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# The Free Will Baptist Gem

Vol. 27—No. 8

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

August, 1956

## A Teacher Prays

Before this class I stand as teacher, Lord;  
I am responsible for them today,  
This is a fearful task, and I am weak;  
Oh, guide me, Father, tell me what to say.

Each Pupil has the right to find in me  
A teacher worthy of respect and trust;  
I would not fail this confidence of theirs,  
I would be faithful to them—Lord, I must.

It is the privilege of every one  
To look to me for guidance—this I know,  
I must be careful lest my feet should stray;  
They are so apt to follow where I go.

They listen and believe the things I say,  
I pray that thou wilt fill my words with power  
Help me to teach with earnestness and truth,  
This is a holy and a sacred hour.

Before this class I stand as teacher, Lord;  
Mine is a mighty and God-given task;  
No recompense of glory or reward,  
But grace to teach aright is all I ask.

—Marjorie McMahan

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The Missouri State Association Convenes  
at the Youth Camp, Nianqua, Mo., August,  
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HONOR ROLL

OF CHURCH FAMILY SUBSCRIPTION PLAN

Table with 2 columns: Church and Pastor. Lists various churches and their respective pastors.

"If there are two rugs in your room, one before the mirror and before the bed, which one will be worn out first?"

Things begun in prayer end in Power.

"Begin now to tithe in the days of thy youth, while the stingy days come not, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in it."

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

Table with 7 columns: Jan., Feb., March, April, May, June, July. Lists Sunday school averages for various churches.

Please send us your average, too.



## Bible Holiness

By Mrs. Wilba Sell  
Rt. 4, Stockton, Mo.

"For God hath not called us into uncleanness, but unto holiness." (I Thess. 4:7) Now when we speak of holiness we are not speaking of a denomination that refer to themselves as Holiness, but we are referring to holiness that Jesus taught and the holiness that He expects us to have in our hearts. Paul, one of the greatest preachers of all times said, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14)

The way of holiness is pure and blameless, without spot or blemish. Some religious people have never won the victory over sin or conquered their evil habits. You can win the victory over sin, if you really want that victory. It is a terrible doctrine that teaches that individuals through faith cannot conquer sin. It is wicked indeed for men to preach that you cannot live a holy life. Sometimes we are prisoners of a creed, that have no power, rituals that have no meaning, theologies that have no anointing. We are not blessed under these conditions.

True worship of God is in holiness. "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: Bring an offering, and come before Him: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." (I Chron. 16:29) "And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those; the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." (Isa. 34:8) "That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." (Luke 1:74-75)

Bible holiness—I can't find it in God's Word where there is even the slightest chance that anyone will get to Heaven without living a holy life.

Now I've heard some folks try to put it over that it is an impossibility for a person to live without sinning. I recently heard a minister make the following remark from the pulpit: "All of our lives is so full of sin, but God is an understanding God and makes an allowance for the sins we continually commit." The allowance that was made for sin was when Christ died on the cross for the sins of the world. After we are saved, Christ does not intend for us to go on with "so much sin in our lives." In fact, if we have sin in our lives, we need

to get down on our knees at an altar of repentance, and stay there until the sin is forgiven. Surely anyone would know that Christ is big enough and able to do a complete job of removing sin from our lives. The following Scripture will bear me out that He can take away sin. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:7) Notice the Scripture says Christ's blood "cleanseth us from all sin." Anyone, minister or layman, with "so much sin in their lives" has not been to Calvary, or, they need to go there again and repent. God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth." (I John 1:6) "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Matt. 5:48) "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." (I John 2:6)

Bible holiness—we cannot be holy with sin in our lives. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin." (I John 3:2-5)

Now if we have sin in our lives how are we going to explain these verses of Scripture? "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: Whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." (I John 3:6) When we testify that we are a child of God there is sin present with us, according to God's Holy Word we are on dangerous ground. If the heart is not free from sin, we only have a lip service to offer. Jesus said, "Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you saying, this people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matt. 15:19)

On the authority of God's word, every individual will have to live a holy life. A holy life is none other than a sanctified life. God will not sanctify an unclean heart. "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified." (Heb. 10:14)

"For there were many in the congregation that were not sanctified; therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passover for every one that was not clean, to sanctify them unto the Lord." (II Chron. 30:17)

All through the Bible, including both the Old and New Testament, we find holiness as the only means of being a Christian. Bible holiness is cleanliness, perfection, walking after the Spirit, and to do this we must live a holy, regenerated life. "Grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord and Saviour." "For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." (I Tim. 4:5)

Bible holiness—Christians, let's be on guard. God warns us of false prophets and teachers. When we hear anyone advocating something that doesn't teach holy living we have a right to compare it against the authority of God's Word. Now in my speaking of living above sin, do not misunderstand me, in thinking we do not make mistakes. We might make a mistake and God points out to us that it was wrong, then if we continue on without repentance for the mistake, it becomes sin. When the Holy Spirit points out a thing we have done or are now doing that is wrong, we immediately should seek atonement.

If we refuse to repent, or meet the conditions, then sin is present in our life. God said, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." (James 4:17) So how can we harbor sin in our lives and be a child of God when the Bible plainly states, "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning." (I John 3:8)

## Same As Father

"What will you have?" said a clerk to a man who had just entered a cafe with his little son. "A glass of beer," replied the gentleman. "And what can I get for the little boy?" "Same as father," quickly replied the lad. "Wait," said the father, "I will not take the beer."

It makes no difference whether you are a father or mother, you are responsible to God for your children. And you must some day stand before God and give an account of the things you have taught your children, and the examples you have set before them.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

## Our Obligation To The Personnel of The Armed Forces

By Dr. Ivan L. Bennett

You do me great honor in accord-  
ing me the privilege of addressing  
you on the subject of Our Obligation  
To The Personnel Of The Armed  
Forces. I assume that you agree that  
there is such an obligation. That  
would seem to be implicit in your  
gracious invitation.

Our forefathers made immortal  
claim to human dignity and signifi-  
cance for every human being, saying,  
"That all men are created equal; that  
they are endowed by their Creator  
with certain unalienable rights—"

In the establishment of the Con-  
stitution the framers of government  
dealt realistically with the rights of  
man. People demanded amendments  
in the form of a Bill of Rights. Rights  
were not, in their concept of life, the  
gift of the state. They were the en-  
dowment of a Creator. They were  
therefore universal and unalienable.

That concept has had some hard  
sledding. More and more it has be-  
come real in the thinking of the citi-  
zens of this country. "Half slave and  
half free" is repulsive to our citizens.  
In our time there is serious effort to  
eliminate governmental sanction of the  
concept of "second citizen", and to  
accord to all citizens "equal protection  
of the laws."

Our forefathers at the same time  
set forth the purpose of government  
and the source of sovereignty. "To  
protect these rights," they declared,  
"governments are instituted among  
men deriving their just powers from  
the consent of the governed."

The purpose of instituting a gov-  
ernment was "to protect these rights".  
The framers of the Constitution had  
to deal realistically with the matter of  
the common defense. By the ratifica-  
tion of the Constitution "the consent  
of the governed" was given to the  
Congress to provide for this important  
matter. It should be noted that this  
consent of the governed has never  
been withdrawn. I find no record that  
any serious effort has ever been made  
to change it. To provide for the com-  
mon defense remains the solemn duty  
of Congress under a mandate of the  
people as old as the Constitution it-  
self.

Every Citizen born in America, and  
every naturalized citizen becomes heir  
to a three-fold heritage.

1. The enjoyment of rights and  
privileges exceeded nowhere in the  
world.

2. Partnership in a Categorical  
Consent of the Governed, including  
the consent that Congress shall pro-  
vide for the common defense.

3. Partnership in obligation, which  
had its first written historic statement  
in the words of the founding fathers  
when they declared "We mutually  
pledge to each other our Lives, our  
Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

In the Light of the developing situ-  
ations of our History and public opin-  
ion, the Congress of the United States  
has employed a variety of plans and  
procedures to provide for the com-  
mon defense. These procedures have  
ranged from the dubious tactics of  
recruiting sergeants to a number of  
forms of Selective Service.

It is uncongenial to the principles  
on which our Government was insti-  
tuted that God-given rights should be  
enjoyed by any one race, or class, or  
creed of men to the exclusion of other  
men. By the same token, the burden  
of sacrifice in the common defense  
was made a common obligation.  
Selective Service is the nearest ap-  
proach to a distribution of that bur-  
den and that obligation that has so  
far been devised by the Congress. It  
should be repulsive to a Christian con-  
science that the burden of the com-  
mon defense should be born by the  
economically underprivileged who en-  
list to make a living, or by the un-  
suspecting youngsters induced to "sign  
up" by high pressure methods. The  
common defense of common rights is  
a common obligation. There should  
be a fair distribution of that burden.  
The rich and the poor, the privileged  
and the underprivileged, the Nordics  
and the Negro, the Indian and the  
Latin, share the burden of it under  
Selective Service laws enacted by the  
Congress. It is the most democratic  
system that has been devised.

We have arrived at a point in time  
when it is fitting that we take stock  
of the situation. World affairs are in  
rapid change. Even trained observers  
of the domestic and international  
scene have great difficulty keeping  
track of events. It requires no flight of  
fancy to see how much greater is the  
difficulty with which the inexpert try  
to understand what goes on behind  
the rapid swirl of events. Recently the  
editor of the Churchman listed eleven  
that appeared in the news during the  
last few weeks. I do not know to  
what extent Editor Shipley is correct  
in his surmise that "any one of these  
events was sufficient to have shaken

the capitals of the world." It is quite  
evident that their combined impact  
caused severe headaches to the Wash-  
ington and other world capital policy-  
shapers. I think that most of us will  
agree that we stand at a turning point  
in history. The civilization we call  
Western will be saved, or it will be  
lost. We are going to co-operate to  
the extent that it is essential for us  
to keep up our guard and correct our  
errors, or we will ignobly go back  
into the darkness of indeterminate  
centuries.

If we cannot see and correct our  
own imperfections, we shall permit  
ourselves to be pushed into the unten-  
able position of those who defend the  
status quo as against those who would  
change it. As Christians we recognize  
that there are imperfections in every  
system, and will not identify the  
kingdom of righteousness with any-  
thing that now is, but will ever exer-  
cise ourselves to the end that evils  
be eradicated by peaceful and order-  
ly process.

### I

There is need for us to re-examine  
the status of citizens who refuse to  
answer their nation's call to take their  
turn at guarding the ramparts we  
watch.

The churches have a duty to all  
their young people, to those who think  
clearly and who are confused. One  
of the duties we owe to the confused  
in mind and conscience is to make it  
crystal clear that for the Government  
to permit the individual to disregard  
the organic law of the land on the  
supposition that law has no binding

power on him without his express in-  
dividual consent, would defeat the  
primary purpose of government. We  
have a duty to them to make it cry-  
stal clear that the Bill of Rights was  
added to our Constitution not to  
"make a grant of rights" but rather  
to define rights in clearer outline.  
Would not the Divine Creator, the  
source of such rights, be their sure  
and sufficient defense? Perhaps a  
few "extreme Calvinists" thought so.  
It should be noted, however, that  
there were Presbyterians among those  
who affixed their names to the decla-  
ration of Independence by which they  
covenanted to cooperate with Provi-  
dence in this matter. It reads:

"And for the support of this  
Declaration, with firm reliance  
upon the protection of Divine  
Providence, we mutually  
pledge to each other our lives,  
our Fortunes, and our sacred  
Honor."

The demands of a genuine individual conscience compels the respect of mankind. To such a conscience the Congress, in carrying out its constitutional obligations to "provide for the common defense" has made concession.

I have never understood the kind of conscience that accepts the benefits of citizenship, even resorts to courts of law claiming protection of rights, but moves into a crescendo of inhibition when the unpleasant obligation to defend those rights becomes personalized, under due process of law. There appears to be prevalent an erroneous interpretation of the statement of the founding fathers "that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

There could be no stable government if each individual were free individually to withdraw his consent at will and so disobey any law that was not to his liking. In establishing a Constitution, in electing legislators clothed with power to enact laws, by participation in governmental process, the citizens of this nation in its historic development have created a cumulative and categorical "consent of the governed". It has been created by due process of law. It can be changed only by due process of law.

Let a man go where his conscience compels him. By all means. Who are we to deny that God does speak to individuals? To deny that would be to rule out the possibility of a Jeremiah, a Joan of Arc, a John Bunyan. But if conscience compels a young man to refuse to answer the call of his country to bear his part of the sacrifices entitled in the common defense, then in the name of common decency let him not invoke the law of the land to compel a safeguard when his rights and privileges are in jeopardy.

Let no such man of conscience suppose that the churches and the nation regard this matter lightly. Let him not proceed under the delusion that he can by any stretch of the imagination suppose that he is fulfilling the obligations of citizenship in rendering a different type of service. Under a permissive act he is allowed to shift to others the burden of mutual obligation under our form of Government. It is permitted in deference to his conscience. He should, therefore, be moved by something more convincing than the "weight of the argument" or even a deduction from sensuous phenomena. He should be in the hold of some such deep conviction as that God has spoken, and that he must "obey God rather than men".

## II

But what of our obligation to that vaster number who answer the call? For more than half a decade a million young men have been called to the colors each year, and a million have been turned back each year into the stream of civilian pursuits. Approximately 24,000,000 men now living have served in the military forces of this country. Military service is a fact in their lives and, though some would choose to ignore it, these young men cannot ignore it.

Too little has been done to prepare our young people to meet the hazards—the moral, physical and spiritual hazards—that military service entails. I do not take the view that the Defense Department constitutes "a vast moral and spiritual briar-patch." There are hazards they must face. There are creative possibilities too.

In a show case of popular books I saw a sub-title a few days ago that set me thinking. There was a picture on the cover showing a man in uniform, a title, and a sub-title, all designed to promote the sale, I suppose. But the sub-title set me thinking. It read:

"A Young Soldier forced into manhood by Love and Violence in Occupied Japan."

"A Young Soldier Forced into Manhood"! To how many tragic experiences in our time that has been preluded! "A Young Soldier Forced into Manhood"—the tragedy does not confine itself to young soldiers. It is a common experience. "A Young Student Forced into Manhood"—what rabble-rousing critic of higher education could not pontificate on that? "A Young Moses Forced into Manhood"—has not this been a sort of Red Sea experience out of which the young and immature have emerged disciplined and mature, or broken and debased?

In Brittany, that picturesque and remote corner of France, where it is said that "the sea bites hungrily into the land and legend maintains the potency of history", the fisherman tell the story of a village called IS. IS, of course, is no more. For they will tell you that long ago IS was swallowed up by the sea. They are sure that they can see the spires of the church of IS in the waves when the storms are violent, and can hear the sound of the church bells in the stillness of the calm.

Renan, the eminent sceptical scholar, was reared in Brittany and his early life was steeped in its traditions and legends.

At the age of 15½ years, without intelligent preparation, he was taken from Brittany and thrust into all that was sprightly and alert in Parisian life—into the intellectual eruditeness and the glamor of sights and experiences as novel to him, he informs us, as if he had been brought to Paris from Tahiti or Timbuctoo. This abrupt transplanting of Renan from Brittany to Paris was seen by him in retrospect as the crisis of his life. For with the idealism and romantic tenderness of his native Brittany he loved his mother and his mother's unperplexed religion. Paris seemed to compromise both. He found the new life novel and intriguing. He marveled at the elaborate trappings of cathedral worship, bedecked in color and scented with musk, but marvel could not fill the need of worship in childlike faith. He found the expanding horizons of new knowledge at once fascinating and revolting. The passing years, far from bridging the gap between the religious life in Brittany and the religious life in Paris, served to deepen the contrast. You know the story; the lad who in simple faith had resolved in boyhood to give himself to the religious life, threw aside his habit and became a sceptic. The story could be captioned: "A Lad of Brittany Forced into Manhood."

"Have you come to the Red Sea place in your life.

Where, in spite of all you can do,

There is no way back,

There is no way out,

There is no other way than THROUGH."

Pastors, Teachers, Parents and all good people concerned with giving proper guidance to the boys and girls of today who will be the men and women of America tomorrow: Millions of our young people in our time are having to make the transition from the unperplexed environments of home and native community to the exacting situation of military life, at home and abroad. Too many of them have been "forced into manhood" precipitously, unexpectedly, and without adequate preparation. For the foreseeable future it looks as if every able-bodied American boy is going to face the problem of a like adjustment, or something akin thereto. We must not be content to allow our children and our neighbor's children to travel this lonely road alone. They should have competent and informed advice. It may be that some of us will have to re-evaluate the content of preaching. Much that goes in

(Continued on page 6)

# From the Editor's Desk

## News of Nat'l Ass'n.

The Rev. Chas. A. Thigpen, Moderator of the National Association gave the keynote address on Tuesday evening, using the subject: "Christ Shall Be Magnified" and truly Christ was magnified in a most wonderful way. Following the close of the service, an all night prayer meeting got under way at the Thomas Memorial Church, with various leaders from all over the denomination participating, closing with the 6:30 A.M. service Wednesday, directed by the Rev. Thomas Willey, Sr., of Cuba.

Dr. Ivan L. Bennett, former chief of Army Chaplains, now in charge of the American Bible Society's distribution of Bibles to the armed forces, spoke on Wednesday afternoon on the subject, "What We Owe To Our Young People Who Are Serving In The Armed Forces." (The Rev. Dr. Bennett's address is carried in this issue).

The Rev. John L. Welch, first Moderator of the national association outlined the doctrinal beliefs of the denomination in his message.

There was a special service honoring all the former Moderators of the association. Two were unable to be present.

Approximately 1700 people registered for the association, with an estimated attendance of 2000.

The Rev. Thomas Willey, Sr., director of the field in Cuba, told of plans to enter the field in South America. Mr. Willey stated that, "Christ is the only alternative to Communism—and Free Will Baptists believe in the New Testament plan of missions, in training native leaders to carry the gospel to their countrymen."

This statement was well borne out in the persons of three native Cuban pastors present who spoke to the association, their messages being interpreted by Mr. Willey.

The Rev. Willard C. Day, Oklahoma, spoke on "Retaining Our Attainments" at the Thursday morning session.

We certainly praise the Lord for the unity that seemed to prevail through this session. There were many prayers prayed at the Association and by those who were not privileged to be present. There were prayer meetings at home and God honored the prayers of His people, as He always does.

We have been suffering from "growing pains" in our denomination, and we are indeed grateful for it, but sometimes there has been unpleasantness with it that was not glorifying to Christ. I hope we never get to the place that we will accept everything that is proposed and be a group of spineless "yes sir's", but then just because we do not agree on everything, that is no reason either for us being disagreeable.

If we will always endeavor to glorify Christ and not man, I believe He will help us with our problems and enable us to work out our differences of opinion without hurting the progress of His work. It is when man wants to be noticed and honored that the whole program is thrown out of focus.

The Rev. Chas. A. Thigpen was re-elected Moderator; The Rev. Dean Moore was re-elected Clerk. The Rev. W. S. Mooneyham was elected for a two year term to succeed himself as Executive Secretary.

The 1957 session will convene in Birmingham, Alabama; the 1958 session in St. Louis, Missouri.

## OUR OBLIGATION TO THE PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES

(Continued from page 5)

the name of the Gospel of Christ today smacks of being "carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease". Most of us can profit by a closer walk with Him who bore the bitter shame and calumny of the Cross, and in full view of those who had derided Him witnessed the agony of "being a derelict", forsaken. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me!" Along with this "gloriously happy" something that pervades the atmosphere of our churches there had better be a long earnest look at the Cross—the Cross Jesus preached before He died on a cross—"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me."

As Christians, I think we have the obligation to help our sons recognize the evil and destructive hazards of any situation, but I also think that we have the obligation to help them see the **creative possibilities of every situation**. Assume, if you will, that the Armed Services do constitute a sort of moral and spiritual briar-patch; so did Jerusalem on the first Good Friday. And that which distinguished our

Lord in the memory of mankind as the Christ, and gave the name of Christian to His followers, was not only that He faced evil, but that He, seeing the creative possibilities of the situation, so transformed the events of that day that the Cross, heretofore a symbol of shame and an instrument of death, became for great multitudes in all succeeding generations "the power of God and the wisdom of God." To say simply that our problem is basically how to approach the problem of evil seems to me to yield to the Jewish interpretation of the Cross that is was a "stumbling-block", if not to the Greek interpretation that it was "foolishness".

It is true that much that has been done in the past for the men in the Service has followed the pattern of safeguarding them from physical, mental and moral debasement—**helping them to face evil situations**. But the tour of military duty must not be regarded as an interlude of life in which growth and creativity can take a moratorium. These young people who serve in the Forces are in the midst of life, and it is one of the most prevalent forms of self-deception for them to suppose that opportunities for creative living during this period may be passed up as an irrelevance during military service, and on separation from the service picked up at the point where laid down at the time they were inducted.

I believe that the pre-inductive training should emphasize the importance of the following:

1. That each young man and woman in the military service utilize every available contact to widen their understanding of the plurality of values that make us a democratic society.
2. That they utilize their service abroad to explore the positive and creative elements in civilizations other than our own.
3. That within their own denomination they be trained to attend and participate in non-denominational worship so that they can and will attend Chapel and associate with other Christians not merely as a means of avoiding evil involvement, but also to share in creative and positive services: participation in projects to feed the hungry, to care for orphans, to aid in the ministry or healing, to make adventures in friendship with people of other races, to build bridges of understanding, and otherwise to project themselves into spiritual, intellectual, and psychological ventures, the by-product of which is personality growth.

(Continued on page 7)

## Learn to Say "No"

Rolla D. Smith

Spurgeon once said, "Learn to say 'no'; it will be of more use to you than to be able to read Latin." Satan is a great tempter and only those who have learned to refuse the suggestions of his agents will be victorious in life. Ever since the serpent beguiled Eve in the garden, man has been tempted. The chief business of man's adversary, the devil, is to corrupt the minds of God's people. To realize this and to be on guard are requisites for successful Christian living.

It is good to remember that God's grace is sufficient for victory over every trial—"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Peter said, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation." A realization of God's presence gives fortitude and wisdom for complete victory over all temptations.

Though God's grace is sufficient for victory over sin, man has something to do. The wise man said, "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." It is one thing to be enticed and another to consent. Man's part is to consent not to that which is evil. James said, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." To resist the tempter, then, is to put him to flight. Failure to do so will always lead to trouble. God has made no provision for man's deliverance from temptation so long as he himself does not do the best he can to keep out of it. As someone has said, "To pray against temptation, and yet to rush in to occasions, is to thrust your fingers into the fire, and then pray that they might not be burned."

When confronted with evil the injunction of Proverbs 4:14 should be regarded—"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men." Lot, failing to live by this principle, met with great distress. The Bible says, "The men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly." Yet he pitched his tent in that direction. The lure of fertile fields was the bait that was used to trap Lot. A mess of pottage was the bait used to ensnare Esau. The lure of silver and gold was used to lead Achan into the pitfall of judgement and death. Many strange women turned the heart of Solomon away from God. In these and in many

other ways man is being led astray today. To quote another, "It is better to shun the bait than to struggle in the snare."

The Bible records many instances of individuals who have said "no" to the suggestions of the tempter. For instance, Elisha refused payment for the cure of Naaman, the leper. He said, "As the Lord liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it but he refused." Wine was set before the sons of the Rechabites, but they said, "We will drink no wine." Joseph refused to commit sin with his master's wife, though it meant going to prison.

Let no man say his temptations are too great. The God of Elisha, Daniel and Joseph will enable every Christian to say "no" to the suggestions of the wicked one. Only when temptation is faced in human strength alone is there defeat.

### PROTESTANTS IN ITALY FINALLY GET FREEDOM OF WORSHIP

After three years, punctuated by a running battle with Italian police, American missionaries have finally been granted a degree of freedom.

Last month Italy's new constitutional Court ruled that the Mussolini-regime law requiring police permission before hanging up a sign or poster is unconstitutional. The 1948 constitution provides that "everyone has the right to manifest his thought with words, in writing, or by any other means of propaganda," decided the court.

A second ruling of the court held that Protest services could not be considered "dangerous to public order and security or public morals." It freed the the Rev. Guiseppe Pizzo, an Assemblies of God minister, who had been arrested when he defied a police order to leave the town of Alcamo, Sicily, where he had been holding religious services. As an Italian citizen, Mr. Pizzo had the right to go anywhere in Italy as long as he did not menace public health or security, the court ruled.

—From E. R. A.

Standing amid the ruins of the ancient Coliseum in Rome, viewing the place where wild animals and gladiators battled and Christian martyrs died, I wrote these words: Some fought for glory, some fought for gain, some fought for life, but all fought in vain—except the Christians who fought the good fight of faith and kept the faith. (I Tim. 6:12; II Tim. 4:7)

## OUR OBLIGATION TO THE PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES

(Continued from page 6)

Just as the debasement of the character of young men and women returning from the military service pours its stream of corruption into the nation's life, so also the creative gains in Christian character can pour their salutary stream into the nation's life. I think, therefore, that there is a need to shift the focus of emphasis from the negative to the positive, maintain themselves in the presence of evil, to a greater effort to aid them in creative Christian living.

There is need for a keener awareness that the young women of the nation are involved. Some of them are in the armed services. Many more are separated from their husbands and sweethearts. Approximately 10,000,000 young wives and sweethearts have suffered the agonizing torture of extended separation while their principals are away in military service. Disaster has come to many homes that had a chance to succeed but for the strain, uncertainty, loneliness, and extended separation, coupled with reduced income, child care, and limited social and church contacts. The strain has left many children artificially orphaned.

The increasing number of former service men entering the pastorate give hope of better attention to this area of need. If the churches are alert to the needs of these lonely girls and their children, they are making use of the most potent factor available to them in re-integrating the service man into the life and work of the church when he returns from military service. They are the greatest human force to guide the serviceman in the way of moral rectitude. They deserve more attention.

If the people at home could know the deep and depersonalizing agony that comes to the absent service man when word comes that wife or sweetheart has failed him, how completely the spiritual and moral foundations of life are shaken, and with what feeling of utter helplessness and dismay he turns to the daily task, I think there would be greater generosity of time and effort to surround wife and sweetheart with the sustaining companionship and understanding they so richly deserve.

The home and the church have not done their duty by a boy or girl that graduates from High School without having read the entire Bible under helpful guidance. That guidance

(Continued on page 16)





Rev. and Mrs. Sparks

## Approved For Africa

By Raymond Riggs

Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Sparks, missionary candidates, have been approved for Africa. Mr. Sparks is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Sparks of Sulphur, Oklahoma. He is a graduate of Sulphur High School and Free Will Baptist Bible College. Also he attended one year at the Murray State School of Agriculture, one semester at Oklahoma Baptist University, one semester at Oklahoma University, some work at Winona Lake School of Theology and received an M. A. degree this year from Columbia Bible College.

Mrs. Sparks is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. Kaminsky of Edwardsburg, Michigan. In addition to her high school she attended South Bend College of Commerce, one year at Free Will Baptist Bible College and one year at Columbia Bible College.

Bro. Sparks served as pastor in the fellowship churches:

Wolf Free Will Baptist Church, Snomac, Okla.

Norman Free Will Baptist Church, Norman, Okla.

Marietta Free Will Baptist Church, Lyons, Ga.

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Baxley, Ga.

It will be necessary for this couple to study the French language enroute to our field in Africa. This perhaps will be done in Paris, France. They hope to leave in the late fall or early winter. In the meantime they are open for engagements and itinerate work in the interest of their support.

We highly recommend them to our people for your prayers and financial support. Already we are receiving funds for their account. What will you do to help these reach the unreached?

Nothing will cook your goose faster than a red-hot temper.—Cable.

It is not a new leaf you need to turn over, but a new life you need to turn to.

## PASTOR RESIGNS; NEW PASTOR CALLED

Mrs. Eunice Edwards resigned the pastorate of the Leadington Free Will Baptist Church, effective August 26th. Mrs. Edwards plans to move to Nashville, Tennessee, where she will be employed in the WNAC office there.

July 28th, the Leadington Church elected the Rev. James Davis of Monett, Missouri to be their new pastor. Rev. Davis will assume charge of the Church as soon as possible.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

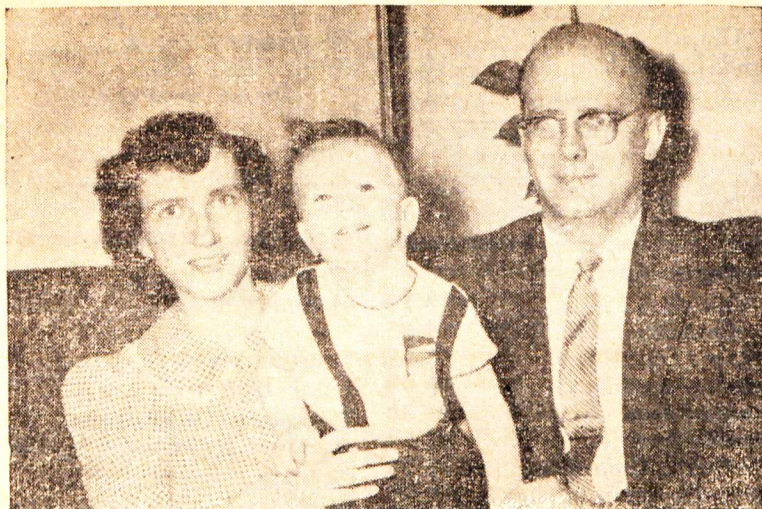
#### FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION

Pinar del Rio, Cuba

June 1, 1956—June 30

Cash on Hand, June .....		\$	34.25	
Cash in Bank, June 1, (General) ....	\$	5.53		
Cash in Bank, June 1, (Dormitory) ..		106.41		
Cash in Bank, June 1, (Temples) ....	1,000.00		1,111.94	\$1,146.19
<b>Income</b>				
Check, Mission Board .....			2,465.00	
Check for Phenicie Boys .....			130.00	
Gifts .....			196.53	
Books and Quotas (Students) .....			27.00	
Sale, Yagua .....			51.00	2,869.53
				\$4,015.72
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Food .....			157.00	
Salaries .....				
Phenicies .....		150.00		
Phenicie Boys .....		130.00		
National Workers .....	1,425.50		1,705.50	
Rent .....			257.50	
Hospitalization .....			65.47	
Repair on Equipment .....			46.89	
Gas and Oil .....			28.20	
General Maintenance .....			19.55	
Girl's Dormitory .....			100.50	
Calf Shed .....			51.00	
<b>Temples</b>				
Materials for San Juan .....		96.25		
Materials for La Grifa .....		21.60		
Materials for Tirado .....		32.45		
First Payment on Lot, La Lisa ..	500.00			
Last Payment on Lot, Jaruco .....	650.00		1,300.30	
Animal Feed .....			130.77	
Farm and animal expense .....			6.95	
Passage .....			4.00	
Office Expense .....			5.97	
Linotype (Mensajero Fiel) .....			21.10	
D.V.B.S. Material .....			5.96	
Piano (Matahambre) .....			5.00	
Batlib .....			2.00	
Medicine .....			5.35	
Lumber .....			19.80	
Miscellaneous .....			.60	
Bank charges .....			3.66	3,943.07
				\$ 72.65
			3.66	3,943.07
Cash on Hand, June 30 .....			33.47	
Cash in Bank, June 30 General .....	333.57			
Cash in Bank, June 30, Dormitory ..	5.91			
	339.48			
Temple Account (Overdrawn) .....	300.30		39.18	72.65





## The Hersheys in Japan

Tokyo, Japan

Dear Bro. Riggs:

"Greetings from the land of Japan. I guess it's a little past time for us to be writing you. It seems hard to realize the fact that we have been in Japan three weeks now. We are very thankful for the good voyage we had on the Wilson. The first night out from California was very rough but after Tuesday, April 10, we had good sailing all the way. When we were about three days from Honolulu the weather cleared up and was warm the rest of the trip. We enjoyed the one day off the boat in Honolulu. We had some good fellowship with another missionary couple returning for a second term.

"When we arrive at Yokohama we were glad to see Wesley and Aileen come aboard ship with three Japanese young people. One of the girls was carrying a beautiful bouquet of flowers and when they all came into our room she handed them to Evelyn and the Japanese said; "Welcome to Japan". One of the girls got a little mixed up and said "Welcome to Japanese". They had learned to say that that morning driving over to the dock. We appreciated someone to welcome us as we felt like strangers in a foreign land.

"Driving from Yokohama to Tokyo we saw many new sights. I kept wanting Wesley to drive on the right side of the road but he insisted that he had to stay on the left side all the time. The traffic consists of bicycles, motorcycles, many three-wheeled motorcycle trucks, many taxi cabs, trucks, buses and cars. The taxi cabs far outnumber private cars. The majority of buildings and houses look like they could stand a good coat of paint. Most of the streets have no

sidewalks and are very narrow. One cannot help but notice how close their houses and buildings are built to one another. In most cases the only place the children have to play is in the streets. When we turned off the narrow street to Wesley's house he had to drive very slowly and sound his horn often as there were many children and older folks.

We are anxious to get out from Tokyo and see how it is in the country area.

"They had found a place where they thought we might like to live. It has three rooms, a bathroom and a room for the washing machine. The only unhandy thing is that the bedroom and living room are upstairs. Downstairs is another room which is used by the Southern Baptists during the week as a kindergarden. It is on Southern Baptist property so the rent is fairly reasonable for what we have. Our house is what you might call half American and Japanese. The kitchen and bathroom is Americanized but the upstairs is Japanese style. The floors upstairs are made out of rice-straw mats which are about 4 inches thick. The bedroom has 6 mats and the living room 8 mats. There is a little hall-way next to the two rooms and it has sliding windows which gives us plenty of sun. We have sliding doors upstairs. The doors are only about 5½ feet high between the hall-way and rooms. Between the bedroom and living room there are more sliding doors.

Since I have been here I have learned to duck many times. At the Calvery's house where we stayed the first few days I got some bad bruises on my head going into their bathroom. We moved here and going from the bedroom into the living room I received a few more bruises. I had a sore head for a day or so but have

learned now to duck. We think that the Japanese houses were built for people a little shorter than I.

We like it in our house very much now and have just about got everything straightened out. All of our things got here in good condition, for which we are thankful. They had found a young married woman to help around the house and watch Philip while we're at school. She has worked for missionaries before—friends of the Calvery's—and then quit to get married. Pray for us as we study the language and get acquainted with the Japanese people.

Philip is fine and happy. He is learning to stand and walk in his bed. Wesley and Aileen have been gone now for about a week and should be back in a day or so. They went North to Hokkaido. I believe they were looking over possible places where they might settle after leaving Tokyo. As far as I can find out the two most needy fields of Japan are to the extreme North and to the extreme South. I guess there are fewer missionaries in these areas than in other parts of the country.

Since we were too late to be in the regular class at language school we thought it best to sort of try to get settled a little bit before trying to start language school and not be able to study as we should. We have been going to language school since Monday, 7th. Today was our 6th day in school. We go every afternoon from 1:30—3:30. So far we have been getting along O. K. We will be able to go to school this summer and get caught up with what we missed by coming late. So by next September we should be able to enroll in a regular class. It seems kind of strange to be in the same class with Evelyn by ourselves."

Fred, Evelyn and Philip

### SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE!

Raymond Riggs

The date for the Annual Missionary Conference at the Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., has been changed to Tuesday, October 9 and Wednesday, October 10.

We had originally planned the Conference for one week later, October 16 and 17. The reason for the change is due to the convening of the Cumberland Association of Free Will Baptists which includes all of the churches in and around Nashville. We are sorry for the "slip-up" and hope you will make your plans to attend the Missionary Conference on October 9 and 10 in the Bible College Auditorium.



# State Treasurer's Report

April, May, June, July, 1956

**Received:**

**Co-Operative Fund:**

Fellowship Church	\$ 650.43
Myrtle Church	42.42
Oak Grove Church	10.50
Fredericktown Church	431.42
Mt'n Grove Church	127.00
Black Oak Church	7.30
Verdella Church	202.45
Southside Church	300.00
Merl's Chapel Church	85.10
Third Church	163.17
Dutch Chapel Church	32.84
Carterville Church	45.12
Hannon Sunday School	37.84
Farmington Church	163.71
Macedonia Church	45.52
Alton Church	12.05
Leadington Church	249.58
Desloge Church	242.04
Union Light Church	10.87
Fourth Church	119.31
Coppermines Church	100.00
Martinstown Church	50.00
Mill Creek Church	41.05
Thayer Church	80.93
Thayer D.V.B.S.	18.90
Richwoods Church	206.95
Wellston Church	151.49
Mt'n Valley Church	57.60
Mine La Motte Church	70.34
New Prospect Church	14.94
Aulsbury Church	94.50
Hazel Creek Union Church	49.60
First Church (Flat River)	252.22
Faith and Hope Church	5.67
Neosho D.V.B.S.	6.95
Neosho Church	11.87
Lebanon Church	10.00

Total Received ..... \$ 4,201.68

**Disbursed as follows:**

National Co-Operative Fund	\$ 2,941.19
State General Fund	504.19
State Home Missions	420.16
Free Will Baptist Gem	315.13
State Superannuation	21.01

Total Disbursed: ..... \$ 4,201.68

**Foreign Missions:**

Fellowship Church	\$ 226.77
Monett Church	36.73
Verdella Church	4.00
Coppermines S. S.	36.00
Union Light S. S.	100.69
Wolf Creek Church	20.00
Joplin S. S.	6.37
Waggoner Church	19.71
New Harmony D.V.B.S.	15.12
Mine La Motte Church	5.21

Hartville Church	15.53
Green Ridge Church	5.00
Garfield Church	14.50
Lowground D.V.B.S.	18.85
Lowground Church	21.70

Total Received ..... \$ 546.18

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 546.18

**Received for Foreign Missions by Lucy Wisheart Itinerary:**

Desloge Church	13.70
Aulsbury Church	14.65
First Church (Flat River)	22.65
First Church Auxiliary	10.00
Farmington Church	14.00
Leadington Church	43.64
Madison County Churches	37.23
Mt'n Grove Church	58.59
Fellowship Church	60.28

Total Received ..... \$ 274.74

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 274.74

**Missions:**

Fredricktown Church	\$ 130.19
Rock Chapel Church	89.30
First Church (Flat River)	44.36
Martinstown Church	25.00
Joplin Church	35.71
Martinstown and Graysville DVBS	30.33
New Harmony S. S.	89.48
Old Bethel Church	46.42

Total received ..... \$ 490.79

**Disbursed as follows:**

Foreign Missions	\$ 343.56
National Home Missions	\$ 147.23

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 490.79

**Marie Hanna Fund:**

Third Church	\$ 210.00
Leadington DVBS	16.94

Total received ..... \$ 226.94

Total disbursed ..... \$ 226.94

**Robert Wilfong Fund:**

Fellowship Church	\$ 125.00
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Total received ..... \$ 125.00

Total disbursed ..... \$ 125.00

**State Superannuation:**

Monett Church	\$ 24.47
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Total received ..... \$ 24.47

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 24.47

**National Home Missions:**

Monett Church	36.73
Third Church	70.58
Waggoner Church	9.86
Southside League	10.00

Total Received ..... \$ 127.17

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 127.17

**Bible College:**

Monett Church	\$ 61.22
Waggoner Church	3.28
From Gem office (sale of books)	2.00

Total received ..... \$ 66.50

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 66.50

**State Home Missions:**

Waggoner Church	\$ 13.14
Monett Church	9.48

Total received ..... \$ 22.62

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 22.62

**Tennessee Orphanage:**

Hazel Creek S. S.	\$ 16.72
Garfield Church	14.50

Total Received ..... \$ 31.22

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 31.22

**Youth Camp:**

Madison County S. S. Convention	\$ 25.00
Waggoner Church	13.14
Aulsbury Church	22.28

Total received ..... \$ 60.42

Total Disbursed ..... \$ 60.42

**State General Expenses:**

Waggoner Church	\$ 3.28
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Total Received ..... \$ 3.28

**State Entertainment:**

Fredericktown Church	\$ 25.00
Lebanon Church	5.00
New Harmony Church	12.50
New Harmony S. S.	12.50
Nianqua Church	10.00
Mt'n Grove Church	20.00
Aulsbury Church	20.00
Hannon S. S.	15.00
Rock Chapel Church	15.00

Total Received ..... \$ 135.00

**Gem:**

Subscriptions	\$ 285.37
Supplies	127.09
Books	4.00

**Gifts as follows:**

Monett Church	24.47
Waggoner Church	3.29

Total gifts ..... 27.76

Total received ..... \$ 444.22

Signed, Mrs. Eunice Edwards,  
Clerk-Treas.

The will of God is not to be found through visions and dreams, but through earnest study of His Word and holy living.

You will either live a big life or die a little one.



**FINANCIAL REPORT OF 1956  
YOUTH CAMP SESSION**

Total Attendance—259.	
239 Campers paying .....	\$1,666.00
Special offering and Pop stand .....	549.47
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$2,215.47</b>
Expense of session .....	\$1,677.87

Balance ..... \$ 537.60  
Reporting the best session we have had.

Rev. W. M. Reeves, Treas.  
Niangua, Mo.

**LUCY WISEHART  
REPORTS**

It has been a real time of blessing to be back in the States again and especially to fellowship with many of my Christian friends, although I have already begun to miss my work in Cuba.

The past week I have visited in the Lead Belt section of our work. The Lord has blessed in all the services. The first meeting was with the Desloge church. Slides were shown on the work in Cuba and an offering of \$13.70 was given for Foreign Missions. The next service was at Ausbury Chapel and their offering was \$14.65.

The other services were with the First Church in Flat River, Farmington Church, Fellowship, Leadington and Fredericktown. The Lord blessed in each of these places and I thank Him for the interest shown in each place for the Mission work. Below is a list of the offerings taken for foreign Missions.

- First Church—\$32.65.
- (Auxiliary—\$10.00)
- Farmington—\$14.00.
- Fellowship—\$60.28.
- Leadington—\$43.64.
- Mt'n Grove Church—\$58.59

The meeting at Fredericktown was attended by several of the churches from that section and the offering is listed as the Madison County Quarterly Meeting. \$37.23. At this meeting one young lady offered her life as a missionary to go where God leads.

I am sure God is going to bless these churches because of their interest in sending the Gospel to those who still have not heard.

Lucy Wischart

There will not come into a man's heart peace or blessings until sin is removed and truth and righteousness dwell within.

—Selected

**TO HELP YOU GET ACQUAINTED  
WHILE YOU WAIT TO EAT**

You can give your church banquets and luncheons greater missionary emphasis through use of our attractive new mission place mats. The new place mats are printed in two colors on linen finish paper. The place mats show the map of the world with pictures of our missionaries around the edge with arrows indicating their place of service. This will help you to get better acquainted with our missionaries and also the place of their work.

These place mats may be ordered from the Board of Foreign Missions, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn. The cost is five (5c) each or special prices will be made on quantity of 100 or more. Send for your order today.

Also this lovely place mat makes an ideal picture for framing.

Raymond Riggs,  
Promotional Sec.-Treas.

**QUILT FOR MISSIONARIES**

Raymond Riggs

Recently the women of the Linneus Free Will Baptist Church of Houlton, Maine quilted a very lovely quilt and sent to the foreign mission office to be used by our missionaries as needed.

This quilt will be sent to one of our missionary couples in Japan where it gets extremely cold during the winter months.

It has occurred to us that perhaps other groups would like to engage in a similar project. With the missionaries on the field, and new ones going out, it would be nice to have quilts on hand for their disposal.

If your group or auxiliary would like to help in this way then just send your quilt to the Foreign Mission Department and we shall see to it that it goes where needed most.

Please attach identification note to the quilt so we may notify the missionary as to who made and sent the quilt.

**W. N. A. C. Meeting**

Following a most profitable executive meeting and with a strong missionary spirit prevailing, the W.N.A.C. convened in Huntington, West Virginia July 9th 1956, with the president, Mrs. Laverne Miley, presiding. The keynote for the convention was "O, Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth," and it was well carried out throughout the convention.

The thought for the day: "The light of salvation must be real in our lives before we can show or tell others," was brought to life in the testimonies of the Cuban pastors, Estenio, Melitino, Benito, the Senior missionary from Cuba, Mr. Thomas Willey, and Miss Lucy Wischart, missionary home on furlough from Cuba.

The Rev. Robert Wilfong challenged our hearts with an account of the blessings of the Lord they were enjoying in Tampa, Florida, where they recently began a new work. Rev. Wilfong's message once more made real to us the promise of God "Go, and I shall be with you." After several months of patient, untiring effort God has blessed with the organization of a new church which is going forward.

Tuesday morning thought for the day brought home to each of us the fact that we are responsible for carrying the light of salvation to those who have not heard.

The Rev. E. C. Morris, Tifton, Georgia, in the morning devotion, gave us intimate glimpse of the needs, potentialities, and challenges of India gleaned from his visit to our work there.

The response to the declamation contest this year was most gratifying. There were 16 contestants entered from the various states using the theme Missions. The winners were: Gayla Faye Letchworth, and Annette Cox. The same theme will be used for the coming year. Miss Luther Sanders, Cordova, Alabama, Youth Chairman, was in charge of the contest.

For the first time an essay contest was conducted on the subject, "The Worth of a Family Altar." There were 6 entries and the winners were: Larry Denham and Carolyn Lee. This same theme will also be used for next year's contest.

Part of the fruits of giving to missions was exemplified in the experiences of the 3 Cuban pastors present. While they were walking in darkness, the light of the Gospel was made known to them and now they are taking it to others. The Rev. Benito Rodriguez presented the desperate need for chapels in Cuba. The registrar's records revealed 623 registering and an approximate attendance of 1,500. Statistical records revealed a membership of 11,003, and 661 conversions reported.

We had reported 67 Y.P.A., 75 G.T.A.'s and 13 B.A. organizations. Twenty states reported this year and 3 new states were accepted as mem-

(Continued on page 12)

# Woman's Auxiliary

## Program

Of

Women's Auxiliary State Convention of Missouri, Aug. 22, 1956.

Theme: "Using What You Have".  
 Watchword: "What Is That In Thine Hand?" Exodus 4:2.  
 W.N.A.C. Colors: Lavender and White.

Convention Hymn: "Brighten the Corner Where You Are."

Wednesday Morning—Aug. 22

9:00—Registration.

11:00—Hymn: "Brighten the Corner Where You Are."

Devotional scripture, prayer by Margaret Dixon.

President in charge.

Seating Delegates.

Appointing Committees:

Registration

Finance

Business

Nominating

Appreciation

Hymn

Message by Lucy Wischart

Wednesday Afternoon

1:30—Hymn: "Brighten the Corner Where You Are."

Devotional by Virginia Measley  
 Highlights of Combined Reports by Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Election of Delegates to W.N.A.C.

Miscellaneous Business

Playlet by the Cave Springs District

Installation of Officers by Lucille Beatty

Benediction

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Suggested Quotas For Special Home Mission Project, Adopted at the 1956 WNAC

State	Suggested Quota
Alabama	\$ 90.00
Arkansas	40.00
California	90.00
Florida	50.00
Georgia	120.00
Illinois	60.00
Kentucky	40.00
Michigan	120.00
Mississippi	50.00

Missouri	200.00
North Carolina	350.00
Ohio	40.00
Oklahoma	200.00
South Carolina	160.00
Tennessee	200.00
Texas	110.00
Virginia	40.00
West Virginia	40.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,000.00

During the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention in Huntington, W. Va. it was voted to purchase a tent for the Home Mission Department to be used in the establishing of new churches here in the states. The amount of the purchase is not to exceed \$2000.

The New Woman's Auxilliary Secretary's Record Book is now ready and can be purchased from the WNAC office at \$1.50 per copy.

—Woman's National Auxiliary Convention,  
 3801 Richland Ave.  
 Nashville 5, Tenn.

### W.N.A.C. DECLAMATION CONTEST 1956

The response to the Y.P.A. and G. T. A. Declamation Contest this year was over-whelming and it is with joy and humility that I write this article. I wish to congratulate every youth chairman on the field—local, district, and state who helped to make the contest at the National Convention the success that it was. Thank you very much for your co-operation.

There were eight (8) Y.P.A. contestants and eight (8) G. T. A. contestants. Their names and states are as follows: Y.P.A. Miss Peggy Seay, Alabama; Gayla Faye Letchworth, North Carolina (first place winner); Betty Jean Robinson, South Carolina; Peggy Eubanks, Georgia; Annette Cox, Missouri (second place winner); Juanita Deuell, Virginia; Bonnie Pierce, Mississippi; Iva Jean Reed, Tennessee.

G.T.A. Ruth Hutton, Alabama; Kenneth Ray Smith, North Carolina, Barbara Allen, South Carolina (second place winner); Brenda Houston, Georgia; Robert Bryon, Virginia (first place winner); Joyce Mounce, Oklahoma; Jaqueline Dalton, Michigan.

The winners of the Essay Contest this year were G. T. A. Carolyn Lee from North Carolina and the Y.P.A.

was Larry Denham from South Carolina.

The interest among the youth of our churches is growing and certainly presents a challenge to the Woman's Auxiliary. I pray that God will help us to rise to meet the challenge. If your state was not represented in the contests this year begin now to make plans and preparations for your state to be represented in Birmingham, Alabama in 1957.

Mrs. Luther Sanders  
 WNAC Youth Chairman

### W. N. A. C. MEETING

(Continued from page 11)

bers of the convention. Receipts showed an increase over 1955.

Business highlights were:

1. The acceptance of the W. N. A. C. of a Home Mission project this year in the purchase of a tent in which to hold revivals that would culminate in the organization of Churches. Each state's quota for this project will be double what it was last year on the visual-aids project.

2. Mrs. Eunice Edwards was elected Executive Secretary-Treasurer and is expected to assume office by first of September. Mrs. Edwards is also to serve as promotional chairman and literature chairman for the current year.

3. The President of the W.N.A.C. is to be sent as an official delegate, with expenses paid, to the women's commission of the N.A.E.

4. The executive secretary will be sent to the Women's Convention in Cuba in April.

Was it a direct reflection in as much as there were 16 contestants using the subject missions in the declamation contest and 16 candidates pledged their lives for missionary service in the meeting for Missions at the National Association?

The coming year challenges each of us to a deepened prayer life, to more consecrated living and to more sacrificial giving that we might under God accomplish more in His service for the salvation of souls. We are depending upon you to assume your share of responsibility for these times.

We are all making one of three things—a failure, a living, or a life. Most people make a failure, many make a living, but only a few ever make a life.



## Declamation

Miss Gayle Letchworth

(Editor's Note: Following is one of the winning declamations written and given by Miss Gayle Letchworth of Snow Hill, N. C., at the W.N.A.C. Convention).

The last words in Matthew's Gospel are Jesus' command to "... teach all nations..." There words read: "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, 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: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world..." (Matthew 28:18-20).

In the field of foreign missions much is being done, but there is so much more to do. Perhaps you have asked yourself, "Would it really be a good thing for the people of India and other far-away places to become Christians? Would they be happy after having lived in their world of weakness and sin?" The answer to both of these questions is yes. One can find very little happiness in sin; but when one is saved, the heart, spirit and soul are free from the bondage of sin. We know that these people will be happy with God, for we have His promise that if we witness to these people, they will be happy in God if they only believe when He says, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:17). Since this is true, what explanation is there for the inadequate number of missionaries? In India there are millions of unsaved souls, and yet the missionaries live from one hundred to one hundred and fifty and more miles apart. There should be at least twice as many, for in Romans 10:13-15 Paul says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things." It is tragic that so many have not heard.

A good example of this took place in Northern India. Rev. Raymond Riggs, our promotional secretary-treasurer of Foreign Missions, Dan Cronk, our missionary, and an Indian evan-

gelist were traveling by jeep from our mission station in North India. They had already passed village after village of people who were without a gospel witness. The day was extremely hot, and it was very dusty; for there had been no rain for six months and the dust was so bad that kerchiefs were used to permit breathing. As the men rode along, they noticed an Indian man and his little boy driving eight head of cattle around in a circle. After stopping the jeep and waiting for the dust to settle, the men discovered that the two Indians were threshing rice. The heads of rice were piled on the ground, which served as the threshing floor, and the cattle were driven over the spot. Their pointed hoofs performed the threshing process. Of course the process was slow, requiring hours and hours; but eventually the straw would be raked to one side and the grain sifted from one vessel to another while the wind (or sometimes the women) fanned the chaff away.

As Mr. Riggs and his friends visited the two Indians, they talked of the crops, the weather and other common matters. Finally they asked the older Indian, "Do you know Jesus Christ as your Saviour?"

The Indian looked at the men with a blank countenance and asked, "Who is Jesus?" He had never heard the name! He was chief of his village, a village which after nineteen centuries had never heard of Christ. The people of his village are heathen because they can't help it, and because we haven't sent missionaries to his Village and others like his.

You may be wondering how we can possibly undertake such a tremendous job. Well, remember God has never asked us to do anything without enabling us to do what He asks, for He has all power and is with us always. When a bulldozer with its power can level a forest, dynamite can blast a tunnel through rocks, and an atomic bomb can destroy a nation, why have we been so slow to tell about Jesus and His love when we have God's power to undergird us?

Why haven't we witnessed to these poor, wretched, sinful people? Jesus says, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

We must not expect God to do everything. It is His plan for us to witness to these unsaved people and we must do our best. Christ set a

good example for us when He was here on earth witnessing to all people. He gave His life that they might have a chance for life everlasting. If we fail to witness to these people, what will happen to us? What will happen to them? While we do nothing, must they suffer hopelessly in darkness, superstition and disease? As to what will happen to us, remember Christ's various cautions: Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I have commanded you; their blood will I require at your hands; everyone shall give an account of himself.

You cannot be Jesus' friend if you do not try to help people. When you are called to give an account of yourself, what will your excuse be when there is no excuse? Their blood will be required at our hands. Now let us ask ourselves. "Do we want this to happen?"

Jesus gave His life for the world. What are you doing for Him? The words of that beautiful hymn, "I Gave My Life for Thee," should inspire us if we let the question which it asks sink into our hearts. Listen to the words:

I gave My life for thee  
My precious blood I shed;  
That thou might ransomed be  
And quickened from the dead.  
I gave, I gave My life for thee  
What hast thou given for Me?  
I gave, I gave My life for thee  
What hast thou given for Me?

### FREE WILL BAPTISTS TO ENTER AFRICA

Africa is to become the newest field for missionary endeavor by the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The federation of missions in French West Africa has officially assigned to them an area in Ivory Coast, bordering on the Gold Coast. The territory, known as the Bondougou Circle, lies north and northeast of the Methodist and Christian and Missionary Alliance areas and borders on the Conservative Baptist territory.

Plans have been made for Rev. and Mrs. Harold Stevens to make a personal survey of the area beginning July 21 and continuing to the end of August.

—E.F.M.A.

My prayer is: "Lord, may I live a big life in my little place." Most people live, die and are buried by their trouble; but occasionally one finds a humble, selfless soul who lives, loves, serves, dies, and is remembered above his troubles. With you—is it buried or lived?

## Resolutions Passed At W. N. A. C.

Be it resolved that:

1. The corresponding secretary of each state be responsible to send their slate of new officers to the W.N.A.C. headquarters with address of same.

2. That all Declamation Contestants must be members of the Y.P.A.'s G.T.A.'s or B.A.'s.

3. This Convention send our Executive Secretary and Treasurer as a representative to the Cuban Convention, which convenes April, 1957.

4. That this body approve the action of the Executive Committee in electing Mrs. Eunice Edwards to fill the unexpired terms of the Promotional Chairman, Miss Joyce Thompson and of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Homer Willis.

(Note.) Mrs. Edwards, has agreed to move to Nashville and assume these offices along with her offices as Literature Chairman.

5. The Executive Committee recommends that a new G.T.A. Manual be printed and that Mrs. Luther Sanders and Mrs. Paul Kettelman prepare the manuscript.

6. The Y.P.A., and G.T.A., Declamation Contestants use the subject "Missions" in the 1957 Contest.

7. The W.N.A.C. continue to sponsor the Essay Contest among Y.P.A.'s, using the subject of "The Worth of a Family Altar".

Ammendment— Also G. T. A. and B. A.'s.

8. This body present Miss Lucy Wisheart with a typewriter and that she make her own selection and present the bill to the treasurer.

9. This Convention send a Delegate to the Woman's Commission of the N.A.E. for information and that transportation and hotel expenses be paid by the convention.

10. The W.N.A.C. project for the year 1956-1957, be that of raising \$2,000 to purchase a tent to be used by the National Home Mission Board, and this amount be allocated to the various states.

11. That a standard for study classes be adopted and a card or certificate of recognition be issued by W.N.A.C. for work meeting the required standard, also that a study course report blank and copy of standard for study classes be made available to those groups wishing to apply for recognition as a Standard Class.

12. That we send our President to N.A.E. Convention.

13. That the leaflet "Study Course Helps" be made available in 1957.

14. That mimeographed teacher's guides be provided (as feasible) to supplement the suggested study course to sell for 10 and 15 cents.

15. That Officer's Workshop Yearly Theme for 1957 be, "The Four E's".

1st Quarter—"Enlarge" (Isa. 54: 2; Jn. 4:35).

2nd Quarter—"Enlighten" (Eph. 1-17:18; Psa. 19:8).

3rd Quarter—"Engage" (Jer. 30: 21; Ecc. 9:10; I Cor. 3:9).

4th Quarter—"Evaluate" (Matt. 25:21; Luke 16:2, 10; Jn. 17:4).

—Respectfully Submitted:

Mrs. Robert Crawford, Chairman,  
Mrs. Lonnie DaVault, Mrs. Melvin Bingham,  
Mrs. Claud Hampleman,  
Mrs. Blanch Maynard.

## New Pastor At

South Side Free Will Baptist Church,  
St. Louis, Mo.

The Daily Vacation Bible School was a good success at South Side, with an average of 102 pupils daily and 27 young people gave their hearts to Christ. There were 7 Souls saved during our revival which closed June 23rd. Rev. Bob Hill was the evangelist and also the superintendent for our Bible School.

South Side has elected Dr. W. A. Hales from Nashville, Tenn., as their Pastor for the coming year. Dr. Hales will take charge of the church sometime during the first part of August. Pray that the Lord may use him in a way that would cause the Church to grow and prosper for the cause of Christ.

The Sunday School held their annual yearly picnic Saturday July 7th at Babler State Park. There were games for all ages and a basket dinner was served at the noon hour. A good time was had by everyone attending. Our Sunday School average for the month of July is down, due to the many members being away on vacations. Pray that everyone will return with a greater zeal to work and that our average will again go up and continue to grow.

## RICHWOODS CHURCH ENJOYS FELLOWSHIP

Dear Co-Workers:

The Church and Sunday School gathered at Washington State Park for our annual Sunday School picnic on June 24th. There was a large crowd present besides several visitors.

An old-fashioned basket dinner was served at the noon hour. There was ice-cream and soda pop in the afternoon. Everyone had a grand time and enjoyed the fellowship together.

Superintendent Clarence Sohn and the teachers and officers did a fine job of supervising and providing games for all.

We left the Park with a greater determination to work harder for the success of the Sunday School than ever before.

—Mrs. Sophie Ackerson, Cor.

## JONES CHAPEL WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORTS

It has been some time since we have reported from our Jones Chapel Woman's Auxiliary. We do want you to know we are still on the job.

We do enjoy the lessons so very much even though we are not large in number. We are trying to do things for our Lord. We have just closed a DVBS, sponsored by the Auxiliary. Our Director was our Pastor's wife, Mrs. Winford Davis. We had around 50 enrolled. We were assisted by our Pastor, Rev. Davis. All in all, we had a wonderful school.

We are looking forward to our Indian Creek Association which convenes with the Monett Church. Hope to see our Auxiliary Women also.

We ask the prayers that we may do more in the coming year.

—Mrs. Edna Gentry, Cor.

## NEOSHO WOMEN MEETINGS

The Woman's Auxiliary met at the home of Mrs. Lorene Knee, July 26th at 1:30 P. M. Mrs. Wilma Pogue conducted the devotional.

Our lesson was on Jochebed, mother of Moses.

Benediction was by Mrs. Ella Pogue.

Refreshments were served to the following members: Mrs. Ella Pogue, Mrs. Lorene Knee, Mrs. Georgia Free, Mrs. Virginia Pogue, Mrs. Eva Lucas, Mrs. Sarah Davidson, Mrs. Wilma Pogue, Mrs. Dorothy Childress.

Visitors were Mrs. Mary Pogue, and four small children.

(Editor's Note: I am sorry that I did not have space for the other reports.)

I saw two trees: one was large and full of blossoms, fragrant and beautiful; the other was trifling and miserably small. Investigation proved that the wretched dwarf was what it was just because it didn't grow any bigger. Do you exist with the same ailment?



### III. Youth Camp

Illinois Sixth Free Will Baptist Youth Camp began July 17. One hundred sixteen children enrolled. Rev. Claude Childers, Marion, Ill., was the evangelist.

Subjects taught included: Evangelism, Missions and Stewardship, Bible, Handicraft, Doctrine, Boys Problems, Girls Problems.

Teachers were:

Mrs. Reba Ritter, Pittsburg, Ill.  
Mrs. Eunice Malone, Roxanna, Ill.  
Mrs. Emma Moore, Springfield, Ill.  
Mrs. Jane Norris, Evansville, Ind.  
Mrs. Bernice Hogshead, Waltonville, Ill.

Mrs. Les Elliott, Wason, Ill.  
Miss Darline Buntin, Benton, Ill.  
Miss Ruth Ann Edward.  
Mrs. Dorothy Hamelton, Waltonville, Ill.  
Mrs. Catherine Waggoner, Benton, Ill.

Cooks:

Mrs. Grace Bailey, Benton, Ill.  
Mrs. Oneda Baker, Mt. Vernon, Ill.  
President: Leon McBride.  
Deans: Mr. Everett Beaty, Ewing, Ill.

Mrs. Eunice Malone, Roxanna, Ill.  
Other Workers: Mr. and Mrs. Hiley Malone, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Farris.

Approximately 40 boys and girls accepted Christ as their Savior during the camp session.

In addition to the regular classes scheduled, morning and evening devotions were held in the dormitories. Evangelistic services were held twice daily at 11:00 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

Prayer services were held each evening with a camper or teacher in charge of the services.

The Sunday program included Sunday School, 11:00 A. M. worship service, and an afternoon program by the campers. Rev. Gene Norris, pastor, of the Webbs Prairie church brought the message.

Communion and Feetwashing was observed on Monday afternoon.

Diplomas were presented to each pupil at the close of the camp session.

We request your prayers that God will richly bless each of those who attended camp this year and for the proper guidance of each child by their pastor and parents.

The camp Evangelist for next year will be Rev. Bobby Jackson

Now is the time to begin planning and preparing for the needs of the camp to be met.

Mrs. Catherine Waggoner, Cor.

### THE SECOND MILE

The story is told of a city man who bought a farm. When he went out to look at the line fence, which had been the source of so much quarreling, the neighboring farmer said: "That fence is a full foot over on my side."

"Very well," said the new owner, "we will set the fence over two feet on my side."

"Oh, but that is more than I claim," stammered the surprised farmer.

"Never mind about that. I would much rather have peace with my neighbor than two feet of earth," said the man.

"That's surely fine of you sir," replied the farmer, "but I couldn't let you do a thing like that. That fence just won't be moved at all."

The next time you have a dispute about rights, surprise the other fellow by giving him more than he claims, and see what will happen.

### WHY THEY ATTEND

A questionnaire was presented to all who were present at the morning service in a certain church. One of the most revealing facts was that a large percentage of the people indicated that what first brought them to church was an invitation of a friend. Other reasons were given, but no one of them accounted for as many contacts as this personal introduction.

Newspaper and other forms of publicity are important in making the church known, but all of them together are less effective than members who are enthusiastic about their church and who invite their friends to come and share in the worship and fellowship.

"Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city...and compel them to come in that my house shall be filled."

—Anon

### Not Yet Finished

One story stubbornly keeps place in my memory. It is of a minister who on meeting a little boy one day asked, "Sonny boy, who made you?"

"Well, to tell you the truth," the little boy replied, "I ain't done yet."

That sharp answer contains a very wise bit of philosophy. The lad realized that he was still on the make. He was growing up. The longer he lived, the more opportunity life would give him. So it should be for every one of us—no matter what be the days of our years. Life can be ever so much more wonderful if we sincerely believe in God, who doeth all things

well. He gives grace and glory on an ever-increasing scale as we open to Him our lives and our souls and our minds.

(Fleming H. Revell Co.)  
Reuben K. Youngdahl in  
The Secret of Greatness

### The Workers' Meeting

A salesman does not skip a sales meeting because he is inexperienced!

A football player does not break training because he is a star!

A mechanic returns to the factory to learn about the latest models!

A doctor uses the latest drugs at his disposal!

Can officers and teachers afford to consider negligently and carelessly the one channel through which they can best serve?

Sunday Schools are "hinged" on the effectiveness of our officers' and teachers' meetings: some are "hung" because of the ineffectiveness of them.

—First Baptist Promoter

### THE GARAGE CHURCH GROWS

Recently Rev. Wesley Calvery of Tokyo, Japan sent in the following report regarding our work there in his garage.

"Recently our hearts have been made to rejoice because of the apparent working of the Spirit among our little group which meets in the garage. Two of the girls have begun helping us to teach the Sunday School. One of them gets up at 4:30 in the morning for Bible study and prayer. She has also said that she would like to dedicate her life to full time Christian work. Two of our girls wish to enter Bible School here in Tokyo. Recently we began a baptismal class and are making preparation to be baptized. At least ten per cent of the people who attend our meeting lead in public prayer. These people are all seemingly growing in Grace and becoming separated from the world. Please rejoice with us concerning these things."

### CONVERSATION PIECE

As a young man actor William Gillette studied stenography. He was living then in a boarding house, so he decided to practice his shorthand evenings by taking down every word spoken in the drawing room. "Years later," Gillette told a friend "I went over my notebooks, and found that in 4 months of incessant conversation, no one had said anything that made any difference to anybody."

—New England Almanac

## OUR OBLIGATION TO THE PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES

(Continued from page 7)

should include tracing the unfolding of light upon the great themes, such as the Fatherhood of God, the creaturehood and dignity of man, the problem of suffering, the confrontation of evil, the Revelation of God in Christ, the Redemptive act of God in Christ, and the relevance of the Word of God for our world. They should be brought into an appreciation of the reasons for the faith that is in them; they should know how to study the Bible systematically; they should know how to read it devotionally; they should know how to share it intelligently with others.

It seems quite obvious that young America, at least that part of young American nurtured under the tutelage of the Churches, should be made aware of the truth so well stated by President Theodore Roosevelt when he said:

"Almost every man who has by his life-work added to the sum of human achievement of which the race is proud, of which our people are proud, almost every such man has based his life-work largely upon the teachings of the Bible."

Finally, I would call attention to some efforts in our past which seem to indicate the road to possible success for the present and the future.

A generation ago there were more ordained ministers of religion than soldiers in America. The army and navy were small. They lived in relative isolation. A very large portion of the men re-enlisted to fill their own vacancies. The uniform was of special concern to a very small segment of the American population. No nation in the world ever witnessed expansion of its peacetime forces comparable to that which has taken place in America in this generation. This rapid expansion has been the occasion of understandable concern on the part of a great many people. Against the background of this expansion a most remarkable development has taken place, a development which I believe has no counterpart in the moral and spiritual history of any people. For it is an obvious fact that our military leaders today are less militaristic, in the Machiavellian sense of readiness to resort to war for the settlement of disputes, than they were a generation ago. I have reason to believe that within the Forces this course of events has been influenced in a large measure by two factors: The first of these is the Chaplaincy, The Chaplaincy is

older than the Declaration of Independence, but the church of America generally did not awaken to its potentialities until after the turn of the century. It was within this half-century that the churches set up the Commissions to assist the Government in selecting suitably qualified ordained ministers to serve the armed forces. It was within this half-century that representations to the Government to build chapels, to equip them, and to institute the safeguards essential to preserving and cultivating the moral and spiritual stamina of the young men who served in the forces. The pioneering work of men who served in other centuries was studied. Rules and regulations defining the place of the Chaplain and the operational procedures by which religious ministry might be successfully provided for the men of the forces have been produced. We know that this ministry has been effective. We know that it is a result of the work done by the Chaplains hundreds and thousands of young men and young women have been influenced to come back to take their places and shoulder responsibility in the churches. And great numbers of them have been influenced to commit themselves to full time religious work. A survey made in 1953 indicated that about 71 per cent of the young men studying in theological schools to prepare themselves for full time religious work were former service men. And there can be little doubt that the present resurgence of religious interest in the communities of this nation is definitely related to the spiritual ministry of the Chaplains of the armed forces. This privilege of the Chaplain is open to the ministry of the churches on the basis of numerical strength.

The second factor that I think should be mentioned is the work of the churches in providing the Scriptures to men in the forces. When the American Bible Society was organized in 1816 it immediately began raising money among the churches to distribute Scriptures to the men in the armed forces. Isolated from home and the home church, the tendency of men who seek religious consolation is to seek it in a perusal of the Holy Scriptures. Great numbers of men who had never read the Scriptures before, save in small portions in Sunday School or group meetings, have systematically read the entire New Testament, and some of them have gone on to read the entire Old Testament. God speaks to men through the Holy Scriptures. In the year 1955 the American Bible Society presented to Admiral Rad-

ford, Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the forty millionth volume of Scripture which it has provided as the agent of the churches to the men in the armed forces. These Testaments have been placed in the hands of the Chaplains, and the Chaplains have distributed them to the other personnel.

At the coronation of Queen Elizabeth, the Archbishop of Canterbury presented to her a copy of the Holy Scriptures, saying to her that what he was presenting was the most valuable thing in the world, "The royal law of the Lord, the lively oracles of God." No doubt this gift to the young queen had a tremendous effect upon her spiritual life. In a less spectacular, but I think in no less effective manner, this sort of thing has been going on for a hundred and forty years in the armed forces of our country. The Chaplains of the Army and the Navy have greeted the new recruit with an offer of this authentic Word of God as "the most valuable thing in the world", "the royal law of the Lord," "the lively oracles of God." I have mentioned these two factors because they represent areas of successes and means by which your denomination, and all of the churches of the country, may confidently expect, if they elect to do so, to achieve successes in the future.

Perhaps I should add another word concerning the provision for men to participate in Divine worship. There have been great manifestations of the presence and the Spirit of Christ where men have voluntarily met together in His name. In the cold of the Northlands, the heat of tropical climate, isolated islands, on ships at sea, men have assembled in His name, and claiming His promise that where two or three are gathered together in His name that He would be in the midst of them, they have made bold to say, "This is the gate of heaven." "The Lord is in this place." "Let all the earth keep silence before Him."

There are many complicated problems that await consecrated minds and hearts. We live in an imperfect world. No one would be so rash as to claim perfection for our Government or any segment of it. I do believe that we have a right to think of it in terms of "this nation under God", and thinking of it in these terms I believe that it is our high privilege not only to spare our sons to guard its ramparts, but to follow them with the teaching and the spiritual ministry and the moral safeguards of our holy religion.