

Lucille Mabury

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
AND THE WESTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. X. No. 6.

Purdy, Missouri, June, 1938

50 cents per year.

Weighed in the Balances

By R. S. Shelton

O'Kean, Ark., May 24.
Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I thought I would write you again, as I have an article that might help some one:

"WEIGHED IN THE BALANCES, AND FOUND WANTING"

"TEKEL: Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting" (Dan. 5:27).

When we come to consider the alcoholic beverage industry, the manufacture and distribution of alcoholic beverages, we see destruction. We enter the field of social and political decay with the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. The business has become legal, but not respectable. Its legal standing has not changed its nature. It's still just as dangerous, destructive, anti-social. Its system is lawlessness, and its finished product is a drunkard. It's an outlaw, measured by its practices; and a criminal, tested by its results. It is a parasite. On the body politic, it is a crooked competitor of honest trade, and a continuous destroyer of constructive commerce.

Again and again its retail places, commonly called saloons, indicated as distributors of poison — purveyors of disease, producers of corruption, producers of vicious, persistent violators of the law and defiant destroyers of common good.

By every means of commercial pressure and high powered salesmanship, it seeks to make drinkers out of non-drinkers in order that its sales and profits may increase.

Its increasing success in this direction will mean the slow, but sure destruction of the mar-

ket for food, clothing, education, books, radios, insurance, and every other good thing, which, adds to the joy, safety, security, health, and efficiency of man and society.

The farmers of this nation were promised a large and increasing market for their food grains, if the brewer and distiller were permitted to become their customers; but the record shows that the farmers are being robbed of their market, while the brewers and distillers are waxing rich upon this destruction; and when the great hand of God writes its final verdict, it will write, "Weighed in the balances, and found wanting."

The alcoholic beverage industry produces undesirable results socially. The open and protected legal sale of all kinds of alcoholic beverages is producing increased drinking, and drunkenness in every section of our land, and this deplorable and alarming increase of drinking is greater among women and youths.

This is a result of the kind of advertising the alcoholic beverage industry is doing. Its advertising campaign seems to be aimed particularly at women and youths. The alcoholic beverage industry by selling to motor car drivers is contributing to the alarming increase in fatal accidents on our highways.

The national Safety Council and the travelers' insurance companies have gathered enough evidence of the menace of the drinking car drivers to compel them both to say, "If you drive, don't drink: if you drink, don't drive."

Alcohol is no producer of safety on the highways, and when modern science considers it in this relation, it will write, "The alcoholic beverage industry is weighed in the balances, and found wanting."

He Never Blamed The Booze

His constitution was run down,

At least, that's what he said;
His legs were swelled each morning
And he often had swelled head,
He tackled beer, wine, and whiskey,
And if they didn't fuse,
He blamed it to dyspepsia—
But he never blamed the Booze.

He said he couldn't sleep at night,
And always had bad dreams,
He claimed he always laid awake
Till early sunlight beams;
He thought it was malaria,
Alas! 'twas but a ruse;
He blamed it on everything—
But he never blamed the Booze!

He took a bottle up to bed,
Drank whiskey, hot, all night,
Drank cocktails in the morning,
But never could get right.
He shivered in the evening,
And always had the blues,
Until he took a bowl or two—
But he never blamed the Booze.

His joints were full of rheumatism,
His appetite was slack;
He had pains between the shoulders,
Chills ran down his back.
He suffered from insomnia,
At night he couldn't snooze,
He said it was the climate—
But he never blamed the Booze.

His liver needed scraping,
And his kidneys had the gout!
He swallowed lots of bitters,
Till at last he cleaned them out.
His legs were swelled with dropsy,
Till he had to cut his shoes;
He blamed it to the doctor—
But he never blamed the Booze.

Then he had the tremens,
And he tackled rats and snakes;
First he had the fever,
And then he had the shakes;
At last he had the funeral,
And his mourners had the blues;
And the epitaph they carved for him
was
"He never blamed the Booze."
—Selected.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

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 Eld. John B. Rollins Associate Editor

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We will be glad to change your address for the Gem, if
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Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

We are always glad to receive articles, letters, reports,
 etc. from our readers for publication in the Gem, along
 any line that will help the cause.

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HISTORY OF CROSS ROADS CHURCH,
Near Abo, Laclede County, Missouri.

Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church of Christ was
 organized on Saturday, October 7, 1892, by Eld. M. E.
 Brasher, in the Cross Roads school house. After the
 eleven o'clock service members were called for to unite
 with this church, and receiving sufficient number, Elder
 M. E. Brasher proceeded with the organization as follows:

Received Articles of Faith and Church Covenant.

Eld. M. E. Brasher was chosen Moderator, Bro. J. J.
 Forgerson Clerk, and Bro. Jesse Forgerson Treasurer.

Ordaining Council—Elders M. E. Brasher, W. H. Garriet
 and A. Moss.

Charter Members were

Male Members	Female Members
J. J. Forgerson,	Ida Forgerson,
Jesse Forgerson,	Dora Vaught,
C. C. Vaught,	Anne Beal,
Martin Beal,	Mary M. Reid,
M. E. Bingham,	Emaline Jennings,
	Susan Reid.

This church has been organized 45 years and 7 months
 Only one charter member, Sister Susan Reid, is now living.

The first monthly meeting was held on Saturday before
 the second Sunday in November, 1892, at which time the
 church received six members.

At the next monthly meeting, December 12, 1892, Bro.
 George R. Reid was ordained as deacon.

On January 7, 1893, the church met again for church
 Conference. At the eleven o'clock service a collection was
 taken for Eld. M. E. Brasher and 60c was received.

At the monthly meeting August 12, 1893, Eld. M. E.
 Brasher was elected pastor for the coming year. Eld.
 M. E. Bingham had been preaching when Bro. Brasher
 was absent. Bro. A. J. Vaught and Bro. Rippy were
 elected delegates to the Association of Free Will Baptist
 Churches, Bro. Nelson Reid and Bro. Martin Beal alternates.

Motion carried that the church send \$1.00 for printing
 of minutes. This was the first time Cross Roads Church
 had been represented at the Free Will Baptist Association.

After the church had been organized one year, a build-
 ing committee was chosen, consisting of seven members
 as follows: G. R. Reid, Deacon, M. E. Bingham, Jesse
 Woods, Jesse Forgerson, Treasurer, W. E. Rippy, A. J.
 Vaught, M. D. Johnson.

The building committee finally got enough money to-
 gether and built a church house pretty close to the school
 house and bought four acres of land for church yard and
 cemetery.

Bro. Brasher pastored the church for the first three
 years, then Eld. M. E. Bingham was pastor for a few
 years. Bro. Will Bingham was clerk. The next pastor
 was Eld. Ed Delco. During this time Bro. Nelson Reid
 was clerk. The next pastor in line was Eld. J. R. Reid,
 with H. C. Lewis as clerk.

On July 7, 1906, Eld. S. N. Reid was elected pastor, and
 was re-elected for 1907, with Sister Annie Lillard as clerk.
 Eld. S. N. Reid was elected the third time in July, 1908.

Eld. J. R. Reid was elected pastor for 1909, and during
 the year 1910 Eld. M. E. Brasher was pastor.

During the year 1911, Eld. J. R. Reid was pastor. Sister
 Annie Lillard served as clerk from November 9, 1907 to
 October 10, 1914, just lacking one month of being seven
 years, and Sister Mary Detherage was chosen church clerk.

Continued on page four

The Feasts of the Lord

By the Editor

A Bible Study on Leviticus 23

Continued from last month

The Feast of First-fruits was observed on the first day of the week which is our Sunday, the very day that Christ arose from the dead. Easter commemorates this day, and very fittingly so: for Easter means a rising, a coming forth to life; and Jesus came forth to life on this day more than nineteen centuries ago, and is alive for ever more; pleading and interceding for all them He has called to righteousness, that they may so live as to enter in with Him to that everlasting joy and happiness which is His.

The Israelites had to honor God with the first-fruits of all they produced or that came to them; and we, too, are required to honor Him with the first-fruits of all we possess. In giving this Feast of First-fruits to Israel, God said, "And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings" (Lev. 23:14). Here is something for us all to think about—if we are selfish and fail to render unto God what is His, we need not expect to prosper. Ten per cent of all our increase belongs to God; if we keep it, we may lay up much of this world's goods, but we will not prosper. God gave His best for us; and asks that we give our best to Him. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12; 16:25); this way separates from God and life, and by it we enter in with Satan to everlasting death.

Yes, this feast typifies the resurrection—first of Christ, then of "them that are Christ's at his coming" (1 Cor. 15:23). The Scriptures tell us, and we believe that all them who have the first-fruits of the Spirit and hold faith with Him, whether they be fallen asleep in Christ or be living in this life when Jesus comes, shall be quickened or changed and shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. This is the true Christian's "blessed hope"—it means that his body shall be redeemed and glorified. Christ's resurrection guarantees the resurrection of all who truly trust in Him. Just a few of the many Scriptures—

Rom. 8:23; 1 Cor. 15:23, 51-53; 1 Thess. 4:14-17; 2 Tim. 4:1; Titus 2:13.

But, if we would be glorified with Him, we must suffer with Him (Rom. 8:17). If we would live with Him, we must also be crucified with Him (Gal. 2:20). If we would be like Him, and see Him as He is, we must purify



ourselves, even as He is pure (1 John 3:2, 3). If we work for Satan, he will pay us with death: but if we work for God, He will reward us with eternal life (Rom. 6:23).

The Feast of Pentecost

Pentecost is the fiftieth day after First-fruits. Naturally the Feast of First-fruits marked the beginning of barley harvest, and Pentecost marked the end of wheat harvest. The wave-sheaf as first-fruits was offered without leaven: but at Pentecost two wave-loaves, baken with leaven, were offered unto the Lord. The wave-sheaf offering was by fire: for it represented Christ, and was suitable for a meat-offering, as it contained no leaven. The wave-loaves, were baken with leaven: for they represented the church which was not entirely free from evil. The wave-loaves were not offered by fire, because they contained leaven (Lev. 2:11): but the priest waved the loaves, and offered a burnt-offering, a meat-offering, a drink-offering, a sin-offering and a peace-offering (Lev. 23:17-20).

Pentecost was a great day, and all these offerings were made to purify the people in the sight of God: for on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit would descend to unite the many disciples into one organism, the Christian Church (1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 12:12, 13, 20).

Israel left Egypt on the fifteenth day of the first month and forty-five days later, on the first day of the

third month, they came to Sinai. And after five days spent in preparation, fifty days after the Exodus. God appeared on Mount Sinai in a thick cloud, with thunders and lightnings and a great voice (Ex. 19:1-25), and He spake all the words of the Law of Moses: The Commandments, the Judgments, and the Ordinances. These three elements form "the law," or the "Mosaic Covenant."

The Commandments expressed the righteous demands of a just God; and were a "ministration of condemnation" and of "death" to all them that were guilty before God, and that was every one: for man could not, by any natural power, keep the Commandments: but God, in the fulness of time, sent His own Son to die in man's stead, to deliver man from the bondage of sin and the power of death, that man might walk, not after the flesh, but after the Spirit; and so fulfill the righteousness of the law (Rom. 8:1-4).

The Commandments and the Ordinances formed the Hebrew religious system. The Ordinances gave, in the high priest, a representative of the people with God; and in the sacrifices a "cover" (Lev. 16:6) for their sins, all looking forward to the Cross (Heb. 5:1-3; 9:6-9; Rom. 3:25).

Thus, as the law required, the high priest was ordained from among men to "offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins"—first for his own sins, then for the sins of the people. The high priest, being only a type of Christ; and the sacrifices he offered being only types of Christ crucified, could not make him perfect that did the service: but faith in the crucified, risen Christ does make them perfect that trust in Him.

When Christ was made the propitiation for the sins of men, He honored the law by suffering death on the Cross, in man's stead. As the high priest sprinkled the mercy-seat with blood on the day of atonement (Lev. 16:14): so Christ has sprinkled the mercy-seat with His own blood, that men might be brought nigh to God and have sweet communion with Him.

Since the Ordinances governed the religious life of Israel, they had to have a certain place to worship, a place having a court, a holy place, and a holy of holies; and they had to have the brazen altar, the altar of incense, the mercy-seat, and many other things. These were all figures or types of spiritual things which are manifested in the life, walk and worship of the true Christian who worships God in Spirit and in truth.

To be continued

HISTORY OF CROSS ROADS CHURCH

Continued from page two

On July 10, 1915, Eld. M. E. Brasher was elected pastor, and on July 8, 1916, Eld. J. R. Reid was elected as pastor, with Jesse Forgerson as clerk. February 19, 1918, Bro. J. Forgerson moved away, and Sister Mary Detherage was elected church clerk. In July, 1918, Bro. Will Bingham was elected pastor, and was re-elected for 1919.

Eld. H. M. Cope was elected pastor July 10, 1920, and during this year Bro. W. A. Lewis was ordained deacon, our charter deacon, Bro. George R. Reid, having passed away January 18, 1918. April 9, 1921, our church clerk, Sister Mary Detherage, moved away and Sister Eula Lewis was elected clerk.

On July 9, 1921, Eld. M. E. Brasher was elected pastor, and re-elected in 1922. July 7, 1923, Eld. C. A. McAllister was elected pastor. July 12, 1924, Eld. J. R. Reid was elected pastor, and was re-elected for 1925. Sister Eula Lewis, clerk, moving away, Sister Florence Reid was elected clerk.

Eld. L. H. Jones was pastor for the year 1926 and 1927. On July 8, 1928, Eld. Glen Jones was elected pastor, and also for 1929.

Eld. J. R. Reid was pastor from July 13, 1930 to July 11, 1935. During this period Sister Eula Lewis Adams moved back to the community and was elected church clerk, September, 1933. During the month of September, 1933 a revival meeting was held at Cross Roads, lasting four weeks, 50 souls being converted and reclaimed.

In June, 1935, Bro. Curtis Wilson was recommended by our church to the quarterly meeting to be licensed to preach the Gospel, and was ordained September, 1935. He had been chosen pastor for the church. In July, 1936, Eld. Curtis Wilson was elected pastor, and again in 1937.

Our church is blessed with five ministers, as follows:

Elders M. E. Brasher, J. R. Reid, S. N. Reid, R. W. Bingham and Curtis Wilson.

We have four deacons, as follows:

Brothers W. A. Lewis, J. W. Watkins, Lonnie Ruble, and Irvin Myers.

We have 100 members, but several are non-resident.

We have a good Sunday school, and singing each Sunday night, and last of all, we do enjoy reading the Gem. And we do have the Old Time Religion.

With best wishes from Cross Roads Church.

—Eula Adams, Church Clerk.

REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Tuskegee F. W. B. Ch., by Edith Brewer, Edna, Okla.	\$2.00
Flat River Church, by Olin Lincoln, Esther, Mo.,	24.00
Meri's Chapel Ch., by Mrs. Myrtle Black, Cassville, Mo.	4.70
T. F. Lewis, Freeman, Mo.	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. John Ackerson, Richwood, Mo.	1.00
Tulsa Church, by I. C. Arnold	3.00
John Wilson, Anderson, Mo.	1.00
Nelce Crosby, Anderson, Mo.	1.00
Ollie Crosby, Anderson, Mo.	1.00
Rev. H. S. Ford, Watseka, Ill.	3.00
Rev. Miss Cassie Kelsey, Greentop, Mo.	6.00
St. Louis Church, St. Louis, Mo.	2.00

REPORT OF PUBLISHING HOUSE FUND

Hannon Church, Hannon, Mo.	\$11.00
John L. Wilson, Anderson, Mo.	1.00

Flat River Home Mission	10.00
Jessie Forest, Desloge, Mo.	3.00
W. A. Morris, St. Louis, Mo.	3.00
Blaine Matthews, Desloge, Mo.	2.50
James Langley, St. Louis, Mo.	1.00
Eld. John Johnson, St. Louis, Mo.	1.00
David Langley, St. Louis, Mo.50
Harry Hill, St. Louis, Mo.50

MYRTLE, MISSOURI, May 17, 1938

Dear Gem Readers: Just a few lines to our paper, which I often wish we could get once a week; I get so anxious for it to come, there are so many good articles in it that I don't see how we could do without it. I urge all who like a good church paper to take the Gem. I am sending a sub. for one of my dear friends who I know will be glad to get the paper. I saw her son and told him he couldn't send her anything that she would enjoy any more. She was raised at Myrtle, and was a faithful Christian and loved her church. We have many friends out in Oklahoma and Texas we'd be glad to have read some of the articles in our paper. I have a daughter in Olney, Texas I'd be glad to see a letter from in the Gem. I can't write to all I'd like to hear from, but I am going to write to the Gem family as often as I can, to pass off my time; for I can't feel at home in this world any more. Times are so different and nobody seems satisfied; they are not content with church, the preacher preaches too long or says something they don't want to hear; but we will understand it better after a while. The Lord gets angry with the way His people carry on. It don't make any difference where you go, the talk is, I want to get ready to go to the big picnic; and when at church, it should be a sacred place, a place of worship, instead of a place to talk and tell of some great event. The Sabbath should be kept holy as unto God, and should be a day of rest; but men desecrate the day with their own selfish affairs.

We all have a work to do to keep our lives pure in the sight of God, and to live in a way that we'd have our children to live. I tried to walk before my children in the way that I felt would be right for them to follow, and if they go wrong they can't say they were taught that way. I am so thankful that I had a praying mother, one that never get tired of church and Sunday school and the love she had for orphan children. She said they needed a mother to lead them to the Savior. Many times we make mistakes, and we should be more careful to see that every child, that has no mother to tell him about the love that Jesus has for him, to help to lead him to the Savior. I always felt that my mother was my best friend.

Wishing you all happiness in this summer season, with health and a brighter hope for a heavenly home; I ask your prayers for us down here in the hill country.

—Mrs. M. B. Cockman.

THAYER, MISSOURI, May 23, 1938.

Dear Gem Family, Greetings in Jesus' Name:

Just to look out over the Ozarks woodlands just now, after the fine rains God has blessed us with, it looks as if the whole world might be at peace.

Well, in fact most of us are quite peacable out here in our community. We are really blessed with lots of nice things which Mother Nature has given us. We have the beauties of nature on all hands, here in the Ozarks; but

sometimes we fail to see these blessings that God gives us.

Our Mission circle met at the church house on Tuesday, May 10th, with seven members present, and we all enjoyed the meeting, I'm sure.

We have served lunch at a public sale since we last met, where every body bought freely. Our mission has bought an organ for the church. We always have a dollar or so for the preacher; we also have a nice sum in the treasury, so we feel that the Lord is blessing us all along the way.

We are sending a Mission reporter to the fifth Sunday meeting.

We are blessed with a good prayer meeting, which meets every Sunday night. We have Sunday school every Sunday—All these working hand in hand is a blessing to any community. Let us all get into the collar for our Master and do our bit for Him.

—Rosa Ridinhour, Reporter.

MYRTLE, MO., May 15, 1938.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

It has been quite a while since you have heard from me through the Gem. I have just been reading the wonderful messages given by our beloved preachers, and have been watching; and am forced to see and hear things from the wise (educated). It makes me think of what Jesus said nearly two thousand years ago; seeing now so vividly displayed. In Luke 16:8, He says, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." Folks today are commended for their far-sightedness (worldly wisdom). True, many do great things, and yet miss the one and important thing. Our Savior said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." But now-a-days many fathers and mothers are training their children to do or get the things of the world. I believe that many of our churches are failing in their mission; at least many of the members are going off after the world, just as the children of Israel did; they went after the world, and got themselves into bondage, just exactly what is going to become of us.

We think it wise to lay up for a rainy day, and so it is in a way: but Paul said, "Here we have no continuing city;" but we (those who are seeking one to come) are trying to lay up treasures in heaven. But so many are saying by their actions, "We choose carnal things, things that

will just last while this life lasts." Never in all my life have I seen such striving after things of this world. I would like to say to those who are spending all their time to gain the wisdom of this world, to stop and ask themselves how long eternity is, and what is the value of heaven, and how much has one gained if he has lost his own soul? O how rich is the man who owns nothing but God! Bless God, bright will be the stars in the soul owner's crown ten thousand years from now! How much will a dollar, given to God's cause now, be worth when all the gold and silver of earth has perished and melted away?

The Apostle said, "The earth and all the works thereof shall be burned."

May God help one and all to stop and think what heaven is worth.

I ask all who read this to pray for me.

Yours for the Master,

H. C. Crase.

DRYNOB, MISSOURI

Dear Brother and Sister Brown and Gem Readers, Greetings and love to all from a thankful heart down in the hills of Missouri, out here away from the bustle and noise of the city, amidst God's own handiwork, where God seems so near:

Some time ago a brother of mine visiting me, said, "Sister, why don't you move out of here?" After staying several weeks, attending several of our good old Free Will Baptist meetings, he returned to his mother's, and said, "Those people down there are nearer God than where we have been attending church."

I thank God this morning that there is still enough light about us that the world can see it, and can pick us out from among the world.

In the May Gem, Bro. Biggs spoke about sowing seed. It is true that we are sowing either to the Spirit or to the flesh—it is so easy to sow tares, if we are not careful, yet there are so many places to sow good seed.

A lady living in our neighborhood, said to me, some time after she was converted, "I had not thought much about God or my soul's salvation until after being in your home, and hearing you talk so much about God and His goodness." I wonder, did I sow seeds that fell on good soil?

We were not all meant to preach; but sometimes God gives us a message we can deliver, that will bring some one to the throne of grace, though it

may be only a few words. God will do many things through us, if we will only let Him. I believe He gets more glory out of our lives when we least think of it.

Saturday, May 7th, at eleven o'clock, Eld. Curtis L. Wilson delivered an inspiring message, using for a text, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).

In my letter in the May Gem, some words were printed wrong, perhaps it was my mistake. It said that three of five preachers had not been awakened to the fact that we need more preaching. I meant to say that three of the five attend every Sunday, sometimes all five, and have been awakened to the fact that we need more preaching: for we now have preaching three Sundays per month. God forbid that I should say anything to hurt one of them.

Eld. M. E. Brasher delivered the message the 2nd Sunday, after walking three miles. He is past 80 years old, and still walks three miles to church, then home again.

Both Bro. J. R. and S. N. Reid and Bro. Brasher have pastored the church at different times, and all have been faithful and kept the church fires burning. And when the discouraging times came, they toiled, preached, prayed and kept faith. If they had fainted, it makes me tremble to think what might have happened to our church.

Our Sunday school is well attended, there were 41 present last Sunday.

June 12th will be Feet washing and Communion services at Cross Roads, every one welcome to come and take a part with us.

I really enjoy these services. The Word of God says, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

The poem by Mrs. Opal Frazier is true, but when we pray let's not be as the man who one time knelt to pray, and said, "God bless me and my wife, son John and his wife, just us four, and no more. Amen."

The Word of God teaches us to pray for men everywhere.

God bless you all. Pray for us.

—Alpha Jane Wilson.

Dardanelle, Ark., May 10, 1938

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

This is my first letter to the Gem. I want to report the work that is being done at our church here at Slaty Crossing. We have a wonderful church with 100 members.

We have a wonderful pastor, Elder W. M. Guinn, and by the Gospel that he preaches he is bringing many souls to Christ. He has done a wonderful work here at our church, and I feel that he is loved by all whom he meets; and God is wonderfully blessing him in his work.

We feel that our pastor is putting forth every effort to bring our church to the front, and may God's blessings rest upon him.

We have a good Sunday school, singing, and service here at our church.

Bro. Guinn has held two revival meetings here at this church and has had wonderful success.

We thank God for our church and good pastor.

Yours in His dear name,
Miss Girtha Bailey.

NEW HOME CHURCH NOTES W. Tulsa, Okla., May 23, 1938.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

We are more than glad to join you again this month. We are glad to make a report of the Quarterly Conference which convened in Wewoka on the evening of May 18th, closing the following Friday evening. Our pastor and delegates came home very much built up and much encouraged. There were four precious souls who professed faith in Jesus. Also they had a nice business conference.

Along the business line they finished making definite plans for the erection of the large tabernacle which is being constructed of stone. This building is to be 40x100 feet. If everything is finished as planned, the First Mission Association will really have a wonderful meeting place. It will be centrally located, and be in nice driving distance from all the churches. It will be something for which all will be very grateful.

Now, that the time for calling pastors is here, and changes being contemplated, we pray that the Lord will lead in every move. We hope the coming year will truly be a glorious harvest of souls everywhere.

—Mrs. Ed. Jenkins, Reporter.

PAINTSVILLE, KY., May 23rd.

Dear Editor and the Gem Family:

I wish to report our big Johnson Quarterly Meeting which convened with the Paintsville Free Will Baptist Church, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday and Sunday in April, 1938. Called to order by the clerk, Eld. F. S. Vanhooose.

On motion Eld. Millard Vanhooose was elected moderator.

Moderator read a Scripture lesson from 12th chapter of Romann.

Song by congregation, and prayer.

Moderator appointed committees.

Adjourned for preaching by Bro. Glen Wells, who was chosen at the last conference to preach the Introductory sermon. Had a good sermon and a good meeting.

Adjourned for lunch.

Met back at 2:00 p. m. Called to order by the moderator.

Questions that had been prepared for the Ministers' Conference were called for. Three were given, and we had some real discussions

Dismissed in love to meet back at 7:00 p. m. for preaching by Brothers Moore and Ray Belamy of Wayland, Ky. Had a real old time message from the good Lord, with women and men praising the most high God.

Saturday morning Bro. D. A. Hays was appointed to preach, but the good Lord came on the scene and there was a great number shouting and praising God, until time to dismiss. I never saw the Spirit so wonderfully manifested; thank God for ever for the old time religion that helps people to shout, cry and laugh.

Moderator called the conference to order at 2:00 p. m. Delegates and corresponding messengers were seated and given the hand of welcome.

Letters were called for—22 were handed in, with delegates present, and three churches reported verbally. Letters reported 300 additions to the churches; thank God for ever. We have had some real old time revivals in this country and our denomination called Free Will Baptist is growing by leaps and bounds. \$56.00 was received with the letters, and an offering was taken and \$50.00 received, making a total of \$106.00.

Motion carried to give Lackey Free Will Baptist Church \$50.00. Thank the good Lord for putting it in the mind of those good people to build.

They had a mind to work at Seco, Ky. and built another good church house, and motion carried to give them \$50.00. Thank God we are preaching building churches where men and women can be saved in the old time way.

Business in the letter was considered and disposed of in a business way.

Had four to ordain and found the Holy Spirit accepted the work and there was a great demonstration of His power.

Bro. Lawrence Colliver from Ash-

land, Ky. is called to preach. Had a good old time spiritual meeting.

A vote was taken to determine where the next Quarterly Meeting would be held, and Little Blain Church was chosen for the meeting on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in July, 1938. Adjourned to meet back Sunday for preaching by Bro. Willy Horn of Auxier, Ky. What a wonderful meeting, praise His name forever:

Pray for us.

Eld. Millard Vanhooose, Moderator.

Eld. F. S. Vanhooose, Clerk.

TULSA CHURCH NOTES

Mrs. Evelyn Miller, Reporter

Dear Brother Brown and Gem Folks:

We held our church report up, as the saying is, until the zero hour, in order to get a report from our delegates who have just returned from the First Mission Association held at Wewoka, Oklahoma, last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. They returned still rejoicing and report a glorious meeting with a wonderful out pouring of the sweet Holy Spirit, and several souls saved.

Bro. Melvin Bingham delivered the Thursday night message, three being saved and four in the altar.

Bro. Bingham plans to leave on the 7th of June for Smithville, Miss. to attend the Eastern Gen. Conference. He also plans to attend the Western General Association which convenes July 12th at Paintsville, Kentucky.

Bro. Bingham is treasurer of the Association, also a member of the Foreign Mission Board and the Board of Education.

He is taking this means of asking each unit of the Association to send in to him their pledge of \$20.00 as soon as possible.

Our men folks are working each night, and hope to soon complete the new addition to our church, that will provide ten Sunday school rooms and our pastor's study. We will be very grateful for this added space which will relieve the present crowded condition. We had 243 in classes on Mothers' Day, to listen to a short program, and Bro. Bingham spoke on "Your Parents." When the altar call was made, several came forward and one precious soul prayed through with much rejoicing.

DRUMRIGHT, OKLA., May 18.

Dear Gem Readers:

Perhaps you would be interested in a report of the activities of the Drumright Church. It is our privilege and

joy to report that we are still working and winning souls for God and He is surely blessing our efforts.

One of our greatest blessings is that of retaining our pastor, Rev. Harry E. Staires, for another year. Rev. and Mrs. Staires have been doing a great work in their leadership of the church, and at our recent conference, Rev. Staires was re-elected as pastor by a larger majority of votes than he has ever had before. This is the first part of his fifth year as our pastor.

Our average attendance in Sunday school is two hundred seventy-five and our evening congregation reaches the total of three and four hundred people. Our church membership is at its peak — greater than it has ever been. We are proud of the increase made during the past year. God has been good and the church has gained some real Christians with whom it is an inspiration to work.

During the recent months we have purchased two lots joining the church property and have moved and remodeled the parsonage.

We have just closed a two weeks' music school, conducted at the church by Mr. Russell B. Condry.

On May 22nd, Rev. Paul Pursell, Evangelist for the First Mission Association, started a revival in the Drumright church. We feel that God is leading because Rev. Pursell was called by a unanimous vote of the church membership.

It seems that there is no rest for God's people, if His great work is to be done. On May 30th, our vocational Bible School will begin. Teachers and officers have been elected and the literature for the school has been received.

We are expecting to send a delegation to the Western Conference in July, and shall look forward to meeting many of the Gem readers and its publishers there.

—Hattie Smith, Reporter.

SAPULPA, OKLAHOMA Blue Bell Mission

Dear Gem Readers:

Here I come with a few more words. I hope I'm not too late. I didn't think I would write this month, as I don't have much to say, but I just thought if every one was that way, we wouldn't have much of a paper. I enjoy reading the little Gem paper and all the good letters so much that I just have to tell of how much I appreciate reading them. This is such a beautiful day, the little bees

buzzing and humming their songs, and the little birds singing and enjoying the pretty sunshine, it looks like we people would all enjoy praising the Lord and the wonderful things He does for us all. So many forget Him and wander away, still He doth love them where ever they stray. Remember thy Creator now, and seek Him while He is near; for evil days will come, when thou shalt find no comfort near. And to Him we must pray for His gentle guidance in the right each day. The hope of thy heart is in Jesus. I want every one of you that will come with me in prayer for my son, he has been sick for several days.

Our Mission is very weak, but we are hoping and praying for more strength in our mission work. We have made several sick calls, gave several showers, one stork shower, the others birthday showers, gave 50c for flowers, \$1.50 on church gas bill.

We had a revival and two were saved. We had wonderful services, Bro. Harry Staires delivered the messages in our revival.

The Mission Rally will be at Blue Bell second Friday in June, the doors will be open to welcome everyone. Oh, what a wonderful time we would all have if all the Gem readers would come, and all praise the Lord together that day!

I have been saved by the power of Jesus and I am glad that He ever keeps me, and in every place. I am traveling to a home where my feet shall never roam, there to lay my burden down; where the angel's feet have trod in the garden of my God, I shall gladly wear a victor's crown.

May God bless every one.

A Sister in Christ,
—Tenny Feedback, Sec'y-Treas.

LIBERAL, MISSOURI, May 23.

Dear Gem Readers:

We praise God for His wonderful love to us. At our last writing, we were at Monett with Brother O. T. Allred and his good people. We were there four weeks and had some wonderful demonstrations of the Spirit of God, and twenty-three souls professed faith in Christ. Four were baptized, three united with the church, others were planning to unite later.

We closed the meeting Sunday night, May 1st, with a large crowd present. Several preachers were present.

Then we went home for a few days' rest, but were in services almost every night.

Then on Monday the sixteenth, Eld.

Kenneth Turner came by from his appointment near St. Joseph, and on Tuesday the seventeenth, we drove to Verdella Church, six miles southeast of Hannon, Mo. Here we found a few faithful folk waiting our coming. We have been here seven days and it has rained almost every day, and this country is not blessed with the natural rock roads as much of the Ozark Country is. But with the muddy roads and rain coming down, we had our largest crowd last night. There is some of the salt of the earth here. We are praying for a real revival and believe, when weather settles, we will have it.

Our next meeting will be at Leadington, Mo. near Flat River. Pray for us.

—Sam and Daisy Marcum,
Home Address, Cameron, Mo.

NEW EDINBURG, ARK. May 17

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

One year ago I wrote to the Gem, since then I've been a silent writer, but not a silent reader.

First, I want to thank God for His richest blessings. He has been wonderfully good to us..

Well, as a great many of you know, the month of May is usually used for Communion services, and May 14 and 15 was our regular preaching day. Our beloved pastor, Bro. J. E. White, came to his appointment Saturday night. After prayer meeting, he preached a very stimulating sermon on worldly amusement evils. God help us as parents to be careful about our children.

On Sunday morning at ten o'clock, we had a very interesting Sunday school lesson on how the rich young ruler desired to enter the Kingdom of God. Christ told him to sell his possessions and give to the poor. He went away grieved. Oh, I fear that this very thing will keep a great many from entering in at the strait gate: for many are not paying tithes for the service of God, seemingly they are not concerned about their souls, saying, "We can't spare our means." Let us consider the poor widow who had but a few pennies, but Christ said she cast into the treasury more than they all: for she cast in all that she had. Oh how I wish more of us who profess to know Christ would get a broader vision of the need of the Gospel being preached to lost souls, even to the heathen, instead of heaping up treasures here on earth where moth and worms corrupt, and where thieves do break through and steal.

At eleven o'clock Bro. White preached a very elevating sermon on the conversion of Paul, and his answer to God, saying, "What wilt thou have me to do." Oh how I wish more of us would ask God what he would have us do. If we would, I believe there wouldn't be so many slothful servants.

After enjoying a splendid song service in the afternoon, we gathered early Sunday night to eat from the Lord's table, because Christ instituted it Himself (Matt. 26:26-29).

Jesus took bread and blessed it, brake it, and gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body, and He took the cup, likewise, and said, "Drink ye all of it. this is my blood of the New testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Who is to partake of this supper? I say all believers in Christ. In 1 Cor. 11 we are told, "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself." "For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come." Well, they that should eat at the Lord's table, are those that are looking for the second coming of Christ.

St. John 13:2-17—And supper being ended, Christ ariseth from supper, laid aside his garments, took a towel and girded himself—poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel. Oh how I love this humble example. Why? Because it brings us closer together in brotherly and sisterly love. I'm thankful to say that 25 of the members of old Macedonia are still practicing this humble example that Christ said we OUGHT to do. Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ, if I had the privilege of only one church service a year, I'd prefer the Communion and Feet Washing service.

Well, as time is drawing near for our summer revivals, I ask all that know the worth of prayer to pray for us, that there may be a great revival in the church, and many lost souls brought into the fold of Christ.

I'll close by asking the entire Gem family to pray for me, that I may ever be found in the service of God.

A sister in Christ,

—Mrs. Iva Mae McClellan.

THE HARBOR OF SAFETY

By Ralph D. Foster, Aurora, Mo.

When we sinners trusted God, that He would pardon our sins, and when we repented of our wrongs and asked forgiveness, we then received salvation and were thus saved by grace through faith when we believed in Jesus Christ, and by that method we became Christians—followers of Christ—sons of God, and are kept (spiritually) by the excellency of His power divine; sustained by His wisdom from above; piloted by the unfaltering feet of His Son divine—that were nailed to Calvary's cross—who hesitated not to walk the path no lion's whelps have trod upon, nor vulture's eye hath seen.

Christians are welcomed into the ports of Glory by those nail pierced hands that bear the scars of infamy's ignorance and shame; they are protected by that unwavering Eye of vigilance that sees all things; welded in the understanding of expectation of desire, the evidence of things unseen, and confident of promised assurance of better things to come: knit into the unity of peace, joy, and goodwill that bring sweet messages, which woo the soul of man from darkened pits of obscurity into realms of light and reason, to where bitterness and deceit have no abode—ever rejoicing in knowledge and understanding in the communion of love where righteousness and happiness abound.

Christians are defended by the Prince of Peace in His unfathomable court of justice where mercy, wrath and vengeance are weighed in the balance of equity with righteous judgment, and wise are they who cherish and keep the word of truth, the gospel of salvation, and that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of a Christian's inheritance until the day of redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of God's glory, in whom we have redemption through the blood of Christ, if we continue grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel: for they who are obedient unto the will of God, who conquer self and overcome the world and the lusts thereof are risen with Christ and will enter through the gates into the city of the New Jerusalem, where death and hell have no power over the spirit of man.

"For we rise by the things that are under our feet,

By what we have mastered of good
'or gain

With pride deposed and passion slain,
And the vanquished ills that we
hourly meet."

MT. OLIVE CHURCH REPORT Greenfield, Missouri

We feel that the Lord has been blessing us so wonderfully during the past months that it will encourage and bless others if we make a little "joyful noise" about it! When we look back over the past two years, we are made to rejoice because of the progress our church has made since the Lord sent Brother Winford Davis our way. From a few faithful members, the church has enlarged until we have now nearly one hundred active members, and very few meeting days pass without conversions and additions. We had the joy of seeing three young souls saved and added to the church at Bro. Davis' last appointment.

A group of our members living near Arcola have held cottage prayer meetings on Sunday nights, excepting the fourth Sunday, and have had two conversions at their meetings recently. Our Wednesday night prayer meetings at the church continue to grow in number and power and have done much toward keeping the church revived and continually at work.

On May 22, our church had the privilege of entertaining the Hannon and Independence Churches on Mission Rally Day. The Holy Spirit blessed us the night before when Bro. Davis held services and we so joyfully saw a precious soul reclaimed, and then the blessings seemed to mount all the next day until we hated to see the services close that night. The church was filled on Sunday morning when Bro. Davis delivered a powerful and Spirit-filled message, and we then enjoyed a Christian fellowship by shaking hands with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Dinner was served on the grounds. All the churches present took part in the afternoon program, and Bro. Kicenski gave us a stirring message on Home Mission work. Following the afternoon program, baptismal services were held in a nearby stream and four young converts followed their Lord's example in baptism. It was a day so full of blessings that cups ran over in the services that night and we had a happy shouting time with the Lord.

We hope to prove worthy of the past blessings the Lord has showered on us, and to keep in a continual state of spiritual growth. Pray for us that we may work unceasingly for the furtherance of our Saviour's cause.

—Mrs. Lowell Martin.

THAYER, MISSOURI

Mark 1:15—"The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel."

Joel 2:1—"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my Holy Mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand."

Brothers and Sisters, was there ever a time when we needed to blow a trumpet more and sound an alarm and warn the world that the Devil, the enemy of our soul, is abroad in our land, going to and fro, seeking whomsoever he may devour? Wine, beer, liquor flowing freely in our land and country, yet it is called a Godly nation. Dance halls, picture shows, gambling dens, all kinds of places of amusements run in the Devil's own way, his trap right from hell. The toll is our young boys and girls, yes, and some mothers and fathers on the road to a burning hell.

Yes, Christian Brothers and Sisters, it's high time that we all awake out of our slumber and blow the trumpet, and sound an alarm! Then shout from every pulpit and street corner, and everywhere that Christ a Saviour is born in Bethlehem of Judea; how He left His Father's home in Glory, came in the form of a precious babe, took upon him a weary life's journey from the cradle to the grave. Sinner friends, He did all this for you and for me, that through His atoning blood you and I might have everlasting life. Glory to His precious name! I see him as a lad of twelve in temple talking to the Doctors, then told His mother, "How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Then I see Him as He walked the shore of Galilee preaching the Gospel to the multitudes and healing their sick, making the blind to see, the deaf to hear, the dumb to talk, the lame to walk, casting out Devils and bearing their burdens and yet not so much as a place to lay his head. How He bore all our sins, and was mocked and sneered, then I see Him as He was accused in the Governor's Hall, and how He was led as a sheep to the slaughter and like a lamb dumb before his shearers so He opened not His mouth. Then I see Him in the Garden of Gethsemane in agony before God till the sweat stood upon His brow like great drops of blood. Not my will but thine O Father, was the prayer that He prayed. Then I follow Him up to a place called Golgotha, there

I see Him as He hangs upon the cross between two thieves. O sinner, if you could only see the picture as I see it, with all those Roman soldiers standing by mocking Him. When He cried "I thirst" they gave Him vinegar mingled with gall, and when He had tasted thereof He would not drink. Then I see them pierce His precious side from which flowed blood and water. There in all His agony, he cried "Father forgive them they know not what they do." Sinner friends that cry is still going up today for you and me, why spurn such love? Then I hear Him as he said "It is finished" and bowed his head and gave up the ghost, there on dark Calvary He has paid the debt for you and for me. But glory to Jesus, the chains of death, hell, and the grave could not hold our Lord, for on the third day He arose a victor over death. Today we are serving a God who is alive forever more. I hear Him say to Martha, "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."—John 11:25. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."—John 14:1-3.

Praise His holy name, I am looking for Him; He is my soon coming King. "Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning: lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say to you I say unto all, Watch."—Mark 13:35-37. Oh are you watching? Have you got your lamp trimmed and burning, and oil in your vessel? Brother, Sister, don't wait, don't get slothful, or slumber—it might be just before the Midnight Cry. "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh!" There will be no time to get ready then, for Jesus is coming again and without sin unto salvation. Praise, Honor, and Glory to His precious name, for He is our soon coming King.

—Mrs. Griff Harrison.

REVIVAL MEETING

Carterville, Mo. May 9, 1938.

On the first Sunday in April, we began a revival meeting here at our church in Carterville, Mo. Brother

W. F. Goodnight of Monett came to help us on Monday night.

The meeting was a great success from the very first service. The church had been earnestly praying for the meeting and when it began they were ready to go.

The meeting continued for almost four weeks with good interest and attendance. The Gospel of Christ was preached in its purity and men and women came trembling and weeping their way to the altar and were saved in the old fashioned way. The visible results were 21 conversions, the most of whom were grown men and women. One white headed man 84 years old was converted. Fifteen persons united with the church. More are expecting to join soon. It was my happy privilege to lead five young men, one man 69 years old, two married women, and four children down into the water and baptize them. The church has been strengthened so much and is steadily growing in the Lord. The Lord has done great things for us whereof we are glad.

We desire the prayers of all the Christians that God will continue to bless.

—Eld. Cecil Campbell, Pastor.

WORTHAM CHURCH REPORT

Wortham, Mo. May 9, 1938.

Dear Gem Readers:

After reading the inspiring reports of our work over the field, we feel it our duty to let you know of our labors for the Master here at Wortham.

We have just closed a very successful two weeks' meeting which resulted in the salvation of eight souls. These were all heads of families and are going to be a great help to our church. We had the privilege of seeing every one of these converts begin to work in earnest for the Master. Three services were held daily during the meeting. First was a cottage prayer meeting at 5:30 p. m. Then at 6:30 we had a service on the street. There was an average of 80 to 100 people attended this service. Then at the 7:30 service, the church was filled to overflowing. Eld. Albert Halbrook assisted us in the meeting. We believe that this meeting is going to be the beginning of a new day for the Wortham Church.

Just now we are making new seats for the church, and the Mission ladies are going to paper and paint the interior.

Our Sunday school and League are doing excellent work. We have an attendance of 45 in Sunday school, and 50 in League. All in all, the Lord is wonderfully blessing us and we desire your prayers that we might ever be worthy of these favors which He bestows upon us.

Yours for Christ,
—Eld. and Mrs. Damon Dodd.

OAKLAND, MO., May 7, 1938.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I feel this beautiful morning that I wanted to do something for Jesus. I am not an able writer, nor a public speaker; but I think we get a blessing for every little thing we do for the dear Lord.

I want to speak about our church at Happy Hill, which is progressing nicely. We have a real good Sunday school. We have preaching on each first Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday nite. Our pastor is Eld. Roy Jones.

We tore our old church house down and rebuilt it. When we were talking of building our new church, I heard a young man say, "The Lord will not come down here and build it." And a sister said, "No, but the good Lord will put it in the hearts of the people to do the work." And I think that Jesus impresses us in many different ways, if we will open our hearts and be willing to do His bidding.

I want all you Christian Gem readers to pray for me and my family, that we may hold on to God's unchanging hand.

—Mrs. C. A. Dickerson.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI Third F. W. B. Church

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

I will write a few lines to let the readers know how we are getting along at our St. Louis church.

Our church is well attended, and we have good preaching. Bro. Lewis has been preaching on Sunday nights, as Bro. Hill has been sick for about a month. He is some better now and is so he can be up a little while at a time. We hope he will be able to be out soon.

Bro. James Miller, pastor of Flat River Church, and family were up last Tuesday night, at our league. He gave us a good talk on church work. We had good attendance.

Bro. C. B. Dees, president of Flat River League, was also with us, and made a good talk on league work. He recommended the league as a place of training for young people for service,

a training which they get in no other branch of the church.

Our Sunday school is coming along fine. We are having good interest in our classes, our attendance is good, and everything in fine shape.

—Francis McCauley.

SLOCOMB, ALA., May 10, 1938

Dear Co-workers:

We are rejoicing as we write this report, because we know that God has led from the first. The journey has been the Lord's and every door has been opened that we could possibly get to, and others are opening.

Since leaving Huntsville, Texas the last of February, it has been our privilege to meet twenty-three ministers of our denomination and to visit thirty-three churches. We have organized six Missionary societies and the Lord has saved eighty-four precious souls that have told us so. We don't know how many more.

We visited every church in Midway Association and four in Martin. These are in Georgia. We have visited in several different associations in Alabama and Florida.

At present we are with one of Bro. T. B. Mellette's churches, near Slolomb, Alabama. This is a fine people to work with. We came here Saturday night, and have eleven conversions already. We will be here all this week, which will be longer than we have stayed anywhere else. How we do hate to leave some places! We get into a real revival where the Lord is shaking things up, and we have to leave, but we must on this missionary journey. I would be glad if the western women would send me a report of the mission work from each state. The state secretaries could send me a report. I know the time will be short after this goes to press, but you could mail it to me at Smithville, Miss. and I would get it after I get to the Association.

We are having some wonderful open air meetings since the weather is so beautiful and warm.

We will return to Texas from the Eastern Association and begin a tent meeting in Huntsville. We are asking for special prayers, that we may have a glorious revival and organize a church there. Huntsville is a college town, where many of our Free Will Baptist families send their girls and boys to school, and how much we do need a church there! We lose many of our splendid young people because we have no church in this town. Oh,

may God give our ministry a greater vision of the missionary work. We need a field worker in every state with a good tent to go to the towns and stay till a good church is established. Pray much for us.

H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

STAHL, MO., May 1, 1938

Report of the Sunday School Evangelist of Northeast Missouri Association of Free Will Baptist, ending first quarter, 1938.

We have reports from nine going Sunday schools.

Names of schools with post office address:

SCHOOL	POSTOFFICE
New Harmony	Greentop, Mo., R4
Hazel Creek Union	Novinger, Mo., R1
Sublett	Sublett, Mo.
Connelssville	Novinger, Mo., R1
Welcome Home	Stahl, Mo., R2
New Hope	Stahl, Mo., R2
Bethel	Stahl, Mo., R2
Stahl	Stahl, Mo.
Shibley's Point	Stahl, Mo., R2.

Our largest school reports an average attendance of 43, and an average collection of \$1.40 per school.

Our smallest school reports an average attendance of 16, and an average collection of 49 cents.

Combined attendance, of the nine schools 272.

Combined collection for the nine schools \$57.68

Amount of money in treasury, four schools reporting. Smallest 91c
Largest \$14.10

No school in debt.

Martinstown Church, at Martins-town, and the Jewel Church at Novinger, Mo., R1, have no Sunday school.

Chapters read and reported by one school only 3,150.

Miles traveled during the quarter about 50. Money received \$3.50.

Charles A. Phillips,

Sunday School Evangelist.

IN THE LANES

It is summer all over the meadows,
All over the woods and the sea;
How many the glad days of summer
My Father has given to me!
The Lord, who has strewn the flowers
Over the lonely hills,
Who has filled the woods with music,
And has gemmed the mountain rills—
Oh, what has He made to greet us
In the land of fair delight,
Where His own will rejoice before Him
And shall walk with Him in white?
—Hymns of Ter Steegen

MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT



Rev. T. H. Willey,
Foreign Missionary,
% James G. Stoddard,
Box 397, Balboa, Canal Zone.



The Regions Beyond



Mrs. T. H. Willey,
Companion Missionary
% James G. Stoddard,
Box 397, Balboa, Canal Zone.

Foundation Work For Missions

By Eld. T. H. Willey

This month has been one of continued changes. We left Colon March 28th headed for the interior. We had many occasions to thank our heavenly Father for good friends who on every hand were ready to give us a lift. Among our dearest friends in Colon were the teachers in the Zone High School and the Pastor and his wife of the Union Church who made life very pleasant and happy for us while we were living among them.

Arriving in Balboa again, our friends over there were very kind. They provided a guest room in the American Club House for us. The Army and Navy YMCA were on hand in both Colon and Balboa with their little delivery truck and hauled our baggage which weighed over 800 pounds, and would not take a cent for the service. For all this, we praise God. Then we planned to get a Cheva, which is the word for bus, to take us to El Valle, but again the Lord raised up a friend who took the day off and drove us up in a fine car, and we could not persuade him to accept even gas money, so here we are.

I wish we could do justice in describing the beauty of the Valley. We go 80 miles above Panama City, the last 17 we climb up to 2,000 feet, then came out on a magnificent view. For below us is the Valley flat and level, while around us as the sides of a bowl are the mountains 500 feet high. The valley is a bower of tropical growth, banana plants, sugar cane, coffee trees, and an abundance of tropical flowers. The house in which we are living is a mud hut with none of the comforts of civil-

ization, and with boxes for furniture, but we are happy in our humble home; and what is lacking in the beauty of the house is made up by our surroundings. Off down the lane going past our hut the figure of a reclining woman is formed by a range of mountains, which is called "The Sleeping Indian of the Valley." Then it is rather difficult for us, living up this high, to realize that just 17 miles below people are sweltering in the heat of the lower tropics. At night, we must shut our shutters and wrap in blankets to keep the mountain cold out.

This week was Holy Week "Santa Semana." I brought a series of messages to the group around us on the events of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. We met in a little mud chapel. The Methodists have had a chapel here for a few years, but of late it has run down badly and they have no Sunday school papers or quarterlies, and their song books are frayed and ragged. The Methodist Bishop and I visited this valley a couple of months past, and he urged me to consider working in this part of the interior which is their allotted field, but in which they have done very little. This is a real opportunity for Mrs. Willey to get the Spanish, and if we do open a permanent work, an ideal place for our new Missionaries to become acclimated and to acquire the language in preparation for the jungle. The natives of the valley are pure Indian, very much like those of Central America. They have been influenced by Catholic teaching, but greatly neglected and some of them resentful of the priests, but full of fear of

them. Someone was telling me that the priests demand four pesos to baptize, the equivalent of two dollars. When they desire to marry it costs them an exorbitant price; so they do not bother for the blessing of the church, but live together in adultery. Last year before one of their "Grand Fiestas," Saints days, the priests sent word to the Indians to come down to the valley and he would marry them in mass free. About two thousand came down, but when the priest confronted them he wanted three dollars per couple; and they returned to the hills in anger. What a system of religion that will tolerate adultery, and permits its people to live without benefit of the clergy for a few paltry pesos.

We are all sprouting roots, verbs, adverbs, nouns and red-bugs, even the kiddies are getting Spanish as they play with their little brown neighbors.

Every night we have to give them the once over for ticks and other little creepers and it is forever, "Daddy, what does that mean in Spanish?" I am the family official interpreter. Our Indian neighbors come and stand at the door or window and shift from one foot to the other as they silently contemplate us at our household duties. One of our native neighbors gave us some banana flour and we discovered that it makes a wonderful cereal for breakfast. It is made by drying green bananas in the sun and pounding them into powder, so should you visit us we will feed you cereal right out of the back yard.

We were here a week, and I had to leave for the Rio Sambu. I promised to go in as a scout to make arrangements for an expedition sponsored by the Army and Navy YMCA to visit the jungle Indians, in this way I was able to earn a greatly reduced passage for Mrs. Willey and Tommie, and a free return passage for myself. Going

up among Cholos, I told them of the big boat that was on its way up and the many Amigos (Americanos). Then with eight Indian men and long canoes we returned down the river paddling all night to Garach'ne, and at nine the following morning we could see the smoke of the vessel off in the distance. Calling the Indians together, we all boarded one long canoe and went out to meet her and our many friends from the Zone, Mrs. Willey and Tommie among the number. We expected to use outboard motors and take our passengers up in long canoes, but it proved so rough that this was impossible; so the captain of the vessel decided to try to take us up in the ship, which he did on high tide. When we arrived at the Indian village, we found that the Cholos had highly painted themselves and bedecked their hair with flowers, offering a rather picturesque scene. Tommie and Mrs. Willey made a hit with the Indians and as a result are very anxious to get down among them. Tommie was always being led about by the Indian bucks. The Indian chief Juan, of whom I talked much when at home among you, had donned a suit of blue serge and a neck tie for the occasion, and served as a sort of a drum-major for the occasion.

We carried a machine generating 110 volt power to run our moving picture generator, and that night we showed them the pictures taken of themselves the year before and some that I had taken this year. This was the first time they had ever seen moving pictures. I cannot begin to convey their reaction to this. One of the Army captains had two short comic pictures, one in which there was a man falling into a den of lions and being chased by the lions. The situation became so tense that the Indians would call out in their own language—such groaning and shouting we did have from them; naturally we were beside ourselves in laughter. We counted the Indians present and they numbered 83 men and women.

We left that night drifting down stream with the tide, towing one large canoe loaded with Indian men and women, arriving at the mouth of the river and on into the ocean, I witnessed one of the wildest canoe rides one could imagine. Feeling a great amount of responsibility for the natives in the canoe, naturally, while the rest slept, I had to watch them whirl through the waves till I could stand it no longer, and begged the captain to stop and take the women

on board, which he did. Early in the morning, off from Garachine, we bade the Indians a "Buenas noches," and went to sleep for a few hours. The following night we were back in Panama and Balboa anticipating another cheva ride to El Valle. We waited for one in the afternoon till night and our bus never came for us, so the following day the YMCA Secretary and wife decided they wanted to visit the valley, so they got out their car and drove up to pass the night with us.

Now we are here in El Valle again for a brief time to catch up with our correspondence and arrange to go back to select a building site for our jungle home. In the tropics we have two extremes of weather conditions which is rather hard for us to become accustomed to, the extreme of an excessive rain-fall, a down pour in the rainy season that falls day and night for days without let up, while the rivers rise and immense trees are torn from their roots to be tossed down stream, and the river becomes a mass of boiling whirlpools dangerous to be caught in. Then the dry season comes on, when the earth cracks open and the streams are low and nothing can grow in the open without irrigation. The Indians take advantage of this time to clear and cut the jungle brush and when it is dried they make an immense bonfire which can be seen for miles, then when the rains come they plant their rice and corn.

For some time I have been hearing of the owner of the Sambu who would not permit any one to settle on the land nor would he sell 25 miles of it, some of the most beautiful timber I ever saw and soil that will, in its fertility, grow anything. I have repeatedly tried to get in touch with this man, but it was left for Mrs. Willey to meet him while I was up river. She was sent to his store to investigate the price of some articles of furniture and had occasion to mention that she was living in the interior and planning to move to the Darian. He questioned her as to where we were going to live on the Darian. Her answer was on the Rio Sambu. "You can't live there without my consent," said he. This was a shock to her to have a stranger talk thus to her. She then said, "Probably you are the man my husband has been trying to get in touch with." He said, "I am the agent of the company that owns all the land from the mouth of the Sambu to above the River Sabalo. I represent an oil com-

pany in the States." Mrs. Willey then explained our mission on the Sambu and Sabalo, our love and interest in the Indians. His whole attitude changed at once and he said, "Send your husband in and we will talk further regarding his plans." As soon as we arrived in Panama City on our return, we went to see him with the result that we had a long detailed conference. He informed me that the Indians had been robbed and the timber cut by the Colombians, he had gone in to advise the Indians to drive the Colombians out, kill them if necessary; but they refused to do this—they were lovers of peace. "If you love them and want to work among them, you have my consent. You are not interested in oil are you? I will give you permission to go where you desire." I gave him to understand that only with a full guarantee from him should we build our buildings and holdings would be secure. I would not consider going into such a project without a guarantee in writing from his company.

He said that if I acted as their representative and agent on the Rio Sambu and Sabalo guarding their interests in oil and timber without salary he would see that I had ten or twenty hectares of land to use for our work only he could not give it to me, and that I would be fully protected. My duties as overseer would not demand other than my presence there on the river among the Indians. I consider this as just another one of the Lord's signs of approval on our work in the Republic of Panama. We could not ask for anything more favorable than the opportunity that awaits us on the Rio Sambu and in this Republic.

My next problem is the Government of Panama and the favor of its President and officials. We are in a Catholic country, and should we face opposition it would be from the fanatical religionists who are intolerant to the extreme. Someone has informed me that the president made the statement that "Panama is a Catholic country and that there was room only for the religion of the Republic, which was Catholic." But on the other hand, we have a Constitution of the Republic to support us, and besides we are members of the Religious Federation on the Isthmus, and joint members of the Union Churches in the Zone, co-operating with the religious forces of Panama.

I have been asked to state some of our definite needs for the near future.

As I return to the Sambu shortly, I shall be required to carry, or collect, necessary tools to clear the land and cut the timber for our jungle home. These tools must be bought in Panama; seed must be sent from the States; chicken wire fencing; and misquito screening must be secured, cement for base foundations, and the employment of the Indians. The cost of labor down here is an average of 50c a day. Then supplies to start our school with as we shall start to teach at once.

The women of the State of North Carolina and those of other states joining them are greatly interested in a motor and boat fund; this encourages us to do our level best to get things started as soon as possible. Before leaving Colon, we examined a boat that would be suited for an out board motor. The Chaplain of Coco Solo Sub. Base was with me and one of the shop officers. They expressed the thought that they might be able to get it very reasonable. One of our Free Will Baptist boys, who is a sailor at Coco Solo and works in the ship's repair shop, promised to repair it at cost. This lad is a member of the Kinston Church of near Kinston, N. C., his name is Albert Gatlin. Albert will soon be out of the service and has his thoughts on either missionary work or the ministry. Here is a good opportunity for our people of Eastern North Carolina to do something for the education of one of our boys, helping him to get into some good fundamental school for preparation. You might want to write to this lad, but probably by the time you read this he shall be at home in N. C. Because we have no National Educational Institution is no excuse for our doing nothing for our young prospective ministers. For a small sum this lad can be sent to Brother Mellette at Blakely, Ga. where he can get needed preparation and practical work in preparation for the ministry. Should you recognize the sacrificial labor of a humble beginning, who knows but what in a short time we shall have a great national educational institution. I have always been of the firm conviction that we should support what we have rather than just dream of that which we might aspire to; thus God will honor our efforts. If we are practical, I believe God will permit us to realize our dream.

Our people of the West are continually reminding us that they are into this thing called Foreign Missions to the limit. Groups are writing for suggestions as to what they might do to help. Brother Miller in Flat River,

Mo., and Sisters Tommie Franklin and Anna Reed carry a real burden in intercession for us personally, and I declare to you I believe that the reason for these open doors and the unusual answers to our faith and prayer is because East and West, North and South, people are praying.

People outside our denomination are deeply burdened for the success of our mission to the Indians. Groups in Kentucky, and New Jersey are praying. I have 50 pages of the Gem printed every month with our monthly report which goes from New Jersey to Atlanta Georgia. This thing of Missions is no little program in our church, though it is, on the surface, a small beginning.

I am continually reminded of the immensity of the task confronting us and the charge I must render to the Bishop of our souls. Plesae pray for us that we might continually know

the leading of His Spirit and lean not on our own understanding, but upon that of our living and risen Lord.

I walked life's way with an easy tread,
Followed where comforts and pleasures led,

Till one day in a quiet place

I met the Master face to face.

With station and rank and wealth for my goal,

Much thought for my body but none for my soul,

I had entered life's mad race,

When I met the Master face to face.

I met Him and knew Him and blushed to see

His eyes full of sorrow fixed on me,
I faltered and fell at His feet that day,

While my castles vanished and melted away,

Melted and vanished and in their place
Naught else did I see but the Master's face.

Our Panamanian Heritage

By Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

Truly we can look upon Panama, or at least a part of Panama, as our heritage. That is, the Lord has granted that to us as a field of glorious opportunity; a field filled with untouched human hearts and minds, where we may have the joyous privilege of propagating the great Gospel which is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that will believe. I think we should feel and realize that we are divinely appointed stewards of a great field in Panama, and remember that Paul said it is required of stewards that he be found faithful. Are we going to continue to be faithful? I really believe we are. Our people are moving out heroically in the interest of our Foreign Mission Program. At least it is so as compared to what we had been doing for years and years before.

An heritage is that which one should be proud of, that which one should

take an interest in, that which one should add to and improve up on, and should feel one's self blessed by being granted such. Truly we should so feel toward our prospective work in Panama. We cannot afford to be other than highly appreciative of that open door which God has opened before us.

Let's engage in a brief map study just here. Since Germany has annexed Austria, she appears on the map as a great open mouth; ready, of course, to swallow up Czechoslovakia. Italy resembles a boot; ready to kick Britian and France or any other nation that may cross her path. China, when turned in a certain position, has the appearance of a great heart. No, not a perfect shaped heart, but a crushed, torn, and broken heart. Now what about Panama? Turn the map of Panama up side down, and does she not appear as a great outstretched and open hand? As if appealing to someone for help, for salvation, for a message from God that will comfort and enlighten their many dark and benighted souls? Find you a map of Central America, turn it up side down, and look closely at the little country of Panama. Notice that great outstretched hand. Then pray from the very depth of your soul, "Oh God, help me not to be neglectful and unconcerned as to that precious



appeal which is being made to me; help me to not pass by as if I am not my brother's keeper; but help me to realize that precious outstretched hand of pleading represents a neglected people, thousands of children who have never had the privilege to know what a Sunday school means, who have never been taught of Jesus and His love to them. Help me, Oh God, to think of them as I would of

a drowning man sinking down and pleading and crying for me to help."

Did not Brother Willey tell us while home on his return trip how they would beg and plead for him to hurry back to them and bring his wife and children? He and his family have done that, now let us be sure we do not fail on our part.

Yours in His great service.

Dan's Trail

By Eld. Kenneth Turner, Granby, Mo.

"Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward." (Gen. 49:17).

I want to place in writing the answer I gave to a three-fold question that was asked concerning the Tribe of Dan. The questions were something like this: "Where do the people get the general idea that the serpent is the emblem of the tribe of Dan? How can we trace Dan through the European countries, and is the Antichrist to be of the tribe of Dan?"

First we must consider the blessing of his dying father as he said, "Dan shall be a serpent by the way," (Gen. 49:17). Here Jacob, on his death bed, is telling each of his sons what would be their outcome as a tribe and people in the latter days. If we will notice Genesis 48:2 closely, we will see that God was really with dying Jacob, for he received strength to rise up and sit upon the bed, and under the inspiration of God, spake forth the prophecy of each of his sons (Gen. 49:1-27). So without a doubt, the words of this expression, to Dan, meant something, just as much so as the words he spake to the other boys. Juda, for example: "...The septe shall not depart from Juda, nor a law-giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." (Gen. 49:10). At a glance we can see that of Juda's tribe there would be a line of royal blood, of which a line of kings would proceed until Christ should come the second time. And that through Juda's seed, people should be gathered together, and of course that is at Christ's judgment, for Christ is of the line of Juda (Cf. Heb. 7:14).

So we read Jacob's words to Dan,

"Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a serpent by the way..." And it all means something sure; because Jacob was in the Spirit of God when he spake. Dan's actions would be like unto that of a crawling serpent, moving about in an irregular manner, yet striving to gain a farther goal, leaving his trail.



Bible helps tell us that the name Dan means "A judge." When Rachel gave him the name she said, "God hath judged me...., therefore she called his name Dan" (Gen. 30:6). So his name would designate that he would entertain that ruling spirit.

Among people in general, there is a fear of snakes. It is nothing uncommon to hear a person scream, and see them rush to get away from one when it is near. It is no easy task to capture or even to kill a snake. The Bible teaches us that this snake-like spirit is found in Dan. Even the portion of territory they received in Canaan was a small narrow strip of country which laid along the sea coast of the Mediterranean Sea. And it seems that Dan left two trails or paths, one by land, and the other by the sea. They wound their way farther north by land because their place was too small, "And the coast of the children of Dan went out too little for them: therefore the children of Dan went

up to fight against Leshem, and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and possessed it, and dwelt therein, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father" (Joshua 19:47).

In the eighteenth chapter of Judges we find them still winding their way along, conquering, ruling, and judging as they go; leaving their name as a trail. They pitched at Kirjath-jerim and called it Mahaneh-dan, and it is called so to this day (verse 12). The same chapter, verses 27 to 29, relates that they came to Laish and smote them with the edge of the sword and called the place Dan. We can trace them on farther north, in that there are cities, rivers, mountains, etc. with names derived from the name Dan.

Now the trail by water is interesting to study. You will notice they had ships. "Why did Dan remain in ship?" (Jud. 5:17). And also the town of Joppa is located in the territory of Dan. No doubt it was one of Dan's ships in which Jonah started to Tarsish. I think that Dan's trail can be traced to the British Isles, for there are so many names there that reflect to Dan, as in Dan-ube, Dan-ieper, Dan-ez, Dan-Lough, Dan-Sower, and other words meaning the same as D-a-n such as D-o-n, D-i-n, D-e-n, and D-u-n. We have V-Don, Dun-glow, Me-din-a, Den-mark, etc.

I think it is possible that Anti-Christ will come out of Dan. You see Dan is always named and considered with all the other tribes, when all are referred to, up until in Revelation, 7th chapter, in reference to the winding up to things, and the tribes are mentioned as receiving the seal of God, that they might not be hurt. But Dan is omitted, and Manasses named in his stead. Something, no doubt, has possessed Dan, so that this tribe is in no condition to be represented in this sealing; but no doubt will suffer with the hurts that the four angels will let come upon the earth, and no doubt Anti-christ with his tribe and people will be in sympathy with this program and will receive the mark and join in the battle against the saints at Armageddon. It all seems possible.

We believe he will be a Roman Israelite: for we read in Dan. 9:26-27 of Anti-christ or the prince to come, and what he shall do in the last week of Daniel's prophecy, "... and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined."

This was fulfilled in A. D. 70, when Titus marched against Jerusalem and, of course it was the Romans who were in power at that time. They destroyed the sanctuary. The prince (Antichrist) that shall come, whose people are the Romans, who destroyed the sanctuary, show us that he is to be a Roman.

The prophets lead us to believe he will be an Israelite. For instance, Ezekiel gives us a perfect type of the Antichrist when he speaks of the last king of Judah, Zedekiah, when he says, "Thou profane wicked prince of Israel" (Ezek. 21:25).

So, in brief, I would say that people in general get the idea that the serpent is the emblem of the tribe of Dan, because Jacob's dying words were, that he would be a serpent; and I should think it is plain from the Scriptures that we can trace Dan through the European countries by his name.

We have a right to believe that Antichrist may possibly come out of Dan; in that his description is fulfilled in the characteristics of the tribe of Dan.

selves from hindering causes. Their concentration and detachment go together. One requires the other. So now if we concentrate all our powers upon the Lord's work, we must, as His servants detach ourselves from the things of the world that would hinder our progress. In the same chapter from which our text is taken the verses preceding the text, the Master instructs thus: "Sell that ye have and give alms, provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." "Let your loins be girded about." That is to say, do not let your affections go straggling any where and every where, but gather them together. Col. 3:2—"Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth."

The word *concentration* is almost like the word *consecration*, and in this case means almost the same. As we have said, *concentration* means throwing one's whole strength into a task by detaching one's self from hindering causes; while *consecration* means "to set apart," by detaching ourselves from the world and "presenting our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God." Then to consecrate our lives and to concentrate our powers and strength, we must wrench ourselves away from dependence upon, idolatry of, or longing for, perishable things. "Gird up your loins." Detach heart, desire, and effort from perishable things and lift your affections above "the things on the earth."

The third thing suggested by the girded loins is that for which the concentration and detachment are needful: Alert, ready for service. Our girded loins are not merely in order to give strength to our frame, but in order that, having strength given to our frame, we may be ready for all work. The servant who stands before his lord with his belt buckled tight indicates thereby that he is ready to run whenever and wherever he is bidden.

There are three emblems in Scripture to all of which the girded loins applies.

1. The soldier, before he flings himself into battle, tightens his leather belt in order that there may be strength given to his spine, that he may feel himself all gathered together for the struggle. And the Christian

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SERVANTS

By Mrs. Myrtle Black, Cassville, Mo.

Luke 12:35-36, "Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord."

The words of this text suggest a very striking picture of the Christian state. It is midnight, a great house is without its master, the lord of the house is absent, but expected back soon. The servants are busy in preparation, each man with his robe tucked about him, in order that it may not interfere with his work, his lamp in his hand that he may see to go about his business and his eyes ever turned to the entrance to catch the first sign of the coming of his master. Is that like your Christian life? If we are the servants of Christ, we should have these three things—girded loins, lighted lamps, and waiting hearts.

The Girded Loins

We all know about the custom of dress in the country where Christ walked and talked with people here on earth; the long flowing robes with girdles about the waist. The first sign that a man was in earnest about any work was that he would gather his skirts around him and brace himself together. This was a sign that he meant to concentrate all his powers to the task in hand.

The Christian service demands concentration. It needs the fixing of all one's powers upon the one thing, the gathering together of all the strength of one's own nature. There is nothing which more certainly commands any kind of success than giving ourselves with our whole concentrated power to our work. Then we could be called successful servants. But what is a successful servant? It is one who

pleases his master. It should be the chief desire of all good servants to please and obey their masters. 1 Cor. 4:2—"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." Col. 3:22-23—"Servants obey in all things your master according to the flesh; not with eye-service, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: and whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord."

So the girded loins symbolize three different things that are required of us. First is the one we've already mentioned: *concentration*. The apostle said, "Gird up the loins of your minds." The first condition of true service is that you shall do it with concentrated powers. From the word *concentration* we find that the girded loins mean added strength, then from the apostle's words we understand that it means to strengthen our minds, also, for the work. So if we must have physical and mental strength to be good servants we must be temperate in all things. 1 Cor. 9:25—"Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." 1 Thes. 5:6—"Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober."

The second thing which the girded loins symbolizes, that is required of us, is *detachment*. One reason why a man tucked up his robe around his waist, when he had anything to do that needed all his might, was that it might not catch upon the things that protruded, and so keep him back. This means that he must detach himself from every thing not concerning his work, or any thing that hinders his progress, that he might go forward without delay. So then before we can really concentrate we must detach our-

The Divine Authority of the Bible

By Eld. John B. Rollins, Purdy, Mo.

SECOND SERMON

Last month, we viewed the marvelous truth expressed in the title of this article as depicted in the *MIRACLE* of the *PRODUCTION* of the *FOUR GOSPELS*. We feel disposed to continue the thought under the leadings of the *MIRACLE* of the *PRODUCTION* of the *FOUR GREAT LETTERS* of the Apostle Paul, namely: Romans, First and Second Corinthians, and Galatians.

Let us study the language of these writings, for they take us back within the quarter of a century which followed the death of Christ, and give us the words of a self-denying, keen sighted, trust-worthy man.

These letters are instinct with reality and are at the farthest distance from the realm of fancy. They glow with the ardor of actual life. They deal with specific evils, refute particular errors, check definite disorders, repel given slanders, prescribe for distinct offences, and assert special rights. Following one another in swift succession are sharp logic, open rebuke, and appeals that glow with much feeling. What variety, freedom and fire do we perceive! What zeal, carefulness, and clearness of expression; what indignation; yea, what vehement desire! These letters are intensely personal. O what love to those Spirit-born souls glows in his language, and from every page beams such downright honesty, and greatness of soul, ready to be spent in their service. If these letters were not called for by the needs of living men, we may as well close up the volume of history.

To call these fiction or falsehood is the act of a fool who has lost his sense of reality and power of discriminating between the actual and the fanciful, who may as well sink in defeat and despair of finding anything true in all the records of the past.

The testimony of these letters sheds much light upon the character of Christ and His apostles. They affirm that in His human nature Christ was made of a woman; made under the law, made in the likeness of sinful flesh, that He was the promised seed of Abraham. They assert that in His higher nature He was the Son of God, He knew no sin yet died as an atoning sacrifice, and that God was

in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. They convince us of His resurrection and guarantee the resurrection of all saints. They say that "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he arose again the third day according to the Scriptures; and that He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve; after that He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that He was seen of James; then of all the apostles, and last of all He was seen of me also, as one born out of due time." (1 Cor. 15:3-8).



Paul had seen the Lord and received of Him the great truths of the Gospel with his commission to preach to the Gentiles, and he had preached with marked success. He was recognized by the other apostles as their equal and had gone forth to his work in their fellowship. He knew Peter, James and John, and his view of Christ was approved by them. To study these letters is to be convinced that Christ was not only an infallible teacher, holy and true, the source of light and peace to men, but also in His higher nature He was "God over all blessed forever."

Let us look again into these letters to ascertain what sort of a man the Apostle became by having faith in Christ. When we note his love and zeal, his purity and wisdom; when we

read his powerful words, we see his spirit gushing out in streams of generous emotion. Then we have reason to say that by his faith in Christ he came to be a new creature, old things passed away and all things became new. The very fountain head of his *living spirit* was miraculously changed and these letters are a production resulting from that change. That change of heart is the motive power behind these letters that gives life to them. For that reason, I said the *MIRACLE* of the *PRODUCTION* of these letters: for they were by inspiration of God.

And when we learn from his words the influence of Christianity over those who had been converted under his preaching, there will be still more reason to believe that the glad news concerning Christ had indeed proved itself to be "the power of God unto salvation." In other words, these four letters of Paul established the chief events of our Lord's earthly mission and the general truth of His teachings. More than that, they establish the great fact of His resurrection from the dead and thereby the absolute authority and truth of His word. A patient study of these letters will carry the mind from point to point until it is seen that the whole Bible is true. The other letters of Paul and all the writings of the New Testament are in vital unity with these. The life and character of Christ as set before us in the four Gospels will be especially seen to underlie all the teachings of Paul. This being true, these four letters go far toward proving that Christ was a teacher of truth *without any mixture of error*.

I have selected a stanza of the beautiful poem "Damascus" by Mrs. V. G. Ramsey to conclude this article as it describes Paul's miraculous change of heart which is the foundation of all his preaching and writings.

"On the road that leads to Judea
I look for that sacred place
Where the Syrian sun at noonday
Was dimmed by the Lord Christ's face.
I see, as the day declineth
A blind man led through the gate,
And lodged in the house of Judas,
On the street that is still called
Straight.

He came in sorrow and darkness,
Low bowing beneath the rod,
But forth from that hallowed chamber
He went, the anointed of God."

SERVANTS

Continued from page fifteen

soldier has to do the same thing—"Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth."

2. The traveler before he starts upon his journey, girds himself and gathers his robes around him. And we have to "run with patience the race set before us;" and shall never do it until we have concentrated all our powers on the running, and detach our garments from the hindrances along the way and one cannot win unless he is an alert, wide awake runner and all ready to run.

3. The servant has to be girded together for his work, even as the Master who took upon Himself the form of a servant, "took a towel and girded Himself." We as His servants have to follow His example, to put aside the needless vesture and brace ourselves with the symbol of service. So as soldiers, pilgrims, and servants the condition of doing our work is "girding up the loins."

The Burning Lights

The lamp which the Christian servant is to bear is a character illuminated from above. Our light is derived from that character who said, "I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12).

To the Ephesians Paul said, "But now are ye light in the Lord: walk as the children of light" (Eph. 5:8). "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:15).

Christ's first exhortation in the Sermon on the Mount following the Beatitudes—"Ye are the salt of the earth, . . . ye are the light of the world. . . . Men do not light a candle and put it under a bushel. . . . Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good deeds." The burning light which the girded servant is to bear in this dark world is his radiant life of purity and kindness. Now the connection between the lustrous and pure Christian life and the exhortation to "Gird up the loins" is this: If you are an alert, wide awake, neatly girded servant ready for service, you will naturally see that your lights are kept trimmed and burning. Again read Eph. 5:8. Someone has said, "If you do not gird your loins your lamp will go

out." Without the concentrated effort and the continually repeated detachment and the daily renewal of, "Lord! Here am I, send me," of the alert and ready servant, there will be no shining of the life and no beauty of the character. Then trim your lamp when you gird your loins.

Waiting Hearts

The picture of the Christian state that the words of our text suggest as we have said at the beginning is described as, servants in preparation, each man with his robe tucked about his middle, his lamp in his hand and his eyes ever turned to the entrance to catch the first sign of the coming of his master. Then we must live in an attitude of expectancy, and whatever may be our expectations as to the literal coming of the Lord, that future should be very real, and very near us in our thoughts. But those who never look forward to the future and who never contemplate the meeting with their Lord, will, when the Master returns, be found

all unbraced and loose-girt, with their lamps gone out. So then let us nourish our faith on the two-fold fact: (1) A history, That Christ has come. (2) A hope, That Christ shall come.

Let us keep in mind the history of His leaving His glorious home above to come to earth to suffer death on the cross. If we have our gathering together with Him ever in view, then we shall be willing to yield all to Him, to withdraw ourselves from everything besides for the excellency of His knowledge and joyfully and cheerfully do whatsoever He commands.

To the waiting servants He comes as the Master who shall gird Himself and go forth and serve them, and to those who wait not, He comes as a thief in the night. And it depends upon ourselves, whether we be waiting and watching and serving and witnessing for Him. He shall come to us as our Joy, or as our Terror and Judge.

Where's The Trouble?

By Eld. Noel Turner, Greentop, Mo.

It is an evident fact that our churches today do not have the power that they had a few years ago. And to the thinking person it is not a mystery. The reason for powerless churches is often a powerless pulpit, and there's a reason for the pulpit being without power.

A few years ago we heard of revivals everywhere, with souls being saved, numbering, sometimes, into the hundreds. People both old and young shouted God's praise, and really enjoyed salvation as, I believe, God intended us to. In such meetings, people were interested in the work of God, and really sacrificed for His service, prayed and lived for Him. The preachers, filled with the Holy Spirit, communed with the Giver of life, and

had no object in view other than to execute his duty to God. Many hours were spent in prayer and preparation for useful service, before taking the stand to be a mouth piece for God in the deliverance of the message. Then, while standing before a praying people, the preacher expounded the truths in a heart-searching soul-stirring manner that somehow touched Christian hearts, making them more willing to do the will of their Maker, and lifted their souls so near the portals of Heaven that they could say with Peter, "It is good to be here." It must have been such meetings as this that inspired the poet, Edgar Pace, to pen the words "Under such old fashioned preaching sinners fell to pray, and the Lord would save them in the good old fashioned way." I agree with him when he says, "I like the old time preaching, praying, singing, shouting." What difference did it make if the English used in the sermon was not the best, what difference did it make if there was a little dust on the knees of the preacher's trousers? Who was annoyed if the good old Christian fathers punctuated the sermon with their "Amens"?

Yes, we do have some good services, and once in a while we hear of



a revival where 15 or 20 souls have been saved: and of course we rejoice because it proves that the day of God's grace isn't over, but it is still given to those who approach His throne in that old fashioned manner that meets with His approval.

Jeremiah 6:16 says, "THUS SAITH THE LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the OLD PATHS, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."

One of our greatest needs in the ministry today is a GOD CALLED ministry. God still calls men and women for His service, and gives them special messages to the people, but sometimes I fear a person decides it would be nice to be a preacher and enjoy the distinction of being a special messenger for God; so he begins to try to be a preacher, but somehow he can't make the grade when it comes to being all that God requires of His special servants; so some give up and others try to learn how to preach by going to school. Now school is fine and I certainly believe that every minister, as well as everybody, should endeavor to learn all that is possible of God's Word and things practical in order to be better prepared to teach and preach His Gospel. Let the *CALL COME FIRST* then "study to shew thyself approved." And don't try to learn how to preach without a call from Him whose Gospel you expect to proclaim. If you do, you will make a miserable failure. Often the result is scholaristic skepticism, and sometimes ecclesiastical bigotry.

Of course such imposters often attract a greater number of people to their religious gatherings, but what can a man-made speaker give the waiting people that will arouse their souls? And how can God's kingdom prosper with such men as that at the head of the church? It is true that there are people looking for soothing, easing sermons that won't condemn them nor arouse a God consciousness.

Isn't it true, to our knowledge, that more real good revivals with the stamp of God's approval have been among the poorer class of people, and with preachers called of God, though unlearned in books, but had been with God and learned of Him rather than from those with D. D's. and a great string of letters to their name?

It's no light task to efficiently fill the place of a preacher for the Creator because, the Kingdom of God being a reality and a worth-while goal to attain to, it naturally requires an effort on the part of the individual who is working to it, and incurring a great responsibility on the representative of the Kingdom.

Our situation today is a fulfillment of prophecy, as Jesus said there would be false prophets, and Paul said (2 Tim. 4:3, 4), 'For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.'

Let us contend for the faith once delivered to the fathers and stay in the good old way.

the devourer for their sakes, "If" they would only tithe. Surely they would rather tithe than not to raise their crops, or that their vines should cast their fruit before the time.

There was a cause for this tragedy, and it was because they failed to tithe.

Today, if we Free Will Baptist would give God ten cents of every dollar, He prospers us with, it wouldn't be long until we would have money to do things with. But so many will say, "I give what I can." But on Saturday night, after the bills are all paid, there usually isn't very much, if any money left for the pastor on Sunday morning, even if the pastor has come many miles, perhaps 100 miles.

When the drought came a short time ago, many preachers devoted their time preaching that it was the sinner's fault; but it wasn't: for the Christians were to blame for not tithing. This is plain talk, but I believe it with all my heart. A man who is employed at public works for a living will come nearer having work, if he is a tither, than the man who doesn't tithe. Our Lord said, "Prove me." Folks, He will do what He said He would do.

In a certain church here in Miami the members are tithers. At first their pastor preached pretty straight on this question. Several pledged themselves to tithe, so God blessed them, and in a short time most of the church were tithing. They kept bringing their tithes into the store house and it wasn't long until they had money to do things for God. They decided they would enlarge their church house. They added 8 classrooms and have a nice church building now. After it was completed their pastor wrote a piece to the daily paper and stated that he had a tithing church. He said their addition cost \$44,000.00 and they paid it out of their tithes and had money left.

God said He would bless us, if we tithe. What we possess doesn't really belong to us, but the Lord is merciful to us and will bless us not only spiritually, but in a financial way, if we will pay Him that we owe Him.

For the past month I haven't been able to preach, as I am in poor health and the doctor thinks it best for me to rest a while, but I am thankful that I can preach through the Gem.

If you are not a tither, begin tithing now, and prove the Lord.

Abraham was big hearted enough to give God a tenth of all, and God pros-

TITHING

God's Plan of Financing the Church

By Elder Elda Crain, Miami, Okla.

For some time I have been impressed to write on this subject, so will endeavor to do so tonight.

If I should take a text, it would be this question, "Will a man rob God?" (Mal. 3:8). This question was asked by the Lord Himself, because some of His people were guilty—He didn't accuse them of something they hadn't done. But He did tell them why He called them robbers. They tried to plead innocent and asked, "Wherein have we robbed thee?" And God said, "In tithes and offerings."

Now folks, God has always had a plan to do things by, and the tithing

system is His plan for raising money for the church. When God's people in olden times began to be stingy with God, He began to be stingy with them; and so it is today.

Even a whole nation had robbed God of tithes and offerings, yet He gave them a challenge, and said, "Bring ye all the tithes into the store house, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." God also said He would rebuke

pered him and blessed him in many ways.

Not long ago my father was preaching on Tithing, and tears were running down his face. He made a statement something like this, "When I come to die and don't have any money to get something to eat, and some one gives me a dime to buy me a hamburger, I'll give God a penny and eat the nine cents worth." You may not be that strong on tithing, but I believe you are if you are going according to the plan our Heavenly Father gave us to go by.

May God bless our Gem family, and may our denomination prosper.

The Rome-Berlin Axis

By Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

While sitting by my radio just recently, mysterious as it all seems, I heard the wild and frantic cheers of half a million people in Rome; extending a welcome to the German leader, which display we are told rivalled anything in the days of the Caesars for size, scope, and grandeur. Mind you as I sat and listened my mind was filled with many thoughts. I said, "This is the dictator age." I thought of the rising of supermen, the centralization of power, and the crumbling of our beloved democracies. I thought how strange that the masses will so greatly exalt one man, and help him to become more and more intoxicated on power.

What about the Rome-Berlin state of friendship which *appears* to so truly exist at this time? Will it continue? No. Most certainly no! That is rather a stern and contrary answer to be given right in the face of the present German-Italian intimacy; but it really wouldn't surprise me if that so-called axis breaks any time. I am writing this May 6th, and I won't be surprised if by the time you read this in the Gem it will be greatly cracked. Reason would teach us that two men like Hitler and Mussolini couldn't be expected to get along any great length of time. There is such a thing as two people being too much alike to get along. It surely will prove to be true as pertaining to these two powerful European dictators. Both drunk on power, both craving territory, both very aggressive, both looking for the praise and honor of men, and last but not least, both their respective territories destined for two very distinct and different places in the end time of this age according to Bible prophecy. You can rest assured that Hitler can just go so far and continue to have the good will and friendship of Mussolini, and vice versa. Italy has shown great pomp in receiving Hitler; but not for a minute was the strong Italian guard weakened at

the Brenner Pass. No, nor it won't be the next time. No doubt both of these men have an "ax to grind." Mussolini didn't keep his friend out six hours for nothing in a blinding rain to watch the unparalleled post world war display of Italian naval strength. But it was as much as to say, "Friend Hitler, get it stamped upon your mind, if you please, just what Italy can and will do in case her toes are tramped upon." Or, in other words, in case any other power tries to seize any of the territory of ancient Rome. For what would be stepping on the toes of Italy any more than to disrupt her plans by taking original Roman territory? Mussolini wants that, and in my mind will fight for that regardless of the cost. No doubt he intended Hitler to get the impression that Italy would make a valuable friend and a dangerous enemy.

We can't see any lasting joy or victory for Germany. Ezekiel 38 sets forth to us the pending utter downfall of Gomer (Germany). While, of course, she will have apparent victory for a while. But Germany is swiftly provoking upon her the wrath of God by her cruel treatment of the Jews. We see in the current news that Germany is preparing for mass removal of the Jewish people. 30,000 are to be removed in 1938, and the number to be increased in succeeding years. We are told that there are 200,000 Jews in Austrian Germany, and 600,000 with Jewish blood. No nation can touch the anointed people of God without being brought under the scourge of God. The age old warning and promise God made to Abraham still holds just as good and true as in the day it was given. You remember? God said, "I will bless him that blesses thee, and will curse him that curses thee." Hitler needs to read, re-read, and ponder over that Scripture. If he would heed its warning he might save himself a lot of sorrow and disappointment.

Of course Italy is not acting so righteous, and is destined to fall with all the rest when the Stone falls on the feet of the great image and the nations become as the chaff of the summer threshing floor (read Dan. 2); but according to prophecy God is going to suffer her to expand more in territory, etc. She is to be a friend to the Jews until the very last setting of the age, and then the great Roman prince, or Antichrist, is to turn completely against the Jewish people with whom he has made a covenant (Dan. 9:27). And then will be the time of "Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7), or the Great Tribulation.

The activities, agreements, friendly passings and repassings of these two great and influential leaders are interesting to watch, and read after; but I am persuaded to believe that from a standpoint of reason, and more-so from a standpoint of the teaching of the Scriptures, we cannot expect the Rome-Berlin friendship to last very long.

But really isn't it strange how one common man can arise to such a height so as to sway the millions? But it will still be more strange when one great superman comes to virtually control the world; which thing is to take place in the last days. And then, thank the Lord, it will seem strange, and will certainly be very unexpected to the unbeliever, when the great conquering Son of God will split the skies and take control of the entire earth to wield that sceptre of authority not for a few days only, or for one generation, but for 1000 years; after which He will deliver it up to the Father. Read Rev. 19:11-21 and 1 Cor. 15:23-25.

So it is that wicked and stony hearted men are, while travelling to their doom, just working out the great plan of God.

FUND STARTED TO BUY TOOLS FOR BRO. WILLEY

Some members at our Neola Church, where I am pastoring, suggested that we start a fund to buy a set of tools for Brother Willey, which he is needing very much. So we have the fund started and want every one who will to send in something on it. Just say, "For the Tool Fund." Hurry along and send in your donation. Let us buy him the set of tools which he must have to do his building with.

—Winford Davis.

Among the Indians on the Sambu

By Mrs. T. H. Willey

"Oh Mother, there's Daddy with the Indians." And sure enough it was. As Tommie and I, with a group of fellow-passengers, stood on the prow of the good ship *Mussolini* early that April morning, we viewed a picture in the distance silhouetted against the tropical sky; it was a long dugout canoe with eight Choco Indians be-decked in handsome beaded loin girdles, with colorful flowers set in crowns. In the midst of them stood the white Indian as he is called by these people. It was so picturesque that I am sure that our friends aboard ship shall never forget it. I'm quite sure one passenger will not, and that is your writer. It was my first view of the people to whom God has called us—"And beholding them I loved them."

Since we have been on the Isthmus there has been a continued longing to see our Indians, but due to the heavy rains and the strenuous manner by which ordinarily one has to travel to the Sambu I was prohibited from going. When a strong man has fever and chills as a result of the trip alone I am sure a woman and child would find it very difficult, so we were delighted when we learned that we might be passengers on the excursion boat of the Y. M. C. A. There were 38 aboard, and I might say one could not wish to travel with a more sympathetic and interested group of friends. They all manifested an intense interest in the Indians and our work among them. The exclamation from every one was, "I've never seen such people." We anchored about one-half mile off from the shore of Garachine while Mr. Willey with Tommie and the Indians paddled back to the shore, and we later joined them by means of a small outboard motor. As you already know from previous writings, the people of Garachine call themselves "Gente-libre" Free people. They are negrotic and I believe it to be the dirtiest village I have ever seen. The Indians stayed in groups, entirely separated from the natives. That day we spent in the village and slept aboard ship. At night we all made a trip to the village to show the pictures you saw last year when Mr. Willey was with you, and a few more taken since. The Y. M. C. A. Secretary took a motor to run the projector, and the screen was a sheet

stretched on the side of a village house. The audience all stood, and what a motley group! With another Christian worker and Tommy, I found my way to the Indians, anxious to see their reaction. They were in a small group to themselves leaning upon their canoe paddles. They were seeing a strange thing, and their faces were indeed a study. When the family picture came on, that which was taken in Texas, they laughed as only they can laugh, and pointed to me saying in Spanish "Usted,"—you. When Tommy's picture appeared they exclaimed loudly in their native tongue. One Indian reached out and softly stroked Tommy's head as though he were some rare being. They just grunted at Barbara's picture as they have not met her as yet, but when they saw their own pictures in the native environment, what ecstasy! They forgot all others about them in their delight, and they were the picture for us as we enjoyed them.

Early the next morning the call to breakfast awakened us, as we had a full day ahead. We were anchored about eight miles from the mouth of the Sambu in very rough waters. May I pause to give you this little touch about the Indians? Mr. Willey called them to the boat in their canoes. When the first arrived he handed down plates of sandwiches and told them to eat, but they set their plates on one of the paddles. They were told again to eat, but refused to. We thought perhaps they would not eat our food, then in the distance we saw more canoes appearing; they would not eat without all being present. I hope my children will learn lessons of courtesy from these children of the forest.

After they had eaten I noticed one of the boys washing the paper plates and, after examining it closely, passed it among the others for their scrutiny. When the passengers saw their delight over the paper plates and cups, they contributed theirs to them. I suppose we shall see some of them when we go to the Sambu to live.

Our plans were to board the canoes, tie them together and be pulled by the outboard motor, but the Indians refused to go due to the rough seas. The wisdom of which action we soon saw; so after persuading the captain, he took us up the Sambu. We did not

have to leave the old boat again and along with us came a little Indian mother with two children. The little boy was two years old and the baby tied to the mother's back was a month old. She was certainly a curiosity, dressed typically native, with only a cloth about her loins. The shy little thing sought a corner for her brood as we started the rough ride. Her husband was in one of the canoes tied to the back, being pulled by our boat. It was certainly an hour of suspense for us, as the seven canoes plunged through the rough waters in the wake of the ship. Often the little woman would go back and look on with anxious eyes. I hastened to her to become her friend in this strange environment and among strange people. She and the boy were plied with candy and chewing gum as they would pose for the many photographers. We began a broken conversation with the little Spanish she and I knew. Mr. Willey told her I was his wife then with her big innocent eyes she looked to the rest of the women and wanted to know who they were. Again our boy became a tie. When she knew I was a mother, we were friends. The baby had eczema covering its little head—we treated this and put drops in the baby's infected eyes—she was so grateful. For the rest of the journey she stayed close to me, and with a curiosity that is universal, I'll admit, among women, she pointedly asked many questions.

Would that I had the words to describe the beauties of that tropical river, after that rough ocean ride—it was like a calm following the storm. Each bend of the river brought new beauties, and there were many of them. It was a delightful ride.

We arrived at the house of Juan, whom you are acquainted with already, and somehow we noted much hurrying about the native hut. We soon knew the reason; they were gathering brilliant colored flowers to adorn themselves for our arrival. Soon Juan and his small son were aboard ship undergoing an examination by the passengers. Tommy was in the circle of Juan's arms, closely observing the "dimes." They punch holes in dimes and make buttons of them for their vests. Oh they were dressed in grand regalias! Beaded loin-girdles, vests covered with American and other foreign coins, hair full of flowers and bodies painted. Some of them paint their bodies black and with little figures.

We soon disembarked for Juan's

home. There we found the native's thatched hut with a group of women seated on the floor with their babies. One baby we noted immediately, only a few weeks old, yet the mother had its little body covered with painted figures. The women were very cordial in their way, and seemed delighted when we would fondle their babies and children. They have exceptionally fine faces with bright happy dispositions. We spent the day about their place getting acquainted and observing their daily customs. At night Juan gathered a large group to see the pictures. Our experience of the night before was repeated, only with a larger group of Indians. It was a sight I'm sure that they shall long remember and we will not forget soon.

At nine o'clock we pulled up the anchor and with flash lights waved "Adios" to the family and headed down river to the ocean. After one of the roughest rides I ever made on the water, we reached Panama City the next day afternoon—tired—but with a greater longing than ever before to soon return to live among these people.

Now I have given you a sketch of our trip, and you are probably saying within yourself, "How romantic, I wish I could go." Yes, one must admit that it has its romantic appeal. Yet lurking amidst the beauties of the tropical jungle are thousands of little insects that bespeak death, it takes something more than romantic appeal to face them. I didn't tell you of the times on the trip we almost capsized to become food for sharks and alligators. To work all day through the intense heat of the tropics, and then to sit at night by a faint light to study and master a language that has never been written; these realities cause one to forget the romance of it all, and face the fact that only a divine call from God could enable one to stand. This is not only true of the missionary, but of the ministry as a whole. Oft-times in the homeland you face difficulties far worse than jungle insects, tropical fevers, and stormy oceans and unless you too have had a call that is unmistakably from God, you are likely to faint by the wayside. So whether we have been divinely called of God to service, or only feel the strong appeal, may that "love so amazing, so divine, demand our souls, our lives, our all."

OBITUARY

Allen—Icie Myrtle Shira was born Sept. 8, 1880 in Cherokee County, Kansas, and departed this life May 8, 1938, at the age of 57 years and 8 months, at her home in Newton County, Mo.

She was united in marriage to James Allen Sept. 23, 1911. To this union was born three children.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Nora Glen, Neosho, Mo., R.3. and Sarah at home; one son, Melvin also at home; her mother, Mrs. Barbara Ridgeway of Medoc, Mo.; five grand children; one sister, Mrs. Gladys Scott; one brother, Relie Ridgeway of Medoc, Mo.; many other relatives and a host of friends to mourn her departure.

She was converted and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Oak Grove near Neosho, Mo. about six years ago, and lived a faithful Christian life until God called her home.

She was patient and uncomplaining in her suffering.

Funeral services were conducted by Eld. Ben Henderson of Monett, Mo. Text: "She has done what she could."

VALENTINE—Jane Valentine was born in McDonald County, Missouri January 25, 1885, and departed this life April 28, 1936 at the age of 53 years, three months and three days.

Surviving are her husband, Albert Valentine, mother, Mrs. Mary Rose, two brothers, Berry and Tom Rose, one sister, Mrs. Lee Hamlin of Las Cruces, New Mexico, four daughters, Mrs. Flossie Jenni, Mrs. Adeline Allen, Mrs. Evelyn Mayfield, and Lucille of the home, three sons, Lee, William and Lilburn, all of Tulsa, many other relatives, and a host of friends.

She was converted in 1910 and united

with the Free Will Baptist Church of Prue, Okla., later moved her membership to the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tulsa. Being a member of this church, our loss is heaven's gain.

Tulsa Church truly feels the great loss of this active worker, devoted Christian, neighbor and friend.

A pew has been made vacant, a testimony and a shout for the glory of God has been stilled, and hearts have been made sad by her passing, but our loss is heaven's gain.

IN MEMORY

Written in loving memory of my dear Mother who passed away one year ago, on June 19, 1937, at La Rue, Arkansas.

One more break in a happy band,
One more home is desolate now,
One more harp in an angel hand,
One more crown on an angel's brow.

One more form we loved so well
Sleeping a while 'neath the church
yard sod,
One more soul has gone to swell
The chorus of praise to the Lamb of
God.

One more blossom of brightest hue,
Taken to bloom in the field of light,
One more star in the expansion of
blue,
Faded away from this world of night.

One more safe through the pearly door,
Safe from the ills of this world of care,
One more step on the golden shore
Of the beautiful river of crystal there.

One more star in the azure placed,
One more strand in the card of love;
To guide our feet through this weary
world,
To draw our hearts to the world above.

One more light on the shining strand,
One more welcome our steps to greet,
One more waiting to take our hand,
At the pearly gate of the golden street.

Written by a daughter,
Manerva Garrison, La Rue, Ark.

KNOW THYSELF

By Mrs. Metta Black, Hatch, N. Mexico

We hear a lot about peculiarities and characteristic traits among our people, and too, we see a lot of it put in practice, and seeing the folly of it prompts me to write a short article on "Know thy self."

To know thyself is commendable even with the best of people, in fact we might turn that around and say

that our most worth-while people are those who know themselves. I mean by this that we should fully understand both the good and the bad that is in us, and make the necessary effort to overcome the bad, in order that our lights may have the noon-day brightness. To make this more clear,

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Our Publishing House Program

By John B. Rollins, Superintendent

For several months we have been silent on the Publishing House Program of the Missouri State Association. There are two important reasons for this silence:

First, we have deemed it wise to let our people have a "breathing spell" by keeping silent on the subject, since we had nothing new to offer.

Second, we have been unable to travel in the interest of the work, and from all appearances we will be unable to travel at all. That is not a defeat to the program, however, for we have a more efficient and less expensive plan at work. We know of many friends who are ardently interested in this cause and have been enquiring concerning the success of our program, and we are happy to report the increasing interest and success of the program in spite of our silence.

The Publishing House Loyalty Chart which is a group receipt plan, has been working nicely. These charts have been fairly well distributed and have been steadily working. We have explained the work of these charts in a former issue of the Gem, but I will say this again: It is a ten cent plan for group donations. But notice its success.

The Mt. Olive Church, near Greenfield, Mo. has filled three charts and recently turned in \$33.00. The fourth chart is now being filled.

The Union Third Fork Church, near St. Joseph, Mo. has four charts and they are working nicely. We want to encourage them to hasten the day of a \$44.00 turn-in.

Elders Winford Davis and Kenneth Turner are the pastors of these two churches and are doing a great work by encouraging them in this work.

Here at home, in the Indian Creek Association, the charts are well distributed and our treasurer's report will soon begin to show the results. Come on, Indian Creek folks, let us show our colors.

In Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting Elders Jas. F. Miller and C. B. Dees have been as busy as Cranberry merchants just before Christmas. They have traveled among the churches of that district and preached and lectured and boosted in general. They distributed 19 charts. The treasurer's report shows a turn-in from that part, which Bro. Miller informs me is com-

ing independent of the charts. Bro. Miller further states that more than \$100.00 is now in the hands of the local treasurers. Please let me encourage you in Southeast Missouri.

The chart plan is succeeding thus far everywhere they are in use, so let's have a 100% success from you.

Charts are in Northeast Missouri Association, but I have not learned to what extent they are being used. Please let me encourage you to line up with Indian Creek, Central Western Missouri, Southeast Missouri, Northwest Missouri and the others of our state. By us all working together we will succeed. Let's do all we can to have \$2,500.00 by the time our State Association meets this fall. We have half of that amount now.

On the week-end of the fifth Sun-

KNOW THYSELF

Continued from page twenty-one

we will deal with some of the bad characteristics common to the human race: Uncontrolled tempers, criticism, selfishness, jealousy, etc. Any one of these "bad habits," when uncontrolled, will ruin the influence of an individual.

In 1 John 1:9, we find that God is able to "cleanse us from all unrighteousness." All right, when we are born into the Kingdom of God, we are cleansed from all our past sins, and are fit subjects for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Paul said, "Grow in Grace." Again he said, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Again we hear Paul say, "Study to show thyself approved unto God" (2 Tim. 2:15). We must know the will of God and measure up to it, but we must know ourselves too, in order to do so. God is a wonderful omnipotent God, and will help us in all our undertakings. But we are not babies, He expects us to do the things that we can do, and one of the things that we can do is to show character by overcoming these carnal things, and showing to the world the beauty of God's love. Paul was an example of strong character, especially when he said, "If my eating, of meat offend my brother, I will eat no meat."

I have heard people say, "When God

day, Bro. Brown went to the Cave Spring Association in Oregon County, Mo. While there, he gave out eight charts to the churches. Cave Spring did reasonably well last summer when I toured in their midst, but we would like to encourage them to a little broader vision of the Cause. May the Lord bless and help us to rally in a greater way to the great task before us. Come on, good folk of Cave Spring let's have eight charts filled.

I attended the Quarterly Meeting at Niangua, Mo., and had the privilege to speak on this subject and gave out four charts. This is in the territory of Liberty Association, the new Association formed out of Union Association which withdrew from the State work last fall. The Liberty Association is coming to the State Association with a petition to join this fall. We are thankful for them and the way they are receiving the vision of this cause. Let us all work together and do all we can and God's name shall be glorified and His cause advanced.

saved me, He took the tobacco habit away from me" (as tho they had made no effort to quit). But the truth was, When they saw the harm in this particular thing, and made the necessary effort to overcome it, then the Lord gave them strength and courage to do so, just as He does in any and all other problems we might have.

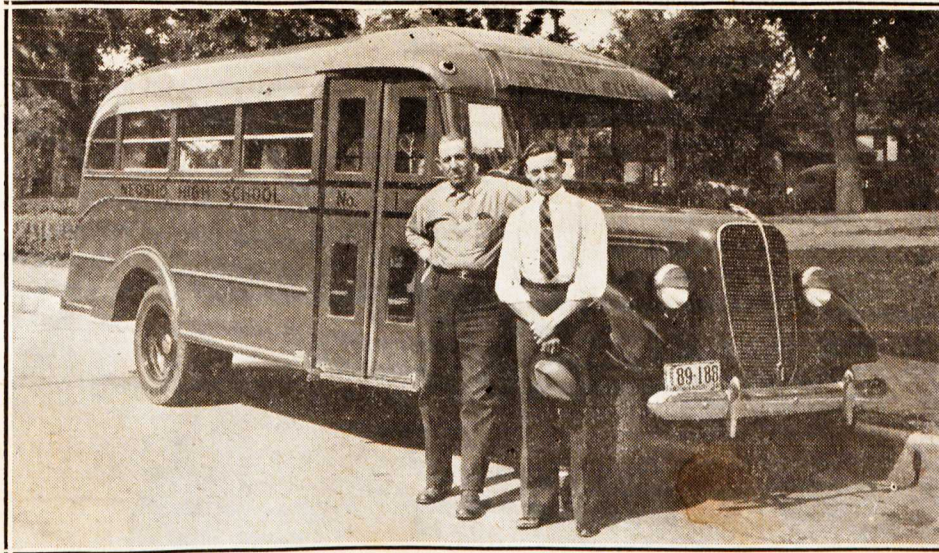
Temper, uncontrolled, will soon darken the light that Jesus said we should let shine, and will cause friction at home and abroad, but when an effort is put forth to control this, and we have done all that we can do, then Jesus will tenderly help us over it.

Criticism. We can't help but resent the man or woman who is always finding fault with everything that is done.

Selfishness. How hard it is for the selfish "holier than thou" persons to reach out beyond a limited sphere: they seem to have no power behind the few feeble efforts they do put forth. We just naturally love the unselfish, big hearted, humanitarian, who instead of trying to live his life to himself, is ever ready to lend a helping hand in time of need.

Jealousy. This is so common among our people, even some of our preachers are possessed with it. I have seen preachers who simply couldn't stand to work with a brother preacher that could out-preach or out-sing them. I

Continued on page twenty-three



ALL ABOARD FOR PAINTSVILLE, KENTUCKY

There are several of our Free Will Baptist folk, in Southwest Missouri, who want to go to Paintsville, Kentucky to attend our Western General Association; so we have decided on the following plan:

The officials of the Neosho High School have agreed to donate the use of one of their new 1938 V8 Ford buses for this trip. And we have contracted with a bus driver to take a bus load of delegates to Paintsville and back for \$125.00. So many have told us they wanted to go that we suggest the following:

The first 25 persons who pay \$5.00 each, by July 1st, will be the ones entitled to go.

The bus is a large roomy one, arranged to carry 25 passengers and 25 folding cots, for those who wish to take cots.

Above is a picture of the bus and drivers. Mr. Bert Thomp-

son of Neosho, Mo., is a real Christian gentleman; and has the work of the Lord at heart. He is noted for his careful driving. He will be assisted by his son James, who is a fine young man, and a licensed bus driver.

The bus will leave Neosho Sunday morning, July 10th, at 9:00 o'clock, and will stop at Monett and Aurora, to pick up those who will be going.

Those who plan to go should pay their \$5.00 and get receipts right away, as the time is drawing near. And plan to meet the bus on the morning of the stated date at Neosho, Monett, Aurora, or at some point on highway 60.

This will enable us to reach Paintsville early on Tuesday, so there will be time to rest and prepare for the opening service that night.

We are to arrive back home some time the following Sunday.

Remember your \$5.00 pays

for your ride there and return! Then each individual is responsible for his or her meals and lodging while on the road.

Following are the names of those who have already paid their \$5.00:

Mrs. Jewell Turner,
Miss Evelyn Jefferson,
Eld. Kenneth Turner,
Miss Otha Campbell,
Miss Maurine Campbell,
Miss Doris Turner,
Eld. Frank Linton,
Miss Esther Apple,
Eld. Winford Davis,
Eld. John B. Rollins,
Miss Bessie Campbell.

Get busy and send in your \$5.00 to Eld. Kenneth Turner, Granby, Mo., and receive your receipt, and be one of the 25, for the date is drawing near. We feel that this will be a wonderful trip, and time well spent in the Lord's service.

—Eld. Kenneth Turner.

KNOW THYSELF

Continued from page twenty-two

saw this manifested very openly one time in an association. To me this is a pitiful condition; for I have always felt that it was elevating, inspiring, and educational to work with people who were beyond me in this great work of the Lord.

Paul said, "Let us lay aside the sin that doth so easily beset us." So, if we "know ourselves," and make the effort that God intends we should make to overcome the bad that's in us,

then He will help us to fight these battles and come out victorious, and be stronger, braver, nobler soldiers of the Cross, by having done so; and our lights can shine without dimness.

We really appreciated Bro. Brown's article on the Resurrection, also Bro. Bigg's letter from Lincoln, Nebraska. So many good writers contribute to the Gem; and to us the Gem has always been a great power; but it seems dearer to us since coming to New Mexico than ever before. Because of the spiritual condition of this country, we have

learned, I suppose, to appreciate it more.

I help to put out a local paper and we publish all articles submitted from the different churches free. In this way we feel that perhaps we can help the cause. Pray for me.

REMEMBER

The Western General Association of Free Will Baptist will meet at Paintsville, Kentucky, on Tuesday night, July 12, 1938.

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murderer. He was sent to prison and

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insane and sent to the Insane Asylum.

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seeking the Lord, and was soundly

converted. He was finally fully par-

doned by "Ma" Ferguson, and went

out preaching the Gospel.

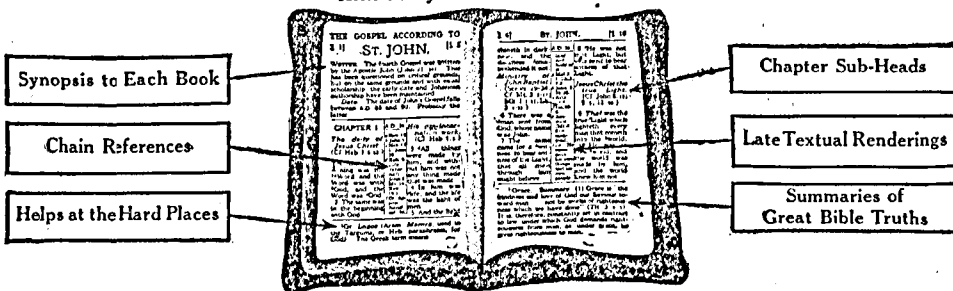
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beheld his glory, the glory as	beheld his glory, the glory as

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