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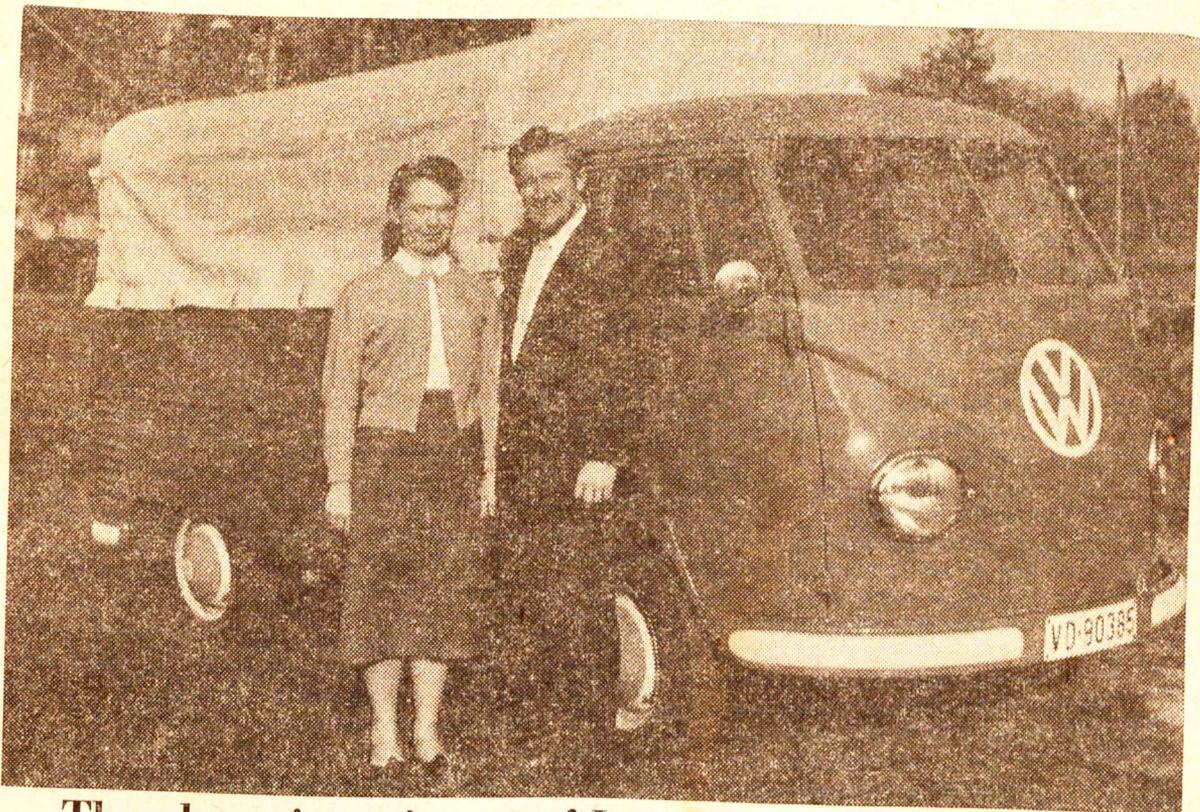
Sept 58

The Free Will Baptist Gem

Vol. 27—No. 2

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

February, 1958



The above is a picture of Lonnie and Anita Sparks, along with the Volks-Wagon "pick-up" which they plan to use in Africa. They were scheduled to leave Switzerland January 29, enroute to Africa.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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A man should never be ashamed to own he has been wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser today than he was yesterday.

—Alexander Pope

The difference between perserverance and obstinacy is that one comes from a strong will and the other from a strong won't.

—Epicurus

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Fredricktown	151	174	166	186	165	136	172	172	168	166			
Mt. Pisgah	41	42	48	56	52	50	52	51	49	49	52		56
Coppermines	93	101	104	105	107	100	103	102	102	105	90	102	105
Fellowship, Flat River	200	199	192	204	198	184	192	178	193	216	196	199	
Leadington	116	117	118		158	135	128	133	139	130	111	131	
Desloge		101	102		97	95							
Farmington	55	58	62	60	67	60	63	70	70	70	60	73	70
Fourth St. Louis	61	57	65		73	63	56		64	78		54	
Old Bethel	23	23	22		16	19	22	24	22	22	23		
Berkeley City	190	180	178	204	139	161	146	161	180	188	172	166	
Richwoods	65	65	65	67	70	67	61	71	64	62	56	64	
Neosho	45	45	45	45	45	39	39	36					
Mtn. Grove	196	215	215	311	232	231	230	237	252	244	245	252	271
Joplin	57	66	59	84	75	61	60	49	62	56	46	55	
Kirksville	90	114	93	116	116	115	102	108	104	89	94	103	
Grant Ave., Springfield					52	49	57	57	57	56	49	53	68
Hazel Creek	57		51		45	51	52	50	41	46	44	44	
Cuba	32	30			55	45	49	52	53				
Bethel, West Plains	33	37	35	37	37	33	45	47	36				
Twin Oak	49	59	57	70	68	44	54	55	61		62		55
South Side Church								135	156	148			
New Hope, Kansas City									27	31	35	28	39
Springfield First												171	
Mine La Motte													44

Please send us your average, too.

How to Treat the Furloughing Missionary

(Taken From Christian Life)

Your missionary is coming home on furlough. Will it be a time of refreshing and inspiration for him? Or within a few months will he feel like crying out, "Lord, send me back on the next ship!"

A lot depends on you.

Consider what the missionary has gone through. He's been in a land where he is perhaps not wanted. He's faced rigors of climate and custom. On every hand he has battled demonic cleverness. Progress sometimes seems heart-breakingly slow.

Then comes furlough time. He thrills at the idea of meeting family and friends. He looks forward to rest and relaxation. When the Golden Gate Bridge or Statue of Liberty comes into sight he is choked with emotion.

Abruptly, everything changes. His daily responsibilities are thousands of miles away. The crowded cities overwhelm him. Television, ranch homes, automatic dishwashers, drive-ins, Edsels—is this home?

The first meeting with relatives is an experience the missionary will never forget. But when the excitement is over, everyone appears eager to return to his favorite TV program. The busy round of talks and travel begins, but in the quiet of his room there march before the missionary's eyes those whom he has left in the arena of faith in his adopted land.

The missionary begins to wonder, "What am I doing here?"

This letdown is natural. Whether or not it persists hinges to a great extent upon the actions and attitudes of home supporters.

How should you treat the missionary whom you haven't seen for years?

Christian Life surveyed a number of recently furloughed missionaries to find out what they think.

Here are their suggestions:

1. Help the returned missionary get settled, first of all.

His time at home will be short. During this year he must minister to the Lord's people, bolster his sagging prayer defenses, raise support and prepare himself physically, mentally and spiritually for another term of service.

So try to make things as comfortable and convenient as possible.

Secure a furnished house or apartment he can call home. Aid him in getting his children enrolled in school or otherwise cared for. A house-warm-

ing party or food shower is a good idea.

Plan a welcome where he will meet new church members and friends. There will be a greater burden of prayer for him when people get to know him.

2. Be considerate of his physical well being.

Often the missionary is thrown immediately into a continual round of speaking engagements. Many mission boards advise that the missionary have at least three months to recuperate before any major demands are made on him. So give him a breathing spell.

When a missionary comes to your church for an engagement, don't fill up every minute of his time without asking him about it first.

Don't overfeed him.

Quipped one missionary, "We got to feeling like our schedule—packed."

Another pleads: "let us be content with one helping, plan low calorie deserts to follow heavy meals and don't force extra snacks on us. Our waistlines can't stand it."

You don't always have to entertain the missionary who is a guest in your home. Let him be on his own sometimes. Let him go to bed early, if he wishes.

"It would be O. K.," the wife of a missionary-doctor remarked, "If it were only occasionally that the missionary is kept up 'til midnight answering questions. But it happens all the time."

3. Assist the missionary financially. This should go without saying, but sometimes there is a slip up.

Last summer a young missionary couple from Germany drove from Ohio to the West Coast primarily to visit a large church. The pastor had written urgently to them while they were still on the field.

After the services, during which the people seemed deeply interested in the missionaries' ministry, the pastor handed the husband a check. Out in the car he opened it and found it was for \$20.00—hardly enough to cover food and motel bills during the trip across the U. S. A.

"Incidentally," the young man added, "no one had thought to make arrangements for our evening meal or lodging."

Soon after arriving the pastor or missionary committee should discuss with the missionary the plans for furlough and return to the field. Details concerning support during furlough should be pinned down.

If the visiting missionary is under a board, check with that board. Give close attention to the program the missionary presents. Check his infor-

mation if you wish. Then dig down deep and give.

A mission-minded pastor says: "The missionary may be offering you the greatest opportunity to invest in spiritual harvest that you will have in your life. Listen to him gladly; he is selling stock in ventures which count for eternity and in enterprises which produce glory for his Lord Jesus."

4. Treat the missionary as a human being, not a special kind of person. He is doing a work especially blessed of God, but he is still human, with normal emotions.

Missionaries don't wish to be talked of as heroes. Nor do they need to be reminded very much of the sacrifice they are making.

A missionary from Colombia says: "We hear it so often—the poor missionaries.' But we are ambassadors for Christ. We may be lacking in this world's goods, but we have a high calling."

Some missionaries say they sense they are regarded as entertainment ("The worth of what we present seems to be measured by how much our audience is stirred").

A pastor recently found it necessary to remind his congregation in a pastoral letter: "The missionary on furlough is often treated as a curiosity. Some expect him to astound them with weird tales of fabulous lands and death-defying incidents. Some treat him with possessiveness; they own him body and soul because of a few dollars in the missionary offering.

"He is not a freak, an oddity, a fanatic, or an entertainer. He must not be paraded at a party to impress other people that you love the 'dear missionaries'."

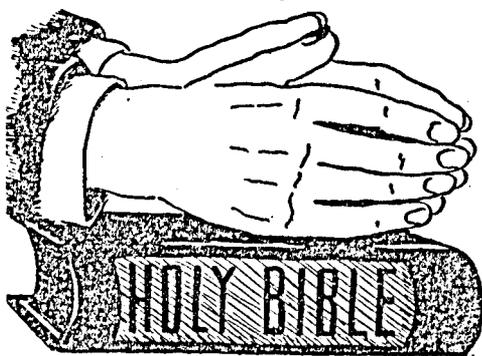
Sometimes people feel embarrassed by the presence of missionaries in their home. The reason: a feeling of guilt because of the comfortableness—even the luxuriousness of their home and belongings.

On this subject, the same pastor says: "There are exceptions, but most missionaries have already settled the matter of their living standard. They are not envious of you. They have chosen their life. The real missionary is aware that unless people in his home church are making money, and unless the economy at home is strong, he will soon be unable to stay on the field for lack of support."

Significantly, he added: "If you feel self-conscious in the presence of the missionary, it is not the missionary's doing. It is the Spirit of the Lord making you realize how little, comparatively, most of us ever yield to the glory of the Lord Jesus."

(Continued on Page 9)

The Family Altar



TWO BIBLES

This is one of the stories an old gentleman told when he came back after visiting the home of his youth.

"When I was a young man over 40 years ago, I bought a big Bible for each of 2 girl cousins for a wedding present. Of course, I visited them both on my recent journey home. I went to see Elizabeth first. I noticed the Bible that I had given her, on the table in the living room of her pleasant, comfortable farm home. It was much worn, but all intact. It was of the kind that has a great number of pages of miscellaneous matter of explanation and description.

"I believe I felt a little disappointed that Elizabeth had not taken better care of it. She had seemed to value it when I gave it to her. But then, I reasoned, 40 years is a long time, and things will wear out.

"But I could not help but contrast it with the one I gave Prudence, which I saw when I went to her home. It lay on a small stand in her parlor with a white embroidered napkin over it. When I lifted it, the book looked like new!

"How nicely you have kept your Bible," I said to Prudence.

"I have tried to," she answered modestly.

"One day, when I was at Elizabeth's in the early fall, 2 of her little grandsons were staying with her all night. In the evening, they studied their arithmetic.

"Teacher told us to find out all we could about a mile and a furlong," said one.

"The first speaker went to the big Bible and opened it carefully on the table and hunted up what he wished to know while I pondered why he did not use a dictionary or encyclopedia.

"A furlong is one eighth of a Roman mile," read the boy.

"What is the difference between a Roman mile and an English mile?" asked his brother.

"It says that a Roman mile is

about 150 yards shorter than an English mile. And here is a reference to Luke 24, verse 13. Here it is: "And they went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about three score furlongs!" How far is that?

"Well," answered the elder brother, "Twenty is a score, and three score would be sixty furlongs, and at eight furlongs in a mile it would be seven and a half."

"The boys went back to their studying, and Elizabeth came over and sat down and touched the Bible as though it was something very dear to her.

"I wish I could tell you what this Bible has meant to my family," she said.

"In what way?" I queried.

"Oh, in many ways. First as a Bible, of course; then a history of ancient times and places and peoples. It has been a library in itself. They have learned the beauty and grace and strength of its language. When my children were growing up, we had few books. My husband was Sunday School superintendent and was always looking things up in it, and the children gradually learned to use it. At first, I did not like them to use it for everything. I just wanted to read from it and show them the pictures, but their father called my attention to something wonderful about their use of it. They were absorbing unconsciously an amazing amount of Biblical facts, and it was so true and familiar to them. At once I began to help and encourage them. When they looked up the pyramids, their natural curiosity led them to read the story of Joseph and Moses. In learning about coins, they read reference after reference. And so it continued year in and year out. Their grasp of it grew and strengthened with their strength."

"I'm more glad than I can say that you found it of so much use," I told her.

"She smiled a little and resumed. 'And now, though we have many books, I encourage the grandchildren to use the big Bible. And I love to remember how mother used to sit in front of the table and read in it because she could not see to read in her own Bible with its finer print. Counting her, four generations have been helped and uplifted by its use, and maybe I ought not to feel badly because it's wearing out.'

"Then she touched it again tenderly as though she valued it far above rubies, and I could not help but think of the handsome, unworn, unused Bible hidden under a napkin in the other house.—Mary S. Hitchcock,

Quoted from Free Methodist.

I MUST GO SHOPPING

One of these days I must go shopping! I am completely out of SELF-RESPECT. I want to exchange some SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS I picked up the other day for some HUMILITY, which they say is less expensive, and wears better, .. Isa.64:6 .. Isa. 55:7.. Romans 3:10.

I want to look at some TOLERANCE, which is being used for wraps this season. Someone showed me some pretty samples of PEACE..we are a little short on that..and one can never have too much of it. Isa. 57:21 .. Isa. 32:17.

And by the way, I must try to match some PATIENCE, that my neighbor wears. It is very becoming to her, and I think it might look well on me.. Job 19:25, 26, 27.

I might try on that little garment of LONG-SUFFERING they are displaying. I never thought I wanted to wear it, but I feel myself coming to it. II Peter 3:9.

Also, I must not forget to have my sense of APPRECIATION mended. And look around for some inexpensive every-day GOODNESS. It is surprising how quickly one's stock of GOODNESS is depleted! Psalm 101: 5, 6, 7. Psalm 100:2, 4.

Author unknown
—Fellowship Bulletin

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Arthur Rodzinski, famed conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra says: "In our orchestra we have many nationalities, creeds, types and temperaments. We have learned to forget individual likes, dislikes and differences of temperament for the sake of music to which we have dedicated our lives. I often wonder if we could not solve the world's problems on a similar basis of harmony.

"Think what a single individual in a symphony orchestra can accomplish by giving up his individual traits and ambitions in the service of music. Some call it co-operation, mutual understanding, teamwork, but it all springs from the all-embracing love for music. Suppose that in your life you had the same all-embracing love for the whole of mankind and for your neighbor in particular. Only when every one of us and every nation learns the secret of love for all mankind, will the world become a great orchestra, following the beat of the Greatest Conductor of all." —Copied.

The real joy of living comes not from what I get but from what I give.

The Mark

Essie Hearron
1017 E. 17
Ada, Okla.

"But come not near any man upon whom is the mark;" (Ezek. 9:6)

According to the Holy Word, there is a mark that will protect the children of God. It is placed by a Divine messenger, sent by the God of heaven on certain people who can qualify for the great honor. It isn't given for great deeds, or for one who is a great preacher or singer; but for the one who sighs and cries over sin and guilt. (Ezek. 9:4) Can we qualify?

This was an order given by one who Ezekiel said had the "likeness of fire." (Ezek. 8:1) "The hand of the Lord God fell there upon me." (Ezek. 8:1) This great person showed him the abominations in Jerusalem. One very awful one is related in Ezek. 8:14, women weeping for Tammuz. Just to read it, it doesn't look as though any very bad thing was being done, but this was a very serious sin. This Tammuz was an idol and his worship was accompanied by obscene rites. Do we see our women weeping over a story of today such as are published in some untrue magazine? Yes, young women of our land are reading sex stories, seeing sex movies, and are telling vulgar yarns. Just get in a crowd of young women and listen!

But destruction was coming! Everyone was to be utterly destroyed in Jerusalem, old and young, but in Ezek. 9:4, we see the order "set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof." These people would not be destroyed. Our God who sees every tear, and hears every prayer will spare those who are concerned about his work. We read of other marks in the Holy Scriptures, but this one mentioned was a blessed one, saving the one who have it in their foreheads.

In Revelation 13, we read of a terrible mark—the mark of the beast. We read of martyrs in heaven who did not take it. In Rev. 20:4 these redeemed ones had been "beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or on their hand." Some say the church will not be in this trouble. Oh, yes, it will! For some will be killed who will not take the mark. (Rev. 14:9-10) So here is a choice to make. The word "if" signifies it. Those who take will be tor-

mented with fire and brimstone. (Rev. 14:10) Those who do not will be killed. (Rev. 20:4)

But these people Ezekiel saw were sorrowing over the sins of the people. They "sighed and cried." To "sigh" is a sign of grief or mourning. We read of Jesus sighing. (Mark 7:34 and 8:12) In Isaiah 35:10, we are told of a time when "sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Those who cry over wickedness are God's elect as we read in Luke 14:7. So many fathers and mothers have wept over erring children. Many good men weep over an unsaved wife or a pious wife over her sinful husband. But all these tears are bottled up. (Psalm 56:8) David asked God to "put thou my tears into the bottle; are they not in thy book?" So these people were protected on account of their sighing and crying over sinful people.

But see, God said to slay all who had not this mark—verse 6, "and begin at my sanctuary." God's sanctuary is a place of worship. In this instance it was the temple and the holy of holies. Can one ever be destroyed working for God in His sanctuary? It seems so. "To begin" is to start. Destroy those in God's sanctuary, who are not concerned over souls. Oh! wake up, people. Hate sin and its vile outcome, and let the sinners know your care. Cry over them. Don't be ashamed of tears. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seeds shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." (Psalm 126:6) "The seed is the word of God." (Luke 8:11) So go bearing the precious seed, weeping and you will surely have the mark in Rev. 22:4, "And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads."

ONLY GOD COULD PLAN A MAN

This impressive testimony was recently given by a physician: "I came into an anatomy room to study. The dead body meant nothing to me. I could not visualize the man it might have been. For weeks I worked, and each day my wonder grew; and then, one day, I was working on an arm and hand. I saw the perfect arrangement of the muscles and tendons—how muscles are split to let tendons of other muscles through, that the hand may be delicate and small and yet powerful.

"I was alone in the laboratory when the overwhelming belief came; a thing like this is not just chance, but a part of a plan—a plan so big that only God could have conceived it. Now everything was an evidence of God.

It was all part of a purpose." Only God could plan a man. —Selected.

"BUILDING WITH THE BIBLE THROUGH THE SUNDAY SCHOOL"

The Sunday School movement in America and the world has expanded and contracted largely in proportion to the emphasis upon the Bible.

The present evangelical Sunday School movement believes that only as we build with the Bible in the Sunday School, the church, the home, can we expect the blessing of God.

The philosophies of naturalism diluted for children to stories of birds and bees and butterflies has never built healthy, virile Sunday Schools and churches.

The return to Christ-centered Sunday School literature on the part of many churches and even whole denominations in the last two decades has been reflected in interest and attendance within the church.

The Bible, the Word of God, is the vital staff of our spiritual life. Methods, no matter how well done, can never offset the need for the message of Scripture.

The National Sunday School Association believes:

1. The Bible is the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

2. That there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

3. In the Diety of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father and in His personal return to power and glory.

4. That for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

5. In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

6. In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

7. In the spiritual unity of believers in Christ.

Next thing we know juvenile delinquents will be organizing, holding annual conventions, and having a Washington lobby.

From the Editor's Desk

COMMENTS IN GENERAL

The State Minutes and the National Minutes have been received and are in the process of being sent to the various associational clerks for distribution to the churches in his or her association. We sincerely hope you will read them and acquaint yourself more thoroughly with the work of the Free Will Baptists in general.

According to Rev. Homer Willis, Promotional Secretary, Missouri was one of the six states to exceed her quota in giving to the National Home Mission work. Of course, most of it was because of our consistent giving to the Co-operative Fund. The quota for Missouri was \$2,500, but she gave \$2,899.30, which was \$399.33 above quota.

The picture for foreign missions was a little different according to Rev. Raymond Riggs, Promotional Secretary, but yet it is encouraging. The quota for Missouri was \$10,300.00. She gave a total of \$8,037.70, leaving a balance of \$2,262.30 beneath quota.

In this issue you will find the State Treasurer's report for Missouri's gifts during the month of October, November and December. January's receipts will be in a later issue, but we may inform you that it has been very commendable.

As to the Gem, we are receiving a few church family plans as you note on the Honor Roll. The single subscriptions for this year are exceeding last year's subscriptions.

EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION TO HOLD ANNUAL CONCLAVE IN CHICAGO—BILLY GRAHAM FEATURED SPEAKER

"Christ in You, the Hope of Glory" is the theme of the 1958 convention of the National Association of Evangelicals to be held in Chicago, April 14-18.

Dr. Billy Graham will be a featured speaker.

Under the guidance of Dr. Frederick C. Fowler, convention chairman, the meetings will carry out the theme with a three-fold emphasis on prayer, fellowship and inspiration. Due to the advances made by the association, the convention is being extended to include an additional half-day of meetings.

Along with Billy Graham, other well-known Christian leaders are to be featured speakers at the conven-

tion. Dr. Robert G. Lee will speak in the evening on the subject "The Christian Believes in the Necessity of the New Birth." Other evening speakers will be Dr. J. Wilbur Smith and Dr. Harold John Ockenga.

Services of inspiration will include keynote messages by NAE President Paul P. Pettitcord on "True Ecumenicity," Dr. Stephen Paine on "The NAE and the NCC" and Dr. Albert J. Lindsey on "True Social Action."

Morning devotional sessions will be highlighted by messages from Drs. Herbert S. Mekeel, J. Edwin Orr, V. R. Edman and R. L. Decker.

Two nights of prayer are planned under the leadership of the Rev. Armin Gesswein, chairman of the NAE Spiritual Life Commission. Fellowship hours are also scheduled to provide opportunities for delegates to become acquainted.

Special attraction of the convention will be a song and story hour each day with stories told by Mrs. Ethel Barrett, well-known story teller.

BIBLE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD MARCH 23-27

Make your plans now to attend the 15th annual Bible Conference to begin Sunday, March 23, and to close Thursday noon, March 27.

The program will include outstanding Bible preaching, missionary emphasis, and music and drama from the Bible College music and speech departments. The conference will be held as usual in Memorial Auditorium, which is being enlarged to seat 100 additional persons.

An unusual number of visitors are expected this year, both to enjoy the conference as well as to see the new dining hall and student center.

The Student Ministerial Fellowship, serving as an entertainment committee, will be glad to handle reservations or to send information to those who wish to attend. Address all correspondence to the Bible College office.

GOD'S GEMS

Gem is a word applied in a wide sense to certain minerals which are highly valued by reason of their brilliancy, hardness, and rarity. In a restricted sense the term is applied to precious stones. These stones after they have been cut and polished as jewels are called, "gem stones." Let us liken the materialistic minerals of

this earth to our lives as Christians.

First, we note that a gem is highly valued because of its brilliancy. "Ye are the light of the world"; "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven" (Matt. 5:14, 16). Is your life as a light in this dark and sinful world? It is easy to act like a Christian in church or among Christian people. To be a glowing gem for God we must live a consistent Christian life. If in the trying circumstances of life we show forth the Christ-like spirit, then we will have the brilliancy of a gem that is highly valued. Do you shine for the Lord even in adverse circumstances? A true gem does not lose its brilliancy even in the darkest places.

Second, a gem is valued by reason of its hardness. A high degree of hardness is an essential property of a gem stone. However brilliant a mineral may be, it is useless unless it be hard enough to take a brilliant polish. "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Tim. 2:3). Paste imitations may be brilliant when new, but they soon become dull through rubbing. A real gem of God will become more brilliant as it is hardened by chastisement from God. "For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth." Permanence of brilliancy and beauty is due to the hardness of the gem. This is true in the material realm as well as the spiritual realm. Artificial gems (we will say professing Christians) do not appeal to the world because they are not valuable products.

Then lastly a gem is valued because of its rarity. As genuine gem stones are scarce, so real, genuine Christians are rare. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt. 7:14). We think of rare here as meaning uncommon in nature and quality; unusually excellent, highly distinguished and distinctive. Rarity is a close kin of preciousness. "And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him" (Mal. 3:17).

Contributor—Mrs. Menge

A man said it: "I was sitting alone one day feeling sorry for myself, discouraged, and thinking things were as bad as they could be, when I heard a voice say, 'Cheer up! Things could be worse.' So I cheered up, and sure enough—things got worse!"

Attend Sunday School Next Sunday



Youth and Our Church

1958 YOUTH CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

The time of this year's session will begin on Sunday, June 22nd and conclude on Saturday, June 28th with the closing session following the devotional period after breakfast. One of the highlights of the session will be the last night of our camp. Instead of having "stunt night" a campfire session will be held on the playground with a good time to be had by all. Plans for this last night's program will be announced later. Swimming, Basketball, Volley Ball, Soft Ball, Horse Shoes, Croquet, Badminton and many other recreational activities along with the spiritual instructions by the various teachers and workers will all be highlights of this year's session.

OFFICERS FOR THIS YEAR'S SESSION

The following officers have been appointed to serve for this year's session. We have not received a definite confirmation from some of the workers, but are listing their names hoping that we will soon hear from them. If you are one of them, please write me soon.

General Supervisor, Rev. O. T. Allred; Principal of Teaching, Rev. O. T. Dixon; Registrars, Mrs. Lee Dewitt and Miss Jeanne Barton; Life Guards, Kenneth Reeves and Paul Williams; General Recreation Directors, Rev. and Mrs. Harry Asher; Cabin Sponsors, Rev. and Mrs. James McCulley; Evangelist, Rev. Robert Hill, Nashville, Tennessee.

Pianist, Choir Director and other teachers will be selected at a future board meeting.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Another step in progress was made when we organized a Children's Church. Our pastor has appointed the Rev. Gaylord Huckaba, one of our young ministers, as the Junior Church director. All of the officers were elected, and a goodly number was present for the first service. Enthusiasm ran high and we feel sure that the Children's Church will be one of the great-

est organizations of our church. We feel that it will mean much to their spiritual lives and for a means of training for future officers of the regular church. Services will be conducted in the Educational Building.

—Berkeley Bulletin

NORTHEAST MISSOURI LEAGUE RALLY

The Northeast Missouri League Rally convened with the Kirksville church Saturday night, December 28. The services began by congregational singing. Prayer by Bro. Kieth Phipps. Scripture lesson from Psalms 24 by the president, Rev. Vernon Maggart. Prayer by Kermit Crooks. Minutes of last meeting was read. An offering was received for the new kitchen at the Bible College. The program was as follows: Play, "Finding Christ" by the Graysville Church; duet, "I Need No Mansion Here," by Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Sevits; Play, "Two of a Kind," by Martinstown; trio, "Family Altar," by Kirkpatricks; playlet, "The Tree Wise Men," by Hazel Creek Church. The Kirksville girls' quartet sang "The Keys of the Kingdom." Duet, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow," by Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Sevits. The Kirkpatrick trio sang "He Will Set Your Fields on Fire." Benediction by Boyd Filkins.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI LEAGUE CONVENTION

The Southeast Missouri League Convention met with the Aulsberry Chapel League, October 19, 1957 to reorganize, after the St. Louis Leagues separated to form a convention of their own.

Election of officers were as follows: President, Willard Darnell; Vice President, Frank McDowell, Jr.; Secretary-Treasurer, Louise Underwood.

On January 18, 1958, the Southeast Missouri League Convention convened with the Copper Mine League. An enrollment of 179 was taken, with several visitors present. The Desloge

League won the attendance banner for the second time in succession.

During the business session the convention voted unanimously to send \$25.00 to the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Greenville, Tennessee.

—Louise Underwood, Secretary

ETERNAL THINGS

Rev. Fred Latch

Eternal life is a gift of God. Eternal death is the wage of sin. A wage is earned. A gift is not earned. There is no way Eternal Life can be earned, bought, or otherwise acquired except through the blood of Jesus Christ, given by Him, devoted by Him, sacrificed by Him, and that for lost men. On the other hand, one can and does earn Eternal Death. It comes in consequence of one's rebellion or neglect of God and Salvation.

For as many years as man has been conscious of the conditions of Eternal Life and Death, men have been trying to define the conditions; to picture them in understandable words; to show exactly what they are to mean. This effort will continue as long as the terms are needed in man's vocabulary. There is no doubt that the definitions will grow more vivid and more meaningful as long as man's efforts continue.

What do they mean to you? Are they yet too abstract to fit with ease into your thinking? Then consider the latest definition we have heard: Eternal Life means to live eternally in the memory and consciousness of God. Eternal Death means to live eternally separated from the memory and consciousness of God. This implies that the individual will be vividly aware of the condition. It also implies that the individual is highly aware of the existence of God after the condition is set in. And it also implies that the individual condition is brought by the value one places upon God before the condition is set in.

We believe the definitions are theologically sound.

News From The Mission Field

REASONS FOR REJOICING

If you will pardon my vanity, I want to praise the Lord for the way our people have responded to the Foreign Mission Program during the past seven years. It was November 1, 1950 when the treasurer's books of the Foreign Mission Board officially became my responsibility. At that time we only had \$3,377.31 in all accounts and each of our two fields were a few months behind in receiving their allotments. Also, we had only two fields of operation (India and Cuba) and seven missionaries which were assigned responsibility. Today, just seven years later, we have thirty-three (33) missionaries, including children, working on six (6) foreign fields. Then too, there are a number of candidates who are preparing for foreign service and new doors are opening for us. Also, because you have given of your money to this work, we are able to show a working balance in our financial report. For this we praise the Lord and we believe it is reason for rejoicing.

We have endeavored to keep you properly informed of the activities of the Foreign Mission Board, and even though we are keenly aware that it cost the denomination a large sum of money to bring us to where we are, we must remind you that we are just beginning. To properly promote the program today is expensive! But if we would sit down and consider the dividends, and all services rendered, surely there would be no complaints.

EXCEED BUDGET! Another reason for rejoicing is that all but a few states exceeded their suggested quota this year for foreign missions. Study the financial report and note those who are "out front." As we begin a new year may we all tackle the new quotas with courage and confidence. We must continue to increase our gifts to foreign missions if we maintain our present work, build new stations, and send out more missionaries. Actually, with the number of churches and members in our denomination we ought to be giving ten times as much for foreign missions. **Be in Now to Exceed Your Quota in 1958!**

—Raymond Riggs

If you build not above the stars,
you build away too low.

HAROLD STEVENS WRITES

Mseleni Mission Station P. O. Mkuze
Zululand, South Africa, 19 Oct.

Dear Friends:

As I write the lines to you I wish, if it were in God's plan, that you could have been with me today. It has been blessed and to God be all the glory.

I left by plane this morning from the mission at 9 A. M., just after seeing Josephine off for Ntogyeneni with two teachers and eight young people for a full day of services. As I write it is 10 P. M., and she has not returned as she stayed for an evening service and then had two hours drive back. There are definite advantages to using the plane, especially if one doesn't have a night flying license—you are home before dark! My first stop this morning was at Esiboweni, 10 minutes west of the mission, where soon after landing the people began to appear from nowhere. The landing strip is just along the edge of a huge forest and not a home can be seen from the strip. The shade of a large tree where we always meet was soon well occupied by about 60 people. I am sorry to say that not more than five of this number are Christians. One of these is SIBISI, who is a real inspiration to find out in the bush. She was saved five years ago at an open air meeting we held at a trading store. In spite of having never been to school, she has learned to read her Bible at home, and I am sure she can quote and give references to "more verses than most of us. By the time the service got under way the wind had blown up a bit and made the use of the flannelgraph lesson I had for illustration very difficult.

One of the five Christians at Esiboweni is ZANDILE, a young girl of about 18. She lost control of her legs completely some years ago, therefore drags herself along with her hands wherever she goes. Having dragged herself in this manner for more than a mile I noticed that she arrived after I had started the meeting. When the meeting was over the crowd started moving from the tree to the plane to see me off. Sibisi quietly reminded me that I had forgotten to speak to Zandile and that she would feel hurt. I then went back chatted with her a bit, and was off. I suppose the highlight of her life came

last January when I flew her out to our Young People's Camp about 60 miles from her home.

From Esiboweni I flew north for 18 minutes to Zamazama. Here the group of believers had sent word they had completed the new strip which is in a dense forest. Here-to-fore we have used a river bank about two miles away and then walked in. En-route I flew over the river to see if there was an alternative in case the strip was not ample. The river was under at least five feet of water. I was happy to see that the new strip was over 300 yrd. long. The Christians were thrilled and said now they had begun to be paid for all their work. One of the trees which was about 36 inches in diameter they had been unable to move after digging it up, so had spent days keeping fires under it until it burned away. We had a fine service with about 175 present. This new strip brings the number to 21 in our area. We are hoping to open several others within the next few months.

After leaving Zamazama five minutes flight south brought me to Evangelist Mtshali's home where I was to pick him up and take him out for a week of tent meetings at Ekhhohlo, which is twenty minutes flight southwest or three days walk. Since the river bank strip a mile from his home was slightly wet (under three feet of water) I substituted his garden near his home. We got off with plenty to spare, thanks to the Piper's 150 horses.

After depositing Mtshali at his place of service, I flew over Josephine and her group en route home. Seeing all was O. K. there, I dropped her a note of some last minute happenings which necessitated her dropping off some equipment for our evangelist before returning home.

I landed at Home Base five minutes before sunset with a glad heart for the privilege of being a part of HIS team.

Harold Stevens

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

Read the Bible, not as a newspaper, but as a home letter.

If a cluster of heavenly fruit hangs within reach, gather it.

If a promise lies upon the page as a blank check, cash it.

If a prayer is recorded, appropriate and launch it as a feathered arrow from the bow of your desire.

If an example of holiness gleams before you, ask God to do as much for you.

If the truth is revealed in its intrinsic splendor, entreat that its brilliance may ever irradiate the hemisphere of your life.

LETTER FROM MERKHS

Dear Christian Friends:

We send you greetings from Switzerland in the name of our wonderful Saviour Jesus Christ. How wonderful and gracious He is to us.

Our hearts are rejoicing during this Christmas season, knowing that soon we shall have the privilege of carrying the Gospel to those who have never heard. We do trust that you shall be much in prayer during this Christmas for those of the Bondoukou Circle in the Ivory Coast of French West Africa. Even though we can rejoice in the birth of our Saviour, we can not help but feel heaviness and sorrow for those precious souls around the world that have never heard of the Saviour whose birth we celebrate. They have no Christmas, they have no rejoicing hearts, only a sadness and sorrow because of the weight of their sins.

This Christmas the 145,000 souls waiting in darkness in the Bondoukou Circle are our responsibility. I don't mean just my family and Lonnie and Anita Sparks, but my responsibility and also yours. As you gather around your Christmas tree this year, please pause long enough to remember in prayer those that are waiting. We trust that by this time next year, by God's grace, we shall be able to send you reports of those that during the year have come to know Christ as their personal Saviour. This will be accomplished through your efforts and prayers.

We have been away from the States for four months, and are well into our French language studies. We have a lovely apartment here in Lausanne, just several blocks from beautiful Lake Geneva. Beth has begun school here in the public school and has really amazed us in her ability in the French language. Of course, her teacher doesn't speak a word of English, but Beth enjoys the school and seems to be learning too. The boys also seem happy and contented and enjoy playing with their little Swiss playmates.

Margaret, Beth, Butch, Tim and I would like to extend to each of you our most hearty seasons greetings. May the Lord richly bless you during this holiday season, and may He grant, by His marvelous grace, that this Message of the Saviour come to earth be preached to those in the Bondoukou Circle before next Christmas rolls around.

We close with a Scripture verse from our French Bible. This is our prayer for the coming year. It is found in Matthew 9:37, 38.

"Alors il dit a ses disciples: La moisson est grande, mais il y a peu

d'ouvriers. Priez donc le maître de la moisson d'envoyer des ouvriers dans sa moisson." (Matthieu 9:37, 38.)

Yours in His service,
Daniel J. Merkh

WHALEYS TO ALASKA IN MARCH

March 1st has been set as the official date for the Whaleys to leave for Alaska. They will be our first missionaries to enter this territory. They committed themselves to the Home Mission Board at the National Association last July. Since then, they have been constantly engaged in promoting this work. They have not only been responsible to raise the funds that were necessary to send them to the field, but they have also solicited their underwritten support. The Lord has marvelously blessed these efforts, and many churches and individuals have pledged their support. I wish to acknowledge my appreciation to all who have responded to this worthy cause.

There is an urgency in the need for equipment to be supplied for the work itself, also, in view of the cold climate and the extreme high cost of living in Alaska, there will be many family needs. We are asking our interested churches, organizations, or individuals to assume as much of the listed responsibilities as possible.

1. A good camera. (Adequate to take informational slides.)
2. \$150.00 in cash to be applied on a typewriter and mimeographing machine that has already been purchased.
3. A portable organ.
4. Hymn books. (Preferrably the new F. W. B. hymn books, or the Broadman.)
5. Visual Aids and chorus books. (For child evangelism.)
6. A gas lantern.
7. A portable gas stove.
8. A car radio. (Required before entering Canada.)
9. Snow gripped tires. (Required.)
10. Chains for tires. (Required.)
11. Shovel. (Required)
12. Funds for adequate clothing.
13. Bedding and linens.
14. A small substantial hauling trailer.

There is also a need for an organization to assume the responsibility of supporting a hospital insurance that offers a good coverage. With expenses in Alaska approximately fifty percent higher than in the States, every protection is needed.

All contributions for equipment should be sent directly to the Whaleys at 302 Mill Avenue as early as possible.

H. E. Wills, Promotional Secretary

HOW TO TREAT THE FURLOUGHING MISSIONARY

(Continued from Page 3)

5. Give the missionary spiritual fellowship. This is most important of all. The missionary may have been quite isolated on the field from mature Christians. Praying with him will mean more to him during this time of furlough than only praying for him.

"One of the nicest things we can hear when we come home," the Colombian missionary said, "is 'We have prayed for you every day'."

Another said he especially appreciated a prayer service specifically dedicated to missions—not one where he did all the talking.

Be a good listener. This you can't do unless you have a sincere interest. Ask all the questions you like about the climate, economic conditions and customs. Do not fail, however, to give him an opportunity to share with you the spiritual conflicts and problems on his heart.

As he talks with friends and participates in the life of the church, your missionary will be making an evaluation. Are the people spiritually dead, wound up in their own petty activities and interests? Or are they evidencing the work of the Holy Spirit because they have surrendered themselves wholly to His dominion?

The answer may determine the spirit with which the missionary will return to his labors.

What memories will encourage him when he is back on the field? The little old lady who promised to pray for him daily, the pastor who took time from his busy schedule to discuss the problems on the field and pray with him, the young people's group who are giving sacrificially to have a share in his support; let's hope these are the memories your missionary will have.

When Lincoln was practicing law in Illinois, he also had a reputation for being a pretty good horse trader. One day he and a judge agreed on an unusual swap. They were to trade horses even, and neither was to see the horse he was getting until the exchange was completed.

The judge showed up first, leading a pretty deplorable nag, sway-backed and blind. Then Lincoln appeared, carrying a wooden sawhorse over one shoulder. He set it down, gazed incredulously at the judge's animal, and then, without cracking a smile, said: "This is the first time I ever got the worst of a horse trade!"

ATTEND CHURCH SUNDAY

CONVENTION COMMENTS

You Did It!

You helped to change that haggard worn look on the countenance of Reverend John Rogers to a smile. Why you've made him feel like a king. How? By contributing to the entertainment fund of the National Association. We are happy to report that since the last edition of Convention Comments Brother Rogers has received \$400.80. This brings the total to \$593.80. We are better than one fifth of the way to our goal of \$2500. Please don't let down now. Hosting the National Association will be expensive. Just this week we learned that microphones alone will cost \$150. A union laborer must be hired to manipulate the controls. Advertising has already cost \$150.00 and will run much higher as the Convention nears. We must reach our goal as soon as possible to guarantee the payment of all bills. Send in your contribution, whether it be personal or from your church, right away.

Here is a list of those who gave:

South Side Church, St. Louis	\$ 25.00
Mine La Motte Church	20.00
Mill Creek Ch., Fredericktown	13.80
St. Francois County Sunday School Convention	40.00
First Church, Mtn. Grove	100.00
Welston Church, Welston	100.00
Fellowship Ch., Flat River	100.00
Mt. Calvary Church, Stern..	10.00
Total	\$408.80

Some of our churches have agreed to give \$100 but are making payments at the rate of \$25.00 per month. South Side Church of St. Louis did this and we understand that several others have the same plan. Work out your own plan, but by all means get your contribution in. Send your check, money order, or cash to: Rev. John Rogers, 2612 Minnesota, St. Louis, Mo.

Again we say HATS OFF and THANKS to those who have given. Your immediate response proves your sense of responsibility. May God bless you for your gift and your concern.

A PRAYER REQUEST OF YOU WHO PRAY

Begin now to pray for the 1958 session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Prayer is always one of the high notes of the Convention as every session is opened with a devotional. In the past there have been midnight prayer meetings and one is being scheduled for this year, on Tuesday night, July 8, from 10:00

P. M. till 12:00 midnight. But don't wait till then. Begin now to pray. Many issues of grave importance to our denomination will appear for discussion and vote. Some of these are controversial. Pray that the Spirit of Christ will prevail and that this will be the best and most spiritual Convention ever. Pray for the speakers that shall appear on the program. Pray for we who have the responsibility of making arrangements for the Convention. Above all, Pray! Pray! Pray!

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD

In a previous issue we spoke of having a guest speaker for this year's National Convention. Now that the program committee is assured of his coming, we believe that you ought to know. He is the Rev. Oswald J. Smith. Rev. Smith is pastor of one of Canada's largest churches and will address the Wednesday night, July 9th audience at Kiel Auditorium. This will be the mission service. Added reason why you ought to attend the 1958 National Convention of Free Will Baptists.

AT THE SHERATON-JEFFERSON

One of the things you will admire at this year's Convention is the beautiful Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel. This is by far one of the most attractive hotels of any previous Convention city. You will find Hotel rates to be a little higher in the north than in the southern cities we have been visiting, but the Sheraton-Jefferson is comparatively as reasonable as any of the other major down town hotels. If you stay at the Sheraton-Jefferson you may park your car in their garage at the rate of \$2.00 per 24 hour period and never have to use it again during the Convention. May we suggest a cheaper way for you to attend the Convention? Share a ride to the Convention and then share a room at the Convention hotel. Try it.

—Roger Reeds, Cor.

WORKING ON A BUILDING

Carl Stair

I drove down a shady street. Great houses of brick and stone towered in proud majesty above the profusion of foliage and Shrubbery and vines and flowers. I admired their beauty, their strength, their withdrawn dignity and restful seclusion. But, while I gazed longingly I said to myself, "You will never live in a mansion." Then, like a flash, something spoke in my mind, a question of two words—"won't you?" Suddenly there was wonderful joy in my heart as I remembered a project I had started and realized that some day, when it is completed and if

it passes inspection, I will have a mansion to live in much finer than any I have ever seen.

For, you see, I am working on a building. It is a huge undertaking with many difficulties, and obstacles to be overcome, but I have a Blue Print to study that is complete and perfect in every detail. The name of the Blue Print is the Holy Bible.

It tells about foundations, kinds not to use and so forth. It even tells about one foolish man who used a foundation of sand and of the disaster that resulted. The foundation I chose is known as the Foundation of the Apostles and Prophets and the Chief Corner Stone is called Jesus Christ.

The framework of the building is from the Tree of Life. I wanted something that would last.

I am using rock siding. It is a very special rock, called the Rock of Ages.

Talk about modern conveniences, my water system puts them all to shame. It flows continually and yet it is free. It is called Living Water, and once you drink of it you never thirst again.

As for a cleansing agent, I don't need your fancy washing machines and miracle detergents. When things get soiled around my house I soak them in a solution that I read about in the Blue Print and they become as white as snow. This solution is called Blood of the Lamb.

Sometimes in my work I get confused and disheartened and I wonder if I will ever be able to finish what I have started out to do. When this happens, I put through a long distance call and talk with one who lifts me up out of my gloom and discouragement. This friend of mine once did carpenter work in Nazareth, but has since moved to a place called Heaven. If it were not for him, it would be useless to try to build at all.

This, that I have undertaken, is a lifetime job, but what I want to do is work very hard and get the building high enough that my neighbor will notice it, see that it is good and start one of his own.

I am not installing any lighting fixtures in my mansion. No, it is not an oversight. I am acting on the advice of a great architect known as St. John the Divine. In the Blue Print he has written: "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever."

Five per cent of the people think; five per cent think they think; ninety per cent die before they ever think.

PRESIDENT OUTLINES SCHOOL NEEDS

Nashville, Tennessee

President L. C. Johnson has outlined the basic needs of the Bible college following the close of December, the seventh month of the present school fiscal year.

"Primarily, we must urge the financial support of the school's operating fund. We should receive \$7,000 in general fund gifts each month to operate the Bible College properly. This would permit us to develop in several areas in the general program of the school." General fund gifts are averaging about \$5000 each month, he reported.

"Another very urgent need this year is a denominational-wide support of our Improvement Program to increase the school's facilities for the present student body of approximately 200 and to provide a 50% increase in students within the next few years," Dr. Johnson stated.

"The present phase of this program is the Student Center and Dining Room building being erected at present at a cost of \$70,000. Since the Improvement Program was officially approved by the National Association in 1956, a total of \$28,254.68 has been received. Out of this amount a \$15,000 building was purchased along with financing the costs of the campaign for the first year, and approximately \$9,000 has been paid on the new Student Center building.

"This means the Bible College must receive as much as \$60,000 by the completion date of the building if the costs of construction are to be paid." Gifts to the Improvement Program are averaging about \$2,000 monthly, and at this rate it will take some time to raise the money for this building.

Dr. Johnson urges every church or individual who has not done his best to support the present Improvement Program to send the best gift he can as soon as possible.

93 MINISTERIAL STUDENTS

Out of a student body of 169 those registering as ministerial students this year number 93, according to registrar's records.

Before the year is over some of the freshmen students will probably announce their call to the ministry, if this year follows the usual pattern. To be sure, this group is a vast potential, and to the end of training them for the gospel ministry Free Will Baptist College was organized and is dedicated.

Surely a denomination that has approximately 100 ministers in training each year will be receiving manifold returns as these young men take their places in the pastorate and in evangelistic work.

—Free Will Baptist

MOUNT OLIVE JUNIOR COLLEGE

North Carolina will come to Mount Delegates and ministers representing the 40,000 Free Will Baptists of Olive Friday (January 31) for a special session of their State Convention, the Reverend N. B. Barrow of Lucama, Convention president, disclosed today.

The purpose of this extra session of the Convention will be to lay plans for the further development and expansion of Mount Olive Junior College which is sponsored by the 400 Free Will Baptist churches of the state.

The local college was chartered by the Free Will Baptist State Convention in 1951 and began operation in Mount Olive in the fall of 1954 with an enrollment of 22 students, but has grown to an enrollment of 100 students for the current school year. During these four years the financial assets of the College have increased 600 percent and last November the institution was approved by the North Carolina College Conference and the State Department of Education.

"The College has filled its present facilities to capacity and provisions must be made for additional buildings and endowment funds if we are to meet the growing enrollment of students from our church and community," W. Burkett Raper, president of the College declared.

"The Free Will Baptist denomination has 2500 students now enrolled in United States colleges and 500 of these are in North Carolina, but Mount Olive Junior College is the only liberal arts college the denomination has," President Raper added. "The educational needs of our church and state demand that immediate steps be taken to enlarge Mount Olive Junior College, and it is for this purpose that we have requested a special session of the State Convention," Mr. Raper concluded.

INTER-VARSITY CONFERENCE CHALLENGES STUDENTS

Challenged with the thought that this may be the last generation for world evangelism, more than 1,500 students indicated at the Fifth International Student Missionary Convention that they would follow God's will for their lives wherever it might take them at any cost.

Sponsored by the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and held at the University of Illinois, December 27-31, the convention was the largest since its inception in 1946.

Evangelist Billy Graham, speaking on the last night of the convention, said he felt the world was on the verge of judgment. "I have a feeling that as God called the disciples and the early church to evangelize in the first generation of church history, so you and I may be the ones God has called to evangelize the world in its last generation." Noting that in God's view of history the convention was of greater significance than the recent NATO and Cairo conferences, Graham said the student gathering represented a potential missionary force to shake the world. He urged the 3,200 students to make "a full, irrevocable commitment to Christ."

More than 100 missionary leaders took part in the program, which included general sessions, seminars, Bible study groups, personal interviews, films, displays, and prayer fellowship. The theme, "One Lord—One Church—One world," was developed by six major speakers. In addition to Billy Graham, they were: Dr. Harold J. Ockenga, Boston; Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse, Philadelphia; Dr. Masumi Toyotome, Tokyo; Dr. Kenneth Strachan and Rev. Israel Garcia, San Jose, Costa Rica. They dealt with the Biblical basis of missions, the necessity of a disciplined spiritual life, principles of missionary work, and the need for total missionary mobilization.

—EFMA

WE DIE PRETTY HARD

The cross is an "I" crossed out and the Cross of Christ means death to self. A man who was afraid to testify in public said, "I'd die first." That is what we must do! It means conflict, struggle, agony, for we did hard. It may mean being misunderstood in school, in business, at home. The world will think us queer and our conduct strange (I Peter 4:4). We have read of two girls, lately converted from a life of worldliness, who answered an invitation to a dance by saying, "We are dead and can't come!" It was a Scriptural answer!

—Vance Havner

All too often the attitude of the average American professing Christian is: I like this thing for me, I'll get it for me, I'll keep it for me, I'll use it for me; and he fails to hear the heathen as they cry, "Carest thou not that we perish?" or "No man careth for My soul!"

Woman's Auxiliary

SPRINGFIELD FIRST CHURCH AUXILIARY

Our auxiliary met on Tuesday night, January 6, 1958 with fifteen members and one visitor present.

The meeting was opened by singing "Jesus Lover of My Soul" Scripture reading from Philippians 4:2-3 and Romans 16:3-6 by Mrs. Georgia Glenn. Prayer by Maxine Smith. Roll call answered by Scripture verse from each member. The secretary's report was given by Catherine Draper and the treasurer's report by Myrtle Corbin. The Welfare Committee reported on the Christmas baskets delivered to three needy families in and around the church. Mrs. Jessie Yokum sang "I Have No Mother to Kiss Me Now." She, being our visitor joined our auxiliary making our total membership thirty-one.

Our lesson introduction was read by Lucy Ray with topics read by Marie Braye, Gertrude Vest and Georgia Glenn. The topics were discussed and enjoyed by all.

The auxiliary members along with Bro. Long and possibly other members from the church plan to visit the old folks rest home and have a short service on the 4th Friday night of each month. We hope to make the last days of the patients of this home a little happier.

Our meeting was dismissed with all gathering around the altar with prayer offered by Lola Long.

* * * * *

December 17—A number of our auxiliary members met at the church for a special prayer meeting. The time was spent in singing, testifying, and seasons of prayer. Blossom Agee gave a reading. Each one present received a blessing from the meeting.

We had a very nice Christmas program. The main part of our program was given by the auxiliary members and some of their husbands with Sunday School classes helping with the singing.

A good number of our church people, along with Bro. Johnson and several from the Lebanon Church, enjoyed services at our church December 31, and at the midnight hour we were all around the altar praying for Divine Guidance through the coming year and also thanking God for one of the most glorious years in the history of our church.

Our average Sunday School attendance for the month of December was 171. We are praying for a greater year in 1958 and are giving God the praise for all past blessings.

—Bertha Wolf, Cor.

KIRKSVILLE AUXILIARY

The Kirksville Auxiliary met at the church January 2, 1958 with five members, two visitors and two children present. The meeting was opened by singing. Prayer by Rev. Woodrow Matthews. Scripture reading was given from Psalm 16:3, 6, 12, and Philippians 4:2, 3 by Mrs. Alta Mikel. After a short business session the roll call was answered by a verse of scripture. Reports were given on chapters read, cards sent and calls made. Poem "Another Year" by Mrs. Mikel. The introduction was given from the theme "Go Set A Watchman, Let Him Declare what He Seeth". Topics were given by Blanche Matthews, Lillian Wood, and Bernice Thomas. Poem "Evangelize" by Effie Dare. The project for the month was a service in the Nursing Home No. 3.

The Lords prayer was repeated for the benediction.

—Mrs. Ernest Thomas, Cor.

GRANT AVENUE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Springfield, Mo.

Our auxiliary met on January 9 at 1:30 P. M. at the home of Amagne Nevins with ten members and nine children. One new member was received.

The meeting opened by singing, "We're Marching to Zion". Prayer was offered by Delma Branson. The members present answered the roll call by quoting a Bible verse. The president read the Scripture lesson and presided over the business session. Prayer was offered by Mildred Kensinger. The program was as follows: Poem—"Another Year" by Mildred Kensinger; Poem, "When He Calls", by Delma Branson; Topic I, "A More Excellent Way" by Braxine Evans; Topic II—"Our Real Resources" by Dorothy Frazier; "Evangelize" by Helen Chapman. Benediction was offered by Helen Chapman. Refreshments was served by the hostess.

The next meeting is to be held at the church, January 23.

—Virginia Baker, Cor.

OSKALOOSA CHURCH ORGANIZES AUXILIARY

The Ladies of the Free Will Baptist Church met January 16, 1958 to organize a Woman's Auxiliary. Those present were as follows; Grace Vance, Murril Peterson, Wilma Smith, Rosa Fern, Jenny Williams, Fern Yoakely, Gladys Brooks, Thelma Dickey, Juliana Cole, and Roena Thomas. Our pastor, Mrs. Roena Thomas, called the group to order with singing, followed by devotions from Psalm 37 and prayer.

Officers were chosen as follows; President—Gladys Brooks; vice president—Thelma Dickey; Secretary-Treas.—Juliana Cole; and Youth Chairman—Wilma Smith.

Our president resumed charge. Our meetings will be the second Thursday of each month. We discussed the lesson for January in the Auxiliary manual and received many thoughts of spiritual value.

We realize the power of prayer and ask that other Auxiliaries and Christians pray for us as we begin this new step in serving our Lord and Saviour.

—Mrs. Juliana Cole, Cor.

FAITH CHURCH ORGANIZED

St. Louis, Mo.

June 14, 1957, a mission was started at 9736 South Broadway with Rev. Loy Smith as the pastor. The Lord blessed us with twenty-three members and three souls were brought to Christ.

November 16, 1957, we were organized into a church by the St. Louis District Executive Board with twenty-six members. Two souls have been saved since the organization and are very active young men. We thank God for the prospects they show.

The field in this territory is white, and the workers are few. We request the prayers of all the Gem readers.

—Ned Templeton, Cor.

Quotes: "Some church members have will-power; some others have won't power."

"There has never been a man in our history who led a life of ease, whose name was worth remembering."

After the close of the service today, take time to greet and get acquainted with someone a little better.

—Fredericktown Bulletin

NIANGUA WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Our Auxiliary met for their January meeting in the home of Mrs. Vada Reeves with nineteen present. The meeting was opened with singing. Scripture reading was given by Sara Lee Allen and prayer offered by Ancil Alexander. Vera Walton had charge of the lesson. The subject for the evening was "Go Set A Watchman; Let Him Declare What He Seeth." Readings were given by Mrs. Letterman, Mrs. Pointer and Mrs. Hodges. Prayer by Margaret Wantland.

The president Mickey Cummins took charge calling for the secretary's and treasurer's report. A number of cards were signed to be sent to the sick. At the close of the business meeting each member joined hands to form a chain of prayers. Refreshments were served by the hostess.

Our auxiliary has grown in membership the past two months and we pray it may continue to grow and prosper in the Lord.

—Margaret Wantland, Cor.

WORKING AND PRAYING

Two little girls had been brought up to believe in prayer, and to pray whenever they were in any need. One morning on the way to school they suddenly found that they were behind time. In their distress one said, "Let's kneel down and ask God to help us to get there in time."

"No," said the other little girl, "let's run as fast as we can, and pray as we run."

The second little girl had the right idea. We should always do our best to help ourselves, and then we may be sure that God will help us to succeed, for as the old proverb says, "God helps those that help themselves."

—Unknown

NEW HOPE AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the New Hope Freewill Baptist Church of Kansas City, Kansas met at the Church January 7th, 7:30 P. M. with nine members and one visitor present. Meeting opened with singing and prayer led by Mrs. Edith Blair. Scripture lesson taken from Romans 16: 3-6, and Philipians 4:2, 3, was read by Mrs. Edith Blair.

Minutes from last meeting were read and approved.

Zola Greenlee was in charge of the business session. Topics for the evening were given by Mrs. Ruby McAllister. Mrs. Lester Jones and Mrs. Lillian Bailey. Our next regular meeting will be February 4th. Closing prayer

was led by Mrs. Bertha Russell and refreshments were served to the group by hostesses Mrs. Edith Blair and Mrs. Ruby McAllister.

—Mrs. Lillian Bailey, Cor.

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

Dear Friend of Missions:

I would like to visit with each one of you in person and say "thank-you" for your wonderful support to the National Home Missions department this past year. The Lord has given us a good year because of your prayers and support. Eight new missionaries have been sent out and four new fields entered, including Alaska and the state of Arizona.

Your financial support has been most gratifying, and a large per cent of all gifts have gone to the missionaries and missions. This is as it should be. Overhead expenses must continue to be low.

Your Home Mission Board is operating strictly "pay-as-we-go." We feel this policy to be pleasing to our Lord, and find it meets with the approval of our people over the nation. We entered this year free from any debt.

During the year I visited all our missionaries and missions. I found good work being done on every field. The great need is more workers and

more funds for buildings. Recently I preached the first sermon in our new church building in Wenatchee, Washington, where missionary pastor, Johnnie J. Postlewaite is doing a great work. This is our only property in Washington state. I have visited all our states where we have work the past year except Ohio, Illinois, South Carolina, Virginia and California. Time did not permit my visiting these places. However, I am reserving time for them, and the New England states this year. I am thinking that missionary conferences may be arranged in the above mentioned states.

Brother Melitino (Miami Cuban Missionary) and I will be visiting the following states this month (January): Arkansas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Please pray for us on this extended missionary tour.

Will you please use the enclosed addressed envelope to send us your offering for National Home Missions, this month? We feel you will continue to stand by this great cause—the gospel for Alaska, Canada, the United States and all of old Mexico.

Yours for Christ and missions,

H. E. Willis

Promotional Secretary

Attend Church Sunday

State:	December Receipts	1958 Quota	1957 Quota	Gifts 1957	Over 1957	Under 1957
Arkansas	\$ 58.50	\$2,000	\$ 1,350	\$ 838.75		\$ 511.25
Arizona	6.49	300	150	79.42		70.58
Calif.	39.23	2,500	1,500	464.10		1,035.90
Florida	251.63	1,500	1,200	1,270.12	70.12	
Georgia	51.43	2,000	1,700	728.78		971.22
Idaho		300	150			
Illinois	35.85	2,500	1,500	802.36		
Kansas	5.00	300	150	37.38		697.64
Ky.	11.99	1,500	1,000	908.50		91.50
La.		200	100	7.86		92.14
Maine		300	200	3.00		197.00
Mich.	263.04	4,000	3,000	1,016.49		983.51
Mo.	181.14	3,500	2,500	2,899.33	399.33	
Miss.	16.09	1,500	1,000	433.45		566.55
Nebr.		300	200	251.09	51.09	
N. M.	1.23	200	100	143.37	43.37	
N. C.	945.26	4,500	3,000	6,754.91	3,754.91	
Ohio	39.26	2,500	1,000	603.66		396.34
Okla.	250.66	3,500	2,750	1,515.02		1,234.98
Oregon		200	100	72.00		28.00
S. C.	104.81	2,000	1,350	641.35		708.65
Tenn.	210.27	3,500	2,500	3,634.04	1,134.04	
Texas	59.38	2,500	1,500	1,274.61		225.39
Wash.	151.00	500	(new)	168.00		
W. Va.	31.18	2,000	1,200	513.42		686.58
Va.	73.13	2,000	1,200	1,016.43		183.57
Other	207.40	5,500	14,800	5,533.24		
Ala.	31.53	1,500	1,200	678.57		521.43

News From Our Churches

CHURCH ADOPTS EXTENSION PROGRAM

Last Sunday morning the church voted to adopt an extension program which we believe will result in our church doing great things for God. The first steps taken were to purchase the Stillwell property just north of the church. This land joins the land the educational building is on, thus giving us the complete block. This makes for great possibilities for future building programs.

The church voted also to designate the Fourth Sunday of each month as Building Fund Sunday with all offerings on that day being designated in the building fund in the behalf of the expansion program. All tithes and offerings for that week will be paid according to the usual procedure, but they will be deposited along with other Building Funds Gifts into our Building Fund and reserved for the expansion program. The regular tithes and offerings on the other Sunday will be used as usual for the operation of the church educational enterprises, home and foreign missions, etc. The church tithes its income to cooperative program of national association.

—Mtn. Grove Bulletin

ST. LOUIS THIRD CHURCH

The Lord is blessing us at our church. We have witnessed the salvation of souls during the last two weeks and they have been added to our church number.

Many in our church have been sick this winter. Our pastor, and wife, Bro. and Sis. Rogers have been sick. Remember all of them in your prayers.

Our church is thankful to God for the safe return of the Hannas and their two beautiful children from India. As the New Year of 1958 comes in view, let us all pray more for our missionaries and for the lost men and women that need the Lord so badly. I pray that each one of us everywhere may be on the altar as the New Year comes in, praying that we may be a better Christian and soul winner for the Lord.

—Mary Regh, Cor.

PARKVIEW FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

On December 9, 1957, the pastor of our church, Rev. John Long, and his wife, were involved in an automobile accident. They were hospitalized for several weeks. Both are recovering and are at home now, and

we pray that they will soon be back in the services with us.

We are still in the basement of the new church building. The auditorium is nearing completion and we have talked of being in the new church by February 2.

Rev. Albert Tucker of Flat River, Missouri, has been our substitute pastor while Rev. Long is recovering from his injuries. All services have been carried on as usual and Rev. and Mrs. Long have been hearing them through a speaker system to their home.

Sunday School attendance for the last quarter of 1957, was an average of 97. Attendance to all services has been good and the Lord has been blessing us. Two were saved in the last two Sunday morning services.

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving, (Col. 4:2).

—Alice Bowen, Cor.

BRO. T. B. BUCHARD ORDAINED

January 28, 1958, the Executive Board of Madison County Quarterly Meeting consisting of Rev. Cecil Shepherd, George Hibbitts, and Albert Halbrook along with the Clerk of the Quarterly Meeting conducted an ordination service at the Chaffee Free Will Baptist Church, Chaffee, Mo. Bro. T. B. Buchard was ordained as a deacon for that church.

Services were called to order by the pastor, Rev. George Hibbitts. After congregational singing and several special numbers the message was delivered by Rev. Albert Halbrook.

The charge was delivered by Rev. Cecil Sheppard. All the ordained ministers and deacons present were invited to the altar for the ordaining prayer.

The hand of fellowship was given at the close of the service.

—Leamon Killian, Cor.

THE NORTH EAST MO. FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING

This meeting convened with the Kirksville F. W. B. Church, Dec. 29, 1957, with Sunday School at 9:45. The morning worship service opened with congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Dean Dobbs. Following singing and responsive reading, Rev. Parsons offered prayer. Mr. and Mrs. Russel Wellman sang "My Home Sweet Home," and Marjorie Mollick

sang "The Gospel Melody." Following the morning offering and hymn, Rev. J. E. Corey delivered the eleven o'clock message. He read for the Scripture lesson a portion of Joshua 14 and his theme of the message was "Looking Forward to 1958." Benediction by Howard Filking.

The afternoon session opened by congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Wayne Parsons and Rev. Dean Dobbs. Scripture reading from Deut. 8:11-20 by the president. Prayer by Mildred Gilliams. Minutes of last meeting read. Letters from Kirksville, New Harmony, and Hazel Creek Churches read for information.

The program was as follows: Duet, "When It Comes Home" by Lottie Claybrook; Solo, "Dear Little Stranger" by Richard Kelsey; trio, "He Put a Little Sunshine In" by Kirksville trio; reading, Robert Wood; solo, "I'll Live For Him" by Mona Chrisman; duet, "When God Dipped His Love in My Heart" by Mr. and Mrs. Wendel Sevits; solo, "Almost Persuaded" by Fern Dobbs; solo, "A B C Song" by Marjorie Mollick. Mrs. Wendell Sevits conducted a Bible quizz. Following the auxiliary program the Executive Board ordained Earnest Thomas as a deacon for the Kirksville Church.

The next meeting will be with the New Harmony Church, with Rev. Vernon Maggart delivering the eleven o'clock message and Rev. Mildred Gilliam, alternate. Benediction by Kieth Phipps.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

HOW LONG SHALL I GIVE?

"Go, break to the needy sweet charity's bread;

For giving is living," the angel said.

"And must I be giving again and again?"

My peevish and pitiless answer ran.

"Oh no" said the angel, piercing me through.

"Just give till the Lord stops giving to you!"

Life is a challenge, or it's not life. Have you failed? Look up, live beyond. Have you done your best? If you have, you have succeeded.

Many look but see no past, present or future. What do you see?

Why the Church Claims Our Allegiance

C. Ray Dobbins

There are some uncontestable reasons why the church in our community can lay claim to our allegiance. Even after confessing that there is much that is wrong with the church, it can still lay sure claim to our faithfulness.

And this always must mean the church in the neighborhood, the real church, the fellowship of people; the body of believers which meets in a material building, on ordinary soil. There cannot be the church in the universal sense, in the spiritual sense, without the church in the physical sense. We cannot visualize the church in heaven without having seen and known it with our eyes and hands on earth.

He who talks about belonging to the Christian church without becoming really associated with human beings in the flesh who walk on earth, is either wittingly or unwittingly talking nonsense or about a human impossibility.

Our allegiance to Christ and his Kingdom must be through a living fellowship of believers, through a community of God's people, who are living and working, and striving in a locality—in a community where we live.

And there are some sure reasons why this church claims our allegiance.

1. More than any other institution on earth the church tells us the truth about ourselves. It tells us that we are a mixture of the heavenly and the satanic. It reminds us that God made us but that through our freedom and through our nature we are also the victims of sin and death.

With the highest idealism imaginable the church tells us that our human existence is due to the acts of a loving God. He made us. He goes to all ends to claim us for himself. He has given the most precious gift, His Son, to redeem us. And when our life here is over he comes and takes us home with him. This is the gospel. And this is the highest truth about ourselves.

The church is the constant reminder to us of our origin and of our destiny, however we may live. Therefore the church claims our allegiance.

2. The church provides us with membership in the most inclusive world-wide fellowship of people. There is none like it. It therefore claims our allegiance.

This Christian fellowship reaches out to every level of life, to virtually all nations, to all races, colors, climes, and cultures. It is not a seamless robe,

but like Joseph's coat, is of many colors. There is infinite variation and differences in the many churches of the world. Yet there is living in the core of them a kind of likeness and a unity of faith.

Running through the heart of America is the great Mississippi River. This river reaches back for its sources through a dozen or so major rivers in Mid-America, on back through scores of smaller rivers, and on back through hundreds and thousands of smaller creeks and streams. All are connected with common pull of gravity, all are different, unique, yet flowing with the same pull. In like manner the fellowship of the church gives a common relatedness to all who are a part of any vein in the great body.

3. The church builds around those who are committed to Christ a bulwark against evil. Before we were born it had instilled into the consciences and practices of our families and community principles of right and wrong. Strong views existed against the prevailing evils and temptations and our very lives were cradled in an atmosphere hedged about with protections against the wrongs. And up to this moment that bulwark against evil exists. The church is the medium through which this has been built. And to the church we owe our allegiance because of this.

4. The claims of Christ on our lives are ever before us through the church of which we are a part.

However we may criticize the church in all of its human forms and earthly ways we cannot belittle the Christ of the Church. He stands above us as the Lord of Life, our Saviour and Judge.

"Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him," said Pilate's wife of Jesus to him. And so it is with us. Ofttimes in our erring ways we too would like to escape his penetrating gaze, his pointing finger, his beckoning, pleading call. He disturbs our dreams. But the church will not let us forget. It keeps us reminded of the Christ of God, and his claims on us.

—Cumberland Presbyterian

GOD'S SMALL TASKS

Carl F. Warren

It has always been the longing of the Christian to possess a high stand in the church world. This is a most noble ambition and should never be shunned or neglected. However, the small tasks in the Lord's service should remain upper-most in the minds of the young Christian in so much as he

must grow in God's grace; a necessity for advancement in the work of the Lord.

To perform the small tasks is a token of humbleness and a desire to reach the place of a high and noble standing in the kingdom work of the Master.

HONOR ROLL

OF CHURCH FAMILY PLAN

Church	Pastor
Fellowship	Rev. Rolla Smith
Amity	Rev. Ezra Vestal
Black Oak	Rev. Ezra Vestal
New Lebanon	Rev. Laverne Jones
Leadington	Rev. James Davis
Coppermines	Rev. Glen Rehkop
Myrtle	Rev. Bud Hill
Kirksville ..	Rev. Woodrow Matthews
Wellston	Rev. Harry Asher
Berkeley	Rev. Harvey Hill
First Church, Joplin	Rev. Paul Williams
Farmington	Rev. James Barker
Third Ch., St. Louis	Rev. John Rogers
Hazel Creek	
Union	Rev. W. M. Buster
Verdella	Rev. Archie Bures
Richwoods	Rev. Floyd Arnold
Old Bethel	Rev. Dale Statler
Mt. Zion	Rev. O. T. Allred
Southside	Rev. Roger Reeds
Thayer	Rev. Harry Beatty
Carterville	Rev. Kenneth Turner
Fredricktown	Rev. Ben Scott
Pleasant Grove	Rev. Chas. Black
Old Liberty	Rev. Wm. Reeves
Martinstown Church, Mrs. Alta Mikel	
Mountain View	Rev. Leslie Peterman
Hannon Church	Rev. Harry Sterling
Springfield	Rev. Henry Long
Good Neighbor Family	Oreg. Co.
Mine La Motte	Rev. Albert Halbrook
Blue Eye	Rev. O. T. Allred
Union Light	Rev. Cecil Sheppard
Bethel Church ..	Rev. Keith Johnson
Twin Oak	Rev. Truman Huffman
Fourth Church, St. Louis	Rev. Elmer Turnbough
Neosho	Rev. James McCully
Mt. Pisgah	Rev. Ezra Butts
Victory Church	
(K. C.)	Rev. B. Spurgeon
Rock Chapel	
Mill Creek	Rev. O. D. Matthews
Beacon Church	
(K. C.)	Rev. Lester Jones
First Church (K. C.)	Rev. Alice Dickey
Meris Chapel	Rev. O. T. Allred
New Hope Church (K. C.)	
.....	Rev. James McAllister
Garfield Church	Rev. Davey Combs
Faith Church	Rev. Loy Smith
Greenridge	Rev. Len Gardner
Oskaloosa	Rev. Roena Thomas

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

October, November, December, 1957

Received:

Co-Operative Fund:

Alton Church	\$ 5.00
Aulsbury Church	129.15
Bethel Church	35.12
Beacon Church	103.36
Carterville Church	88.83
Copper Mines Church	145.16
Desloge Church	150.00
Farmington Church	94.98
Fellowship Church	415.53
First, Flat River	257.51
Fourth, St. Louis	42.74
Fredericktown Church	239.82
Grant Ave., Springfield	77.06
Hannon Church	24.10
Hazel Creek Church	47.71
Hurryville Church	74.02
Kirksville Church	45.00
Leadington Church	265.73
Martinstown Church	30.00
Merl's Chapel	43.91
Mill Creek	51.77
Mine La Motte	68.83
Monett	113.23
Mountain Grove	250.00
Mountain Valley	28.18
Myrtle	36.52
New Hope	53.35
Oak Grove	7.00
Richwoods	85.93
Springfield	57.35
South Side	150.00
St. Louis District	
Quarterly Meeting	328.29
Thayer	99.68
Third, St. Louis	91.25
Twin Oak	21.00
Union Light	7.10
Verdella	107.17
Victory	65.71

Total Received \$3,857.09

Disbursed as follows:

National Co-operative	
Fund	\$2,314.09
State Home Missions	848.56
Gem	192.85
Youth Camp	192.86
State General Fund	192.85
State Superannuation	115.72

Total Disbursed \$3,857.09

Missions:

Rock Chapel Church	\$ 37.40
Old Bethel	28.73
Fredericktown	55.58
Olga Hagemann50
New Harmony S. S.	66.91

Total Received \$ 189.12

Disbursed as Follows:

Foreign Missions	132.38
National Home Missions ..	56.74

Total Disbursed \$ 189.12

Foreign Missions:

Berkeley League	\$ 10.00
Fellowship	150.00
Union Light	55.70
Leadington	117.00

Total Received

Total Disbursed \$ 332.70

National Home Missions:

Berkeley League	\$ 10.00
Leadington	117.00
First, Flat River	28.37
South Side League	5.00
Third, St. Louis	42.38

Total Received

Total Disbursed \$ 202.75

Orphanage:

Hazel Creek Union Church	\$ 14.67
Fredericktown	48.06

Total Received

Total Disbursed \$ 62.73

Bible College:

Fellowship Church	\$ 75.00
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Total Received

Total Disbursed \$ 75.00

Youth Camp:

Hazel Creek	\$ 10.60
Mine La Motte	10.00
Third Church	31.94
Carterville	10.00

Total Received

Total Disbursed \$ 62.54

Bicycle Fund:

Kirksville League	\$ 3.39
Total Received	\$ 3.39
Total Disbursed	\$ 3.39

Gem:

Subscriptions	\$ 275.12
Supplies	23.40

Total Received

Total Disbursed \$ 298.52

—Signed, Rev. Albert Halbrook,
Church Treasurer

CHURCH PEW

Often I have been deserted by men who sought softer seats; men turn from me at their own peril; if they forget me, they lose their own souls.

I am your family pew—I can be useful only as I am occupied.

I am waiting for you to come back to the house of God.

—Myrtle Church Bulletin

CHAMPION FOR GOD?

Harlem went wild when Henry Armstrong was announced as the new welterweight champion of the world. Of course Henry went right up to Harlem, after it was over. The crowds in the street were something, but the peak celebration was at Small's Paradise, a night club so crowded that Henry thought he'd never get in. He was showered with praise, shouts and confetti, deafened by the blasting horns and loud laughter. Harlem was going crazy!

The manager of the club welcomed him with open arms—but as he walked through the Club door, Henry felt a strange touch in his shoulder. He looked quickly around. No man or woman had touched him. It was something from out of this world—something that rocked him. Out of nowhere, out of the past, out of the little cabin in Columbus, Mississippi, came the words he had heard as a child: "You must go over yonder and do great things... Don't forget that I am your God and maker. Remember?"

He stood spellbound and speechless. The crowd was suddenly silent. They stood staring at him, wondering what he was doing. He turned to his host and asked to be excused for a moment—to go alone into a quiet room somewhere.

Alone in the little room, he thanked God for his victory over Barney Ross, and for all the other victories. And for some explanation of why this had happened, in this night club.

Somchow, the party seemed flat after that. Henry had things on his mind that the crowd could never understand. He was quiet. He went home early. He kept thinking, "Yep, you're the champ. But seems like I'm not champ enough, for God. What's He want me to do, anyway?"

Always, after that, he would steal away from the crowds at victory celebrations, and pray a little.

Henry Armstrong in
GLOVES, GLORY AND GOD
(Fleming H. Revell Co.)

GRIN AND SHARE IT

The Lord's Prayer has had to withstand considerable abuse, especially from children trying to learn it from poor enunciators or from mumbling congregations.

One little boy was heard to pray, "Harold be Thy Name."

Another begged, "Give us this day our jelly bread."

A New York child petitioned, "Lead us not into Penn station."