

The Free Will Baptist Gem

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM,
ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASS'N.

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EDITOR-MANAGER
REV. WINFORD DAVIS

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December

This is the silver month of the year—
Silver-veined each oak leaf dangles;
Roofs are shingled with silver frost
And silver snowflakes-spangles.

Even the stars that in summer were gold

Are fashioned of silver now,
And the tarnished silver clouds are turned

By the moon's bright silver plow.

Marlon Doyle

THE HONOR ROLL

The new honor roll began with November 1st. Five subs, either new or renewal (one may be your own) gets your name on the honor roll. The one securing the largest amount of subs during the six months period receives 1st prize, second highest second prize and third highest third prize. Prizes are kept secret until honor roll period closes, which will be April 30, 1950.

We have received a good number of subs during November, but as no one individual sent in as many as five we therefore have no names to enter on the honor roll this month. However, we are very grateful to all who have secured subs in the past, and we feel sure many of you will continue to be solicitors. We hope a nice list of names can be presented next month.

The Editor

DID YOU?

*Were you at Church this morning
When the stranger came?*

*Did you go and shake his hand,
And ask of him his name?*

*Did you try to make him welcome?
Did you go to him and say,
"We're so glad to have you come.
Won't you help us pray?"*

*Did you ask him if he'd like
To come and help you sing?
Did you by your actions
Make him glad he came?*

*Or did you just ignore him
Because you were not glad?
Or did Satan grip you?
Were you kinda mad?*

*Did you act so unconcerned?
Did you show your pride?
Did you get acquainted with him,
And his heart and soul inside?*

*If you treated him unjustly,
You'd better look around,
And see just where you're heading,
You may be on dangerous ground.*

Wilbia Sell, Stockton, Mo.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

We have a very beautiful assortment of Christmas cards this year. All religious and each card has scripture text. You will like them. Twenty-one in a box \$1.00. Your name printed on them for 25 cents extra.

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S BUSINESS

Mrs. Myron Hyatt, Centerville, Missouri

Scripture: Acts 1:7-14.

Jesus said, "Know ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Luke 2:49. He said also, "Ye did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that ye might go and bear much fruit," John 15:16.

To those who believe the Scriptures the Gospel must ever be not simply a prolongation of other truths, but a new truth, a truth different in kind. Christ Jesus is not simply plus, He is something other; He is God meeting us in our own nature and providing redemption from sin for us. Free Will Baptists assume as their superlative duty the task of bringing to men and women everywhere at home and abroad the Christian message of forgiveness and peace through Jesus Christ, and peace through Jesus Christ, the world's only Saviour.

If Free Will Baptists fulfill this mission they must keep on the main track. They must know what it is all about. They must keep their work to the heavenly note. They must develop a mission conscience and a mission conviction that will create in all their work a soul absorbing passion for a lost world. They must set up the Cross in the heart of their thinking and recapture the spirit of sacrifice. They must take Jesus Christ seriously.

What It Is All About

Paul, speaking of his own attitude toward Christ and the ongoing of the Kingdom of God, says, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," Phil. 3:13, 14.

In the Bible, which we profess to believe, we are told that the risen Christ standing on a mountain side in Galilee, said "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost"

Matt. 28:18, 19. This is the imperial command of the Imperial Christ. Do we believe it? Do we believe that Christ actually stood on that mountain side and told His disciples to go into all the world and disciple the nations? If we do, then let us face this command with its world implications and answer honestly the question, are we taking Jesus Christ seriously?

When Christ is taken seriously, the passion for a lost world becomes a dynamic, flinging men and women out of the monotony of local narrowness onto the world horizon of infinite hope. It was a passion for a lost world, that sent our fathers into the wilderness of the new world as flaming evangelists of the Cross of Christ. This same passion has animated the men and women who have undergone privations, faced dangers, and endured the hardships of life in foreign lands that they might preach Christ to the people that knew Him not. This same passion has inspired the church of Christ in all ages and has kept the fires of spiritual enthusiasm burning on their altars. The passion for a lost world—the mission passion—instituted into Free Will Baptist life will prove to be of untold blessing in world evangelization.

Meaning and Purpose of Missions

The religion of Christ is a missionary religion. The disciples of Christ are to preach the Gospel to every creature. The missionary enterprise includes all the things necessary to give a full and comprehensive presentation of Christ and His redemptive work to the whole world. This is not saving the world; it is evangelizing the world. The missionaries cannot save; it is Christ that saves. The disciples of Christ can witness to Christ; they can preach the Gospel of salvation. "And woe is me," says Paul, "if I preach not the Gospel."

The Gospel is in its essence set forth by Christ in the commission as recorded by Luke: "Thus it is written, and thus it behooved

Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem... And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" Luke 24:46-49.

We have in this passage: (1) the heart of the missionary message—Christ crucified and risen; (2) the reason for preaching Christ to the lost—to secure repentance and remission of sins; (3) the field for the preaching of the Gospel—the whole world; (4) the method of approach to the mission task—from Jerusalem; and (5) the equipment for the missionary task—the divine power promised in the gift of the Holy Spirit. The disciples of Christ are to preach salvation from sin through Christ and Him crucified to the whole world.

If the Great Commission is carried out in full: (1) the Gospel must be preached to all people in all the world; (2) those who accept Christ must be organized into New Testament churches; (3) the results of the missionary efforts everywhere must be consolidated so as to secure a constant and permanent witness to Christ; and (4) commanded so that a Christ-like social order may be established in all the world.

A Vital Gospel Needed Today

Christ alone can save us because Christ alone can redeem and make anew. The tragedy of the race is sin. The need of the human race is redemption. It is the good news of God's forgiving grace which is through the atonement of Christ made available for the whole family of man.

"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee" is a universal cry. There is a longing in every human heart for some power that is greater than his own, some wisdom beyond his own understanding, and some security that can bring assurance to his troubled spirit. Read Romans 10:11-17.

Social and moral conditions in

America constitute a challenge to our work. Let us not think for one moment that America is immune to the devastating influence of atheism, agnosticism, materialism, and paganism that has swept the continent. The seed of decay and ruin have already been sown and are growing into our American way of life.

More than 50 per cent of the adult population of the United States drink intoxicating liquors. In 1934 the average per capita consumption was 10.25 gallons, but in 1945 it increased to 20.53 gallons. There are 407,000 saloons in the United States, and there are more barmaids than there are college girls. According to the report of the Social Service Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1947, there are 60 suicides, 360 murders, and 2,057 other major crimes every 24 hours traceable directly to intoxicants.

American citizens spend for crime 18 billion dollars each year, for drink eight billion dollars, for tobacco 3½ billion dollars, for vacations 10 billion dollars, and for church work one billion dollars. A people spends its money and its energies for those things which it loves.

America cannot be strong in mission service when she is de-

generate in moral living. Only as we strengthen the home front can we hope to have a base from which we can sustain and maintain a worldwide missionary enterprise that will reach the untold millions of the world. America must be missionary at home. Let's begin it in our Free Will Baptist churches.

God Is Calling You

If the world is to have the message of Christ, much of the responsibility of taking that message to the world rests on Free Will Baptists. God has a purpose for Free Will Baptists. No other people has so enjoyed the blessings of our Heavenly Father. They dare not fail. They can prove the sincerity of their appreciation and their love to God only by underwriting with money and with life itself the greatest mission program at home and abroad that has ever been undertaken.

God wants every Christian. It is not enough to give of our time, money, talents, or our resources. We need to surrender our lives to the Lord (Exodus 32:29; Romans 12:1). Be it a call at home or abroad, in factory or in the counting house, on the farm or in the city, in the schoolroom or in the home. God has a place for every life. He has a place for you.

to burst forth in new life in the spring, after being acted upon by the great means God uses to produce material life, that is, the sunshine and the rain. The ugly worm wraps himself in his coffin or cocoon, lying dormant and apparently lifeless for a long season, only to burst forth in winged beauty, which far surpasses his former state. So many organic and geological changes in this great universe, and each tending toward a more perfect condition. Do they not typify that future hope and state of man? Just as life bursts forth in the spring, so it is destined for man on that morning of resurrection to take on that glorious immortal body and wing himself into the great things of God which mortal cannot look upon. Job said, "There is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant."

By the Expenditures and Economy of God

I think all agree that man is the king, or holds dominion over all other creatures. All the six days' work, both the material re-arrangement and bringing forth of the living creatures, was done with but one motive in the great mind of God, namely, preparing for man's habitation; or to bring into existence man—the crowning work of all creation. It is good that man stop along his hurried journey and consider what he has cost, and what he is still costing. I wonder if the swinging of every planet in its place, the holding of every one in its orbit, and perhaps the preserving in order of universe after universe; I wonder if this great eternal exertion, if it could be called such, is not ultimately for the blessing of man.

Then we know man has cost God His Son, and a continual grief in the heart of the Father. All right, in the face of this, and much more that could be mentioned, we are told that the average life of man is only about thirty years. It has been estimated that approximately ten of this is used in sleep during which time there is no knowledge or usefulness. Then at least five of the remaining twenty are taken up in man's infancy during which time there is no real realization. It is thinkable or reasonable that God

THE QUESTION OF LIFE AFTER DEATH

Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Missouri

"If a man die, shall he live again?" Job 14:14.

THE QUESTION OF LIFE AFTER DEATH is one that, to a more or less degree, arises in the mind of every man. Of course, there are some who remind us of the certain husband. Upon his wife's return home from a Woman's Auxiliary meeting, at which gathering they had discussed the question of "life after death," she told her husband of the very interesting and remindful discussion, and asked him what he thought about it all any way. His reply was, "Madam, to tell you the truth, I haven't spent much time thinking about it." There are a great many who treat the question very carelessly.

Job was one of the oldest Scriptural writers, and in his day, this marvelous question was seriously pondered. Let us not get the idea at all that just be-

cause this comes in the form of a question that Job was entertaining a degree of doubt concerning the matter. No! But the very fact that he was pondering the question is evident proof in itself that he believed in immortality.

The Bible is practically filled with Scriptures supporting this great doctrine. The very fact of a Bible is convincing proof of immortality, but there are also many evidences outside of the Bible that tend to prove this great eternal fact.

Life After Death is Indicated By the Physical Universe

So many things of nature seem to be fashioned after the great eternal plan of a future and more perfect life after death. The tiny seeds and roots lie dormant in the earth through the long snowy and cold winter season, only

would go to all this expenditure, and the taking of all these preparatory measures for merely fifteen years of man's real existence? Or if the average of man was the three score and ten it would seem practically as unreasonable. The very fact of the expenditure and economy involved in it all is proof that surely God intended something far greater and more perfect for man than can ever be realized in this life.

By Discussion and Debates Carried On In the Mind Itself

The ideals of man's mind, and he being so prone to be dissatisfied with the present is surely a clear indication of something better and higher. Paul said, "For in this we groan earnestly desiring to be clothed with our house which is from heaven," II Cor. 5:2. Regardless of our state of well-being here, we yet remain dissatisfied creatures. Is it not because there is an independent spiritual nature or soul within man that will never be satisfied till we awake in His likeness? We can satisfy the natural desires of the animal, and he lays perfectly quiet and satisfied till some natural desire arouses him. Give man everything a heart could wish for, and still he is a restless being. The painter is never satisfied with his paintings, the business men are never satisfied with their returns, the statesman never satisfied with his gains, the general never satisfied with his victories. The mind is always anticipating something greater; always entertaining an ideal. We call them air-castles sometimes, but they are within themselves proof of the future state of man. I do not think it is reasonable that man would be compelled to go through this life having never gained his ideals entirely, nor fully realized his anticipations, and then be ushered out into non-existence. The mind or spiritual nature of man is entirely independent of matter and entirely indestructible, and the soul housed in this tenement of clay is, and will be like the eagle which the boy begged from the store keeper in the country store in the valley. The captivated eagle was walking back and forth in the window with a longing look into the mountains in the distance. The boy being permitted to take the eagle outside, deliberately clipped the band from her foot and set her out of hand. The eagle spread her broad wings and soared away into the distance, and the boy heard her give a scream of joy as she soared over the

mountains. Upon being asked why he let the eagle loose, he gave this logical reply, "She didn't belong down here." So it is with us in this mortal captive state, we don't belong down here, and will not have to stay in this limited state always. Surely, as one has said: This life must be only the infancy of man's real life, the mere vestibule of man's real existence.

OUR CONCEPTION OF GOD SINCE THE BIRTH OF HIS SON

It is difficult to imagine oneself living in an age prior to the birth of Christ. It is difficult to imagine the limited conception of God the people must have had who lived in those ages previous to His first advent. They knew God as a God of wrath, judgment and power, but they must have had very little conception of His attributes of love, mercy and compassion. He is a God of wrath, judgment and power, yes, but He is also a God of unfathomable love and mercy. All the attributes of God were made manifest in the person of His Son Jesus Christ, but in a very special manner were manifested His attributes of love and tender compassion.

Jesus declared God, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him." Jno. 1:18.

Jesus made God tangible, "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life." I John 1:1.

Jesus was God clothed in human flesh, "...the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us," John 1:14. "...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father." John 14:9.

The incarnate Christ is called the Word. As words utter thought so Christ uttered God. We clothe our thoughts in words that we hereby may identify them to another, so Christ was clothed in human flesh that God might be identified in Him. Jesus manifested God; He revealed God; He displayed God; He simplified Deity.

Man had thought of God as

one able to fling shooting stars and blazing suns out into space, hang them upon nothing and hold them there. Man had thought of God as given to the pronunciation of judgment upon human weaklings, as one ready to pour out His wrath without mixture upon the children of disobedience. When the great I Am was moving upon Sinai the people stood at the foot of the mount and literally trembled with fear. Not even a beast was to touch the mount lest it die. Yes, this was the only conception man was privileged to have of God. Man had never thought of Him as taking children in His arms and blessing them; as becoming tired and sitting upon a well top to rest; as weeping tears on the way to the burial place over the death of a friend; or as looking upon the multitude and having tender compassion on them. All this is the glorious conception we are privileged to have of God since He was made manifest in the person of His only begotten Son. What a privilege. What a wonderful dispensation in which to live. What beautiful pictures the minds eye can see as one reads of the loving ministry of Christ as He walked among men. What love wells up in the human breast as man gives serious thought to the matchless love of God as seen in the life, suffering and death of Jesus. The poet was surely inspired of Him as he penned the wonderful words:

"Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the sky of parchment made,
And every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry,
And were the whole made in a scroll
Would reach from sky to sky."

Marvelous words indeed, yet with all the magnitude of thought as set forth in these words they do not begin to tell all as concerning the matchless love of God.

We are a highly privileged people if mankind would but take knowledge of it. We live in the most wonderful dispensation of any since the age of innocence in the Garden of Eden. We have a little nearer approach unto God, through the loving Son, than man



From The Editor's Desk



STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD DECIDES NO LITERATURE TO BE PUBLISHED AT GEM

Last month we came to you with a clear cut announcement in the Gem that League literature would be ready for shipment by December 15. Most of the programs for the first quarter of 1950 were compiled and in hand ready for publication. Then on November 4 the State Executive Board (Home Mission) Board met for the purpose of approving the programs and after a further discussion of the matter decided to stop the procedure and publish no literature whatsoever, either League or Sunday School. Now we must come to you this month with just the opposite announcement. The November issue of the Gem was going in the mail the very day the Board passed the above decision, so we could not make any change in the announcement as it went out to you last month. The announcement in the November issue was made under the direction of the State Board. I was only saying what they had told me to say in a previous board meeting here at the office. Now I am saying again what they told me to say; that is, there will be no literature published. The reason, they say, is they are not financially able to do it. They figure they will run into too much of a deficit before the year is out.

MISS BOWE NO LONGER EMPLOYED AT GEM OFFICE

In the same meeting in which the Board decided to publish no literature they also decided to dismiss the newly employed secretary, Miss Gertrude Bowe, as a means of further saving in finance. It is indeed regrettable that Gertrude cannot stay with the office, as she is highly capable and is needed here. Furthermore, she has trained herself to work with and in the interest of our denominational work, and desires to do nothing but Christian service. Please be informed that there was

no objection to Gertrude or her work. It was done for the purpose of economy in carrying on the work. Gertrude has made a splendid contribution to the work here even during her very short stay. She has done many things for the betterment of the office work from a business standpoint. Her services here terminated November 30. As she goes from here we pray the Lord to direct her into a field where she can be of useful service.

EDITOR-MANAGER RESIGNS

On November 7, I mailed my resignation as Editor-Manager of the Free Will Baptist Gem to the Chairman of the State Executive (Home Mission) Board, said resignation to take effect November 30, 1949. Naturally, you are wondering why. The principle reason is that I have too much work to do. I do not feel I can carry it any longer. Since the Board has dismissed the secretary, that places all the office and secretarial work on me in both the Gem and Foreign Mission departments, as she was working for both departments. It is more than I can do. I do not feel I can shoulder it again as I have done in the past.

I am leaving the office with a clear conscience and with no ill will in my heart. I have worked hard and at great sacrifice for the success of the Gem. I realize it means much for one to say they have done their best, but I feel I can just about make that statement and make it with a clear feeling. Under the existing circumstances I have just about done my best. I wish to thank every one out over the field for the hearty co-operation you have given me the two years and over that I have been with the Gem. You have been very good indeed. I have nothing but well wishes for the Gem and its constituency. Whatever plans the Board may work out for the further carrying on of the work I shall be praying for its success.

MONEY FOR AUTOMATIC JOB PRESS YET ON HAND

Many of you have made contributions toward the purchase of an automatic job press for the Gem office. As I leave the Gem November 30, as Editor-Manager, the exact figure in this special fund stands at \$540.74. We leave the money at the Gem for this purpose. I wanted you to know it is yet in safe keeping and has not been used otherwise. I trust the day may soon come when this needed piece of equipment can be added to the Gem enterprise. In fact, we thought we just about had the purchase made a few days ago, but because of it not being quite what we wanted we decided to not make the purchase but wait for a better buy.

NATIONAL MINUTES

Additional copies of the 1949 Associational Minutes may be secured from Rev. C. F. Bowen, 518 Woodland Street, Nashville, Tennessee. PLEASE STATE HOW MANY NEEDED.

FOR EVANGELISTIC WORK

Rev. and Mrs. Randall Thomason of 2132 S. Compton Avenue, St. Louis 4, Missouri, are available for evangelistic work. These are young people, both ministers, and members of the Third Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis, Missouri. They go where called. You may reach them at the above address.

DECISION OF STATE BOARD CONCERNING PUBLISHING OF LITERATURE

After careful consideration and much prayer concerning the printing of the League and Sunday-School literature, the Executive Board deems it wise to postpone the printing of such at this time.

F. C. Zinn, Chairman
Harry Beatty, Secretary
John Bough, member
Paul Williams, member
(absent from meeting)
LaVerne Miley, member
(absent from meeting)

NEWSY BRIEFS

REPORTS - LETTERS ANNOUNCEMENTS - OBITUARIES

GOD BLESSING NEW WORK AT SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

Salinas, California

Dear Gem Readers:

"Oh give thanks unto the Lord; call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people!"

I'm sure many of our people will rejoice to know a new Free Will Baptist Church, the only one in this region, has been organized in Salinas, California. This church is the outgrowth of a deep desire on the part of a few of our faithful folk for a church home, who have put action to their prayers and launched forth by faith to start a work.

In October, 1948, a small group rented a building and began holding regular services, with Bro. Wm. Johnson acting as pastor. There were also some unsaved who had respect to God's cause, and were sympathetic toward the F. W. B. work, who assisted in many ways, one family even donating the use of their piano. Despite what would seem reverse circumstances from a natural point of view, such as uncertain working conditions, illness of the good pastor, etc., the people of the Lord began to place His stamp of approval upon their efforts by manifesting Himself in the salvation of the lost; and more abundantly by calling one of the very fine young men, Bro. Earnest Snowden, to the ministry of His Blessed Gospel. Praise His Name!

In August, 1949, Bro. Clyde Rutledge of San Francisco, held a two weeks revival during which time there were a number of conversions. On August 28, a council of three ordained ministers, Bros. Wm. Johnson, Clyde Rutledge and Neil Moore, met and organized a Free Will Baptist Church with 12 members. Bro. Rutledge was elected pastor; Sis. Nekita Snowden, Sec'y. Treas., and Bro. Charles Van Horn, deacon. Another brother, J. V. Meek, already an ordained deacon, became deacon by placing his membership.

Just recently the church enjoyed a two week revival with Bro. George McLain, of Richmond, and Bro. Rutledge doing the preaching. God gloriously blessed in the salvation of souls. On the last Sunday morning of the

meeting Bro. Wm. Johnson brought the message, and it was accompanied by a great outpouring of the Spirit as a whole family were united spiritually.

The church has been fortunate in that God has sent so many good servants, laity and ministers alike, to encourage the work. Many have driven miles to lend their inspiration. The members of Firebaugh, the closest church, and their good pastor, Bro. Pierce, have driven over a hundred miles any number of times. Quite a number of others have visited through the months; and frequently Bro. J. D. Adkinson and Bro. Neil Moore, of Watsonville and Castroville respectively, have blessed the church by their presence. For all this the church is humbly grateful.

Recently a Junior and Senior League was organized, with every indication of growth and a blessing to the church.

I'm sure if these good people continue to meet the requirements, God will continue to bless with a great future for this little church. Will each of you constantly bring its cause before God as you meditate and pray, that He may bless many "lost" men and women, boys and girls, through its efforts?

Yours in His dear name,

Thora H. Arbogast

HANFORD, CALIFORNIA FWB START BUILDING PROGRAM

We, the Free Will Baptist Church of Hanford, California, are happy to report we have started a new church building program. We trust God will help us with the things we need in our efforts to promote a true work for Him. May each reader, if a Christian, be found doing good work. We desire the prayers from all, and welcome our friends to visit the Hanford Church at any time.

Mrs. Elva Lambert, Reporter

ILLINOIS S. S. ALLIANCE IN SEMI-ANNUAL MEET

I think everyone agreed that the Sunday School Alliance which met at the Nasen Church on October 22, 1949, was one of the greatest in its history.

During the morning business session an Illinois Youth Camp was dis-

cussed. A committee was appointed to talk over plans for a Youth Camp on the tabernacle grounds at Benton, Illinois. We pray our enthusiasm will not die and we will have our Youth Camp next summer.

Ronald Creech, a student in the Free Will Baptist Bible College, delivered the morning message. He used as his text, "Scars For Jesus."

In the afternoon, Roger Reeds of Missouri sang a song entitled "All Upon the Altar." Wanda Edwards of Missouri and also a student down at the Bible College, spoke on the needs of the young people of today to make the church of tomorrow. Mt. Vernon Church presented a program which was enjoyed by everyone.

Maurine Edwards opened the evening services with devotionals. Billy Morris and Ronald Creech gave readings and also their testimonies. The Bear Point Church had the program for the evening and they received a banner for having the best program.

Rev. Wallace Malone, President
Miss Patricia Norris, Clerk

CALIFORNIA CENTER ASS'N.

The Ministers' and Deacons' meeting of Center Association convened with Pixley Church October 28-29, 1949. The program was as follows:

October 28—7:30 P. M.

Song service directed by Emmett Clagg. Devotional conducted by Rev. Johnson. Message by Rev. P. E. Lambert.

October 29—9:30 A. M.

Song service directed by W. M. Rush. President's Message by Rev. J. L. Wattman. "How We Can Better Evangelize California," by Rev. Lester Davis. Welcome by host pastor. Response by Rev. Dean Moore. 11:00 a.m. song service directed by O. D. Scroggins. Message by Rev. A. R. Deaton. Lunch served by the ladies of the church.

Afternoon

"Is Tithing a New Testament Doctrine?" by Rev. Earl Jensen. "Where Does the Soul Go at Death?" by Rev. H. E. Dixon. Adjournment.

Those Present

Ministers: J. R. Evans, Orange Cove; J. W. Waltman, W. M. Johnson and J. P. Pierce, Turlock; O. H. Doss and

Joy Freeman, Kerman; Emmett Clogg, R. C. Hampton and Dean Moore, Porterville; Walter Brown and Austin Deaton, Bakersfield; Wm. R. Morris, Lester Davis and Earl Jensen, Selma; C. M. McCulley, Tulare; W. A. Huddleston, Sanger; J. E. Bridges, Cutler; Noble Barlow, Del Ray, and P. E. Lambert, Hanford.

Deacons: H. H. Stout and James Gullett, Porterville; Roy A. Wade and Preston Overstreet, Tulare; Denton Calvin, Sanger; J. B. Smith, Arvin; A. H. Winters, Parlier; N. J. Gibbins, Ripley; Rodney Kemp, W. J. Rush, J. H. Hall, Lee Ramsey and J. M. Roland, Kerman, and Mural Seisner, Pixley.

Mrs. Elva Lambert, Reporter

BERKELEY CITY CHURCH

St. Louis, Missouri
November 17, 1949

Dear Gem Readers:

It is with pleasure we report the continued progress of our Church at 8912 Flavia Ave.

Last month our pastor, Rev. Bob Hill, was ordained as a minister. Bro. Dees delivered the message. There was a full house and we enjoyed the special singing by Southside Church. All in all it was a wonderful service and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our League is growing in number and we pray we will continue to do so in the future.

We thank God for our Ladies Auxiliary who have been very helpful in the progress of our Church.

We plan to start a revival November 28, and we ask the prayers of all the Gem readers that God will bless the services and many souls will be saved.

Mrs. Gusta Barks, Correspondent

F. W. B. TRI-STATE FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING

The Tri-State Free Will Baptist Fifth Sunday meeting was held at Mt. Olive Church October 30, 1949. Rev. R. C. Woods preached the introductory sermon; scripture from the second chapter of St. Luke. A soul stirring message was given, followed by congregational singing. Dinner was served and at 1:15 the Moderator, Rev. F. E. Crain, called the meeting to order by the congregation singing "I Chose Jesus." Scripture—the 9th chapter of Hebrews read by Rev. Crain. Prayer by Bro. Hubert Green. Message by Rev. Henderson from Cor. 3:11. Song

by Granby Quartet, "I Am Satisfied With Jesus." Message by Rev. Bert Wolgamott; scripture from St. Mark 11:22. Song by Mt. Olive Church, "Where He Leads I'll Follow." Message by Rev. Elda Crain from Job 25:1. Solo by Sis. Ott Green, "The Upper Window." Message by Rev. Orville Johnston; scripture, Luke 11:52. Message by Rev. Sanders from Deut. 32:11. Song by the South Picher Church, "I'm Getting Ready to Go Home." Message by Rev. R. C. Woods; scripture, Acts 7:51. Quartet from Bell Fast Baptist, "Kneel at the Cross." Message by Rev. Noman Green; scripture, II Tim. 3:12. Duet, Rev. Elda Crain and her mother Emeline Crain, "I'll Live in Glory." Message by Rev. Himbree from Roman 13:1-3. Message by Rev. F. E. Crain from Matt. 21:25; Luke 7:28-30, and I Tim. 4:14. Rev. Crain preached a wonderful sermon that was enjoyed by all. Message by Rev. Friend; scripture, Rev. 2:2.

The next Tri-State Free Will Baptist Fifth Sunday Meeting, which will be January 29, 1950, will be held at Granby, Missouri. Rev. Noman Green was elected to bring the introductory message.

Rev. F. E. Crain, Moderator
Beulah Owens, Clerk

SOUTHSIDE F. W. B. CHURCH

St. Louis, Missouri
November 18, 1949

Dear Gem Readers:

I am happy to report the wonderful way in which God is blessing our little Southside Free Will Baptist Church at 5418 Idaho St.

Eleven precious souls have been saved in our little church in the last three weeks. God is truly blessing us. We also wish to thank God for sending us a great leader in Rev. Harvey E. Hill and his family.

Our Sunday School classes are enjoyed by all. Our little tots sing special numbers frequently. At our Wednesday night prayer meetings the adults and children as well, sing and pray and have a wonderful time. God is blessing our League and we ask God's children to pray for its continued success. Our Lady's Auxiliary gave a plate lunch supper, and it was a great success. Everyone had a good time.

In closing we ask your prayers that God will continue to bless us in His own precious way, and that many more souls will be saved.

Dorothy Beard, Cor. Secy.

NIANGUA QUARTERLY MEET

The Niangua Quarterly Meeting convened with the Hopewell Church near Tunis on October 28, 1949. The pastor, Rev. Curtis Wilson, brought the first message of the day. At 10:00 o'clock Rev. Leo Curtis brought the message. At the 11:00 o'clock hour Rev. McClaster brought the message. At 2:00 o'clock Rev. Mancel Cline and Rev. Wilson brought another message. At the night service Rev. Leo Curtis and Rev. Geo. Sturdevant filled the stand, after which the Lord's Supper was taken and was followed by washing of the saints feet. A most wonderful day was had. Our next meeting will be at the Buffalo Church, and all are invited.

Georgia McDaniel, Clerk

OKLAHOMA MISSION AMONG CHOCTOW INDIANS

Wilburton, Oklahoma

Dear Gem Readers:

We of Eastern Oklahoma wish to report a new work. On the first Sunday of September Rev. John B. Elliston organized the Free Will Baptist Fellowship Mission here in Wilburton. We began with 17 members and now have 23 members.

Our Mission is a branch from the Central Avenue Free Will Baptist Church of Oklahoma City where Rev. J. Reford Wilson is pastor. Rev. Elliston was formerly pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilburton before his resignation to start a Mission. At least half of our members of the Mission are Choctaw Indians and a large number of Indians attend who aren't members.

We now have an average of 37 attending Sunday School. Our Senior League averages 12 and the Junior League 8. Our midweek prayer services have an average of 30, which we are very thankful for.

The fastest growing branch of our Mission is our Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. Gladys Elliston is the president. We began with eight members and now have 16, and the last month ran an average of 11 members attending.

We ask the prayers of all the readers that this work will grow and God be given glory. Truly the harvest is white in Eastern Oklahoma. The laborers are so very few. Pray that the Lord will send others here to help us.

Mrs. Gladys Elliston, Pres.

Mrs. Tom Noah, Sec'y-Treas.

"LOOK ON US"

Dear Gem Readers:

I hope you will forgive me for waiting so long to renew my subscription to the paper. I have been reading this week and thinking how many times I have failed God, and to fail our good F. W. B. paper is to fail God.

As I read this week one verse of scripture appealed to me and I would like to pass on these thoughts and to base my thoughts on this verse. Acts 3:4 "And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us."

Now he was speaking to the lame man that sat by the gate of the temple. First he had to see the man and to see that he needed help. I believe Peter and John were spiritual men and could see this man's spiritual need as well as the physical need. Although this man was a beggar, they had time to stop and help him. Peter said, "Look on us." This was requiring something on the beggars part. This was not asking much, but he had to be willing to do it. So the world is today sitting outside the gate, crippled by sin, and asking for help. You will notice that when anyone is down and out and broke they usually come to the church or to Christian people for help and comfort, which is as it should be. Then that places responsibility on us and we must be in condition as was Peter and John. We must be ready to say "Look on us."

Peter and John didn't want him to see them as men, because they were poor men too; but they were living a life they knew he could see Jesus in. Today if we are living as God would have us to, we will not have to tell people. It will shine out. To do this we have to do as John and Peter. When it comes time for church or prayer meeting we must be on our way to pray. I believe it takes more and more prayer every day.

If the world is to look on us we must be very careful how we live. Rom. 14:21 says, "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." We hear people say, "If this or that condemns me, I will stop it." Now I believe it is possible to offend or make weak with out being "condemned" as they call it. I was speaking to a boy this week about smoking and I told him that if he would quit smoking it might not be easy; but if he would quit, and

show God he could and would, God would open the windows of Heaven and pour out a blessing on him that he could hardly contain.

I could go on and name a host of things we as Christians should be very careful about so that we can say to the world, "Look on us," but I will close. I want every thing I do or say or write to be for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom.

May God bless you and our paper.

Willard Darnell, Flat River, Mo.

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

October, 1949

STATE UNIFIED FUND

Aulsbury Chapel.....	\$ 36.50
Myrtle	8.61
Mert's Chapel S. S.	10.00
Leadington S. S.	5.86
Oak Grove.....	11.00
Mine LaMotte.....	6.20
Fredericktown	197.76
Flat River.....	155.56
St. Louis Southside.....	20.00
Carterville	10.46
Mert's Chapel.....	14.10

Total\$476.05

EXPANSION PROGRAM FUND

Hazel Creek Union.....	\$ 16.03
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FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Sublette	\$ 12.40
Hartville	10.00
Buffalo	5.62
Twin Oaks	5.45
Hickory Grove.....	10.55
Union Light.....	17.00
Amity	10.00
Hazel Creek Union.....	21.38
Verdella	24.00
Hartville	10.00
Geo. Watson, Myrtle.....	2.00
Nettie Harrell, Monett.....	1.00
Pauline Henderson, Purdy.....	1.00
Mrs. Cleve Hightower, Niangua	5.00
New Harmony.....	5.00
Green Grove.....	5.00
Lizzie Turner, Carterville	5.00
Rev. & Mrs. H. Hoover, C'ville.	6.00
F. E. Shepherd, Purdy.....	5.00
Mary B. Peck, Hannon.....	4.00
Philadelphia (Muddy)	6.77
Nellie Graves, Granby.....	1.00
June Bailey, Granby.....	1.00
W. A. Bailey, Granby.....	1.00
Mrs. P. E. Cook, Liberal.....	3.00
Mr. & Mrs. S. Smith, Hartville	1.00
T. C. Ferguson, Weatherby....	1.00
Leadington	15.00
Timothy J. Ewing, Kirksville.	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Deckard, N'gua.	2.00

Blue Eye.....	7.80
Mary Halbrook, Farmington...	1.00
A friend, Hartville.....	10.00
Clena Filkins, Kirksville.....	5.00
Mrs. G. D. McCubbins, Conway	3.00
J. T. Montgomery, C. Junction	5.00
Gertrude Bowe, Monett.....	3.00
Mr. & Mrs. O. D. Crepps,	
Flat River.....	10.00
Mrs. Ivan Helsley, Hartville...	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. C. F. Dunn, H'ville.	20.00
C. A. Crooks, Worthington.....	20.00
Fellowship (for Wilfongs).....	150.00
Samantha Fowler, Green City...	5.00

Total\$445.97

MISSIONS FUND

New Harmony S. S.	\$ 44.88
Jewel	18.10
Union Third Fork S. S.	5.00
Mcnett	34.08
Fredericktown	25.60
Stahl	7.00
Rev. & Mrs. Archie Cooper,	
Kirksville	5.00
Golden Oak S. S. & League....	6.25
Hannon	5.00
Carterville	7.55
Flat River.....	37.13
Macedonia	20.00
Mountain Grove	21.39
Mt. Olive (Neola).....	5.85
Hannon League.....	70.00
Kansas City.....	25.00
Mt. Zion.....	20.00
Independence	14.44
C. W. Mo. 5th Sunday.....	15.82
St. Louis 3rd S. S.	23.65
Rack Chapel.....	31.07
Opal Frazier, Monett.....	1.00
Mrs. Coy Rader, Niangua.....	1.00

Total\$454.81

TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE FUND

Hazel Creek Union S. S.,	
Sunbeam Class.....	\$ 15.00
Hazel Creek Union.....	5.34

Total\$ 20.34

Marie Hyatt, Treasurer

REPORT OF CARETAKER

Just a line to report the activities at the Camp. We are enjoying ourselves as we go about our work improving the Camp site. I am glad to say that as I go about my work, I can feel that sacredness that we have so rejoiced in as we enter the grounds. The right-of-way for the electricity is surveyed ready to start work. The kitchen is ready for siding, concrete foundation size 10x20, ready to start

on concrete floor. The mattresses are all stored away for the winter; also, other supplies.

The grounds are being readied for beautifying the site. Does anyone have, or know where we can get 1,000 or 1,200 iris plants or jonquills? We plan to put them along the road and walks. If you have them, please let me hear from you or just mail them to me at Niangua, Missouri. We can use any kind of flower you would like to send. We are depending on you to help us.

Yours for a better camp,
Bill, Vada and Kenneth Reeves
FINANCIAL REPORT

September 15 - October 15, 1949

Brought Forward.....\$246.09
Received:

Rev. and Mrs.

D. Self Jones.....\$ 42.10

Myrtle 2.86

Niangua League..... 10.30

Carterville S. S. 5.00

Fredericktown 21.93

Southside 20.00

Leadington League..... 1.00

Leadington S. S. 1.00

Flat River 13.40

Bill, Vada and

Kenneth Reeves..... 45.56

Total 163.15

Grand Total.....\$409.24

Disbursements:

Floyd Letterman, 1100 ft.

lumber, 2 loads gravel \$ 53.80

Haymes & Haymes

(notary service) 1.50

Stigman Lumber Co. 3.89

Wm. Reeves,

salary 4 weeks..... 50.00

Total 109.09

Balance on Hand.....\$300.15

YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Brought for'd from 1948-49....\$247.90

Received Sept. 1 to 15:

Fredericktown\$ 26.19

Mill Creek..... 3.00

Rev. & Mrs. A. Cooper.. 2.00

Total 31.19

Grand Total.....\$279.09

Expenditures:

Wm. Reeves,

salary for 3 weeks...\$ 30.00

Postage and supplies.... 3.00

Total 33.00

Balance\$246.09

Board Members are as follows:

Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Chairman...1950

Ira Walton1951

Rev. Rolla Smith.....1952

Rev. O. T. Allred.....1953

Rev. Wm. Reeves, Sec'y-Treas. ...1954

Rev. Wm. Reeves, Niangua, Mo.

TULSA WOMEN REORGANIZE

On Thursday, September 29, 1949, the women of Lewis Avenue Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, met and reorganized the Woman's Auxiliary. Rev. Leona Mayfield, First Vice-President of the First Mission District Auxiliary, was in charge. The following officers were elected:

PresidentVerdun Bingham

1st ViceLeona Mayfield

2nd ViceBeulah Pirtle

3rd Vice.....Lilleth Pirtle

4th Vice.....Erlene Wren

5th Vice.....Helen Seaton

Sec'y-Treas.Evelyn Mayfield

The following members were elected for committee work: Cherry Fipps, Enlistment; LaVern Lee and Juanita Armstrong, Program and Publicity; Dora Turley and Libby Collins, Personal Service; Beulah Sisemore, Velma Smith and Florence Rutledge, Social Committee. Cherry Fipps was elected chairman of the Bazaar Committee with Beulah Sisemore and Lilleth Pirtle members. A bazaar will be held at the parsonage December 6 and all proceeds will go to the Woman's Auxiliary. The ladies enjoyed a covered dish luncheon and after the business session we went to a home for cottage prayer meeting.

We began our new work with 20 members and the second week we met in a home for cottage prayer meeting and God graciously saved a mother and since then she has united with our church. Nineteen ladies were present for this meeting.

On October 27 the ladies met for a covered dish luncheon at the church and seven ladies presented themselves for membership. The field is already white and God is sending new workers our way. We are enjoying marvelous fellowship and the women are active in all phases of the work.

Erlene Wren, 4th Vice-President

REPORTS THREE REVIVALS

On Tuesday following the State Association, we began a meeting at our Pleasant Grove Church near Ander-

son, Missouri. Rev. Ray Markley, of Joplin, is the pastor of this church. We enjoyed two weeks of splendid fellowship with Bro. Markley, his church, and the good people of other churches of the community.

On the third Sunday in October we began a meeting with our church at Myrtle, Missouri, in Oregon County. Rev. Billy Rogers, of Thayer, helped us in this meeting. Besides enjoying a good revival we were privileged to attend a Quarterly meeting at Poca-hontas, Ark., also the Cave Springs Q. M. at the Walnut Grove Church. We enjoyed the fellowship of the children of God at each of these places.

On the 1st Sunday of November, we began a meeting with our church at Blue Eye, Missouri, where Rev. Winford Davis is pastor. Rev. Roger Reeds, of St. Louis, helped us in this meeting.

In each of these meetings we were privileged to witness people come to an old fashioned altar of prayer and accept Christ as their Saviour. Also in each of these meetings we had prayer service at the church where Christians met to study the Word, sing, testify, and to pray for the lost. These day services prove to be a great blessing to all who attend.

Yours for the Master,

Rev. O. T. Allred

JAMES WORDEN HICOK

James Worden Hicok, one of the oldest members of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park, Michigan, departed this life November 8, 1949, at Pontiac, Michigan. Mr. Hicok came to the State of Michigan in 1882 from Kingston, Ontario. He was one of the most devoted members of the church and a great supporter of the Missions program. He leaves four daughters, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, in addition to many friends. Funeral services were held at his church Thursday afternoon, November 10, by his pastor, Rev. H. E. Willis. Burial was at Belding, Michigan.

(Continued from page 5)

has had since before the fall. Do we appreciate it? Let's try to spend this coming Christmas season with recognition given to these truths, and with these thoughts preeminent in our minds. May we truly keep Christ in Christmas.

PLEASE GIVE US A CHANCE

Gertrude Bowe, Secretary of S. S. Board

In July, 1947, at the Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church, Highland Park, Michigan, the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention met in session after a period of inactivity since 1944. There was very poor representation, which was to be expected, and the Convention decided to request the National Association to set up a National Sunday School Board. This request was fulfilled, but those present at the Sunday School Convention were not of the opinion at that time that we should do away with the Convention. Consequently, the result was that there were two organizations to carry on the same work; and in its practical working, the Convention carried on as it had been doing and the National Sunday School Board existed in name only for there were no funds or authority with which to work.

This condition existed until August, 1949, when at Bryan, Texas, a resolution was presented to the National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention to turn all business (including funds) of the Convention into the hands of the Board, and that the Convention should continue annually as an organization for information and inspiration in reference to the Sunday School work.

With some revision this resolution passed. The directors of the Convention were eliminated and the Convention voted that its President, Vice-president, and Secretary-Treasurer should continue for the coming year to work with the National Sunday School Board. The Convention voted \$100 from the Treasury for the Board. This was to be used to cover traveling expenses to a called session of the Board in conjunction with the officers of the Convention. The Convention designated that the Board should call a meeting before November 1, 1949, and designated certain items of business to be considered.

The Board meeting was called, as directed, for October 4, 1949, at Tulsa, Oklahoma. All but one member of the Board were present and business was entered into. It was impossible to complete these matters though the Board feels that progress was made. Consequently, though the Board has no more funds to call a meeting, it was agreed that those present at the

Bible Conference at Free Will Baptist Bible College in April, 1950, would meet and continue the business it was impossible to complete in the October 4 meeting.

Now, this shows you under what handicaps your National Sunday School Board is working. Questions are being raised over the field: What is our Sunday School Board doing? We want better literature. And other criticisms. We feel these things keenly, believe it or not. We are as convinced as many of you that our Sunday School literature is not adequate, BUT PLEASE GIVE US A CHANCE. This is the first opportunity we have had to function as a Board.

At the Board meeting October 4, some proposed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Convention were considered that will, we believe, make it possible for the Board to handle all business matters and make the Convention a place of information, inspiration and instruction. The matter of literature was thoroughly considered and the Secretary of the Board is now in correspondence with a view to learning what possibilities there are for securing graded literature particularly for the children's classes. Also, under consideration is the matter of changing from the International Uniform Series of Sunday School lessons which are now so thoroughly dominated by modernists and modernism to the new Uniform Bible Series of lessons. The Ayden Press has expressed its desire to co-operate with the Sunday School Board, BUT IT TAKES TIME. It is impossible to change over night. Please, please give us a chance!

There are some things you out there on the field can do to help us as a Board. We have faced questions and criticism time and time again, but we just couldn't do anything to better the situation. Now, we are giving you a chance to help us. After all, having a form of government, you have a right to express your opinions and to vote on all questions. WE ARE GIVING YOU THE OPPORTUNITY, and we don't want you to continue with your questionings and not let us know about it.

Now, here are some things you can do: (1) PRAY for your Board. Ask

God to grant wisdom in all business matters. We are not infallible; we do not claim to be. But we do want to work out these problems to the glory of God. You can help us by praying. Through prayer we shall be endowed with wisdom, strength, tolerance, and all the other virtues necessary to be a public servant. That is what one is in such a position. (2) PRAY concerning your own attitude. Do you really want to see our Sunday School work progress to the glory of God? Do you have our boys and girls at heart? Do you see them as the future of our Denomination? If your attitude is not right, confess it to God and make it right. Then come to the 1950 Convention determined to gain help to carry on in your local Sunday School. (3) If you have suggestions to make, your Board is happy to receive them. Put them in writing and send them to the Board. Don't just see so much wrong and do nothing about it. You sin when you fail to do what you can. And you can let us have your suggestions in writing. (4) Then you can help financially. All the money your Convention has received has been from the offerings brought by organizations to the annual conventions. You have not been petitioned for funds during the year; but you could help by including an offering to the Sunday School Board in your offerings made to various denominational enterprises. If you feel directed of the Spirit to send an offering either as an individual or church, send it to the Secretary-Treasurer and you will be receipted for same. (5) You can start now to make plans for representing your Sunday School at the 1950 Convention. The 1950 Convention has been invited to Mississippi by the East Tupelo Free Will Baptist Church, East Tupelo, Mississippi. The pastor is the Rev. Luther D. Gibson, a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College and a member of the National Sunday School Board of Free Will Baptists.

Your Board plans to have a complete report of activities to present to the 1950 National Association. We want to do things to the glory of God and the betterment of our Sunday Schools over the states. We would like to accomplish the object of the Convention as expressed in its Constitution: "The object of this organization is the encouragement and promotion of Sunday School betterments throughout the churches of the Free Will Baptist

tist Denomination. Section 2. Sunday School betterments shall include: a more definite object, UNIFORMITY OF SYSTEM, A FRATERNAL INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS, and the bringing together of Christian workers for information and inspiration."

The members of the National Sunday School Board of Free Will Baptists are: Rev. John H. West, 833 North Utica, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Chairman; Rev. Luther Gibson, East Tupelo, Mississippi, Vice-chairman; Miss Gertrude Bowe, P. O. Box 285, Monett, Missouri, Secretary-Treasurer; Rev. M. L. Sutton, Box 48, Arlington, Texas, and Rev. William Mishler, Cedar Hill, Tennessee.

GIVE US A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING, WON'T YOU? If we fail, it can be largely your fault. PLEASE GIVE US A CHANCE.

CENTRAL TEXAS DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Central Texas District Woman's Auxiliary convened with Houston Free Will Baptist Church September 20, 1949. Theme: Lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes—Isaiah 54:2. The morning session was opened by a song, "Higher Ground." Prayer by Bro. Barrow of Bryan. Devotion by Mrs. C. H. Moehlman. Welcome address by Mrs. J. L. Bounds. Response by Sis. Lizzie McAdams. President's message by Mrs. Alvin Halbrook. Reading of Minutes by Mrs. Ruby Withers. Seating of delegates, appointment of committees.

"Lengthen thy cords through Enrollment," by Mrs. J. Vance. "Lengthen thy cords through Missions," by Sis. Lizzie McAdams. Recess.

Song, "Send the Light." Solo—"Now I Belong to Jesus," Rev. P. A. Harris. Morning message by Rev. P. A. Harris. Benediction. Lunch.

Afternoon Session: Devotions by Mrs. Opal Kochl. "Strengthen thy stakes through Christian Education," by Mrs. Ruby Withers, 2nd Vice-President. "Strengthen thy stakes through Stewardship," by Mrs. H. Ray Berry, 4th Vice-President. "Strengthen thy stakes through Personal Service," by Mrs. C. Goen.

Treasurer's report by Mrs. Maxwell. Committee reports and miscellaneous business. New resolutions: (1) Mrs. Bean be replaced as field worker by Sis. Lizzie McAdams. (2) All Vice-Presidents get their reports in 10 days before District meetings. (3) That

each delegate, if detained, appoint or advise someone to take her place before district meetings.

The "One Dollar" Club for the mission car was organized. All collections will be sent to the District Treasurer. Sis. Lizzie McAdams invited the next district meeting to Huntsville. Benediction by Mrs. Alvin Halbrook.

New officers: President—Mrs. Alvin Halbrook, R. F. D. Box 208, Bryan; 1st Vice—Mrs. H. Ray Berry, 1031 E. 14th Street, Houston; 2nd Vice—Mrs. Ruby Withers, Box 139, Bryan; 3rd Vice—Mrs. A. J. Hearne, West 26th Street, Bryan; 4th Vice—Mrs. Opal Kochl, Box 177, Huntsville; 5th Vice—Mrs. N. C. Cole, R. F. D. 3, Bryan; Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. J. L. Vance, 203 N. Baker, Bryan; Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. J. B. Wade, 6409 Sherman, Houston; District Field Director—Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, 916 Ave. M, Huntsville.

Mrs. J. B. Wade, Cor. Sec'y.

JOSEPH SHERMAN REEVES

Joseph Sherman Reeves, an aged resident of Irondale, Missouri, passed away on Wednesday, November 16.

He was the son of the late William and Elizabeth Reeves, and was born at Pilot Knob, Missouri, September 27, 1864. At the time of his death he was 85 years, one month and 20 days of age. The deceased was united in marriage to Bell Tedder in the year 1893. To this union one son, Rupert, was born. Both his wife and his son preceded him in death.

Later in life he was united in marriage to Miss Adelia Reed, in the year 1899.

Surviving besides the wife are seven children. They are: Mrs. Bessie Henson of Glover, Mo.; Mrs. Violena Baker of Irondale; Mrs. Leoma Morris of St. Louis; Mrs. Myrtle Edmonds of Bonne Terre; William Reeves of Niangua, Mo.; Oggie Reeves of Irondale, and Norman Reeves of Irondale. Also surviving are 27 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, two sisters and a host of nieces and nephews and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the Baptist Church in Irondale at two o'clock on Friday, November 18. Interment was in the Big River Cemetery.

EMMANUEL; GOD WITH US

In Matthew it is said His name shall be called "Emmanuel, which

being interpreted is, God with us." Matt. 1:23. I was once sitting in a home and a little girl, who was looking at some pictures said, "Look mama, here is Jesus with a little sheep in His arms." I thought of what the prophet said that God would be with us.

The story is told of the little girl whose father was an atheist. He said, "God is no where." His little girl said, "Daddy, you take the 'w' from the word where and place it with the word no and it will say, 'God is now here.'"

Many things are a mystery to us until we become to understand their inside working parts. This is especially true of many of our modern day inventions. When we can better understand the working of them they become much more reasonable. Jesus made God understandable, feasible and reasonable.

Editor

REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSIONS TREASURER

October, 1949

Received by states as follows:

Oklahoma	\$2,405.49
North Carolina.....	796.03
Missouri	764.34
Michigan	527.28
Tennessee	315.24
Arkansas	181.39
Illinois	91.60
Texas	80.54
Kentucky	60.00
Mississippi	55.21
South Carolina.....	54.00
Alabama	45.45
Kansas	15.00
Ohio	9.65
California	5.00
Georgia	3.09
Louisiana	2.00
Sale of "His Name Among All Nations"	60.00
Woman's National Aux. Convention ..	49.40
Cuban Association on Loan	25.00
Subs. to Review.....	1.00

Total for month. 5,546.62

Grand Total\$6,484.98

Total Disbursements 4,694.92

Balance in Treasury.....\$1,790.06

MAKE YOUR CHOICE

CHRIST EITHER OR ANTICHRIST

and the Rapture

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them who are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others who have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also who sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them who are asleep.

For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

—I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

—I Corinthians 15:51, 52.

and the Great Tribulation

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince who standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even so that same time: and at that time the people shall be delivered. every one that shall be found written in the book.—Daniel 12:1.

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.—Matthew 24:21.

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.—Revelation 13:16, 17.

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever; and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.—Revelation 14:9-11.

Contributed by Mrs. B. F. Brown

SPECIAL OFFERINGS DURING DECEMBER FOR RETURN OF MISS LAURA B. BARNARD

Don't forget that December has been named by the Foreign Missions Department as the month in which we are to take special love offerings to help defray the expense of Miss Barnard's return to the states in the coming spring. Throughout the states our people are being asked to make special donations for this purpose. Miss Barnard is due a furlough beginning in the spring of 1950. She

will soon have been on the field another five years, and the rule for our missionaries in India is that after five years of service then one year of rest at home. This is true of single missionaries. For the ones who are married, they are to spend seven years on the field and then one at home. I am sure many of our people will want to have a part in helping bring Laura Belle home for her years rest. Too, it will help so much in saving the treasury for current expense which comes each

month. Send your offerings in to the treasury with a statement as to what it is for and it will be so applied.

Thanking you,
Winford Davis, Treasurer
Monett, Missouri

Christmas

"Christmas is for the little ones," they say,
"Because He was a baby," and I wonder,
Remembering sweet Mary, why the day,
And holy Christmas Eve that blossoms under
The stars, is not for mothers? Then I see
How lonely ones, and old, and destitute,
Are best remembered then, so it must be
Their day besides. And, yearly, this is true
And lovely evidence it is a time
For lovers: mistletoe above the door.
So ushered in by candle-glow and the chime
Of bells, the season never can be more
For one than others now, as for the least
Shepherds of old, and Wise Men from the East.

Elaine V. Emanis

Small Boy at Christmas

The calendar has dwindled till at last
The months have shortened to a week,
a day,
And all the dreams he hoarded in the past
Will be reality a few brief hours away.
He squirms in bed, and pushes sleep aside
To savor longer the sweet expectancy
Of what the day will bring. Dark eyes glow wide
With visions of the tinsel-laden tree.
And soon, reluctantly, his eyelids close.
The clock's hands spin around until the dawn
Will rouse him, as with sudden joy he knows
It's Christmas and the night of waiting gone.
With barefoot leaps he hurtles down the stair...
Then, spellbound, gazes at the wonder there.

Mae Winkler Goodman



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ



STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENTS AND MEANS

Rev. William Buster

(Continued from last month)

That we owe God a tithe of our means is a plain scriptural fact. A glimpse of Malachi 1:7, 8 will show us what was wrong with the restored remnant as well as what is wrong with the present church. We are inclined to believe that we still give God the lame, sick, blind, things we don't want anyway, little potatoes, cast off clothing, remnant soles, our surplus pen-nies, etc.

Malachi says just offer it to the Governor and see if he will accept it of thee. They wouldn't dare pay the landlord or the government in payment of rent or taxes the things they so contemptuously offered to God. The curse of God was upon their offerings.

No wonder that the greatest Institution on earth is looked upon as an object of charity! It's services have become an object of ridicule to the world. Gospel preachers are looked upon with contempt. We have done too much begging, ice-cream peddling and not enough praying and paying. God doesn't bless us, our missionaries are suffering, our church houses rotting down. Why? We have offered God the sick, lame and blind too long!

Some one may say that Jesus did not say much about the tithe. He did not need to. He walked among a people that were trained to tithe everything they possessed. He could take it for granted. He did, however, say something, "Woe unto you, scribes, and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Matt. 23:23. Not only should they be punctual to tithe but they should also observe the "weightier matters," which the tithe was meant to teach.

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." I Cor. 16:2. This referred to an offering to

be taken for the poor saints in Jerusalem but here is the tithe principle, "as God has prospered him." Everyone of them knew what that standard meant.

Someone says that tithing was for those under the law, that it no longer applies. So is the law against adultery, stealing, lying, Sabbath breaking. Why not disregard them because they are under the law? Jesus did not come to destroy the law but to fulfill (spiritualize or enliven the law). We who are on this side of the Cross are surely under a greater obligation, if possible, because of a fuller revelation brought about by the new birth and indwelling Holy Ghost. A close perusal of Heb. 7:7-9 clearly teaches that the early church practised it. "And here men that die receive tithe." 'Receive' is present tense and teaches that they were paying them when Hebrews was written.

It has been truthfully stated that we sacrificed thousands of our boys on battle fronts of war, and sent billions of dollars in tanks, guns, bombs, and aeroplanes to defeat Japan and her allies; because the money to send missionaries and Bibles years before was sewed up in the pockets of "Stingy" church members.

Our missionary program is suffering, our churches rotting down, our ministry labors untrained against many handicaps, all for the above reason.

God said in Malachi 3, that if they would tithe and make offerings He would bless them in great abundance. He said something else that we seem to have overlooked. "Bring ye ALL the tithe into the storehouse." Don't scatter it! Don't send a little to a radio program, buy some clothing or food for a needy family, etc. These things are in line of Christian duty but cannot be called tithing. Bring the tithe to the church. The church can meet the needs of the poor, take care of its upkeep and allocate proper funds to the proper channels and get the proper credit, and the individual is

submerged in the church where he belongs. "Trumpet-toting is thereby eliminated."

MISS LAURA B. BARNARD DUE FURLOUGH SOON

As we go to press this month for the Woman's Auxiliary our thoughts go to Miss Barnard. We are thinking of the splendid work she has done in India. Miss Barnard has spent five years in India and is now due her furlough. This is the month that the Missouri State Association has set aside in which to raise funds for her return. Auxiliary workers, let's all get back of this drive and send what we can to Mrs. Marie Hyatt and state specifically, "To Bring Miss Barnard Home." In our Monett Auxiliary we each have a small jar in our home that we put our small change in. We will gather it all together and send it to Marie. This was only our own idea and maybe you have other ideas and methods, but let's all get behind this resolution that the State Association passed and send our contributions in as soon as we can. I am sure that the National Board of Missions will appreciate these offerings sent in. Let's not forget to pray for Miss Barnard, too.

Yours for Christ,

Mrs. Evelyn Alyea

FLAT RIVER AUXILIARY

Greetings:

The Lord is blessing our work here, but then He always blesses when we make any effort to serve Him. It is wonderful how our women work and give to the cause of missions. Each Auxiliary member subscribes to the Gem paper. We also have the Youth Camp at heart, but greatest of all is their love of God. Our prayer is for our sisters in Auxiliary work all over the state. Bless your dear hearts, work and pray each day so that if Jesus comes today or tomorrow He can say to you, "Well done."

Mrs. Gussie Hamblen, Sec'y.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING

The meeting convened with Hazel Creek Union Church, October 30, 1949, with Sunday School at 10:00 o'clock followed by the morning worship service. Rev. Mildred Gilliam brought the 11:00 o'clock message using Matthew 11:7-12, and as a subject: "Being On Fire for God."

The afternoon session was opened with President Agnes Smith in charge. Mrs. Smith read from Matthew 25: 31-46. She gave a very interesting talk on "What Women Can Do to Help in the Lord's Work." The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Letters were read from Green Grove, Sublette, and Hazel Creek Union Auxiliaries.

The next meeting will be held with the New Harmony Church with Rev. Molla Smith bringing the 11:00 o'clock message; Rev. Orval Dobbs, alternate.

Miss Leona Thompson, Greentop, Mo.

Report Fredericktown Auxiliary

The Lord is blessing our work here at Fredericktown. We meet on the third Thursday each month for an all day service. At this time we conduct any business that comes before the Auxiliary and plan the program. We have a covered dish luncheon and an old-fashioned devotional service in the afternoon. Our women raised \$50.00 to give as a gift on our new furnace for the church. We also raised 10 new subscriptions to the Gem office as pledged at the State Association.

We find there are many things to be done for our Master that will perhaps only be done by our women. We humbly bow our heads and offer to Him our thanks for a place to serve Him and this the greatest of all Causes. Come on women and let us take up the challenges and go forward for our Christ in these few days we have left in which to labor and pray.

We invite your prayers in our behalf and for our work.

Madeline McFarland, Route 1

Fredericktown Increases Offering

Fredericktown, Missouri
October 30, 1949

Dear Sis. Edwards:

We of the Fredericktown Auxiliary feel that we should increase our offering to you as our Editor. We took action in our Thursday meeting to send you the sum of \$2.00 each month

instead of the \$1.00 agreed upon before. Enclosed you will find the sum of \$4.00 to be used and credited for the months of November and December. We hope it will bring a blessing to you as it has' to us to be able to send you this little love offering, and may it be the means of helping us in some way to reach some lost soul for the Master. Who can know what a little dollar given for the Master will do? I know of one soul who gave her heart to Christ all because of two Gems being sent to her home. Our prayer is that we may accomplish that which the Lord would have us to as an Auxiliary.

Madeline McFarland, Cor. Sec'y.

SUPPLEMENTAL TOPICS

Dear Auxiliary Workers:

As you study your December lesson from the Year Book, will you please study it even more prayerfully than usual? There is much to think about and do. What are you giving Christ this Christmas? What is the gift you have selected for Him?

I submit the following topics for your consideration in connection with your Year Book study:

Topic I. God's Gift to Me.

Topic II. My Christmas Gift to Christ.

Topic III. God's Gift to the World Through Me.

Yours for Jesus' Sake,

Mrs. Eunice Edwards

Auxiliary Editor's Report

Received:

Flat River Auxiliary.....\$2.00
Fredericktown Auxiliary ... 4.00

Total Received..... \$6.00

Expense:

Postage\$.45
Rent on Typewriter..... 4.00

Total Expense \$4.45

ATTENTION W. A. MEMBERS

On September 27, 1949, Mrs. Huey Gower sent her resignation from the office of Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention to the president, Mrs. Hubert B. Sloan. The resignation was effective November 1, 1949, when she moved to Pechahontas, Arkansas with her husband who has been called to a pastorate there.

In 1935 the National Headquarters of the W. N. A. C. Finance Department was set up in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1941 the W. N. A. C. Literature Headquarters was set up in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1947 the Finance Department and the Literature Department were merged into one department with an Executive Secretary-Treasurer in charge and with headquarters still located in Nashville, Tennessee. Hence when this resignation of Mrs. Gower's was received, it became the duty of the National Executive Committee to find a woman living in or near Nashville who could take over the responsibilities of this office. Two were suggested, Mrs. J. E. Frazier and Mrs. C. B. Thompson.

Due to a lack of funds necessary to pay the expenses of a called meeting of the W. N. A. Executive Committee, the W. N. A. C. president mailed a ballot to each member of this committee and asked each of them to send her President. This was done and Mrs. J. choice for this office to the National E. Frazier was elected.

Please, then *ALL FUNDS* and *ALL ORDERS* for *AUXILIARY LITERATURE* will from this day be mailed to the following address:

W. N. A. C. Headquarters
Box 965
Nashville, Tennessee

DO NOT SEND ANY MORE FUNDS OR LITERATURE ORDERS TO the old address which is found in the W. N. A. C. Year Book for 1949.

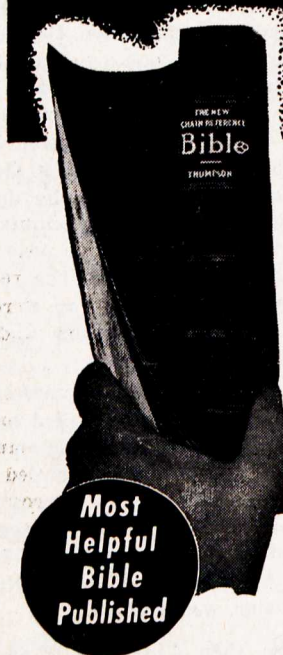
It was with great regret that Mrs. Gower's resignation was accepted, for she has made a very fine and efficient officer, and the best wishes of the Convention go with her and her husband as they enter this new field of Christian service. Fortunate is the Convention in securing a former efficient literature chairman to assume the duties of this important convention office. We are grateful to both these fine women for their services through this department, and all of us, I feel sure, will co-operate fully with this necessary change of address as we place our future orders for literature and send W. N. A. C. funds to this new address.

Yours for the greatest year in W. N. A. C. history,

Mrs. Hubert B. Sloan, President

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seen so much splendid help crowded into a single volume of the Bible." **Dr. Harry Rimmer:** "I feel that no student should be without this splendid aid to Bible study and instruction." **Dr. Robert G. Lee:** "This is to testify that I have used the Thompson Chain Reference Bible for several years in my study of the Bible. I believe it is the very best on the market today. I wish that every reader of the Bible and every student of the Bible had a copy of this unusually helpful Bible." **Dr. Leander S. Keyser:** "The New Chain Reference Bible is a treasure-house of useful information. Surely, this is the Bible that ought to be in every home." **Dr. H. Framer Smith:** "I find that it surpasses them all for real practical helps. To anyone desiring a better knowledge of the Scriptures I would say, examine this work before buying any other Bible." **Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.:** "I wish I could influence every Christian to purchase one of these Bibles."

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