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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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Monett, Missouri,—March, 1950

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“Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit”
—Jeremiah 17:7, 8.

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

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The present Honor Roll was started November 1, 1949, and was designated to run through April 30, 1950. Names of solicitors are placed on our Honor Roll when five or more subscriptions are sent in (one may be your own). At the close of this period gifts of appreciation will be made

to first, second, and third highest ranking solicitors. There is yet time for you to get in our Roll, so be a booster for the Gem.

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Thanks to you and to all who are working for the success of the Gem.

—Editor

SUNDAY SCHOOL—LEAGUE CONVENTION DATES SET

As we go to press with the final run we have just received announcement of the time set for the Missouri State Sunday School and League Conventions. These meetings will convene in a joint worship service Monday night, June 19, 1950, at the Youth Camp near Niangua. The Sunday School will hold their business session Tuesday morning, to be followed by the League session Tuesday afternoon. These business sessions will be climaxed by an evangelistic service in the evening. The regular Youth Camp session is scheduled to start Wednesday morning following these services. Circle these dates on your church calendar and watch your Gem for further announcements.

Young man, my advice to you is that you cultivate an acquaintance with, and a firm belief in, the Holy Scriptures.

—Benjamin Franklin

CONSIDER THE LILIES

Rev. Homer Smith, Moutain Grove, Missouri

Matt. 6:28, "... Consider the lilies of the field how they grow; ..."

I think that too often in the study of the Scriptures we may try to master the deep mysteries of God's will and way and overlook the simple teachings of Christ Himself that may well be applied to common people in the building of our spiritual life. We notice just before that Christ spoke these simple words, He had given a lesson on the kingdom law of riches. The English word "thought" as is used in verse 25, when our version was made, expressed the idea of "anxious concern" and so the mere English reader is apt to be perplexed.

"Thought or forethought" for temporal things in the sense of consideration is required alike by Scripture and common sense.

He wants us to learn the lesson of trusting in God and putting first things "first." Verse 33 says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

Now let us consider the lilies and how they grow. This statement left in its own transparent clearness and rich simplicity gives an incomparable teaching. If you will carefully read between the lines, you will see that the Saviour calls our attention especially to the *growth* of the lily. Surely we all need to be making a spiritual growth as individuals, as separate churches, and as a denomination. As we notice the growth of the lily, may we be able to see in what sense it resembles the Christian.

IT IS ABSOLUTELY DEPENDENT

It looks wholly to God for everything—no fence for protection, no gardner to till it, no shelter to protect it from the elements; yet, God allows it to grow. This should be a beautiful picture of God's care for a true Christian. We notice the strange methods God used in leading the Israelites, teaching them the lesson of whole *dependence*, in bringing them from Egypt to Canaan. He did not lead them through cities and towns where they could purchase whatever they wanted to eat and drink, but through a barren wilderness where, as

they depended wholly upon God, they were fed by the hidden manna. David says in Psalm 37:3—Trust in the Lord.

Here is an experience that probably most of us have had at some time. A young minister related an experience as he and his wife were driving hurriedly to reach their appointment on time, when suddenly a tire blew out. The spare tire was soon on and again they were on their way. Then he remarked to his wife, "We'll have to trust the Lord now as we don't have another spare." We take things into our own hands a great many times and fail to look to and trust in God when we have a good spare and all is going well. Is not this the purpose of Christ in calling our attention to the lily that we might serve Him without anxious care and feel our dependence upon Him?

THE LILY RECEIVES ITS SUPPLY DAILY

It has no storehouse in which to lay up future supplies of the elements needed for its growth. We meet people who try to get a supply of grace and power to run a whole year or from one revival to another, but God does not give it to us in that way. "As thy day so shalt thy strength be" We need a daily supply of God's grace.

THE LILY GROWS MORE PROFUSELY IN THE VALLEY AND LOW PLACES

The prevailing desire of many of God's servants is to have great external gifts, and they fail to see that God finds men for exalted positions in the valley; that is, in the attitude of prayer fitting themselves for the mountain top experience. We recall that God found a man for the throne of Egypt behind the prison bars, who had been sold by his brethren as a slave. He found a great leader for Israel herding sheep. He found the disciples on the seashore mending their nets. What God wants us to do is to learn to get down on our knees and wrestle in prayer as did Jacob of old.

THE LILY KEEPS CLEAN AMIDST CONTAMINATING ELEMENTS

So does the real sanctified and consecrated Christian. With the evil

around us as it is today, it takes one who has gone through the foregoing experiences to be able to keep clean at all times and in all places. This we cannot do within our strength, but by the divine help of God we can. It can be done only by heeding the words of James 1:27—and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

WHERE ARE YOU?

Mrs. Evie Lee B. Morris, Waycross, Ga.

In Genesis 3:9 God asked Adam, "Where art thou?" God is calling to us this day saying, "Where are you?" Are you going to answer the voice of God as Adam did? Are you afraid? Friends, Jesus is calling you to come and drink of the waters of life freely. But we can't go our way. We must go God's way; do the things He says for us to do. He has not called us unto uncleanness but unto holiness. He says, "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things I say" and He called unto Adam and said, "Where art thou?" and Adam was afraid. Are you afraid? Have you transgressed God's law as Adam did? Now Adam had sinned and was driven out of the garden. Romans 6:12 says for us not to let sin reign in our mortal bodies, and if we do we will obey the lust thereof. Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin. But yield yourselves unto God as those who are alive from the dead and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. Now if Adam had done that he would not have been driven out of the garden of Eden and would not have had to hide himself from God, and God would not have said "Adam where art thou?" So, friends, I'll leave the subject with you. But where are you? Remember there are only two ways. One way leads to heaven and the other to hell. So surely you are on one of these roads. Where are you? God has a looking glass in which you can see yourself; so search and see. Where are you?

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WORDS TO NO PROFIT

Mrs. John Ferguson, Nolan, West Virginia

"Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit..." II Timothy 2:14.

"Words to no profit." How often we hear them, wherever Christians get together, on the streets, in the homes, and from our pulpits. Vain words, babbling words, words to no profit.

An unusually well educated minister came to a small coal camp where the older people at that time could hardly read. Each night he hurled six-syllable words liberally sprinkled with Latin quotations at his audience. To a college educated group perhaps it would have been understandable—to these simple folks it was only vain babblings, an unknown tongue.

A group of preachers get together and pretty soon one will ask, "Where did Satan come from?" or, "Where did Cain get his wife?" Perhaps some other question just as useless. Then doubled up fists and angry voices from that bunch of preachers.

"Foolish questions that do gender strife." Paul says to avoid such; yet we hear them continually falling from the lips of our preachers. Listening we can only think of Jesus as He said to Peter, "What is that to thee? follow thou me."

Just what is that to thee? Do you have to know where the Devil came from before you can preach the gospel? Do you have to know where Cain found his wife before you can preach the gospel? You know you don't. You just want to impress others with your vast knowledge. Laying traps for your younger brother, scorning him because he does not give you the answer you want to hear. Causing controversy, dissension, railings, and evil surmisings among the brethren. Throwing away your chance to influence sinners and win them for Christ.

Men gather at a loafing place; up comes some quack calling himself a preacher. Perpetual peeping around corners trying to get a chance to start a scandal about some child of God has given him a sly look in his eyes and a permanent twist in his neck. He is as filled with self-importance as the banty rooster that thought the

sun came up each morning just to hear him crow. He watches the crowd from the corner of his eye as he preens himself. Back and forth he struts twirling his scraggly mustache, boasting about the many churches that have called him, the number of sermons he has preached, and the many people he has converted. Like a banty rooster he crows, "I know more Bible than any man in this country. Just ask me any question you want to ask. I can answer it." Obscene jokes and babbling words spew from his lips intermingled with smutty remarks about any luckless female that is forced to pass by the gathering until in disgust even sinners walk away.

Dear God, help these men to see themselves as others see them and as God must see them, just boasting, sanctimonious hypocrites. A stumbling block for sinners. Making the entire brotherhood a laughing stock among the people. Effectively blocking out the witness of others by their senseless use of profane and vain babblings.

I think that a child of God should be the happiest person on earth. He need not go around with a long face afraid to smile. In fact, I personally have very little faith in one that does so. A man that goes around with a plaster cast of woe upon his face, afraid to smile for fear of breaking the plaster is not a man to be trusted very much as far as real Christianity is concerned. Christ wants His followers to be happy. So laugh and talk as much as you please. But for God's sake, your own sake, and for the sake of the sinners around you, keep filthy and obscene words out of your conversation at all times.

Leaders are needed today more than ever before in the history of time, but we need God-called leaders. Men who can forget their vast so-called knowledge, their desire to shine before other men. We need men who are content to hide behind the Cross of Christ submerging their will in the divine will of God; living in humbleness and meekness; lifting up their fallen brethren with words of encouragement and assurance of God's love and mercy. Men with clean hearts

and clean lips living a clean life, living a Godly, consecrated life every hour of every day. Men who tell the story of God's eternal love in plain simple language that even a child can understand. Men who will remember that, "A Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks." He cannot think through a mind cluttered up with profane or obscene thoughts. "A Christian is a VOICE through which Christ speaks." And He cannot speak through a voice that is given to uttering boasting words, vain words. They are words to no profit.

NO HYPOCRITES IN CHURCH

*Mrs. J. W. Wilkey,
Mammoth Springs, Ark.*

We hear some folks say, "Oh, I would get saved if there weren't so many hypocrites in the churches. Why they do things I would not do. Just too many hypocrites. I am just as good as they are." That you may be and I hope you are, but let me say there are no hypocrites in the church. We learn the word "hypocrite" means one who is not sincere in friendship, religion, or virtue. In this instance it means religion. A hypocrite may have his or her name on the visible church books, but can not be a member of the spiritual church which is the real Church. He is not on the lifeboat but on the devil's launch along with the one who is just as good as the hypocrite going to hell with him and all who forget God. There are weak, erring Christians who do wrong and repent and get forgiveness. There is hope for such an one, but no hope for the one that is just as good as the hypocrite unless he gets saved and becomes better than the hypocrite.

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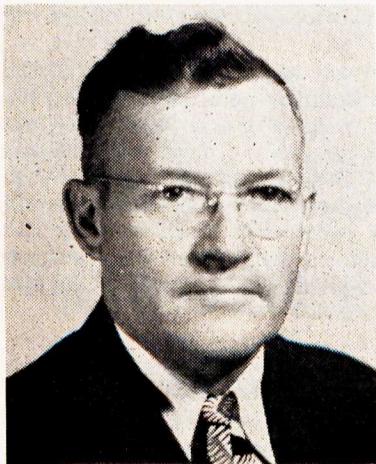
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GIVING GOD A CHANCE

Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo.

God not only saves our souls but will abundantly bless His people if we will give Him an opportunity. There are certain conditions to be met by man before we can claim God's offer. Let us look at a few of these. First in Isaiah 45:22, God offers salvation to all when He said, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." This with John 3:16 in which we read, "that whosoever be-



Rev. O. T. Allred

lieveth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." The provision has been made and the offer extended to all men everywhere to come and be saved. Yet only a small percent of the people who inhabit this earth are willing to meet the condition and let God save them from their sins. Remember Christ said of those who rejected Him while He was here upon the earth, "And ye would not." Those who go to hell will go there because they would not give God a chance to save them.

Second, God has promised in His Word if we would seek first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, these other things should be added. God wants to do that for us today. Any time we put God second in our plans, we are not even giving God a chance to bless in the material. The divine order is God first. Then God can help us and supply our every need.

Third, in Malachi 3:10 God makes the challenge first for us to bring all the tithe into the storehouse. Then He will pour out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive

it. Many who have trusted Christ as their Savior seem afraid to trust God to multiply their material blessings, taking the attitude that if we render unto the Lord that which belongs to Him, that He would let us starve. Many of us can testify that God does supply our needs when we put Him and His work first and render unto Him out of a heart of love the tithe and offerings. Not only does He bless the individual who thus gives God a chance but He blesses the church that will let Him have first place in all the plans and programs of the church.

In view of these and many other offers which God makes to us, will we meet the conditions required and let God bless every part of our work abundantly this year? A rich experience and an abiding joy in each of our hearts, a real spiritual development in each church, our church paper doubled in subscriptions and be so loyally supported that we can have a 32-page paper by the end of the year, our Youth Encampment program adequately supported, our College supplied with sufficient funds to operate and expand, and our missionary program enlarged both in the home land and foreign field. God is able; God is willing; God is ready. By self being crucified and Christ enthroned in each life God can and will do these things, and many more for us this year.

CALLED FOR SERVICE

Rev. Paul Williams, Carterville, Mo.

Matt. 20:6—And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

Before we proceed I would that each one of you would turn to the above chapter and read the first 16 verses.

Would you read the words of our text again and hear them falling from the lips of our Savior: "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" While there is work to be done in the Master's vineyard? There is room for each one of us. We have a responsibility to take care of. The men standing in the market place could be excused for not going to work, the householder had come early in the day and these perhaps were not present at the other appearances, as their answer to the householder's question would indicate ("Because no man hath hired us." V. 7)

Can you say truthfully that the Lord has never called to you and asked you to go into His vineyard someplace to work? You may say God has never called me for a Sunday School teacher, Deacon, Minister, but yet He has called you for the salvation of others. God didn't save you just to keep you from going to hell, but He has a definite place for you. No, all the laborers didn't do the same job. You may say, "I have no talent"; "I have found nothing to do"; "Let somebody else take the responsibility."

Let us remember one of old whom God called for service, but he offered excuses also. Exodus 4:1—"But behold, they will not believe me nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The Lord hath not appeared unto thee." Exodus 4:10—"Oh my Lord I am not eloquent neither heretofore, nor since thou has spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue."

How could he refuse after the experience at the burning bush, but still we have often had the same kind of experiences with the Spirit of God, and have we refused? Perhaps we can look at our lives and find the same type of objections, but "Thanks be to God" He answered and made all preparations for Moses, and He will do the same for you. Remember, He is the great I AM. Even now in the eleventh hour God wants you in His vineyard. Yes, you have heard the call, "Go ye into the vineyard: and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive." And still you haven't heeded. Perhaps you have spent time idly in the market place (church) not doing anything for God. It that be so, forget all about yourself, your likes, your dislikes, for Jesus said, "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loses his life for my sake shall find it." Matt. 10:39. Would you be willing to lose your life in service for God? If so would you "go into the vineyard?" "For the harvest truly is ripe but the laborers are few." As the poet has said:

Let me lose myself and find it Lord,
in Thee
May all self be slain, my friends see
only Thee
Though it cost me grief and pain,
I will find my life again,
If I lose myself, I'll find it Lord in
Thee.

THE BIBLICAL MEANING OF STEWARDSHIP

R. B. Crawford, Greenville, North Carolina

As a member of your National Stewardship Commission I have been asked to write an article to our church papers using the above title.

THE GENERAL IDEA OF STEWARDSHIP

The Bible and history teach the church has always believed in stewardship. A consciousness of stewardship responsibility was born with the race. From the first pages of the old Testament we read: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion." This scripture proclaims the source and scope of man's accountability. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife" tells us there is a stewardship of family relations.

Cain and Abel stand before an altar presenting fruits of material progress. Cain killed Abel not because he felt no responsibility to God, but because he was desirous of getting ahead of his brother. Cain asked "Am I my brother's keeper?" The Lord answered, "Thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground." There is that partnership we have with God and with our fellowman that the Lord has set up for our good and happiness.

DEFINITIONAL MEANING

The *steward* is, in fact, a "partner" with his master. He is also a "servant" and "employee," a "manager," "agent," "superintendent," "director," "trustee"; sometimes a "son," but never a "slave." A steward has an honorable station. He is absolutely trusted by his master—trusted with his property, his plans, his reputation; trusted when his master's back is turned; trusted with his interests, safety, and welfare of his fellow servants; trusted to carry on confidential and diplomatic affairs of high importance.

Not only is the steward to keep intact the things intrusted to him but he is to devise and effect the greatest possible enlargement of his master's interests. To be a steward is never a sacrifice but an honor bestowed upon those worthy to receive it. The individual subscribes his hand to stewardship. Man becomes by his acceptance God's chosen steward.

SOME OLD TESTAMENT CONCEPTIONS OF STEWARDSHIP

"And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or fruit of the tree is Jehovah's: it is holy unto Jehovah" (Lev. 27:30). Which cometh forth from the field year by year" (Deut. 14:32). (Please read in full the following references: Lev. 27:30-34; Deut. 14:22-29; Numbers 18:20-32; Mal. 3:7-12). Many other scriptures you will recall. You are well aware that "the silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:8).

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

The word Christian means relating to Christ, belonging to Christ or Christlike. Christ makes stewardship Christian. His life is its chart; His teachings are its compass. His mind is final; the ideals and ideas He advanced are ultimate. We have already considered the word steward. Our conclusion then is that Christian stewardship is "the recognition and fulfillment of personal privilege and responsibility for the administration of the whole of life—personality, time, talent, influence, material substance—everything—in accordance with the spirit and ideals of Christ."

Think carefully of some of the things Jesus had to say concerning stewardship. Matt. 23:23, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and anise and cummin, and have left undone the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith but these ye ought to have done and not to leave the other undone." Luke 11:42—"But woe unto you Pharisees, for you tithe mint and rue and every herb and pass over justice and the love of God: but these ye ought to have done and not to leave the other undone." Matt. 5:17 reads as follows: "Think not that I am come to destroy the Law and the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfill." Matt. 5:20—"For I say unto you, that except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Now look at the words of Paul, who

is our great teacher and preacher. Rom. 6:15, "What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."

In Luke 18:12, the Pharisee was thankful he was not unjust. "I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I possess." We can easily see that Jesus was a loyal Jew, a son of a Jewish mother, trained from childhood with diligence to reverence and obey every syllable of the law, that He repeatedly commended those who observed its requirements and declared that not one jot or tittle should pass away from the law until all had been fulfilled.

We know the Bible taught the law of the tithe—and Jesus approved it. Since Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life, we must practice Christian Stewardship as taught in the Bible and live under grace, keeping our hearts and minds centered upon Jesus who said, "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21).

SUNSET

*I wandered through a shady vale
And up a lonely hill,
To see the setting of the sun
And hear the Whippoorwill.
The vale was deep and lonely, too.
The hill was steep and rough,
And all the way it seemed to me
I'd ne'er get high enough.
Up, up the rugged hill I climbed,
Up closer to the sky
And Heaven, it seemed, was close at hand
God and the Angels nigh.
So it is with life, it seems.
The vale the soul hath trod
To climb the hill so rough and steep
Before it meets its God.
I hope my soul can sing a song
Sweet as the Whippoorwill's
When my work on earth is done
As my Father wills.
I hope He'll say, "Well done, my child
As I reach my goal
When I come to the end of life,
The Sunset of the soul.
Sunset here, but sunrise there
In that glorious land,
Where God, the Father, reaches out
To take us by the hand.*

Odela Testerman—Tulare, Calif.

YOUTH CAMP NEWS*Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Chairman*

As the time is drawing near for the fourth session of our Missouri Youth Camp, I feel it time to inform our people over the state of some of our plans and needs for this year's session. First, let me say that we as your Youth Camp Board wish to thank you for making it possible for this great work to continue through your financial support as well as your prayers. Many of our churches and many individuals have contributed regularly toward this great work; but yet there are so many of our churches and people who have not realized the great value of this work to our youth and to our denomination, thus, failing too support it financially and failing to receive the many blessings that have come to those who have done their best. Remember, as I have often told you, that your Youth Camp Board can only do what you make possible for them to do. All that I ask is that you pray, and let God lead you and then visit our session this year. Then I'm sure you will be a staunch supporter of our camp thereafter.

Our needs are numerous but I know God will provide. If you wish to help in some way, then note our following needs for this year's session and help us in whatever way you feel you can. We are building a five-room cottage on the camp grounds at this writing and the cost will be near \$1,000. So you see the need for more financial support. Then, we need about 30 mattresses for the bunks, 5 dipping ladles, 6 dozen drinking glasses, 6 wash pans, 2 saw cutters, 1 food chopper, 1 electric iron, about 20 yards oil cloth, an outside furnace to cook on, material to make cabinets for cottage, siding for our state cabins, screens, and many other things too numerous to mention. If you care to help us by supplying us with some of the above mentioned items, write to Rev. Wm. Reeves at the camp and he will be happy to receive your offerings and materials.

Now just a few words about our program for this year. I was appointed as Camp Supervisor and Rev. Rolla Smith as Principal of School. Recently Brother Smith and I completed the program for this year with subjects for classes as follows: A class in the Gospel of John, one on Person-

al Soul Winning, A Doctrinal Course, near Santa Paula, California. For Mission Course, and a course on the some time the Sunday School and Auxiliaries of the church, such as church was held in a member's home in Saticoy. Then a small building was rented in Santa Paula, and the church moved in about July 4. On January 15 of this year we moved again. This time to our own building at 903 Ventura St. in the city of Santa Paula.

We are setting up a set of strict rules such as no smoking, attendance at all classes necessary, no courting, and many others which will soon be in print and mailed to our people over the state. All rules must be obeyed or the student will be subject to immediate shipment back home for we must keep our work as God would have us.

The teachers of these various classes will be announced at a later date as well as the evangelist for the night services. In closing, I sincerely hope each of you over the state will get behind us with all that you have and help us make this year's session the best we have had. If you will do your part, I'm sure God will do His. WILL YOU?

YOUNG CHURCH HAS PASTOR

Saticoy, California
February 14, 1950

May we take this means and opportunity to put this part of the nation on the Free Will Baptist map? This is a new church, less than a year old. It was organized in May of 1949. At the time it was started there were only 11 members and for several months we did not have a pastor. Praise be to God we are still growing and now have 30 members.

Perhaps we should go back to the beginning and tell you the entire story as it happened. There are a lot of folk from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri in this county and before they came out here, they were workers in Free Will Baptist churches. But they came to a place where there were no Free Will Baptist churches and some how were slow in learning that they could start one of their own. One of these many people was a preacher's son and his father was still in Arkansas. So the son out-talked his father and he came out and held a two-week's meeting. As a result the church was organized. Believe it or not, this church had its beginning in an old dance hall on the Limoneira Ranch

For several months we had no pastor, but we didn't give up. We thought for some time that we had a pastor. He came and preached one time and then for some unknown reason went back. Then Bro. J. J. Hancock was our pastor for a short time and then we found ourselves again a flock without a shepherd. About this time we awakened to the fact that we were getting nothing done fast. So a lot of Kneecology was applied as prayers were sent to God to help us and a few pleas were mailed back to Arkansas to Brother Lewis until he said he would come back and help us.

Brother H. A. Lewis is our pastor now and we are very proud of him. We realize that he made a big sacrifice when he left his work in Arkansas to come out here, and that the people back there needed him too. Yet we feel that if those people realized how much the county needed a man like Brother Lewis to preach the Word of God to them they would be most happy to know that he came out here to help out in the Lord's work. We hope that all of you will pray for us that we may keep spreading the Word of God to the lost. We realize more each day that all the heathen are not in foreign lands.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Alta Watkins, Reporter

FAST GROWING CHURCH

Hatcher, West Virginia

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

Find enclosed my renewal for the Gem. Also one for my brother, E. N. Withrow, who is our Sunday School Superintendent and a great man in our midst. We have one of the fastest growing Free Will Baptist Churches I know of. God has given us a pastor who is among the best. She is Sister Stalie Parson. I sure like the Gem. It is something I look forward to. Pray for us and that the whole world will become Christians.

H. L. Tilley



From The Editor's Desk



A HEARTY "THANK YOU"

In an earlier issue we promised to keep you informed of our needs as they occur. Last month we were in need of manuscript. We mentioned this need in the February issue. Many have responded with nice messages and other articles. We have had to lay back a few of them and expect to use them in future issues. A good backlog is much better than no wood for the fire! So we thank you and encourage each of you to continue giving us your articles.

IN OUR CORRESPONDENCE

A full-time pastor and active evangelist writes, "I have just got through reading my Gem and I certainly enjoyed every bit of it."

One California friend says, "I have only read two copies of your paper, and enjoyed every article. I like very much the Foreign Mission articles. I think it is a wonderful work you are doing and hope to be financially able to subscribe to the paper soon."

From Arkansas a fine Christian lady encourages us to "Keep up the good work. A good church paper is the life of the denomination. I am pleased with the paper and I do think all Christians should read their church paper."

A young Missouri minister and pastor says, "I know you have a large responsibility in the editorship of the Gem but we shall be praying for you. I can't tell you how much the Gem means to me each month. I'm looking forward to the March Edition. You can be sure that I'm a subscriber as long as the Gem is in operation."

These are a few of the encouraging remarks contained in correspondence here at the Gem office. Your editor greatly appreciates every friend and booster of the Gem.

SHARE THE GEM

Here we are again with the same idea we presented to you last month. We repeat it because we feel it is a worthy plan. As you remember we asked you to "Share the Gem" with your friends. We often get word from

some one saying, "I am no longer able to subscribe," or "As soon as I can go to work again I will subscribe," and similar reasons for not subscribing or for dropping their sub. No doubt many others never tell us of their difficulties and just silently drop their name from our list. We always regret to lose them. We feel that all our people should receive the Gem. Then we very much need to increase our mailing list. We would like to get at least 1,000 new subscribers in a very short time. With a little co-operation from everyone and some brotherly love strong enough to open purse strings we can have many more than that. Would an extra dollar, or five, or ten, or more really inconvenience you? Pray about it! Then send in those gift subs. If you don't know anyone to send it to just forward us any amount and tell us it's for "Gift Subs." We will apply your offering and notify you who will thus receive the paper. Put those good intentions and your money to work NOW!!!

AN S. O. S.

In the years that I have been vitally interested in the success of the Gem it has occasionally been necessary to make a promotional drive for funds. Some good folks, not always fully informed, but still from an honest heart, have offered criticism to any soliciting through the pages of the paper. However, God has always blessed by directing friends of the work to rally to the support of the needs here.

The Gem is a Church paper and does not enjoy the profits of a secular printing office. We carry practically no paid advertising. No printing is ever done for dance halls, theaters, pool halls, liquor stores, beer dispensing cafes, or any other questionable places of business. We openly and vigorously oppose such establishments. We do no extensive soliciting work outside the church. Therefore, you have been asked to help in days gone by and have graciously done so.

Right now the minute season is just over. The usual post-inventory slow up is a reality. While we are quite busy with many necessary things our reve-

nue has dropped considerably below our expenses. It has not yet reached any critical state. We must not allow it to. So if you have some of the Lord's money or an extra offering please send it here to the General Fund. Whether or not you can send an offering please pray much for our material needs.

CHURCH REORGANIZED

On Sunday, February 12, the doors of Waggoner F. W. B. Church (near Stockton, Mo.) were opened and eleven joined the church. They called Rev. Cpal Jeffreys as pastor. The church had been without a pastor for several months. A Sunday School, League, and prayer meeting have been organized. Much repair work has been done and electric lights have been installed. We feel that all this is the answer to much prayer and a great need in that community. Remember this church as you pray.

ABOUT VISITING CHURCHES

Several requests have come in at various times for us to visit in the churches, Quarterly Meetings and Associations both in Missouri and in out of state associations in behalf of the Free Will Baptist Gem. We certainly appreciate this interest and your kindness. However, for the present at least, we cannot make such visits. Several factors prevent us from going out over the field. The regular office force is down to Miss Bowe and myself. Since assuming the managership I have not been absent from the office for more than a few hours at any time except for a short Christmas vacation. My duties require me to be here regularly and long hours. We are not complaining for we enjoy serving the Lord in this capacity. But, for the present at least, we must remain at our work. Several are acquainted with these facts and have suggested for us to buy film to be used over the state. This was particularly requested by one good man who visited us for the first time. He said, "I was not aware that we had so much printing equipment." We hope to be able to do these things in the future. Pray for the Lord to lead.

YOUTH REVIVAL A BLESSING

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

It is with great pleasure that I report the wonderful blessings that God is bestowing on our Free Will Baptist Church at 5418 Idaho Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

We have had a Youth Revival by our young ministers, and I know that God looked down from His throne above and was well pleased with these young ministers who have dedicated their lives to His cause.

Our Sunday School averages a hundred and over now. God is truly rewarding His flock for their faithful efforts to serve Him.

We thank God for our pastor, Rev. Harvey E. Hill, and his family, for they are like a pillar of spiritual strength in our midst.

Our Wednesday night prayer meetings are enjoyed by all, and the Spirit of the Lord is in every heart. Our Ladies Auxiliary is a source of great enjoyment and help to our church, and we wish to ask God's children to pray for these Christian women for their tireless efforts. The Lord is blessing our League and God's children get great enjoyment out of studying His Word in these meetings. Pray for us that our League will continue to grow.

As for our young people, they are like a shining light in our church, and we are very proud of them and thank God for such boys and girls.

In closing, I ask you to pray for us that we will continue to grow and that souls will be saved for His honor and glory.

Dorothy Beard, Cor. Sec'y.

NEW LEAGUE ORGANIZED

Dear Gem Readers:

The Lord is blessing our work here in Northeast Missouri. We accepted the Hazel Creek and Sublette churches for half time each last September. We have found some very fine people here who are loyal to the cause of Christ and our denominational work as a whole.

Recently we organized a League at Hazel Creek. There is much enthusiasm in this new endeavor among both the young people and the adults. The church at Sublette had a League when we came. They have some fine

young Christians there and we have found them to be very eager to launch into new things for the Lord.

Plans are underway for the organization of a Youth Rally for all the churches of the N. E. Missouri Association. We are hoping that this may soon become a reality. There are many talented young Free Will Baptists in this association. Definitely they need more church activity. We believe that youth rallies provide a means for the discovery and development of talents.

The Lord has been good to provide us a place to live here. Upon our arrival, Brother John Filkins, a member of Hazel Creek Church, offered us a comfortable house which we could live in to approximately March 1, at which time another family was to have the place. So realizing the need of a place to which we could move, the people of Hazel Creek immediately began talking of building a parsonage. A meeting of the church was called at which time the board of deacons offered tentative plans for a house to be built on a plot of ground near the church. The ground was being donated by a member of the church. The plans were accepted and pledges of money, labor, and materials were made to start the project. However, before any work was started on the new building the opportunity to buy a fifteen-acre place with a five-room house and other buildings presented itself. The church immediately took advantage of the opportunity and bought the property to which they now have the deed with a comparatively small indebtedness which they expect to pay off in the not too distant future. The weather has not been favorable for building since the church decided to build. So we feel that the Lord provided because the "people had a mind to work." The parsonage is located on a rock road one half mile south of the Hazel Creek Church. Our new address is Route 2, Kirksville, Missouri.

In the words of David, "The Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."

May the Lord richly bless each of you is our prayer. Pray for us.

In His Name,

Rolla D. Smith

BUTLER-DUNN THEOLOGY
Price, Post Paid \$2.00

Center (Calif.) Association

Dear Editor:

I'm sorry my December report is late but we are happy to report a Ministers' and Deacons' Meeting which convened with the Hanford Church December 17 and 18. The attendance was good and God's Spirit was among His people, although our hearts were made sad because our good friend and a wonderful worker for God, Rev. Noble Barlow, was called home. Funeral services were December 18. Our meeting was dismissed for the funeral service.

Our annual Ministers' and Deacons' Meeting was held with the Turlock Church beginning January 26. The report was of a good meeting. The Turlock Church is a growing church. Rev. Truman Huddleston is the pastor. There were several churches from other associations present at this meeting and a wonderful time was had in the Lord's service.

The ladies of the church served lunch and everyone enjoyed the hospitality shown.

Rev. Austin Deacon has been in a revival at Farmersville, California. We are proud of our churches in California.

We, the Hanford Church, ask the prayers from all Christians that God will direct us in the building of a new church for His cause. But God's will be done and not ours. Pray for us. The Free Will Baptist Quartet is still on the air.

Elva Lambert, Reporter

Jumping at conclusions is the only mental exercise some folks take.

PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

by William Evans

A guide to the most effective methods of winning men to Christ.

"That the individual Christian may be prompted, encouraged, and equipped to do this kind of Personal Soul-Winning work is the purpose of this book. The leading scripture references have been made to stand out distinctly from the main body of type in order that they may be easily located."

192 Pages, Cloth Covers, \$1.25

NEWSY BRIEFS

OBITUARIES - REPORTS LETTERS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRO. PRICE VAUGHN

Benjamin Price Vaughn was born November 23, 1861, and departed this life February 15, 1950 at his home north of Greenfield, Missouri. He was 88 years of age.

On July 25, 1880, he was united in marriage to Margaret Lucille Hutsell. To them five children were born. Two sons passed away in infancy. Mrs. Vaughn died in October, 1932. In 1934 he was married to Mrs. Columbia Lemon who died in 1938. In April, 1940 he was married to Mrs. Flora Collins who survives. He also leaves two daughters, Mrs. J. C. Pyle of Greenfield, and Mrs. W. E. McConnell of Clovis, New Mexico, and one son, Lonnie of Dinuba, California, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

At the age of 15 he gave his heart to God and united with the Free Will Baptist Church. He lived a consistent Christian life his remaining 73 years. Though he never experienced a definite call to the ministry, the editor's earliest remembrance of Bro. Vaughn was his fine gospel messages he often delivered upon the absence of a minister from the church. His full purpose in life was to love and serve God.

Funeral services were at Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church February 17, among a large crowd of sorrowing relatives and friends. The church and community have lost a wonderful Christian and friend.

THIRD CHURCH, ST. LOUIS

Our church has been going forward in the last few months. We have Brother Benjamin Scott as our pastor, who is truly a good pastor and man of God, working hard and feeding his flock. There was once a fellow who said to his pastor, "When I was a young fellow, I use to sit right over there and hear you preach, and you will never know how much good you did me. You use to wind me up like an eight day clock. I was bound to go right after hearing you." That's the way our pastor preaches, so that we

have to go back for more spiritual food from meeting to meeting.

Our church attendance has greatly increased. Last Sunday morning a soul was reclaimed and Sunday night the Spirit of the Lord was with all so that we didn't even need preaching. We thank God for a Spirit like that.

Our Sunday School has had an increasing in attendance over this last month also. Brother Burton is our new superintendent. We feel with the Lord's help Brother Burton will continue doing a good work among the children in our Sunday School as well as all of us older ones.

The other branches of our church, such as league and auxiliary, are also on the upward trend.

We have been in a building program at our church for some time now and have purchased a lot to build on. The building we now have is paid for. The Lord has greatly blessed us, although we have hopes that someday in the future we'll own a new building. We have been praying for a new building if it be the Lord's will, and we know God has heard us, and when it's time for us to move on, we will. Until then we'll do as the Psalm of David says, "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him"—(Psalm 37: 7). We fully believe someday the Lord is going to lay it on someone's heart to lend the \$10,000 we need to build, or that each member of our church will see the need of tithing. Then they will tithe, and after doing so will see the blessing they have been missing is so great that they will always continue. If every member would only do that, we wouldn't have to hear banks tell us, "No we can't lend. You're not large enough in number." We would have enough of God's money to build.

We would like each and every Christian that reads this Gem to hold our church up in your prayer that we might begin to build this spring if it be the Lord's will and might continue to go forward for God and worship Him in spirit and truth.

Yours in Christ,
Sister Jerry Bullis, Reporter

Semi-Annual Report National Superannuation Treasurer

JUNE 30, 1949—DEC. 31, 1949

RECEIPTS

Brought forward June 30, 1949	\$6,089.41
Alabama	\$ 39.15
Georgia	47.14
Michigan	38.35
North Carolina.....	809.47
Missouri	5.50
Woman's Nat'l. Con. .	38.30
Premiums and applications	264.47
Refunds from Ministers	
Life and Casualty U. .	1.10
Total receipts	\$1,243.48

Total receipts plus balance....\$7,332.89

DISBURSEMENTS

Ministers Life and Casualty Union.....	\$ 443.66
Secretarial Service...	60.00
Promotional Work..	80.50
Refund to Daniel Cronk on application turned back by company.....	16.00

Total disbursed.\$ 600.16

In Treasury Dec. 31, 1949 ...\$6,732.73

J. O. Fort, Sec.-Treas.

ENJOYS THE "GEM"

Niangua, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

I have not written to the Gem for some time, and I thought I would write a few lines as I send in my renewal to the Gem. I am always glad to get our friendly little paper. It's the best way of hearing what our denomination is doing and makes me feel closer to our brothers and sisters in the Lord. We don't get to attend church like we once did and how we do miss it. We are members of the Amity Church. Bro. Dale Jones is our pastor. We feel he is truly a man of God. We need your prayers.

Mrs. Artie McClaughan

FELLOWSHIP F.W.B. CHURCH

Greetings:

As I have just recently been elected by my church as reporter, I want to do the very best I can. Some may think it is not a very big job, but to me anything that you do for the Lord is a big job. His work is so important. First of all, I'm sure most everyone knows by now that we have a new pastor, Rev. Mark Lewis, Sister Lewis, and the two girls, of whom we are very proud.

Brother and Sister Dodd and Marilyn served us faithfully until God called them to a greater work. And they really gave their all to our church while here, and we all love and appreciate them very much for what they did for us. But they were called from us and so God supplied Rev. Mark Lewis, and we are sure God sent them our way.

In a business meeting last week, we made plans to finish our church completely this year. Everyone was so anxious for it and all in one accord. We know it can be done. Every time we meet for worship service, we thank God over and over for our church. It means so much to us. We covet your prayers one and all, Gem readers, that God will lead and direct us in the future as He has in the four years we have been in our new church.

Pray for me that I might be led by the Lord in every report I send in to our Gem.

Yours in His Service,

Mrs. Marie Sherrill, Reporter

TRI-STATE F. W. B. MEET

The Tri-state Fifth Sunday Meeting was held at Granby, Missouri, January 29, 1950. Rev. Norman Green preached the introductory sermon. Scripture: Acts 9:4. Message followed by congregational singing after which dinner was served.

The business session was called to order by Rev. F. E. Crain. Message by Rev. Bert Walgamott. Scripture: Luke 7:19. Quartet—Mt. Olive Church—"I Know Somebody's Listening."

Message by Rev. Norman Green. Scripture: Mark 3:3. Quartet—Rev. Elda Crain, Emeline Crain, Rev. Orville Johnston, and Bro. Bailey—"I'm a Millionaire."

Message by Rev. Orville Johnston. Scripture: Matt. 5:1-10. Special by

the Green Sisters—"The Great Judgment Mornings."

Message by Rev. Raymond Woods. Scripture: Ephesians 6:11. Song by Sister Rosetta Wheeler—"I'm Going to Heaven."

Message by Rev. Elda Crain. Scripture: Judges 7:4. Quartet by Granby Church—"Remember Me."

Message by Rev. Bill Johnston. Scripture: John 15. Trio by Mt. Olive Church—"Take My Hand Precious Lord."

Message by Rev. Mary Lou McGraw. Scripture: Psalm 1. Song by Sister Rosetta Wheeler—"The Upper Window. Dow."

Message by Rev. F. E. Crain: Scripture: James 4:3; Luke 6:28; Cor. 9:9. Special by the Whitaker sisters—"Just a Closer Walk With Thee."

Message by Rev. Whitaker. Scripture: Rev. 6:17.

Message by Rev. Cur Bow. Topic: "Why not Now." Time is swiftly passing by.

The next Fifth Sunday Meeting, April 30th, will be held at the South Picher Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Norman Green was elected to preach the introductory sermon.

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

NORTHEAST MISSOURI 5TH SUNDAY MEETING

The Northeast Missouri Fifth Sunday Meeting convened with the New Harmony Church, January 29, 1950. Sunday School was at ten o'clock followed by the morning worship service with Rev. Rolla Smith bringing the message. John 3:3-9 was read for the Scripture lesson, using for his subject, "Ye must be born again." A very inspiring message was delivered. The service was dismissed with prayer by Brother Oral Buchanan. Dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened by the Pastor, Sister Mildred Gilliam, with the congregation singing "Sweet By and By", and "Blest be the Tie." Prayer by Mrs. Eula Howard. The meeting was then turned to the President, Sis. Agnes Smith. She read for the Scripture lesson Matt. 25:14-30. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Letters from Hazel Creek Union, Green Grove, and New Harmony Auxiliaries were read and

accepted. The next Fifth Sunday Meeting will be held with the Shibleys Point Church with Sister Alta Mikel bringing the eleven o'clock message and Sister Mildred Gilliam, alternate.

The following program was given: Solo—"I'm Going Higher Someday"—Mrs. Billy White.

Song—"Jesus, Hold My Hand"—New Harmony Young People's Quartet. Piano Solo—Variations of "Bring Them In."

Reading—"The Master is Coming." by Mrs. Agnes Smith.

Songs—"The Savior Will Be With Me" and "Paradise Valley"—Green Grove Male Quartet.

Duet—"I'll Be Listening"—Mrs. Ova Lee and Martin Alexander.

Songs—by the Jessie Peterson Quartet.

Following these numbers, the service was turned to Rev. Hugh Sawyer, of Centerville, Iowa, who brought the afternoon message. He read for his scripture lesson a portion of the 9th chapter of John. A very inspiring message was delivered.

Rev. Sawyer has just closed two very successful revival meetings at the New Harmony Church and the Green Grove Church. His outstanding Bible Messages were a feast to our souls. The Lord blessed us and we saw 35 precious souls saved, and several additions to both churches.

Leona Thompson, Sec'y.-Treas.

NEW HOME (OKLA.) CHURCH

Here is a report from the New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

For the five weeks of January the Sunday School had an average of 161.

The league has had an attendance of 75 in their Monday night service.

The newly organized Go Tell Band for girls, had 13 in their last meeting. This work stems from the ladies auxiliary under Sister Grace Thames.

We are happy to have our pastor's father, Rev. Walter Jernigan, preaching our revival starting March 19. Rev. Jernigan is from Bladenboro, N. C.

Mrs. Roy Warren,
Reporter & Member

The average man speaks 11,000,000 words each year, and 5,000,000 are "I", "me" and "mine."



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

WOMEN'S EDITOR: MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS—DESLOGE, Mo.



OUR YOUTH

Mrs. Agnes Smith—Second V. P., Missouri W. A.

What is more important than our youth upon whose shoulders the responsibilities of the future will rest? What greater opportunity has the church than that of training our youth that they may be strong and able to shoulder such responsibilities as will be theirs in the future? Too often when we think of the future, we think of time that is years and years ahead of us. We should realize that tomorrow is today's future.

Tomorrow will bring new opportunities, new cares, new temptations, and new responsibilities. How are our young people going to meet these? Will they be fortified to face the problems of tomorrow? It is the duty of the church and home to see that the young people receive proper training to prepare them for each new experience. How can we do that?

A scientist would not attempt to answer a question concerning science without a varied knowledge of the scientific world; economists seek to gain all the knowledge possible in order to solve economic problems; also the doctor would have a knowledge of medicine and of the human body before attempting to cure human ailments. We would conclude that for every profession there is some knowledge to be gained in order to succeed in that profession.

Then we might ask "What knowledge is needed, and from what source is it obtained, to prepare the Christian for his great profession?" The wisest man who has ever lived said, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Prov. 1:7a). But it is not enough to just begin a thing—to fear the Lord is not enough. We must proceed further. The same writer said, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13). I believe that we can safely conclude that the person who fears God and

keeps all His commandments will have ample knowledge to assure success of his Christian profession.

Then the question might arise, "What are the commandments of God?" I would not attempt to answer that other than to say that they will be found in the Bible and one of primary importance in the Christian life is "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim. 2:15). In studying God's Word we will learn His commandments. The thing we as churches need to do is to realize that there is a great amount of teaching and training necessary in order to prepare our young people for the responsibilities of the future. A full realization of this great need will arouse each home and church to action.

The world knows no limit to which it will go in order to lure our young people from things wholesome, pure, and good. The church's responsibility is greater than ever before.

Are we going to let the world have the wonderful talent and precious souls of our youth or are we going to rise up in defense and put forth greater efforts to save them by encouraging leagues, Sunday Schools, Bible study courses, vacation Bible schools, youth rallies, and the many other helpful activities the church can offer.

Greetings! From The Women Of The St. Francois Co. Q. M.

Dear Gem Readers:

It has been sometime since we have written to you of the women's work of the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting. We organized a year ago with three auxiliaries and also two ladies' aids reporting. Since that time we have gained one auxiliary and one ladies' mission, with one ladies' aid organizing into an auxiliary.

We thank God for our growth and pray that more of our women who are doing ladies' aid work will organize into real auxiliaries for the Cause of Christ.

Mrs. Benjamin Scott is our president for the coming year. We are fortunate in having so many willing workers in our convention among whom is Mrs. Eunice Edwards.

We meet at each Quarterly Meeting and report work done for the quarter. I wish you could hear some of the reports. The women are really working for the Lord in helping to build up their churches, which in turn builds up God's Kingdom. They also help support other phases of the work.

Let us not be satisfied with things done in the past, but press on to the future and to the blessings in store for us if we do His will.

Mrs. Bob Hill, Sec'y-Treas.

NOTICE

Please send all manuscripts for the women's pages to me. It will avoid all unnecessary confusion at the Gem office. The Gem Editor does not know which manuscripts (if any) are to be given preference and often there is not enough time to send the manuscript to me for editing before time for publication. We will appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards

PARDON ME, BUT YOUR PROMISE IS SHOWING!

At the Auxiliary Convention last September, we voted that each auxiliary was to send in 10 subscriptions to the Gem by November in appreciation of the kindness of the Gem Management in giving the Women's Auxiliary two pages each month. To date only three groups have responded with their promised 10 subscriptions. I hate to remind you, but your promise IS showing.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards

Auxiliary Editor's Report

FEBRUARY 14, 1950

Received:

Fredericktown Aux.....	\$2.00
Third Aux., St. Louis.....	1.00
Marie Hyatt.....	2.00
Total Received.....	\$5.00

Disbursed:

Typewriter	\$6.67
Postage	30
Supplies	30
Total Disbursed.....	\$7.27

DECLAMATION CONTEST

Subject Matter: Stewardship.

The contest will be held during the Women's Conference at the Youth Camp (June 6-9). All teen age girls are advised to begin to prepare for your local contests. The winners of the local contests are to compete at the Women's Conference, and that winner will be the contestant for the State of Missouri at the National Contest to be held in California in July. The contestant going to California is to be paid her expenses. Each local auxiliary is asked to send in \$5.00 for this purpose. Send your money in now to Mrs. Roy Alyea, Monett, Mo.

Eunice Edwards

Good Morning! May I Come In?

I wish I could visit each of you personally; but since that isn't possible, would you mind my coming in to your home for a chat through these pages? I want to talk to you about your contribution for Miss Barnard's fare home. If you haven't sent it in, won't you do so today? She has been away a long time, and she needs, yea, her health demands a year of rest. It takes money to travel and, oh, you are sending it in today? Good! The Lord will bless you for it. Goodbye.

Eunice Edwards

FELLOWSHIP W. A. REPORTS

Dear Gem Family:

Since coming to the Fellowship F. W. B. Church as their pastor, the women of the auxiliary have asked me to do some reporting to the Gem for them. This I am glad to do!

The first thing I would like to say

for the women of this auxiliary is, "They are very much alive!" They have a burning desire to do something for the Lord and their church. Also, they have the true conception of an auxiliary. That is, "The Helper of the Church." As long as the women of the auxiliaries have this spirit of progress, the auxiliary may look forward to great accomplishments and to the full cooperation of the many pastors. The following is a report of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary as given to the St. Francois Co. Quarterly Meeting. It is for October, November, and December of 1949.

Number of Societies	1
Total Membership	25
Average Attendance	16
Financial Report:	
Amount Taken in.....	\$73.12
Amount Paid out.....	62.77
Missionary Offering.....	76.00
Dishes for Church.....	65.04
Miscellaneous Report:	
Stewardship Study Classes.....	3
Bible Study Classes.....	3
Year Book Studies.....	3
Missionary Study Classes	3
Number New Members	3
Value of Food Baskets.....	\$35.50
Value of Fruit to the sick.....	8.50

Please pray with us that the God we all serve may lead us on to a much greater work for the Lord.

Mrs. Minnie Burcham, Sec'y.
Rev. Mark Lewis, Reporter

ILLINOIS WOMEN REPORT

Mrs. Alene Hanna

In the January issue of the Gem, I read about one of our inactive auxiliaries re-organizing. I certainly rejoice with them for their wonderful work. I would be happy beyond words if all our Free Will Baptist women would join this praying, working band of women who have a vision of lost souls.

Truly, I would like to testify that my life has been enriched; knowledge has increased; and joy to overflowing has filled my life through my work in the auxiliary. I want every F.W.B. woman to be an active auxiliary member. But, as in many other phases of God's work, there is just too little interest. I feel this is due to lack of prayer. Wherever we find PRAYING women, we find ACTIVE, FAITHFUL

women. I don't mean saying a prayer, but earnestly and humbly seeking to please God. He has given us a place to serve Him and I want to follow the blessed teaching of our Lord serving where I can. We can serve faithfully in the boundaries of our own community, yet by all women joining forces our community will reach our community and so on around the world. May God wake up all F.W. B. women to the realization that He can use us to His Name's honor and glory.

The District Meeting of The W. A. OF ILLINOIS

will be held at
OAK GROVE F. W. B. CHURCH
Beginning at 9:00 A. M.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1950

PROGRAM

- Welcome.....Alene Hanna
- Response.....Marie Hall
- Devotional and Prayer
- Requests.....Pearl Perriman
- Business
- 11:00 Sermon
- Offering
- 12:00 Noon, Lunch
- 1:30 Congregational singing
- Play, Rescue Auxiliary
- Talk, Olivet Street
- Praise Service, Mary Peterson
- Benediction.
- Visitors Are Welcome!

Greetings From Fredericktown

We are reporting on our January meeting. Glad to report that all things do "work out for good to those that love God." Sometimes we just need to tarry at the feet of Jesus and wait upon Him. Our service opened with 17 members and seven visitors present. The Master added to our number five new members during the month of January, so our present enrollment is 25, for which we thank our God who granted the increase.

An inspiring devotional period was enjoyed, closed with sentence prayers in behalf of our missionaries. Our next meeting will be on the third Thursday in February at the home of Mrs. Ina Stanfield with the program in charge of Mrs. Madeline McFarland. Again we say, Praise be unto our Heavenly Father, and may we ever be found faithful stewards in the vineyard of the Lord.

Mrs. M. McFarland, Cor. Sec'y.

CENTRAL TEXAS W. A. MEET
Convenes With
HUNTSVILLE F. W. B. CHURCH
March 14, 1950

Theme: "Advancing with Christ"
 Exodus 14:15

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00 Devotions... Mrs. W. F. McDuffie
 10:15 Welcome... Mrs. Ruby Parker
 Response... Mrs. R. P. Trant
 10:20 President's Message, Mrs. Alvin Halbrook
 10:30 Reading of minutes, sending of delegates, appointment of committees
 10:45 Hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers"
 10:50 Advancing with Christ by Enrollment, Mrs. H. R. Berry, 1st V. P.
 11:05 Advancing with Christ in Christian Education, Mrs. Ruby Whithers, 2nd V. P.
 11:20 Recess
 11:25 Special message in song, Mrs. N. B. Barrow & Mrs. A. F. Halbrook
 11:30 Morning Message, Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook
 12:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00 Devotions, Mrs. Robert Welsh, Sr.
 1:15 Advancing with Christ through Study Courses, Mrs. A. J. Hearne, 3rd V. P.
 1:30 Advancing with Christ through Programs and Publicity, Mrs. Opal Koehl, 4th V. P.
 1:45 Hymn
 1:50 Advancing with Christ in Personal Service, Mrs. N. C. Cole, 5th V. P.
 2:05 Report of Treasurer, Mrs. J. L. Vance
 2:10 Report of Field Secretary, Rev. Mrs. H. M. McAdams
 2:20 Committee Reports and Miscellaneous Business
 Adjournment

MT. GROVE, MO. AUXILIARY

Due to the weather conditions the Woman's Auxiliary of the Mountain Grove Church held its first meeting of the year on Friday night, February 3, at 7:30. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Velma Elliott. A talk on the auxiliary watch-

word was made by the president. She then reviewed the January lesson by touching the highlights.

February lesson was then taken up as follows:

Prayer by Leah May Postlewait.
 Bible readings: I Sam. 2:3 and Jer. 16:17-21 by Mary Halliburton, and I Chron. 28:9 by Mrs. Rhoda Smith.
 Sentence prayers led by Mrs. Geo. Scott, and concluded by Rev. Geo. Scott, Jr.

Song: "Send the Light" by congregation.

Topic I "What Do You Read" by Mrs. Graham; Topic II "The Leader's Reading" by Mary Halliburton; Stewardship Reading by Edna Carder; Topic III "Dreams or Realities" by Mrs. Verba Smith.

Business period as follows:

Secretary's report was read and approved. Roll call. Lesson assigned by vice-president. Next meeting will be held March 3, 1950.

The Auxiliary Officers for 1950 are: Mrs. Velma Elliott, President; Mrs. Bertha Dennis, 1st Vice-P.; Mrs. Cinda Vandivort, 2nd Vice-P.; Mrs. Murrel Hutsell, 3rd Vice-P.; Mrs. Edna Carder, 4th Vice-P.; Mrs. Zellen Altis, 5th Vice-P.; Mrs. Rhoda Smith, Secretary-Treasurer.

We hope to have a larger attendance in the very near future.

—Reporter

POTEAU, OKLA. AUXILIARY

Dear Gem Readers:

Our auxiliary would like to make a report of our work. In the past two months we have finished the inside of our church. Walls and ceilings were varnished, seats sanded, and floors varnished.

Our Sunday School has been over a hundred for several Sundays. Surely our pastor, Rev. I. L. Florence, is a man from God. We started with a membership of 18 and a \$400 building. We now have a membership of 71 and a \$7,000 building most complete. Remember us when you pray.

Dora Johnson, Aux. President

We are expecting to see you at the Women's Conference. June 6-9, 1950.

D. L. Moody once said, "You will find that PRAYER has been the mighty power that has moved not only God but man."

STATE SESSION ACCEPTS TREATISE COMPROMISE

"At the 1948 national association the state (Oklahoma) protested revision of the Treatise of Faith and Practices, and after having been out-voted in trying to retain the original treatise, came home and voted not to accept the changes.

"Following a request by the state (Oklahoma) association that the national body send men to discuss a reconciliation, Rev. J. L. Welch and Rev. Henry Melvin, both of Tennessee, met with the state executive board and agreed upon terms of settlement. These were the agreements which were accepted at the special session:

"1. That section 5 on Government of Church, paragraph 2, on receiving of members according to regular methods does not conflict with section 3 on Meetings of Church, paragraph 4 clause 'e', but refers to the voting of raising of hands, taking a negative vote, etc. In other words, the Church must vote on the receiving of members, but according to rules and methods of the local Church.

"2. Pertaining to deacons. The Board believes that there must be some control of the work of the deacon, and that we agree that Section 2 is sufficient.

"3. Chapter 22. That the chapter be titled, "THE JUDGMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION," and that it should read as follows: "There will be a better judgment when time and man's probation will close forever. Then all men will be judged according to their works, "omitting the word 'final' before the word 'judgment.' And that paragraph 2 shall read: "Final Retribution—Immediately after this judgment the righteous will enter into eternal life and the wicked will go into a state of endless punishment," omitting the words, 'the final,' preceding the word 'judgment.'

"These agreements will be presented to the national association at the 1950 session, which meets at Richmond, Calif."

Editor's Note—The foregoing article is from the January, 1950 issue of THE SMALL VOICE, an official publication of Texas-Oklahoma associations of Free Will Baptists.

The Church may seem cold if you sit in the Z-row.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

One hundred years ago the great Gold Rush to California was on! People from everywhere were heading for the west coast and certain riches. They went for one purpose—GOLD! The anticipation of success was enough to cause them to endure suffering and hardship gladly.

People from every walk of life joined



Rev. Damon C. Dodd

the mad rush to the "gold coast." The butcher, the baker, the doctor, and lawyer all of them became obsessed with the one idea—get rich in California.

Their means of transportation was most crude. They traveled by ox-cart, mule train, and by overland stage-coach. Some of them even went by ship from New York through the Gulf of Mexico to Central America, and thence across the narrow neck of land to the Pacific, where they were met by other boats and taken the remainder of the journey.

Many of these died enroute or became so sick that they had to abandon the trip. Fortunes slipped through eager fingers, dreams failed to materialized, air-castles collapsed. **ALL THAT WAS HAPPENING ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO!**

This coming July, one hundred years later, **THERE WILL BE A FREE WILL BAPTIST RUSH TO CALIFORNIA.** This won't be for gold, but for something more precious than gold. **IT IS THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAP-**

TISTS, which will be held in Richmond, California, beginning on Tuesday night, July 11, 1950.

You'll be able to travel much more comfortably than our forefathers. Streamlined trains, swift airplanes, and fast, comfortable busses will whisk you to Richmond from any part of the country. Fine highways invite the motorist to tune up the family automobile and drive on out. You will not need to fear starvation, wild Indians, or buffalo stampedes. These things that plagued your ancestors who were in the gold rush will not bother you. You'll be able to stake a good claim in the city of Richmond that will entitle you to a bed and something to eat, and a generous share of that fine California hospitality and sunshine plus the privilege of attending the National Association.

JOIN THE FREE WILL BAPTIST "NATIONAL ASSOCIATION RUSH" to Richmond, California, in July, 1950.

PLANS ITINERARY WORK

210 W. 24th Street
Bryan, Texas

Dear Texas Free Will Baptists:

Our plans are to have itinerary work done in the state of Texas during June and the first part of July. We plan to have one of our own Texas boys and his wife do this work. They are very much interested in Foreign Missions and plan to become missionaries to Japan.

The itinerary will be scheduled as nearly as possible as follows:

- Texas Association—June 4-17
- West Fork Ass'n.—June 18-July 2
- Northwest Brazos Ass'n.—July 3-7
- Southeast Texas Ass'n.—July 8-10
- Central Texas Ass'n.—July 12-19

If any church has a preference of date, please advise us of your first, second and third choice of such date. Unless we hear from you to the contrary, our worker will arrange his itinerary as given nabove.

An offering will be taken at the close of each service and will be duly receipted and turned in to the Treasurer of the Texas Foreign Mission Board who will in turn transmit it to the National Office.

Yours in Service,

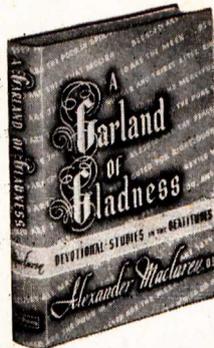
J. M. Goode, Gaston Clary
/s/ Gaston Clary

"IF" For Girls

*If you can hear the whispering about you
And never yield to deal in whispers, too;
If you can bravely smile when loved ones doubt you
And never doubt in turn what loved ones do;
If you can keep a sweet and gentle spirit
In spite of fame or fortune, rank or place,
And though you win your goal or only near it
Can win with poise or lose with equal grace;
If you can meet with Unbelief, believing
And hallow in your heart a simple Creed;
If you can meet Deception, undeceiving
And learn to look to God for all you need;
If you can be what girls should be to mothers:
Chums in joy and comrades in distress,
And be unto others as you'd have the others
Be unto you — no more, and yet, no less;
If you can keep within your heart the power
To say that firm, unconquerable "No"
If you can brave a present shadowed hour
Rather than yield to build a future woe;
If you can love, yet not let loving master
But keep yourself within your own self's clasp,
And let not dreaming lead you to disaster,
Nor Pity's fascination loose your grasp;
If you can lock your heart on confidences
Nor ever needlessly in turn confide;
If you can put behind you all pretenses
Of mock humility or foolish pride;
If you can keep the simple, homely virtue
Of walking right with God — then have no fear
That anything in all the world can hurt you —
And — which is more — you'll be a Woman, dear.*

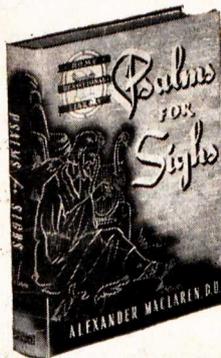
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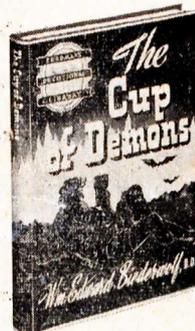
A GARLAND OF GLADNESS By Dr. Alexander Maclaren

Studies in the Beatitudes. Dr. Maclaren is deeply spiritual. He is a master at applying the truth of the Bible to the daily life. Here he does just that. In this great classic he pulls the veil from our eyes so that we can see the intimate connection of the life of a child of God in relation to the Sermon on the Mount.



PSALMS FOR SIGHS By Dr. Alexander Maclaren

The author here has thrown into relief the road to God by the Psalms, so that a seeking soul may have his longing after God satisfied. "He wrote with the magic eloquence of one inspired; his conclusive and radiantly colorful comments on his selected texts display a mastery over language and a deeply spiritual scholarship."—Christian Life & Times



THE CUP OF DEMONS By Dr. Wm. E. Biederwolf

We can read much that pats us on the back and skims over the surface, but leaves us no different when we have finished. This, on the contrary, is the kind of book that challenges us to square our lives with our high Christian standards. It reaches down into the inner life and shows us where we "have got off the track" spiritually, and points the way back.



WHAT OF THE NIGHT? By Dr. Wm. E. Biederwolf

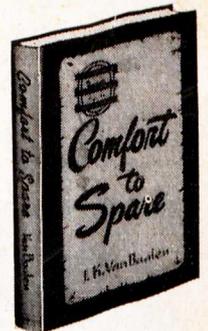
Here again the author brings us the warning that Christ is our only refuge in a troubled world. The messages in this book, as in the others, should be read and re-read that we may grow in grace.

SATAN AND THE SPIDER By Dr. Herbert Lockyer

A book to strengthen and bless the reader in a world of spiritual need. Some of the vital topics: a comparison of Satan to the spider, "clever, crafty, cruel, and constant;" and the provision, privilege, principle, and power of prayer. Each has a sparkling freshness and an evangelistic appeal.

COMFORT TO SPARE By J. K. Van Baalen

Brief Talks to Sorrowing Hearts. A comforting message to those who have lost a loved one, written from the heart of one who has experienced passing through "deep waters." It is a book which will help you find the peace that will alleviate your sorrow. A wounded heart will find healing in its pages. Buy one for a sorrowing friend.



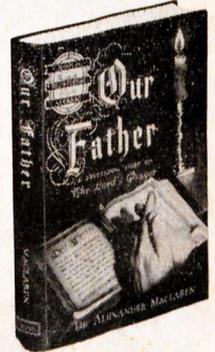
PRESSING ON By Dr. Lee S. Huizenga

This charming book is a spiritual autobiography, emphasizing the inner life and the spiritual crises of the author. The universality of its theme, therefore, transcends all church boundaries and affiliations. His message will move you to ponder, worship, and "press on" taking spiritual inventory of your life on the way. You shouldn't be without it.



OUR FATHER By Dr. Alexander Maclaren

This is an exposition on the model of all prayers, the Lord's Prayer. The majestic sweep of this ageless prayer brings the one who prays "after this manner" to his knees in humble adoration. Many books and pamphlets have been written on this subject but none of them have reached a higher degree of excellence than this penetrating interpretation.



THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE By Stanley H. Frodsham

This new book will bring blessing to all readers and aid in the objective "that the power of the Spirit be fully known." Here are eight chapters of blessings few Christians have had.

HIS DECEASE AT JERUSALEM By Dr. Abraham Kuiper

"It is not technical, but is intensely practical and fervent. The author has an unusual way of expressing himself, which is quite provocative and interesting. He leaves no place for modernism. Every message is intensely evangelical and refreshing."—Sunday School Times. Here is a Lenten masterpiece.



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