months it is hoped. This announcement came from Rev. Raymond Riggs, foreign missions secretary, a short time after it was known that visas for the Herseys to enter India had been refused by the Indian government.

In order for Mr. and Mrs. Hersey to go to Japan it will be necessary to raise \$2,000 to \$3,000 for their passage and equipment, Mr. Riggs said. He called attention to the short time available to raise the needed amount and urged churches and other groups to respond quickly so they could be in Japan in time for the opening of language school on April 9.

A letter from Rev. Wesley Calvery, already in Japan, says, "We were happy to hear that the Herseys will be joining us soon. We trust that the Lord will continue to lead all the way. If it is at all possible, they should be here ready to start language school on April 9. If not, they will have to wait until July for the summer session which is held in the mountains about 40 miles from Tokyo.

"If they can begin in April we will be here to help them in the many problems that they will have as newcomers. We plan for the term ending July 1 to be our last term in school. After that we will probably not be in Tokyo."

All offerings for their passage and equipment should be sent as soon as possible to the foreign mission office, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

Easter is the goal which the foreign missions department has set for having Rev. and Mrs. Fred Hersey in Japan. They hope to have this missionary couple enrolled in the next term of language school which begins April 9. The Herseys are now living in Clinton, N. C., and Mr. Hersey is pastor in West Clinton. He is a graduate of Bob Jones University and attended one year at the Free Will Baptist Bible College. Mrs. Hersey is the former Evelyn Lawrence from Illinois and is a graduate of the Bible college.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Japan will get its second Free Will Baptist missionary



Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

Women at Work

A district convention was organized in Zion Hope No. 2 January 10 with the Armour Ave. church, Ft. Smith, serving as host. The organization was led by Mrs. C. E. Sawrie, state president, and Mrs. R. G. Lane, state field secretary. Three churches participated in the organization and elected the following officers: Mrs. Dewey Henley, president; Mrs. Floyd Weiberg, vice-president; Mrs. Herbert Rogers, recording secretary; Mrs. Verne Kissinger, assistant secretary; Mrs. Frances Carter, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Daisy Zinnamon, treasurer, and Mrs. William Slack, field secretary. The following chairmen were named: Mrs. Grady Williams, youth; Mrs. Mae Spoon, study course; Mrs. Rupert Pixley, stewardship-prayer, and Mrs. Bernice Thornburg, personal service

A study course on the Auxiliary Manual was conducted at the First church, Columbus, Ga., the first week in February. Rev. H. J. Kelly, pastor, led in the study. During the pre-Christmas week of prayer the women made a gift of \$63.75 to the Alabama orphanage and made a contribution to home missions . . . New officers of the Woman's Auxiliary at Mountain Grove, Mo., are Mrs. Othel Dixon, president; Mrs. Monte Musser, vice-president; Mrs. Murray Raney, GTA leader; Mrs. Will Elliot, youth chairman; Mrs. Elzie Edwards, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Ray Hutsell, personal service chairman; Mrs. Tom Holt, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Ray Dennis, song leader, and Mrs. Vernes Coday, reporter.

Installation service for officers of the newly-organized auxiliary at Charleston, Ark., were held Jan. 9. Mrs. Clifford Sawrie, state president, spoke on "What Auxiliary Work Means to Me" and Rev. R. G. Lane, pastor, spoke on "What Auxiliary Work Means to My Church." Officers are as follows: Mrs. Roy Huitt, president; Mrs. R. G. Lane, vice-president; Mrs. Jack Sharp, recording secretary; Mrs. Frank Frances, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Dock Metcalf, youth chairman; Miss Wanda Swift, treasurer; Mrs. Marlin King, study course chairman; Mrs. Anderson Stubblefield, program-prayer chairman, and Mrs. Jack Cone, personal service chairman.

An auxiliary has been organized at the Donelson, Tenn., church with the following officers elected: Mrs. Louise Owen,

Workshop Theme Announced For District Conventions

The program for the next quarterly auxiliary workshop has been announced by Mrs. Paul Pursell, WNAC study course chairman. The suggested program is as follows:

ENLIST

- 9:30 a.m. —Registration
- 10:00 —Hymns, "As a Volunteer" or "Bring Them In"
- 10:10 —Devotion, "He first findeth his own brother . . . and brought him to Jesus". (John 1:41-42.)
- 10:20 —"Who's Who and Where We're From"
- 10:30 —Theme song, "Win Them One by One"
- 10:35 —"Enlist Every Church Member in Auxiliary Membership"
- 10:50 —Enlistment playlet (Order from WNAC—10c)
- 11:10 —Hymns, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains", Special Music
- 11:30 —Missionary message
- 12:00 —Benediction
- 1:00 p.m. —Singspiration, "I've Enlisted for Jesus"; "Each One Win One"; "Lead Me to Some Soul Today"
- 1:15 —Devotional
- 1:25 —"Enlist Every Member in Challenging Study"
- 1:40 —"Enlist our Youth in Missionary Activity"
—Mission speech contests
—Essay contests
- 1:55 —"Enlist Every Family as Subscriber to Church Periodicals"
- 2:10 —"Enlist Every Member in Planned Personal Service"
- 2:25 —Group discussions led by district or state officers
—Plan work for year
- 3:00 —Adjourn

president; Mrs. Sue Peppers, vice-president; Mrs. Frank Rudy, youth auxiliary chairman; Mrs. Helen Coffee, study course chairman; Mrs. Anderson, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Ledbetter, recording secretary; Mrs. Clyde Owen, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Elzie Miller, treasurer. . . . Two books have been added to the list of recommended study course books. They are *Missionary Education of our Youth* and the *Missionary Manual*. The *Manual* was prepared for the *Foreign Mission Board* by Rev. Raymond Riggs and deals with the appointing and sending of missionaries as well as a description of their field responsibilities. *Missionary Education of Our Youth* was written by Mrs. Paul Pursell and sells for 35 cents. The *Manual* is 25 cents and both may be ordered from the WNAC office.

Choosing
the
better
part . . .



MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS

We keep a tub setting at the corner of our house to catch rain water. It is an old tub and not much good for anything else, but it has taught me much about my spiritual needs.

Its main purpose, as I have said, is to catch rain water. Our city water is hard and requires a lot of softener and soap to make it usable. Now everyone knows rain water is soft and especially prized for washing delicate things as well as being excellent for shampooing the hair.

I needed some soft water one day and went to the tub to get it, but the water was low in the tub and dirty. I emptied the water and wiped the tub, but the casual wiping did not remove some sediment stuck to the bottom so I sprinkled some scouring powder and prepared to give it a good cleansing.

Here the Lord began to teach me a lesson. I saw my life in that tub — dirty, unclean, and a need of more than a casual cleaning. The Adamic sin was stuck to me. I needed the Holy Spirit to really scour my heart and cleanse it. For me to just empty myself of bad habits and take on some good ones instead was not enough. I needed saving.

When I had finished cleaning the tub, I set it back in its place to catch more water. But the Lord had not done that with me. When he cleansed my past sins he had infilled me with the Holy Spirit and empowered me for service. He doesn't set us back into our place of service empty.

God sent the rain in time to fill my old tub, but when I went again to get some water I found some other things had settled in the tub. Floating on top of the water I saw dead leaves, soot, and dust. It was then the Lord spoke to me again. The dead leaves of our own ambitions settles in our lives and spoils the beauty, the soot of playing with sin mars the reflection of our testimony, and the dust of old ideas clouds our thinking.

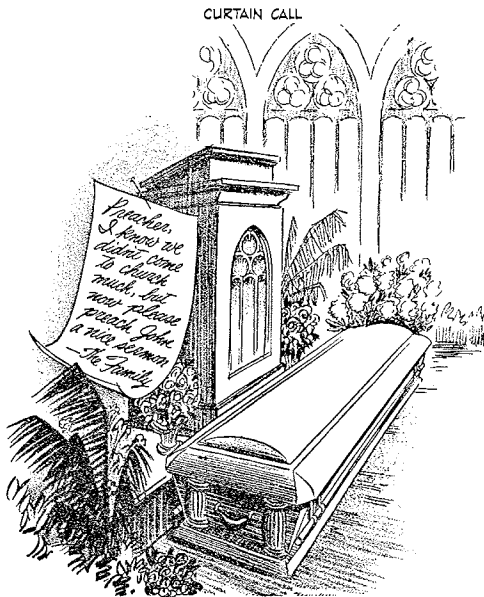
It has cost me many tears and much pain to be emptied of self, and I am not yet capable of filling the important places of service, but I praise His name because he is so patient with me. When I return to him for cleansing, as I've done many, many times, he sets me back into the way of truth and gives me the chance to try again.

Graves Are All Sizes

I was discussing salvation with a conductor who felt he was good enough. "And besides," he said, "there is still plenty of time for me to think about these things. I am still young."

"Yes," I said, "but if you go into any cemetery you will see graves of all sizes. A little girl once asked her mother how old one must be before he dies. The wise mother gave her child a long piece of string and told her to go into the cemetery and measure the graves, and every time she measured to tie a knot. Soon after the child came back with a string full of knots. 'Look, mother, the graves are all sizes.' 'Yes, dear, people die at all times and ages.'"

Again the young man laughed and said, "There is plenty of time for me." Little did he think "This night thy soul shall be required of thee" (Luke 12:2). On leaving the streetcar I said, "Remember, the time is short, and you need not go to a Christless grave and to hell; Jesus died for you."



The next morning I traveled by the same car, but a new conductor was there, who told me that the one I had spoken to the day before had tried to jump from one car to another, but had missed his footing and was run over by the car and injured, so that in a few hours he died.

I felt very badly thinking he had indeed found a Christless grave, but later in the day I was told that he had accepted the Saviour and wished me to know that he was not going to a Christless grave. I went to his home, and as I looked upon that young man's dead face, I could not help thinking what an awful warning to anyone who thinks there is plenty of time.

I tell you, time is short. "After this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). God in his love and mercy had given this young man time; but, oh, how short it was! God gave him a last message.

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GLANCING AROUND THE STATES

SAMMY WILKINSON, NEWS EDITOR

Arkansas League Rally Meets

SPRINGDALE, Ark.—The quarterly meeting of the Old Mount Zion association league rally was held at Pilgrim's Rest church on December 18, with five churches presenting programs. Junior Watson, president, was the presiding officer. The next rally will be at Pilgrim's Rest on March 25.

Texas Church Votes To Purchase Property

BRYAN, Texas—The Fellowship Free Will Baptist church voted recently to purchase a church site located in the 1400 block of Ursuline Street. The pastor, Rev. H. Ray Berry, reports that papers are now being drawn up for closing the transaction. The church is now holding services in the county court room.

Mission Begun In New Mexico

CLOVIS, New Mexico—A Free Will Baptist mission was begun here January 1, with eight people meeting in the home of Rev. John B. Elliston at 516 Norris Street. Regular services of Sunday school and worship are held each Sunday and a radio program each Sunday afternoon. If anyone has friends or relatives living in or near Clovis please send their address to Rev. Elliston at 615 Norris Street, Clovis, New Mexico. Rev. W. H. Breeding of Dimmit, Texas is helping in the mission.

Joint League Rally Held In North Carolina

DURHAM, N. C.—The Free Will Baptist churches of the Durham area held a joint league rally at the Calvary Free Will Baptist church January 22. According to reports this is the first such league rally in this area. Rev. Dan Merkh brought the message. The leagues that are co-operating are Calvary, Shady Grove, Sherron Acres, and Edgemont.

Oklahoma Church Enlarges Plant

HOLDENVILLE, Okla.—The Free Will Baptist here is building a new sixteen-room educational building. Plans called for the new building to be completed sometime during January. The building will also have a kitchen. Rev. Lonnie DaVoult is the pastor.

New Church Reports Progress

CORNING, Ark.—The First Free Will Baptist church here, which is less than a year old reports that the Sunday school has increased from an average of eight to thirty-two. Since organization the church has moved into a larger building and is planning to buy a lot soon. Rev. Eugene Davis of Campbell, Missouri, is pastor.

Arkansas Church To Complete Addition Soon

POCAHONTAS, Ark.—The Pocahontas Free Will Baptist church will soon complete a Sunday school addition which with equipment will be at an estimated cost of \$3500.00. The pastor, Rev. J. Reford Wilson, reports that the addition will include an assembly room for the children's department with six classrooms. One room will serve as a semi-kitchen and the building will double as a social room for the Woman's Auxiliary and class activities.

Kentucky Church Has Dedication

BOLDMAN, Ky.—The dedication of the Boldman Free Will Baptist church was on September 4, with Rev. L. E. Walters delivering the dedicatorial message. Rev. Carl Senters also took part in the service. Within three years the church has erased an indebtedness of \$3,000, built new concrete steps and is now in the process of

buying new pews and a piano. During the past year Rev. Walters and Rev. Senters have maintained a one-hour radio broadcast each Sunday afternoon.

Missions Conference Set in Alabama

SLOCOMB, Ala.—A missionary conference will be held in the Union Hill association February 23-26, according to an announcement by Rev. Rufus Hyman. Speakers will be Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. Damon C. Dodd, promotional secretaries for the missions departments. Conference sessions will be held at the Panther Creek church.

Two Sunday School Workers Conferences To Be Held

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The Sunday school department announces two Sunday school worker's conferences during the month of February. The first conference will be in the Third Union meeting of the Central Conference of North Carolina, which will meet in the Calvary Free Will Baptist church in Durham, N. C. on February 6-10.

The second conference will be in the East Tupelo Free Will Baptist church in East Tupelo, Mississippi on February 19-24. Rev. William J. Mishler, promotional secretary for the Sunday School department will conduct the conferences.



SS LEADERS Rev. William J. Mishler (extreme right), promotional secretary for the national Sunday School Department, attended a three-day planning conference January 4-6 in Chicago which brought together a dozen top Sunday school leaders representing as many denominations. The conference, which was sponsored by the National Sunday School Association, was called to discuss Sunday school problems and lay plans for cooperative efforts in 1956.

Revival Campaigns

CHURCH	EVANGELIST	PASTOR	DATE
First church, Savannah, Georgia	L. C. Johnson	Louis Moulton	4/8—4/15
Northside church, Phoenix, Ariz.	Frank Linten	Elvis Priest	1/29
Wooddale church, Knoxville, Tenn.	J. B. Bloss	Claude Hampleman	2/6—2/17
First church, Turley, Oklahoma	E. M. Kennedy	Doyle Dipboye	1/15
Baxley, Ga.	W. S. Mooneyham	C. D. Rentz	1/30—2/5
Conway, Ark.	W. S. Mooneyham	Clarence Campbell	3/25—4/1
Bear Point church, Sesser, Ill.		Raymond Riggs	2/4—12
Piney Grove church, Chipley, Fla.	D. C. Dodd	C. A. Huckaby	2/15—22

WHAT THEY SAY

A LITTLE WHISKEY AND LEMON WILL GET RID OF THAT COLD!



WHAT THEY DO



THE SPIRIT OF POWER



"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power; and of love; and of a sound mind." II TIMOTHY 1:7



World Day of Prayer

FEBRUARY 17, 1956

Bible centered worship material for the observance of the World Day of Prayer, February 17, 1956, is available from the National Association of Evangelicals, 108 North Main Street, Wheaton, Illinois. Posters may be obtained in December and the booklets will be distributed early in January. There is no charge for the material, but a free will offering is encouraged to help cover the cost and to assist with the work.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
108 North Main Street Wheaton, Illinois

Please send the following World Day of Prayer materials. (Indicate number needed.)

— Advertising Posters
— Worship Booklets

Name _____

Address _____

Honor Roll

"Every Church Family" Plan

Fellowship church, Flat River, Mo.
Southside church, Paintsville, Ky.
Pocahontas church, Ark.
Airport church, Tulsa, Okla.
Blythe church, Calif.
Bakerville church, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
First church, Tulsa, Okla.
Oak Ridge church, Tenn.
First church, Savannah, Ga.
Beech Springs church, Saitillo, Miss.
New Hope church, Joelton, Tenn.
Myrtle church, Mo.
Horse Branch church, Turbeville, S. C.
Leadington church, Mo.
First church, Hazel Park, Mich.
Modesto church, Calif.
First church, Russellville, Ark.
Thomas Memorial church, Huntington, W. Va.
First church, Panama City, Fla.
Northside church, Phoenix, Ariz.
New Prospect church, Long Lane, Mo.
Wellston church, Mo.
First church, Ardmore, Okla.
East Side church, Florence, S. C.
Silver City church, Jennings, Okla.
Dorris church, Calif.
Second church, Modesto, Calif.
Bennington church, Shady Point, Okla.
Corning church, Ark.
Piney Grove church, Chipley, Fla.
Pleasant Ridge Church, Cookeville, Tenn.
First Church, North Little Rock, Ark.

Eighteen more churches would put us at the half-way mark of the first honor roll of "Family Plan" churches. Five more churches were added this month, making the total now 32. To qualify for the honor roll, send the names and address of all families in the church. We will send them *Contact* each month and bill the church once each quarter. Why not see about adding your church next month?

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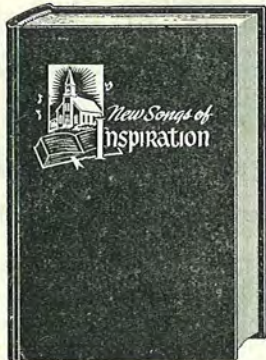
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4. The Keys to the Kingdom
5. Mansion Over the Hilltop
6. Lord, I Want to go to Heaven
7. Peace, Like a River
8. I Know Who Holds Tomorrow
9. The Love of God
10. I Am Bound for the Kingdom
11. Paradise Island
12. Wait 'Til you see me in My New Home
13. A Mansion in the Sky
14. I Bow'd on my Knees and Cried Holy
15. It Took a Miracle
16. In the Sweet Forever
17. I'll Meet you by the River
18. My Burdens have Rolled Away
19. I Need no Mansion Here
20. Way out Yonder
21. I'll Leave it all Behind
22. Shelter From the Storm
23. Have you ever been Lonely
24. A Little More Love
25. A Crown of Thorns
26. Some Morning Fair
27. Land Where the Living Waters Flow
28. My Journey to the Skies
29. What a Saviour
30. I Won't Have to Cross Jordan Alone
31. Just a Closer Walk With Thee
32. Far Above the Starry Sky
33. Hide Thou Me
34. Hide Me, Rock of Ages
35. When I Take my Vacation in Heaven
36. The Old Country Church

37. When God Dips His Love in my Heart
38. Camping in Canaan's Land
39. After the Sunrise
40. I'd Rather Have Jesus
41. A Glad Reunion Day
42. Some of These Days
43. The Joy of Heaven
44. Lord Build me a Cabin in Glory
45. I'm Free Again
46. Heavenly Love
47. I Can Tell you the Time
48. Down on my Knees
49. If we Never Meet Again
50. Peace in the Valley

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