



Arkansas Methodist

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LITTLE ROCK AND NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCES OF THE METHODIST CHURCH



Our Slogan: The Arkansas Methodist in every Methodist Home in Arkansas

VOL. LIX

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, DECEMBER 19, 1940

NO. 51

What Of the Future?

THE future of the ARKANSAS METHODIST is in the hands of the one hundred and sixty thousand Methodists in the state. That there is a need for such a religious journal to reflect the life and thought of our church in this state no one will deny. That it can be a vital influence for good in the homes where it may be sent; that it can keep us informed concerning the work of our church throughout the world; that it can be of help to every institution of Methodism in carrying news of information and inspiration; all this and more the ARKANSAS METHODIST can do for us. But obviously its effectiveness is dependent upon its circulation. No matter how helpful, how stimulating or how informative it may be it can be of no value to those who do not read it. No doubt our people are reading something. Can not the church place alongside that which is purely secular at least one religious journal? Bishop C. C. Selecman of Oklahoma City called the District Superintendents together last Monday at Fort Smith and urged them to assist in the drive for new subscribers during the week of January 5th through the 12th. What the preacher and layman does during this week will determine the effectiveness of the ARKANSAS METHODIST.

Are We Christian?

SOMETIME ago Charles M. Sheldon, in an article in the Christian Century, asked and suggested an answer to the question, "Are We Christian?" He referred to the events of a single Thanksgiving day in a typical mid-western town. First, there was a union Thanksgiving service in one of the churches and 215 people were present. The offering amounted to \$27 and was given to over-seas relief. In the afternoon twelve thousand people witnessed a high school football game paying an average of fifty cents a ticket or \$6,000. In the evening three thousand people paid a dollar a ticket to see a New York stage play, the reputation of which was certainly not the best. Thus the expenditures for this town for the three events were as follows: \$27 for over-seas relief to others and \$9,000 for personal amusement. And these figures could be duplicated in a thousand towns and cities within our "Christian" republic. Well might Dr. Shelton ask, "Are We Christian" for Christianity is not merely what we believe but how genuinely we practice brotherhood.

After Nearly Two Thousand Years

NEARLY two thousand years ago the Unique Jesus announced the radical principles of aggressive love instead of militant hate. He not only enunciated this principle—he embodied it. Enemies flashed their bayonets before Him—He bared His flesh before them. He not only said love would work—He demonstrated the fact that it did work. They who put Him to the cross are forgotten—He is the greatest power on earth. Yet after nearly two thousand years this Prince of Peace sees a war-mad world. Has Christianity failed? A thousand times no! It has scarcely been tried. Two thousand years ago there was one calvary. Today there is a calvary on every battlefield. For calvary is not a geographical location. It is a spiritual condition where hate and force crucify love and goodwill.

The Incomparable Christ

MORE than nineteen hundred years ago there was a Man born in Bethlehem of Judea. He lived in poverty and was reared in obscurity. Only once did He cross the boundary of the small country in which he lived. He possessed neither wealth nor influence. His relatives were inconspicuous and uninfluential. But in infancy he startled a King; in childhood He puzzled the learned doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of nature and hushed the sea to sleep. He never wrote a book, yet all the public libraries of the world could not hold the books that have been written about Him. He never wrote a song, yet He has furnished the theme for the greatest music written. He never founded a college, but all the schools put together cannot boast of having as many students as He. He never marshalled an army, nor drafted a soldier, nor fired a cannon; yet no leader ever had more volunteers who made rebels stack arms and surrender without a shot fired. He never practiced medicine; yet He has healed more broken hearts than all the doctors of history. Every seventh day the wheels of commerce stop and multitudes find their way to the sanctuaries to pay homage and respect to Him. The names of the proud statesmen have come and gone. The names of the scientists, philosophers and theologians have been honored, then forgotten; but the name of this Man abounds more and more. Time has spread nineteen hundred years between the people of this generation and the scene of His crucifixion, yet He still lives. Herod could not destroy Him, the grave could not hold him, the centuries could not bury him. He stands forth upon the highest pinnacle of every horizon, proclaimed of God, acknowledged by angels, adored by saints for He is the incomparable Christ, our LORD and SAVIOR.

Evangelize Or Fossilize

JOHN WESLEY, in his lifetime, was not afraid that the people called Methodist would perish from the earth. He did fear that they might exist as a dead sect. When Methodism ceases to be evangelistic she deserts the teachings of her spiritual founder Jesus Christ and of her physical prophet, John Wesley. In every city and town in Arkansas within a stone's throw of the church there is an abandoned people. They will not come to the established church with its ritualistic service and lofty music. They feel the pinch of poverty, the sense of inferiority, the awareness of their social unfitness. But the great commission does not say, "Come ye to the church—" but rather "Go ye into the world—". The issues are the same today as they have ever been—Methodism must evangelize or fossilize.

They Belong to Us

IN THE course of a year the Methodist Church in the state of Arkansas accepts the responsibility of parenthood for some seventy orphaned children. The Arkansas Methodist Orphanage is not a relief organization but a character building institution. Here in a wholesome Christian environment amid moderate comforts of life these fatherless and motherless children grow up to be normal Christian characters. So far as we know none have ever gone from the institution to betray the high expectation of the church that has mothered them. Here is one of the many modern evidences of preventive religion. Certainly a religion that keeps these little ones from falling is more sensible than a religion designed solely to rescue the fallen. Better to have a fence at the top of the cliff than an ambulance at the bottom. Because the work at this institution is so definitely Christian every Methodist in the state will want to have the opportunity of making a contribution next Sunday. These children belong to us. Their needs are our needs. They have no parents other than the Methodist Church. And loving parents will be unselfish.

A Plea for Tolerance

INTOLERANCE is the modern survival of an ancient paganism. It is an unwillingness to acknowledge the rights, opinions and privileges of others; individuals, groups, races or nations. We have been shocked at the extent of relentless persecution of minor groups and races in Europe. But we must keep in mind the fact that all intolerance is not across the Atlantic. Intolerance is one of the persistent sins of religious groups. Religion has always had a hankering for uniformity and a deadly dislike for variety. Many people believe themselves to be infallible in their religious beliefs, thinking that they are the divinely appointed keepers of the rubrics of truth and all others are in danger of damnation. Then there is a growing class prejudice within our commonwealth. Some have no sympathy with the unemployed, the reliefer, the rich, the poor, the foreigner. Such intolerance leads to hate which means the spiritual impoverishment of the soul. It is much better to be hated than to hate.

Making Christmas Christian

IN THIS day of commercialism the Church's most sacred holidays have become the victims of a secular celebration that practically loses its religious significance. Easter, which marks the day of the advent of the risen Lord, has become in the lives of many people a spring parade of new clothes. Thanksgiving, having begun as a religious day has become a day of football, stuffed turkey and overstuffed people. And Christmas, marking the birthday of the Christ, to many is a season of feverish buying, excessive celebration, and tinsel and firecrackers. Surely Christians ought to celebrate this most significant religious day in a religious way. Let the family re-read the beautiful story of the birth of Jesus. Perhaps a simple hymn could be sung such as, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" or "Joy to the World." As a fitting climax each member of the family could state the personal significance of the birth of Christ in his or her own life. This would be a step toward making Christmas Christian.

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CHURCH CALENDAR

Orphanage Sunday, Dec. 22.

MISSIONARY INSTITUTES:

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

Fayetteville District, at Fayetteville, Jan. 6.
Fort Smith District, at Fort Smith, Jan. 6.
Conway District, at Morrilton, Jan. 7.
Batesville District, at Batesville, Jan. 7.
Searcy District, at Searcy, Jan. 8.
Helena District, at Wynne, Jan. 8.
Jonesboro District, at Jonesboro, Jan. 9.
Paragould District, at Paragould, Jan. 9.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE

Little Rock District, at Little Rock, Jan. 6.
Pine Bluff District, at Lakeside Church, Pine
Bluff, Jan. 6.
Camden District, at Camden, Jan. 7.
Prescott District, at Prescott, Jan. 8.
Texarkana District, at Texarkana, Jan. 8.
Monticello District, at McGehee, Jan. 7.
Arkadelphia District, at Arkadelphia, Jan. 9.

BOOK REVIEWS

"American Mirror"—By Halford E. Luccock.

After one recovers from the astonishment of such an omnivorous reader as Dr. Luccock reveals himself to be in the "American Mirror," he sees a candid camera picture of the ten tumultuous years of American life as is expressed in the decade from 1930 to 1940. Following closely upon the heels of the confident "twenties" he reflects, through the aid of literature, the contour of the American mind as it has reacted through the "hungry thirties." The psychological impact of the depression, the perennial problem of unemployment, the voice of labor, the growing migrant problem and the relations and reflections of each in the field of religion constitute the thesis of the book. Indispensable to the library of the person who reads little or much of the best in modern fiction. The Macmillan Co., N. Y. Price \$2.50.

—The Editor.

"Honest Answers to Honest Questions," by S. Ralph Harlow.

A splendid new book for discussion groups, youth forums or for private reading. Based on questions from young people who seek answers on such real problems as, Is it ever right to lie? Should a Protestant marry a Catholic? Is democracy practical? These and others are frankly held up to the light of Christian thinking. Dr. Harlow, professor of religion in Smith College, has given us a useful book for young people's evening groups or as an aid to teachers of young adult classes.

—Mrs. Gaston Foote.

Price \$1. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, Nashville.

ABOUT PEOPLE

REV. J. D. BAKER, district superintendent of the Prescott District, announces that he has secured Rev. J. R. Martin, Prescott Circuit, which was left to be supplied at Conference. Dr. C. M. Reves released Bro. Martin from the Hickory Plains Circuit.

REV. H. B. VAUGHT of Benton received eight new members Sunday, December 8th, two by profession of faith and six by letter. He reports that plans are practically complete for a new educational building to take care of the growing Sunday school.

DEAN HENRY H. MEYER of Boston University School of Religion and Social Work, who is spending a sabbatical year in the Far East, arrived in Shanghai on October 16, and the next day gave his first lecture at Nanking Theological Seminary which is holding some of its activities in Shanghai.

MISS JULIA DELL STEVENSON and Lilian Day, students in Scarritt College, will return this week to spend the holidays with their families and friends in Little Rock. Miss Day was recently commissioned as a missionary and will at the conclusion of this year's work in Scarritt be assigned to work in the home fields.

REV. C. R. ANDREWS has had a gracious reception on his return for the second year at Bayou Meto and has been generously pounded. Plans are under way for building a new circuit parsonage and prospects are fine for another good year. He writes his people are delighted with the changes in the Arkansas Methodist.

A GIFT of 100,000 (Chinese) toward the founding of a Commercial College—"the first unit of the proposed Methodist University of Chungking"—has just been made to the Methodist Church by a wealthy Chinese banker and business leader of the city. The gift has been made to Dr. William A. McCurdy, Methodist missionary, and to the Principal Yang Chong-hsi, principal of the Chungking High School.

REV. VAN W. HARRELL, pastor at Stuttgart, has had a fine reception at his new charge. The stewards have adopted a budget of around \$2,000 more than the budget last year. The auditorium was filled last Sunday and two men presented the year's plans and budget to the people. To date there has been a fine response. Last week they held a "Preaching Mission" with services at night and five churches participating.

With Our Readers

Dear Sir: Your last issue of the ARKANSAS METHODIST was to me the most attractive and readable that I have ever seen since coming to Arkansas. Yours truly,
Benton, Ark. H. B. VAUGHT.

Dear Sirs: I am so well pleased with the plans of the paper and am only too glad to renew my subscription. I wish you success in your new undertaking. Sincerely,
Booneville, Ark. MRS. JOHN T. LOGAN.

Dear Dr. Foote: Your paper is appreciated and this week's issue is best of all. My children enjoyed page ten as they always look forward with interest to this page. Here's prayers and my co-operation for a great Conference paper.
Star City. FRED L. ARNOLD.

Dr. Gaston Foote,
Little Rock, Ark.

Dear Sir: As a lay woman, member of Pulaske Heights Methodist Church here in Little Rock, I wish to express my appreciation to you for your untiring efforts as Acting Editor of the

GYPSY SMITH has been conducting evangelistic services for 60 years. He has made fifty trips to America. His vitality seems to be undiminished by age. His messages have changed in that he now preaches almost entirely to church members on the ground that there will never be a great revival outside the church until there is one inside.

DR. L. L. EVANS, pastor of First Methodist Church, Fort Smith, received eleven new members Sunday, November 24. During December he is preaching a special series of sermons at the Sunday morning service. Each evening there are special sermons and dramatic and musical programs. Each Wednesday evening, at the midweek service, they are having selected meditations on the Old Testament scriptures. During the holidays the young people will have two social evenings with programs.

REV. CLEM BAKER has been appointed on a Committee on Program and Plans which has been announced by Dr. Harry Wright McPherson, Executive Secretary of the Division of Educational Institutions of the Board of Education, looking toward the holding next spring of a series of Regional Conferences on the church's program of Higher Education. Bro. Baker is on the committee for the central region which extends from the Mississippi to the Rockies and from the Gulf to Canada. Four committees were appointed. Each committee is to be in charge of all arrangements for the Conference in its geographic area.

AT the First Quarterly Conference of the Mabelvale Church, of which Rev. Gerry Dean is pastor, Wesley Reutz was recommended for license to preach. Bro. Reutz was born and reared in the Mabelvale community and is the second member of the Reutz family to enter the Methodist ministry. He is a nephew of Rev. George Reutz, pastor of Oaklawn Methodist Church, in Hot Springs. He has been preaching for five years in the Baptist Church and has made a fine record as a young minister. He will continue his work in the Methodist Church with every promise of large usefulness. To fill the vacancy made by the going of Rev. J. R. Martin to the Prescott Circuit, he has been appointed to the Hickory Plains Circuit. The many friends of the Reutz family and the Mabelvale congregation will receive with great joy the announcement of Wesley's entrance into the work of the Methodist ministry.

ARKANSAS METHODIST in giving to us a paper very readable and necessary in every Methodist home. Sincerely,
MRS. EDWIN VICTOR MOORE,
2300 North Palm.

Dear Dr. Foote:
When I read your recent plan in last issue of the Methodist it had my hearty approval so am gladly sending in subscription. I am greatly pleased with the new paper and read it with great interest.
MRS. M. C. WILSON
Heber Springs, Ark.

Dear Dr. Foote:
I am inclosing my subscription and permit me to congratulate you upon the excellent physical make-up, as well as the contents of the paper since you have been at its head.
Danville, Ark. B. F. MADOLE.

NO issue of the Arkansas Methodist Christmas week in order to give employees a short vacation.

THE CHURCH WORKSHOP

H. MELLE FIKES and C. R. HOZENDORF, Editors

"Russellville Vesper Choir"

The Vesper Choir, a recently organized group of Russellville High School Methodist students, is proving a helpful and popular organization. It is helpful in that it trains the young people in church music, worship, and the habit of regular attendance at the church service. It is popular for the group likes to "Meet and Eat" at the social hour, sponsored by the mothers of the Senior department serving in turn as hostesses at the Sunday night suppers at 6:00 o'clock followed by choir practice and the evening church service. Unusual interest is shown by the high school students with an average attendance of twenty-five to thirty. The organization was originally planned by a committee of mothers of the Senior department, Mrs. Wallace Cowan, organist, Mrs. Van A. R. Moores, soprano soloist in the adult choir and Mrs. H. M. Lewis, wife of the pastor, Mrs. Holden directs the Vesper choir with Mrs. J. B. Stevenson, organist. —H. M. Lewis, Pastor.

A Significant Decision

In an unanimous decision, the Supreme Court of the United States last week reversed the conviction of a Negro sentenced to life imprisonment in Texas on the grounds that there had been discrimination against Negroes in Grand Jury selection.

Justice Black who wrote the sweeping decision stated that "chance and accident alone could hardly have brought about the listing of so few Negroes from among the thousands shown by the undisputed evidence to possess the legal qualifications for jury service."

Justice Black further pointed out that the Texas Clerk had testified that from 1931-1938 inclusive, only five of 384 grand jurors were Negroes. A minimum of 3,000 to 6,000 Negroes, he said meet the requirements for Grand Jury service.

This is not, of course, the first time the Supreme Court has clearly and forcefully laid down these clear constitutional principles. But this case further emphasizes what could be expected to happen in any court on the same grounds as those resulting in the Texas reversal.

A Good Beginning

"What total abstainer ever amounted to anything?" asked the sneering wet.

Oh, just Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Edison, Admiral Peary, John D. Rockefeller, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Henry Ford, Whittier, Bryant, Barnardo, Booth, Nansen, Bernard Shaw, Wilfred Grenfell, Gandhi, Lindbergh. Of course, this isn't the entire list, but then this paper is not a cyclopedia.—Ex.

Try Religion

We are indebted to Dr. Foster K. Gamble, Editor of the Alabama *Christian Advocate*, for the following interesting and suggestive quaint saying of Mr. Horace Greely.

A good many years ago when Mr. Greely was editor of the New York *Tribune* a woman who was an active church worker wrote that gentleman somewhat after this wise: "Our church is in debt and running behind with its finances. I am writing you for advice. We have tried pink teas, strawberry festivals, ice cream suppers, rummage sales, bazaars, concerts and spelling bees in our efforts to raise money, and the people seem worn out. Can you suggest some new plan for making money for the Church?"

The quaint old editor, though not much of a churchman himself, replied wisely in just two words, "Try religion."

To all churches that are struggling with difficulties, submerged in debt or harrassed by constant appeals for money, we would make this suggestion, "Try religion." All kinds of methods may be tried—methods not wrong in themselves—and some results accomplished in the form of money secured or members received. But if the surest, largest, best results are desired, methods that are truly religious must be used. The reason for many failures is to be found in the fact that religion has been left out.

Of course when we say "Try re-

Major Emphasis for Youth

The Commission of Youth Workers developed the following emphasis for the 1941-1944 at the Methodist Conference on Christian Education held at Nashville, Tenn., December 4-10.

1. An awakened Christian conscience to the power of a living fellowship with God through personal devotions, intelligent study of the Bible and active loyalty to the local church.

2. An awakened Christian conscience in the building of a Christian world order by carrying the good news of Christ to the community and the world, developing a positive program for peace, breaking down racial barriers and strengthening the religious basis of democracy.

3. An awakened Christian conscience to the need of sacrificial community service by relief and refugee work, tenant and migrant work, facing industrial problems and by enriching rural life.

4. An awakened Christian conscience to the value of creative living through recreation, proper use of money and wholesome friendships.

These objectives are within the reach of every local church in Methodism. Now is the time to begin making plans for the advancement of such goals. In a few months program material will be in hand to aid in carrying out these ideas, but the group that develops them now has the advantage.

Good Books For Children

The following books are recommended by the General Board of Education for use in the departments in the Children's Division of the Church School:

FOR NURSERY:

Alschuler, *Two to Six*.
Lloyd, *Nursery Class Teaching*.

Bro, *When Children Ask*.

FOR BEGINNERS:

Thom, *Everyday Problems of the Everyday Child*.
Gruenberg, *We, The Parents*.
Milton, *The Little Child and God*.

FOR PRIMARIES:

Ruby, *The Children We Teach*.
Green, *Teaching Primary Boys and Girls*.
Vieth, *Teaching for Christian Living*.

FOR JUNIORS:

Eakin, *Teaching Junior Boys and Girls*.
Bowie, *The Story of the Bible*.
Gessell, *Planning for Home Cooperation in Childrens Work*.

"Guideposts For Rural Youth"

E. L. Kirkpatrick says in his recent book, "Guideposts for Rural Youth," that young people who live in the country want jobs more than anything else, and that what they want next is recreation. By recreation they mean not simply entertainment. They mean all the things a person may do in his leisure to renew himself, to broaden his understanding and outlook. Specifically, young people want companionship, opportunity, and encouragement to develop their creative capacities in such fields as music, drama, handicrafts, nature study, as well as through play and sports. They want, in short, a fuller way of life, of which a job and economic security constitute but one aspect.

What ever the agency, that works with youth, the fundamental principles remain the same: (1) that enterprise is surest of success which starts with a survey that provides a basis for intelligent action; (2) the aims should expand as the program develops; (3) the program must be carried out by the participants, making the fullest possible use of local resources; and (4) the program must be cooperative, with the pooling of ideas, efforts, and experiences. These are the principles of successful democratic action.—From the New York Christian Advocate.

reply, but they soon passed a child making mud pies. He was exceedingly dirty. It was then the preacher's turn, and so he said: "Soap hasn't done much good in the world, I see; for there's still much dirt and many dirty people."

"Oh, well," answered the manufacturer, "soap is useful only when it's applied."

"Exactly," was the minister's reply; "so it is with Gospel we proclaim."—Christian Reader's Digest.

BORN IN ME

'Tis not enough that Christ was born
Beneath the star that shone,
And earth was set that morn
Within a golden zone.
He must be born within the heart,
Before He finds his throne,
And brings the day of love and good,
The reign of Christ-like brotherhood.

—MARY T. LATHROP.

O Brother mine of birth Divine,
Upon this natal day of thine,
Bear with our stress of happiness
Nor count our reverence less,
Because with glee and jubilee,
Our hearts go singing up to Thee.

—JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

Only When Applied

A soap manufacturer, not a Christian, was walking with a minister. Said the soap maker:

"The Gospel you preach hasn't done much good, for there's still a lot of wickedness and wicked people."

The preacher made no immediate

ligion," we have in mind the religion of Jesus Christ. And we mean that His spirit and principles should pervade and guide in all the affairs of the Church. Try the religion of Jesus Christ in a larger measure, and with greater intensity and sincerity and see what the results will be for the Kingdom of God and for our own enrichment.

SUPREME DATE ON WORLD'S CALENDAR

By WILLIAM LYON PHELPS

Christmas is the supreme date on the world's calendar because it is the anniversary of the world's supreme event. It is celebrated by more people, in more countries, and with more positive rejoicing, than is any other anniversary of any kind. Whatever view may be held of Christ's credentials and authority, it is significant that even those who write against Him are forced to date their articles from His birth.

Christmas is supreme because Christ is supreme. And to me the supremacy of Christmas consists in this—you can not separate Jesus from God. The Christmas religion, as a religion—that is, as a basis and source not only of conduct, but of all human hopes here and hereafter—is founded solidly on the Incarnation. Take that away, and you have left—what? You have some beautiful literature and an excellent plan of living, founded by a man, who, barring his enormous conceit and his pathetic errors, had true nobility of character. The enemies of Christianity have always fought the Incarnation because they know that the moment you separate Jesus from God, He becomes not only mortal, but vulnerable. He has lost His real strength; He is, in military parlance, separated from His source of supplies.

But we can go much further than that. If we cease to believe in the

Incarnation, we have lost not only our Christian faith but religious faith of any kind. Christmas brought the Gospel, the good news—that is why it is the supreme birthday. What is the good news? It is the Supreme Power revealing Himself to man in a form man can understand. Now, if God did not manifest Himself in Jesus, where has He manifested Himself? If we lose our belief in the Incarnation, we have lost intelligent and reasonable belief in a God of Love. It is absolutely unintelligent to believe that God is Love, and not to believe in the only clear and rational evidence of it. As that great scholar, Paul More, says: if we do not believe in the Incarnation, there is nothing left. There is no other light in the darkness, there is no other channel open between God and man.

A friend of mine, whom I highly respect, has recently lost his faith in the divine origin of the Gospels, for which I am sorry; but, granting his loss of faith, I admire his logic. He is not afraid to accept the intellectual consequences of his loss. He maintains that, as he can not believe in the Incarnation, it is clear that no communication of any kind has ever come from God to man—hence it is idle to practice any religious forms, such as prayer. Man must do the best he can without any divine guidance.

Nothing seems to me more absurd,

more irrational, than for teachers of theology, pastors of churches, leaders of Christian thought, to attack the Incarnation as irrational, and then to proclaim the love of God and the immortality of the soul, for which their evidence is worse than insufficient.

To my mind the real problem of theology is this—for it is what we all really want to know: Is God as good as Jesus Christ?

My own chief theological problem is not, Was Christ divine? but, Is God like Jesus? Is He really as good as that? Because if anyone could prove to the satisfaction of every sane mind that God is as good as Jesus, then all our intellectual troubles, all our doubts and fears, all our problems, would be solved.

Now, Jesus is the only person in history who seems divine—that is, who seems to have been in connection with sources of power unfamiliar and unknown to other good men. Compare any other admirable person with Him, and His uniqueness stands out ever the more plainly. We have actual reverence for the character of Abraham Lincoln, but was there ever a man more wholly human? Leaving out all the personages of what is called profane history, what shall we say of Moses, and David, and Elijah? They were absolutely human. Place together before the eyes of the mind Jesus and Paul. The difference is not in degrees, it is in kind. Never was there a character more exclusively human than Paul.

The supremacy of Christmas consists in this: Jesus brought into the world divine intelligence. The apostle John, who knew more real the-

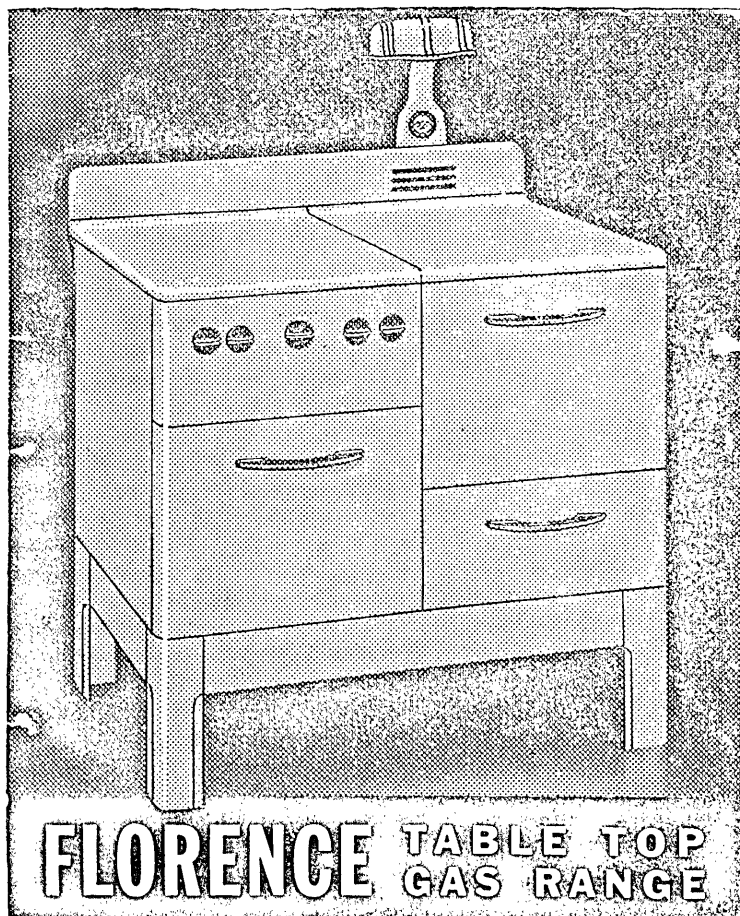
ology than any other writer then or since, said that man hath not seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, He who is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him. The good news brought to mankind on the first Christmas Day is that the true nature of God is revealed in the character of Jesus Christ. How can we find out God? How can we believe that He is a God of Love? We can find Him and believe in Him only through the Person who is His representative. There is the Light shining in the darkness, and the winds of persecution, hatred, unbelief, materialism and indifference have never been able to extinguish it.

Of all the millions of individuals who have appeared on this planet, the first place in the hearts of men is held by Jesus. No other has ever had a birthday celebration like His. Christmas is supreme because it is His birthday!

Words Of Truth And Soberness

A beloved and devoted pastor, who spends his days in doing good and is known as a glowing success in his every pastorate, adds these words to a list of new subscribers:

"Some of my best days are these spent in the interest of the North Carolina Christian Advocate and in the interest of my folk. I love the Advocate and dearly love to place it in the homes of my people. The strange thing to me is that more pastors do not make the Advocate one of their major interests."—N. C. Christian Advocate.



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THE HALF-BLOCK-LONG STORE AT 7TH AND ARCH STS., LITTLE ROCK

THE DEVOTIONAL PAGE

ROY BAGLEY, Editor

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS

'Tis not enough that Christ was born
Beneath the star that shone,
And earth was set that blessed morn
Within a golden zone.
He must be born within the heart
Before He finds his throne,
And brings the day of love and good,
The reign of Christ-like brother-
hood.—Selected.

When the shepherds had their vision, they were out on the hills tending their sheep. The vision was given to them at their posts; they would have missed it all had they been elsewhere. It is as true today as it was nineteen hundred years ago that the vision and the glory come that way.—G. H. Morrison.

Jesus our friend keeps open house on Christmas day. He calls to Him the sad, the sorrowful, the suffering; above all, the sinner. There will be many happy gatherings today; there will be much real gladness, much forced mirth; but no Christmas day will be happier than his who has found Christ, who has learned where to lay his sins and his sorrows, who has come to Christ as his judge and has left Him his friend—a friend that sticketh closer than a brother, who has known his soul in adversities.—W. C. E. Newbolt.

Gift To The Christ Child

Behold there came wise men from the East . . . and they presented unto Him gifts; gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Imagination swiftly reconstructs the scene the wise men beheld, that most momentous night in human history. There is a breathless tensi-ty in the air, as if Nature sensed that at last He had come whom the sad world had awaited a thousand years. Suddenly there blazes in the heavens the brightest star of all—so bright that it illumines even the dark gorge of Jordan and the hills of Gilead beyond; and following the star from the direction of Jerusalem, presently there come three men riding.

Guided by a star they enter Bethlehem to worship a King—and find a little Jewish baby, cradled in a feed trough in a manger, among the asses and kine. Yet, showing no surprise—for are they not indeed Wise Men, possessors of all secret knowledge?—they kneel before the infant Jesus and present to Him such gifts as the Queen of Sheba had brought to royal Solomon.

For gold and frankincense and myrrh were royal gifts in those days. Of all the fragrant spices, the ancients most highly valued these two—frankincense, the incense of a thousand rituals; and myrrh, with which the costliest burial ointment was made. So it was most fitting that the three should bring these to the new-born King.

But those priceless things may have meant more than merely presents. Thus the gold, precious material of crowns, could symbolize His kingship—for shall He not reign forever and forever? And they may

POEM OF THE WEEK

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

*In humble stall the Saviour lay
While shepherds adoration lay
Shall we not come and worship, too,
The Christ to whom all praise is due?*

*And wise men from the East have come
In reverence to the sacred home—
Shall we not bring our gifts as they,
And at his feet our offerings lay?*

*From stable door to cross-crowned hill
He went, God's purpose to fulfill—
Shall we not yield him service true,
His will to seek, his work to do?*

*O Christ of God I would enthrone
Thee as my Lord and Thee alone;
Unto thy servant now impart
A willing mind a loyal heart!*

—F. S. SHEPARD.

THE JOY OF SOUL WINNING

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.—Psalm 126:6.

I'll praise my Maker while I've breath;

And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers.

My days of praise shall ne'er be past
While life, and thought and being last,

Or Immortality endures.

Thus came the refrain from the soul of that great soul winner, John Wesley. How well his life fulfilled that verse of scripture quoted above. From the sequestered way of the High Church he went forth with many a heart-ache and many a tear as he met the almost overwhelming opposition of those early days. As he came to the end of life's journey he could rejoice to see so much done for the Master in his own day of discipleship.

Soul-winning is the greatest business on earth. It brings more joy and gladness than any other occupation. It calls forth from the human being all the powers that reside within the soul. The dealing with fellow human beings takes all the genius and grace that God can give for one is dealing with God's greatest created being. One will find his powers matched and even at

have seen in the costly frankincense a symbol of adoration He should receive throughout the ages to come form millions yet unborn. And it may be that their wise old eyes could see a shadow upon the stable floor not visible to the others' eyes—the faint shadow of a Cross. For the myrrh they had brought was the symbol of death—that death upon the Cross which He must surely suffer, but from which He would as surely rise triumphant.

So they presented unto Him gifts—gold and frankincense and myrrh.—Albert Linn Lawson in Christian Herald, December, 1940.

times superceded by those that he is trying to reach. Then it is that God lifts and expands the human personality to meet the occasion. Though one may fail to reach every soul the healing balm of God's love gives strength and power to go on.

There is a joy in seeing persons healed and empowered through the gospel. The years of agony and the days of toil are then repaid in abundance of increase in rejoicing. The happiest moment of any person's life everlasting through his own efforts. That joy increases as one beholds the soul unfolding under the gracious guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Soul-winning costs in time, in preparation, in effort, in energy and in every known human element. Those who pay the higher price reap the greater benefits. Just as in every realm, "whatsoever one sows, that shall he also reap." "He that soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly." How often we become weary, tired and run out spiritually. Then it is that we need to go in for restoration and re-invigoration. We must go in, in order to be able to go out. He that does not go in for re-empowering and does not go out for expenditure of energy will find Christian living shallow mockery.

What a day! What a task! What an opportunity! Let us not think that we have discovered some new Messiah to replace the true Messiah. His way is the same yesterday, today and forever. His cross is the symbol. His life is the one and only reality. Those who believe and go out believing will find his promises true today as yesterday.

We are, all of us, sometimes faced with our own weaknesses and unworthiness. At such times let us thank God and take courage for we know that in our weaknesses he is made strong. Let us bring all that we are and have and leave it in his hands. Let us go forth weeping with him over a sick world and we shall come some day in the Father's good time rejoicing with him, bringing our sheaves with us.—J. A. Gatin.

SENTENCE SERMONS

Life with Jesus gets a vision of the truth about Jesus.

* * *

The virtue of adversity is fortitude.

* * *

To get rid of an enemy, make a friend of him.

* * *

If we have an attack of real religion it will be contagious.

* * *

Religion is a walking, not a talking concern.

* * *

It is easy to trust God when all is well with us, but the real test of our trust comes in the storms of life.

* * *

Try loving people, you can hate them without trying.

* * *

What I think of you will not affect you as much as it will affect me.

* * *

If God is not within us, we are without God.

* * *

Hate is only the power to love, misused.

* * *

The Spirit of God has no other medium of expression than ourselves.

Life In Christ

Jesus as a fact of history becomes a fact of conscience, and then a fact of experience. This conscious spiritual experience is the Christian life with the power that belong to life.

The life of the seed is the power which transforms the soil into flowers and fruit.

Christianity is primarily a life, and spiritual life is spiritual power. It was Mr. Huxley who said: "I protest that if some great power would agree always to make me think what is true and do what is right on condition of being turned into a sort of clock and wound up every morning, I would instantly close with the offer." This picture of a hard, dry, mechanical power is not the Christian power. The Christian power is life, fellowship, experience. Even in human relations our weaknesses are immensely strengthened by fellowship with the purest and strongest among men. In the presence of some people, we are at our best.

Fellowship with Jesus Christ is our life and power. St. John gives the secret of this power: "Abide in me, and I in you." St. Paul corroborates the same secret of power: "Thanks be to God, who always leadeth us in triumph in Christ."

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Through life in Christ we have the motive power for reaching the sublime and unearthly ideal which he sets before us.

With the immeasurable resources of Christ at our command, our shame is that we live our little weak, puny, fretful lives, and are not ashamed.—Editorial, Christian Advocate, Nov. 9, 1940.

Arkansas Methodist Orphanage

1610 Elm Street

The person who is not moved to do something for helpless children at this season of the year is scarcely human. Our experience has taught us that such institutional charity as we seek to obtain is more efficient than any other institution we know of. The dollars we invest in the Methodist Home of the two Conferences in Arkansas are utilized in the very fullest degree,—not only in shelter, food and clothing, but in good cheer and in the training of character. Ours is an institution that makes men and women of outstanding value of the unfortunate children who come to our Home.

I feel quite sure the Christmas Offering this year will surpass anything we have ever had. Already I have had so much encouragement.

Sunday I spent with Dr. W. C. Watson, pastor of the First Church at Malvern. It was raining in torrents but his audience practically filled the auditorium. That church is made up of splendid people from every walk of life, the lowliest to the leading financial citizens, and their care of the Home for Orphans has always, since the pastorate of Dr. Watson, been beautiful. The fact is that Dr. Watson has been a marvelous success as a minister in our Church from the beginning of his clerical life. I have known him, loved and appreciated him through the years and it always makes me happy to go among his people and hear them speak so beautifully of him.

We were invited to dinner at the Barlow Hotel with some friends of Dr. Watson and had a good time. Upon a whole the day was a very pleasant one though I was in the rain all of the way from Little Rock to Malvern and return.

As the collections are taken, please see that they are remitted promptly to Dr. James Thomas, Supt., 404 Exchange Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

With love for all, I am, your brother.—James Thomas, Exec. Sec.

Alexander Copeland Millar

(God's Man)

He was a man who stood for truth,
Through all his years from early youth,
His faith did never falter;
He loved his church most loyally,
For her he never ceased to pray,
His life was on her altar.

A life of service he did give,
And taught us truly how to live,
In heavenly grace abiding;
How close he lived to Christ his Lord!
He loved to read God's holy word,
In simple faith confiding.

The noble qualities he bore,
Undimmed will shine forever more,
That with the years are blended;
No critic charged him with deceit,
Untarnished was his life complete,
E'en till his days were ended.

We watched him in the evening hour,
His trembling form had lost its power,
But in his face still beaming;
There glowed the light of heavenly joy,
Beyond earth's shadows to annoy,
A holy radiance gleaming.

We saw him at the sunset glow,
Death's mystic waters round him flow,
When lo, a shining portal,
Did open on the golden strand;
He entered that fair heavenly land,
To wondrous life eternal.

G. N. Cannon.

I Am A Christmas Seal

Born of tragedy, I became a missionary of mercy; brought into being through man's misfortune I became a herald of good fortune. Short lived though I am, I have a life dedicated to service.

CHRISTMAS SEALS



Help to Protect Your Home from Tuberculosis

I am a teacher in that I teach unfortunate men, women and children that vital principle of health—prevention of disease and the care of the afflicted. I am a preacher, in that I preach to the world at large that civilization rests on the broad theme of helpfulness one to another. I am the star of hope that rises to spread the bright light of happier living to those whose misfortune has cast them into the darkness of despair. I am the lighthouse of men in that I point to human derelicts adrift on the sea of life, the port of health. I am all of these things, yes I am only an insignificant scrap of paper, no bigger than a postage stamp, and on you depends whether my few short days of life shall be useless or helpful.

I am only one of many such, and by myself I can do little, because I am little, but united with millions of others I can make happy hundreds of families because I restore their loved ones to them. May you get from me this lesson of helpfulness through united effort, this story that when you buy me you are uniting with others in pooling your strength to fight a fight that you alone cannot fight by yourself—a fight that but for the united strength of all some poor man, woman or child might die. May you get this lesson, that if you buy me I become a messenger of mercy and hope, a symbol not of charity, but a chance I become all of the good things mentioned above—but if you don't I become just an insignificant scrap of paper. I am your responsibility—I am the Christmas Seal.—Max Hampton, Booneville Democrat, 1939.

Camden District Educational Rally

The ministers and lay delegates and representatives of the Camden District met Tuesday, December 10, at the Smackover Church for a district-wide meeting, with Rev. Leland Clegg, District Superintendent, presiding. After a short devotional, Brother Clegg gave out mimeographed copies of the goals and objectives for the year adopted by the district staff. Inspirational talks were given by the representatives of various interests: Mrs. O. C. Birdwell, director of Children's Work; Rev. R. O. Beck, director of Youth's Work; Mrs. Forrest, Rural Worker; Rev. C. D. Cade, director of Missions; Mr. J. W. Rogers, director of Lay Activities, and Rev. R. E. Fawcett, director of Evangelism. The morning session was climaxed by a fine address by Dr. C. M. Reves, district superintendent of the Little Rock District, in the interest of Hendrix College and Ministerial Education. Dr. Albea Godbold, First Methodist Church, El Dorado, closed the afternoon session with an inspiring message, "We Can If We Will." The good women of the host church served a splendid noon meal pastor.—R. O. Beck, Secretary.

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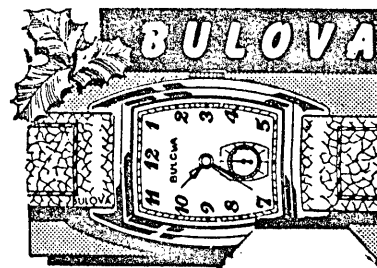
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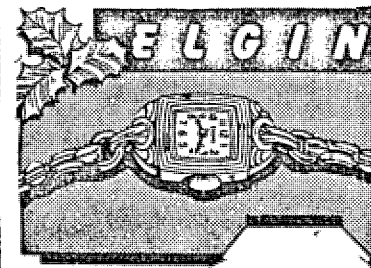
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Quote and Unquote

Platform Pickups from the Methodist Conference on Christian Education at Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 4-9.

"Christian leaders must discover new ways in which people may be drawn to God. They must discover methods of solving social problems in Christian ways."

"The one basic reason adults don't go to church is because they don't want to. The church must have a program of adult education based on the needs of adults in the world as it exists today; we must work with adults as though they were adults and not adolescents."

Young adults from 24 to 35 are the lost generation in the church's life. They need more opportunities than are now afforded them for expression. We can't build a Christian world without them to supply leadership and guidance for younger groups."

"The church must refuse to become the instrument of the state in the prosecution of war. It must work incessantly for the recovery of sanity, intelligence, and cooperation in guiding the affairs of mankind, and it must do these things in opposition to the revolutionary forces of anarchy, nihilism and totalitarianism which are on the march in every country of the world and which are bent on the destruction of order, meaning and freedom."

"Sixteen million American youth face probable war, but not inevitable war. Embers of a fire to stay out of war still burn and may be kept alive if we would stay out."

"The only theology that helps personally is the one that enables people to face fear with certainty and injustice with love."

"One lesson we need to learn from physical science is that it is always seeking new worlds to conquer. That must be the goal of Christian scientists in the field of Christian character education."

"Our job is to set Christian values in the midst of educational values."

"Thank God that no longer has Methodism to apologize for the sacrilege of Northern Methodist Chinese and Southern Methodist Koreans. Thank God that the division which set home missions over against foreign missions is a thing of the past. Thank God that the Methodist Church is a world church. In a day such as this a parochial church would be an anachronism."

"Jesus had a high conception of the potential power of human personality, but we have not yet succeeded in producing character of calibre. If we can discover and apply the laws which underlie character, perhaps we can build stronger character and personality than we yet have."

Must Nanchang's Doors Close?

"Nanchang Academy—once one of the most flourishing secondary schools of the Methodist Church in China—has had to move three times since it had to leave the City of Nanchang because of warfare and bombing," reports Dr. William R.

Christian Education

DISCIPLE AND DISCIPLINE

By E. STANLEY JONES

The future of the country is in the hands of disciplined people.

Those who can subordinate a present desire to further discipline are the people who will control the destiny of the world.

It is not necessary that the group which is disciplined be a large one. It was a small group which made Germany Nazi, Italy Fascist, and Russia Communist. In 1914, it was said: "There are only two Communists in Paris (the center of their propaganda). If you could find four it would be a miracle." But within less than five years that small disciplined group had captured Russia and profoundly influenced the history of the world.

Less than one hundred people created the Reformation in Europe, and less than one hundred people created the Renaissance. It was a small disciplined group around Dr. Welch of John Hopkins which influenced and changed the whole medical outlook of America.

Therefore, if Christianity is going to influence the discipline of America, it will not necessarily take a vast majority to do it, at least in the beginning. A small disciplined minority group could change the history of our nation. Probably it will have to start with the ministers themselves.

When I speak of discipline, I do not mean imposed discipline from the outside, but those imposed disciplines from within. Somebody has said that the whole evolution of American goals is to get the policeman off the street corner and put him in your heart. That is, you are to do from within what would ordinarily be imposed from within.

"We are to be disciplined to the Kingdom of God. Nazism is disci-

Johnson, the Methodist Missionary. "Consequently it has lost almost all its Equipment," he continues. "It now is housed in large ancestral halls in the country in southern Kiangsi. There are no desks, only boards on stakes in some of the rooms. Some rooms have similar seats, some none at all. All floors are of earth. In assembly students and teachers stand for lack of seats. Books and paper are scarce, numerous students often having to use a single book.

"Teachers have been working on salaries cut from 25 to 50 per cent from pre-war rates, though some of them have been offered much higher salaries to go to government schools. But we have lost mathematics and science teachers who were not our own alumni. The low salaries have thus caused a shortage of teachers and reduced efficiency. Costs of living meanwhile have doubled and trebled, and some salaries will scarcely provide food for teachers' families. Mr. Shaw, the principal and a very devoted group of alumni teachers have carried on thus far very loyally."

Dr. Johnson reports that the sum of at least \$1000 is needed at once or the Academy must close its doors. He asks that gifts for the school be sent in care of Morris W. Ehnes, treasurer, Board of Foreign Missions, 150 Fifth Ave., New York City.

plined to the idea of a superior race, Fascism is disciplined to the idea of a superior state, while Communism is disciplined to the idea of a superior class. We are disciplined to God's absolute order, the Kingdom of God. The goal of our discipline is far beyond anything yet proposed by our discipline.

If we are going to be disciplined the way we should be, we must first of all have a group-discipline; second, a self-discipline; and third, a God-discipline.

It may cost much to be Christians in the future. Our heads may be cracked for holding Christian ideas; but if we stand up for that crack, people will respect those ideas in the cracked heads.

The word "disciple" and the word "discipline" come from the same root. In the future it must be known that there can be no discipline without a full-rounded disciplined person working through disciplined groups. These groups can give direction and a goal to the hesitant and confused people of this land.

Hendrix College News

The staff of the 1941 Troubadour, Hendrix yearbook, has been announced by Edward Lester, editor, sophomore, Hope, and Walter Trulock, business manager, sophomore from Pine Bluff. Members of the staff, according to Lester, will be Patsy Franklin, junior, Conway; Carolyn Buckley, junior, and Bill Emerson, freshman, Little Rock; Virginia Rhine, sophomore, Thornton; Glenn Black, sophomore, Gurdon; and E. F. Young, freshman, Hope.

Dr. J. H. Reynolds, president, made the following statement concerning the death of Lord Lothian, British ambassador to the United States, with whom he was personally acquainted: "I regard the death of Lord Lothian, the ambassador of Great Britain, at Washington, as taking away one of the four or five great responsible leaders of the English-speaking people. The greatest of these leaders of Churchill, the Prime Minister of England. Lord Lothian comes only slightly below, because while of the nobility, he had the simple democratic habits that appealed to America. He was extremely popular in Washington, and had great influence with the administration. He was a marvelous interpreter of the best ideals of Great Britain and could therefore do more than

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any other Englishman who might be appointed. Of course England will send one of her ablest men to succeed him."

* * *

Eighty members of the Hendrix Choristers and about ten members of the symphony orchestra joined the Little Rock civic chorus Sunday night in their annual presentation of Handel's oratorio, The Messiah. The Hendrix group presented The Messiah the week before at Hendrix before a capacity audience at between 1,500 and 2,000 people. Two of the soloists who appeared at Hendrix were also soloists at Little Rock. They were Ben Quertermous, tenor, and Louis Vaughn, baritone.

* * *

Dr. Reynolds, president, and Dr. Thomas S. Staples, dean of the college, spent two days in Memphis last week where they attended the meetings of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Dr. Reynolds attended the sessions of the division of college presidents and Dr. Staples the division of academic deans.

* * *

Two debate teams, accompanied by Mr. Robert B. Capel, debate coach and assistant professor of speech, and Miss Vivian Hill, asso-

ciate professor of English, represented Hendrix in the Murray mid-winter invitational tournament at Murray, Kentucky. The teams were composed of R. H. Sales, junior, of Forrest City, and Bob Evans, senior, Batesville; and Mary Mitchell freshman, Conway, and Virginia Rhine, sophomore, Thornton.

* * *

Manuscript for a new book, entitled "Introduction to Public Speaking," by Donald Hayworth, has been sent to Mr. Robert B. Capel, assistant professor of speech, for criticism. Mr. Hayworth is chairman of the department of speech at Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., and has recently directed a \$50,000 W. P. A. research project in the field of speech. According to a letter received by Mr. Capel, copies of the book have been sent to the University of Wisconsin, and Louisiana State University. Mr. Capel will receive acknowledgment in the book. Mr. Hayworth is also the author of "Public Speaking," which was published in 1935, and co-author, with Mr. Capel, of "Oral Argument," published in 1934.

* * *

Several members of the Hendrix Players, dramatic organization, attended a play by the Harding College dramatic group at Searcy last week. They were Frances and Geneva Eppes, seniors from Forrest City, Miss Mary McElwee, instructor in physical education for women, and Mr. Robert B. Capel.

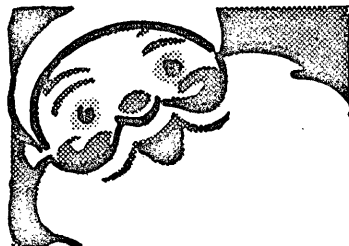
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Six early moving pictures, dating from 1894 to 1911, were shown at Hendrix last week. The films were sponsored by a class in humanities, taught by Mr. Paul Faris, assistant professor of English, and were obtained from the museum of modern art in New York City. The group of films included "The Great Train Robbery," "Faust," "A Trip to the Moon," "Queen Elizabeth," starring Sara Bernhardt, and others.

* * *

Percy Goynes, executive secretary of Hendrix, and chairman of the 4th district of the American Alumni Association, left last week from Memphis by plane for Washington, D. C., where he spent one day before going to Atlantic City, N. J., to attend a three-day meeting of the Board of director of the American Alumni Council. From Atlantic City, Mr. Goynes will go to New York City where he will spend several days on college business and making contacts with Hendrix alumni there.—Glenn Black.

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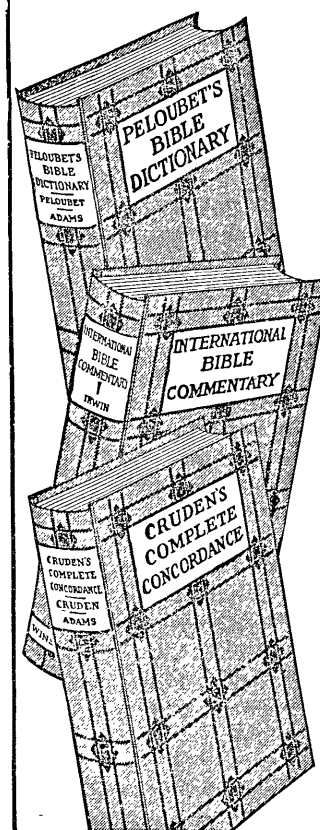
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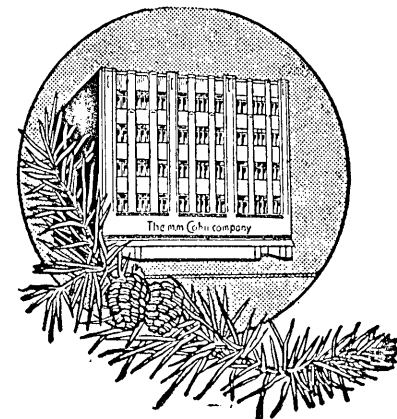
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Swifton-Alicia

We have been kindly received here. Have received the usual pantry shower from both Swifton and Alicia.

Both boards have been organized and first month's obligations met in full. We are hopeful of a great year. —H. W. Jett, Pastor.

Star City Charge

We arrived here in the rain and it continued to rain for several days, but our people pounded us just the same. The pastor and family have been very kindly received, and the people are not only in a receptive mood but are ready and willing to work, thanks to the former pastors.

The District Superintendent Bro. Hart held our first Quarterly Conference last Sunday which was the first for the District.

We are looking forward and praying for a successful year on this charge and with these splendid people with which to work.—Fred L. Arnold, Pastor.

Mansfield Pastor Pleased With Reception

We arrived here Nov. 14, and found a group at the parsonage preparing for our arrival. We have been very graciously received, and are delighted with situation and outlook. We were given a formal reception at the church Wednesday night, December 4, accompanied by a generous pounding. This was a complete surprise to the pastor, though Mrs. Faust had been given a hint of it. The church is well organized and working splendidly, with the intention of keeping all finances up to date. We have every reason to expect a good year, and intend to work and pray to that end.—W. J. Faust.

A Fine Beginning

The new Conference year begins in a fine way in this the third year of our ministry here. On November 19th the pastor and wife were treated to a gracious and bountiful pounding which was sponsored by the young people and Woman's Society of Christian Service.

We begin the new year with a 15% increase in membership, and an increase in personal pledges to the church program of 30%. Our Board of Stewards have made a careful study of the New Financial Plan, conducted a thorough every member canvass and have adopted a new budget with \$300.00 increase over last year which will increase the giving to all causes of the church by ten per cent. In addition to the budget this church is liquidating debt on parsonage and church, meeting the payments regularly.—Otto W. Teague, Fairview Church, Texarkana, Ark.

Outlook Good At Hatfield

We moved 245 miles after the Conference at Texarkana and were pretty well worn out when we arrived at the parsonage in Hatfield. We found a good house, well furnished. We have found a fine group of people, social and warm hearted. We have received two splendid poundings, one from Wicks and one from Hatfield. I have preached five

With The Churches

time and have delivered an address to the high school at Vandervoort, also one address to the League union at Potter. Have preached two funerals and made 16 visits. Things look promising and we are looking forward to a good year.

What is required for the progress of the Kingdom of God is good co-operation, fine organization and the gospel of Jesus Christ preached and a dedicated life of trust in God.

We know and love our District Superintendent, Rev. J. W. Mann. We have not been able because of things which were unavoidable to attend the meetings called by him yet we stand 100% with him and love all the preachers in his District.—J. C. Williams, pastor.

First Church, Little Rock

With the inauguration of the unified budget at First Church the \$30,-300 budget has been largely subscribed at this date. More than \$25,-000 had been subscribed Monday, December 16. B. D. Colvert and T. B. Fatherree are co-chairmen of the Finance Committee.

The officers of the Board are: R. C. Butler, chairman; R. C. Stark, vice-chairman, Lee Cazort, Jr., secretary, and Freeman Holman, co-secretary.

The Church and Sunday School will take a special offering December 22, to raise \$600 for the support of the Methodist Children's Home, Sixteenth and Elm streets. Every member of the School and Church will be given an opportunity to make a Christmas offering for this purpose.

Thirty-four members have been received by Dr. Warren Johnston, pastor, since his return from Conference. In this the second year of his pastorate the spirit of the church is fine and all phases of the work is going well.

The Gallery Choir (for children), the Chapel Choir (for Young People) and the Chancel Choir will sing a candlelight Christmas service at Vesper Sunday, December 22. The gallery and chancel choirs are directed by Mr. John Summers, and the chapel choir by Mr. Robert Ganaway. All members of First Church and their friends are cordially invited.

The Senior High Department is giving a party Friday, December 27, in the home of Mrs. C. M. Weston in honor of the high school students in the Methodist Children's Home. A very interesting program has been planned for the benefit of all who come.

Members of the Young People's Department expressed their appreciation for the many years of service rendered by Miss Sue Medlock, former counselor, at a Christmas party Wednesday night. As a farewell gift a beautiful birthstone ring was presented.

The church orchestra, directed by Charles B. McKee, meets for rehearsal every Sunday at 5:45 p. m. The group has already appeared on several programs and there will be other occasions in the near future.

As the Y. M. C. A. volley ball season closes it finds two First Church teams leading the league. The Young People's team has lost only one

game out of 24 and the Young Adult team has won 21 games. This is another phase of our work that continues to progress. The basketball season will open next week.—C. R. Hozendorf, Associate Pastor.

Grand Avenue, Fort Smith

The Woman's Society is organized in four Circles and is doing full time work.

The boys' class entertained the girls of the church with a social recently.

The young married people's class held their monthly meeting Dec. 10, in the home of the Loyds.

The Quarterly conference voted 15% increase in finances.—W. R. Dalton, Pastor.

McRae Charge

We have been received in a very fine way on the McRae Charge and the work is starting off well. We have received some very fine poundings and some beautiful new furniture has been placed in the parsonage, financed by all the churches. Other financial showings have been made. We are planning a good year.—C. H. Harvison, Pastor.

The Christmas Season At Russellville

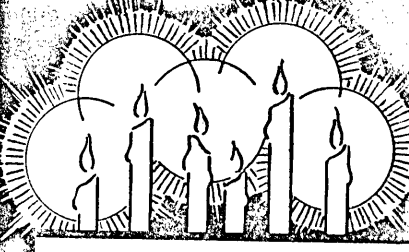
The Dames' Club of Arkansas Polytechnic College presented Mrs. Wallace Cowan, organist of the Methodist Church, and the Tech A Capello Choir, directed by Paul Schultz, in Christmas concert at the Methodist Church Sunday afternoon, December 8, at 3 o'clock to a large and appreciative audience of invited guests.

On Sunday afternoon, December 15, the churches of the city united in a twilight Christmas vesper service at the Methodist Church. The vesper service, an annual occasion sponsored by the Russellville Music Club, presented the Christmas story in scripture, hymns and carols. The choir made up of members of the music club and the various church choirs was assisted by the pastors of the cooperating churches, Rev. F. H. Hidelberg of the Central Presbyterian, Rev. T. H. McDill of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Rev. T. J. Scott of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Rev. Harry Hembree of the Christian Church, Rev. F. E. Goodbar of the Baptist Church and Rev. H. M. Lewis, pastor host.

The choir, directed by Paul Schultz, will sing, "O Holy Night" at the 11 o'clock service December 22.—H. M. Lewis, Pastor.

Exclude religion from education and you have no foundation upon which to build moral character.—Charles W. Eliot.

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CHILDREN'S STORYLAND

MISS KATHLEEN SHEARER, Editor

A Christmas Thought

"A Merry Christmas," little folk,
I wish you from my heart;
In all the jolliest of times
I hope you'll have a part;
And yet there is another thing
That I have wished for you:
I hope you'll make some other child
Have Christmas merry too.

Now, think a minute, is there not
Some little girl or boy
Who never sees a Santa Claus,
A turkey, or a toy?
And couldn't you some pennies spare,
And ask your friends for more,
Then, play that you are good St. Nick
A-knocking at their door?

Just think how happy you could make
The holy Christmas Day,
For love of that dear little Babe,
Who, in a manger lay;
And I am sure that He will see
Each loving deed you do;
That, giving joy to some one else,
You'll find full measure too.

—Helen Elizabeth Coolidge.

The Christmas Story

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be unto all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying

The Christmas Star

*The star looked down on Bethlehem
That night so long ago,
And in its soft and radiant light
The town was all aglow.*

*It drew the Wise Men from afar
Across the desert sands,
They came with worship in their hearts,
And gifts within their hands.*

*It stood above a lowly inn,
Where Mary and the Child
Received their homage and their gifts
Among the cattle mild.*

*Oh, would that star arise again,
And joy and gladness bring
To hearld to a weary world
The Coming of a King!*

—LIDA E. VOIGHT.

which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

This is the way St. Luke tells us the wonderful story of the First Christmas morning.

The fact about which this story centers was the most wonderful event in history. It began to change the world.

Its influence on the world was so great that it changed the marking of time. December 24, 1940, means the twenty-fourth day of December, nineteen hundred and forty years since the shepherds heard the message of the heavenly host and went to the manger in Bethlehem and worshipped the new born baby, the Son of David, the King of kings, the Saviour of the world.

Really to understand why this was the most wonderful event in all history we must go back a long way and see how God for many thousands of years, had tried to teach man to understand Him and love to do His will.

From the time of man's creation, God took various ways of teaching him to understand Him. For the most part man is dependent upon the written or the spoken word to understand the thought that another desires to tell him.

After the flight of the Israelites out of Egypt and the giving of the Law, or the Commandments through Moses unto the people, they had in some form the written word of God for their guidance.

As time went on these Jewish people obeyed and disobeyed these laws of God. Different leaders called them to account when they disobeyed God and constantly reminded them that they were the people whom He had promised to bless, and unto whom He had promised to send a ruler or Messiah.

For many years the accounts of God's dealings with the Jewish people were told by fathers to their children and to their children's children. Then, as time went on, these stories were written down and read and reread by the fathers and teachers of the Hebrew race. Thus the sacred writings of the Law, and the Prophets grew, and through them men learned about God.

Still, many failed to understand God through His written word. They disobeyed His Commandments and worshipped other gods. God wished man to know of His love and of His desire for man's loyal and obedient service. It was then that He sent His only Son into the world. Jesus Christ came to help men to understand what God wished them to know. As a word helps us to ex-

press our thought to another, so Jesus Christ came to express God's love for the world and to help men to understand God. That is the reason that St. John tells the story of the first Christmas in these words: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth."

This is the reason that the birth of Jesus Christ was the most wonderful event in history. This is the wonderful thought back of all of our Christmas festivities. God loves the world and wanted all men everywhere to know and understand Him. Because He loved the world He gave the most precious thing He had to give, His Son.

Each year throughout the world more people come to understand about God and to realize His love for them and the wonderful and beautiful gift that He gave to the world when He sent Jesus Christ into the world as the Babe of Bethlehem.

Each year more people desire to show their thankfulness to God for this wonderful Gift by more loyal service to Him and by greater service to Him and by greater service to their fellowmen. The gifts given at Christmas are a token of this.

It is not the size or the cost of the gift which we give another at Christmas time, but it is the thought which is back of the gift which makes it a real Christmas gift or not.—Young Churchman.

This Is My Church

Here I come close to God and to my human comrades in worship.

Here I learn the truths by which I may live a brave, happy, useful life.

Here I gain the strength by which I may become what I have learned I ought to be.

Here I find comfort in my sorrow, courage and strength in my struggle, joy in my victories.

Here I come into union with Christ, my Master and Friend.

This is my church.—Church Bulletin.

The intemperance of the saloon was the least objection to it. It was the breeding place of crime and immorality and vulgarity and profanity of every description. It was the rendezvous of the immoral and criminal element. Its effrontery was unparalleled.—Carter Glass.

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Floral Prints, \$1.00
Godey Prints, \$2.50 ea.

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Block Printing Sets, \$2.00
Dennison Desk Sets, \$1.00

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Agfa Flash Cameras, \$3.95
Floodlight Lamps, \$1.50

Binoculars, \$25.00
Magnifying Glasses, \$1.00
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WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. J. R. HENDERSON, Editor

Christmas Message from Spiritual Life Chairman

Mrs. C. A. Evans, Chairman of the Spiritual Life Committee of the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service sends us the following message:

Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Dear Friends and Co-Workers:

I am hoping that we have attended to our Christmas shopping early this year, so that we can be calm in our souls and ready for Christmas—the Mass of Christ. May we take time this Christmas Eve to go out and look into the Eastern sky and truly worship our Lord of Love.

There are many things our children would like for gifts, radios, smart clothes, automobiles—things that most of us cannot give them. What a blessing for them that we cannot. But there are far more important things that we can give them—a home life that is stimulating in the richness and beauty of Christian love. We can give them the spirit of tolerance, courage, faith, hope and love, these intangible things of life that will build a Christian character. Every parent and teacher can give these spiritual gifts.

May we appreciate more fully this Christmas season the love our Heavenly Father, expressed in the gifts of His only Son—the greatest gift of all the ages. Grace Noll Crowell expresses so sweetly just what I would like to say:

The wise men brought their gifts to please a baby King;

Their fragrant incense and their glittering gold.

What gifts can I put in His hands today

For Him to love and hold?

What can I offer from my life's full cup

To please a Christ, grown-up?

What can I give Thee, Master, and I hear

His voice in answer, "Inasmuch as ye

Have done it unto one of the least of these,

Ye have done it unto me."

Each thought for others, each small kindness shown,

He claims them for His own.

They are selfless gifts He asks of me,

The little common deeds of every day;

Small services my hand can find to do—

The words my tongue can say.

Strange gifts to lay before a King,

Yet these are all He bids me bring.

Wishing each of you a Happy Christmas, and a year full of joy, in which the Prince of Peace may rule in every heart.—Mrs. C. A. Evans.

Mrs. Evans asks that the Spiritual Life Chairmen make their reports to her very soon after the holiday season.

After all, the purpose of civilization is not the progress of science and machines but the progress of man.—Alexis Carrel.

Hot Springs Society Has Harvest Day

The large banquet room in the First Methodist Church, Hot Springs, filled with long tables artistically decorated with fruits and vegetables, lighted by myriads of candles, was most inviting to the more than one hundred women who gathered to hear the reports of the year's work and to bring in their Harvest Day offerings. After an invocation by Mrs. Homer T. Fort, wife of the new pastor, the president, Mrs. F. M. Williams conducted a short business session and gave a message on "For Such A Time" and introduced the new pastor, Dr. Fort, who gave interesting and helpful remarks pertinent to his work and his new surroundings. Mrs. C. T. Cotham then presented a beautiful program based on the theme of our year's work, "Our Heritage," made up of tableaux representing outstanding women of all ages. Mrs. J. R. Hem-

by was heard in a special musical number and Mrs. B. Frank Bagley played appropriate music throughout the program. Under the supervision of the local chairman, Mrs. S. C. Van Lear, the sumptuous turkey dinner was enjoyed by all present.—Mrs. F. M. Williams, President.

Handbook Published

Officers of the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society are in receipt of a most attractive and exceedingly useful handbook which has been published for their use by Miss Beryl Henry of Hope, who is the Conference Secretary of Wesleyan Service Guilds.

A well-balanced and socialized personality does not develop in a vacuum. It is achieved only as the individual lives in fruitful contact with his fellowman.—M. H. and E. S. Neumeyer.

Peace, Good Will, Christmas, In Bombed China

It is difficult to keep singing, "Peace on earth, goodwill to men" in the midst of this world's turmoil.

It has been sung through the centuries by every nationality, in every clime, in every tongue, in the most beautiful place of earth and in the most dark and discouraging places. How it has thrilled the hearts and called for a deeper devotion of those who are working for the day when peace and goodwill shall reign among the peoples of the earth—when there will be a place of decency and security in which to live.

Many of us who have been working on the outposts of Christianity and civilization have felt the challenge of this song during the last few years, as we have tried to encourage the Chinese Christians and friends to keep their faith that a new day will arise for them and the rest of the world where peace will reign. Even in the midst of this cruel aggression of Japan, many of the Chinese Christians have this spirit and even at a time of greatest danger have put it into practice.

During the winter of 1937 when the Japanese army besieged and captured the city of Wuhu, Anhwei, Central China, the Wuhu General Hospital (Methodist) was able to carry on and maintain a refuge for 3,000 people. In the midst of roaring, bombing planes, rolling tanks, gunboats and death, the Christians of that hospital were able to sing out to a better day, "Peace on earth, goodwill to men." Many of the tens of thousands of refugees, who had left home and all, tarried here and there to give honor to the Prince of Peace. Many of the mission stations told of the Christmas celebrations held that first terrible winter of invasion. You can bomb churches but the spirit of worship goes on in the hearts of those who love the Lord.

This was also the case in far-away Yunnan on the Burma Road. An airplane factory under the operation of Americans and Chinese had moved from the coast to far-away Burma border to re-erect the factory that had been driven away by bombing planes. There in a short time they re-established themselves in factory sheds, temporary houses for the staff, and also built a hospital. The slogan, "A plane a day for China's defense" was greatly handicapped because this region was badly infected by malaria. Whole towns had been depleted because of this ravaging disease.

It was to this hospital that Dr. Robert E. Brown was called in the fall and winter of 1939-1940 to inaugurate a health program to control the mosquitoes. Christian Chinese doctors and nurses were also called to this hospital and in the month of October the first Loiwing Christian Fellowship was organized in the thatch roofed bamboo house of Dr. and Mrs. Brown.

When Christmas came around they wondered if they could not celebrate it in some way as they had done for years in the mission hospitals and schools in parts of China. They were encouraged to do so and some Christmas decorations were purchased in Rangoon and pine branches were brought from the mountain

THE SILENT BELLS

*"I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play
And wild and sweet,
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men."*

Only in our own land will the bells ring out in free and joyous song this Christmastide. Only on this continent will the sound of ringing bells mean the celebration of the great holiday of the world, which for centuries had brought joy and gladness to all people, even to the humblest homes.

Where are the bells of Germany that once rang out in such joy the Christmas season, while happy people gathered around the fir trees that Saint Wilfred gave as a symbol of Christmas to the Germanic tribes—a symbol of eternal life as opposed to the blood sacrifices of Thor and Wotan. From their hearths no longer rise the merry strains of "Oh, Tannebaum." Instead, the Horst Wessel song blares defiance to the Prince of Peace.

The bells of Austria are mute. The lovely "Stille Nacht," written by a parish priest for his faithful flock, no longer rings upon the midnight air. Austria lies crushed, with little heart to sing.

The carillons in Belgium, singing from their tall belfries, have been stilled, and there is little hope in Holland this year of the kind Kris Kringle appearing with his bag of toys for good children.

The hauntingly exquisite "Noel, Noel," that sweet carol beloved of all Christmas singers, will not ring through a France saddened, torn by war and a more devastating peace, and threatened both within and without by new dangers.

Russia is long since mute, its golden bells silenced by those who fear religion more than an enemy army, so that they must needs try to blot it out completely.

The bells of Italy, what could they mean this year to the women left at home, their men gone to spend their lives in aggression against peaceful neighbors? What can the grand motif of "Adeste Fideles" mean to a nation locked in closest bonds to the godless Nazis and Communists?

And in England—where the church bells for centuries rang in Christmas from every village green—the bells now ring only to warn of danger and death, instead of the new life which Christmas signifies, sending the children scurrying not to happy family gatherings around the Yule log, but to deep underground air-raid shelters.

And yet—ring out, wild bells, in the land that is free—ring out your song, for you may reach and revive the hopes of those in other lands where Christmas joy is dimmed. You may remind all those who hear your cheerful tones of the joys they still possess. You may recall to the world that the good tidings of great joy was promised to all the people, bringing peace on earth and good will to men.—Ruth Taylor.

side. With this the nurses decorated the wards of the hospital and the dining room of the nurses home. A little platform of boards was built at one end, and with the help of sheets from the hospitals for curtains, and with a baby organ, the first Christmas in this far-away outpost of China was celebrated. The beautiful pantomime of the nurses was augmented by the singing of carols out under the stars in the cool crisp air of Loiwing. The hills echoed back for the first time the song "Peace on earth, goodwill to men," while the half civilized tribes and the wild peoples from the jungle looked on. As the tribesmen moved about covered with their blankets, as one saw the herds of cattle on the hills, it seemed like the first real Christmas about the hills of Galilee. So the spirit of the song goes on—wherever Christians go.—Mrs. Mae Willis Brown.

Final Meeting Highland Society

The ladies of Highland Methodist Church, Little Rock, held the final business meeting of all the circles on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at the church, with a total of 62 members and four guests being present. At the luncheon hour the tables had been decorated by the different circles, and Circle No. 2, Mrs. H. L. White, chairman, received the prize for the most attractive table and also the largest attendance, having 18 members present. A Christmas party for the ladies of the church will be given at the parsonage on Dec. 17, from 1:30 till 3:00 p. m., at which time gifts will be exchanged.

Week of Prayer Observed

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of Lake View church observed the Week of Prayer with a special program on Nov. 28, in the home of Mrs. W. W. McGaughey, with eleven members and one guest present. Those taking part in the program on Scarritt College were Mrs. C. S. Tate, Mrs. Jess Boling, Mrs. L. D. McGaughey, Mrs. George Mabrey, Mrs. C. Hale, Mrs. C. E. McGaughey and Mrs. W. W. McGaughey. The offering for Scarritt College was \$3.30. At the close of the service the business session was held, at which time it was decided to have the annual Christmas party on Dec. 19, at the home of Mrs. C. E. McGaughey.—Mrs. L. Upton, Reporter.

New Society At Lanty Church

Mrs. T. A. Hillis, District Secretary of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Conway District, met with the ladies of the Lanty Methodist Church on Dec. 6, and helped to organize a Society there. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. W. L. Moore; Vice-President, Mrs. V. H. Merrick; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. L. E. McClaren; Treasurer, Mrs. L. A. Maxwell; Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. T. Brown; Secretary of Missionary Education, Mrs. W. P. Douglas; Secretary of Christian Social Relations, Mrs. D. O. Chism; Secretary of Children's Work, Mrs. Mabel Moore; Secretary of Literature and Publications, Mrs. M. E. Johnson; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Ruby McClaren. Other members attending were Mrs. Fannie Riddling, Mrs. Cordie Treadwell, Mrs. Roscoe Chism, and Mrs. Dovie Martin.—Mrs. J. T. Brown, Recording Sec'y.

Hartman Society

The Hartman Woman's Society met at the church December 10, and presented a program on "Investing Our Heritage on Social Evangelism," with Miss Ethel Bunch as leader. Those taking part on the program were Mrs. Ruby Gould, Mrs. Harlen Galloway, Mrs. Olen Bell, Mrs. Amos Kendall, and Mrs. Roy Melson. Mrs. W. W. Peterson, wife of the new pastor, was elected leader for Bible study.—Miss Ethel Bunch, Reporter.

Scarritt Associate Fund

I have received \$1.00 from Mrs. John T. Cheairs for the Lake Village Society, \$1.00 from Mrs. T. F. Russell, El Dorado, and \$1.00 from Star City Society. Won't others send in their dollars so as to help the 1940 quota? So many have promised, and if the money comes soon we will have more than we raised last year. Our quota is \$270.00.—Sincerely, Mrs. W. S. Anderson, Little Rock Conference Representative.

Hot Springs Council Has Mission Study

The Hot Springs Federation of Church Women, made up of women of all faiths, sponsored a study course, "Uprooted Americans" at the First Methodist Church in October with fifteen churches participating in the study. Mrs. R. L. Baird is president of the Federation and Mrs. V. V. Kinsley was chairman of the study group.—Mrs. J. F. Meadows, Publicity Chairman.

Carthage Society

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of Carthage church met at the church Thursday, Dec. 5, with 14 members present. Mrs. J. W. Crowder led in the devotional and Mrs. C. C. Cox discussed "Investing Our Heritage in Social Evangelism."

Mrs. Paul Wylie discussed "Christian Home-making" and others taking part on the program were Mrs. L. T. Griffin, Mrs. James, Mrs. R. H. Banks. After the program Mrs. Crowder presided over the business

session at which time the society voted to have a cake sale on Dec. 20. The next meeting will be at the home of the pastor, Rev. and Mrs. R. P. James and will be a Christmas party.—Miss Hanna Wylie, Reporter.

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THE LAYMAN'S PAGE

A. J. SHIREY, Editor

The Heroes of 1940

When the curtain comes down for the last time on the stage of things as we know them here and eternity has begun, there may be many who are surprised to find that the real heroes of 1940 are those who continued steadfast in their hold on the Gospel of love in a world gone mad with hatred. In a day when air lanes and press columns are filled with the propaganda of hatred, they are heroic souls who hear and heed a voice that says: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you."

The ranks have not been filled. Recruits are still being accepted. Only heroes dare enlist.

Our Father

Accepting the Fatherhood of God as taught by Christ gives us lots of brothers and sisters. When we pray, "Our Father," it is well to remember that true Fatherhood demands equal concern for all the children. When we ask Him for the day's bread, it would help us catch the family spirit, if we could believe that before we had a second slice, God might like to see His other children have a first slice.

Playing Monkey

Are the dictators making monkeys of us? There is a growing philosophy in America that the only way democracy can save itself when it meets dictatorship is for it to turn to dictatorial methods. "Only dictatorship can cope with a dictatorship" we are being told. A few minutes at the zoo before the monkey cages should prove helpful to those who are getting jittery over the soundness of democracy as a principle to live by even in dark moments. Now is the time to put democracy to the test. If we ape the dictators we become a dictatorship.

"And the Souls of Men"

Thus the writer of the Revelation lists the merchandise of mighty Babylon. The souls of men are being sold today at the bargain counter at "prices greatly reduced."

What is the soul of a man worth? God alone can answer that question. Christ has given us an intimation of the answer when He declared in effect, that if one were to gain the whole world and lose his soul he would be a bankrupt. If we could go out somewhere and pick up hands full of diamonds, most of us would pick up a few at any rate. Yet souls, more valuable than all the diamonds of the world; more valuable than the world itself, we allow to be sold to the lowest bidder—Satan.

God's Omniscience

It must be a great source of comfort to some of the saints to believe that "God knows all things." Holding to this belief, they are sure God knows they love Him. They have done nothing to indicate that they love Him, but since He knows all

The Program Of the Church

This is a phrase so familiar to Methodists that it may have lost its meaning. Do we mean the round of activities? Or, do we mean the basic and fundamental purposes of the Church when we talk of the "program of the church?"

Have we stressed "program" when we should have been stressing personal responsibility?

If a task is assigned to a group of people as a group assignment, nine times out of ten some of the group will be infected with the spirit of "let George do it." We all know that generally speaking committee assignments are the poorest of all ways of getting real work done. So it is, when we begin talking of the church's program. There are too many people who lose themselves in the crowd and disclaim all responsibility. Is there, or can there be, such a thing as a program for Christ's Church except as there is a definite personal responsibility of each member to God for the accomplishment of His will? The program of the church is to express God's will in life. That is your task and mine.

Contagious Enthusiasm

The personal recommendation of one who has tried a thing and found it to be thoroughly satisfactory is the best sales talk in the world. That is the kind of salespeople Christ is seeking. Enthusiasm that has reached the point of contagion would help tremendously in the spread of the religion that bears the name of Christ. Can you heartily recommend Jesus Christ to your friends and associates?

Judge Defines Citizenship

Addressing men of the Greater Little Rock churches at their semi-annual dinner meeting recently, Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught, Oklahoma City layman and brother of Rev. H. B. Vaught, Benton, declared that good citizenship is a requisite for Christians and that confidence of one's fellowman is the one greatest asset for any man.

"There is no conflict between a man's obligation to God and to his country," he said. At the same time he cautioned against churches mixing politics and religion. "This does not mean that politicians should not be Christians, or that Christians should not be interested in government," Judge Vaught explained.

"A good citizen must be honest, truthful and clean in his life, and the same requirements are necessary for Christians. It is not enough to have our name on the church roll, if we are to call ourselves Christians we must meet the requirements for Christianity and good citizenship.

Confidence Is Essential

"The home is the place in which to start building good citizens and experiences have demonstrated that little building can be done unless it is based on a Christian foundation, a home where honesty prevails and clean living is practiced; a home where sons can have confidence in their fathers and where fathers can have confidence in their sons.

"Investigation of the home life of criminals reveals that nearly all of them come from broken homes, homes where confidences have been betrayed, where deceit was practiced. On the other hand a study of the early training of the men who are leaders in their communities today generally reveals that they are the product of Christian homes and are the sons of men who were good citizens.

"It is as true today as when Jesus said that you should 'Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's,' he declared.

Much Is Required

Modern rulers are requiring more and more of good citizens. A \$500,000,000 issue of "defense notes" has just been announced and the Secretary of the United States Treasury believes the "people who have the money should be delighted to pay the taxes it will require to redeem the notes." Furthermore the investors who buy the bonds will find that the issue is not tax-free, as has

been the case in the past. The Treasurer has branded tax-exempt bonds as "slacker money."

Good citizens will remember their democratic form of government was founded on Christian principles and they will be willing to do more than render lip service for their country. They will be willing to follow honest, truthful leaders with clean lives; they will pay the taxes required of them and serve in every other way good citizens can serve.—J. L. V.

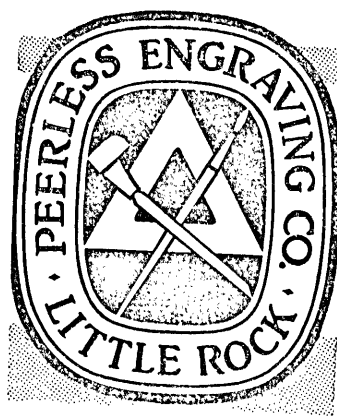
Greetings

Another year rolls around and old friendships are ripier, mellowier.

To all our old friends—and to the new—we wish the happiest Christmas of all.

And may the New Year bring you the full measure of happiness.

- ★ Artists
- ★ Designers
- ★ Photo Engravers

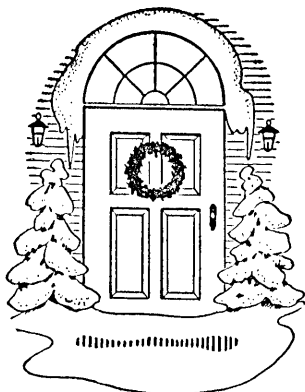


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INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Sharing the Shepherd's Joy

LESSON TEXT—Luke 2:8-20.
GOLDEN TEXT—Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.—Luke 2:14.

Tinsel and toys, snow and sleigh bells, crowded department stores and rushing throngs, gifts and greeting cards, Christmas dinner and fellowship with family and friends—is that all Christmas means to us? All these things are proper in their place—exciting and interesting—but they are not enough.

They have never been enough and certainly they will not do this year, with a world in chaos. We need not lose any of the thrilling enjoyment of Christmas by properly observing the day; in fact, we shall only enhance its meaning and bring out its real glory by keeping Christ at the heart of our Christmas.

The opening verses of Luke 2 tell up of the coming of Mary with Joseph to God's appointed place at His appointed time for the coming into this world of His Son to be made flesh and dwell among us (John 1:14). Our lesson tells us of

I. *Good Tidings of Great Joy* (vv. 8-14).

God has good news for the people of this world and He gave it, as was His custom, to those who were faithfully discharging their humble duties (cf. Judg. 6:11, 12; I Kings 19:19). God is still ready to reveal His glory and grace in the "office, kitchen, mill, barn, school-room, and open field—places where people are at work on daily tasks" (Douglas). You need not be in the great church in a large city to meet Him on Christmas day. He will reveal Himself in all His beauty where you are, though you be in the humblest surroundings and at the most menial task. Look for Him.

Jesus came as a Saviour. "The world did not want an adviser. The world had advised itself almost into hell. The world did not ask for a speculator. Everything that man could do had been done, and men sat in the darkness of their own wisdom. The world did not want a reformer, a man who could change his outward and transient relations, an engineer that would continually devote his time (for appropriate remuneration) to the readjustment of

the wheels and the pulleys and the various mechanical forces of society. The world wanted a saviour" (Joseph Parker).

Note that the army of heaven came to declare peace, not war; but only to those in "whom He is well pleased" (v. 14, R. V.). As long as men serve the devil and displease God, they will have no peace.

II. *Great Faith and Consistent Action* (vv. 15, 16).

The shepherds did not say, "Let us now go and see if this thing has come to pass," or "which we expect or hope will come to pass," but said, "Which is come to pass." They went not to test God's word, but in the assurance that they would "see" what had come to pass. Blessed faith! Let us too believe God's word to us.

But "faith without works is dead" (James 2:17). The shepherds might have made many excuses for not going but "they came" and "found" the Saviour. Perhaps you who read these words have failed at that point; you have not come to Jesus as your Saviour. No more appropriate time could be found to come than right now. Believe, then act on your faith.

Some of us who are Christians need also to learn of the shepherds. We talk a great deal about our devotion to Christ. Especially at this Christmas season we render much "lip service" to Him. Let us make it real, and our lives virile and active for Him.

III. *Good News for Meditation and Proclamation* (vv. 17-20).

The gospel is literally "good news." What a blessed privilege it is to have such good news in a day of evil tidings, of darkness and despair.

There are two things we ought to do with the gospel of God's redeeming grace. We should make it known to the ends of the earth, but we should also do as Mary, "who kept all these things and pondered them in her heart." We know she had special reasons for doing so, but may we not suggest that you too make this Christmas a time when you will ponder in your own heart what God has done for you in Christ?

The shepherds also set us a Christmas example, for they "made known abroad" the coming of the Saviour. Will you tell someone else today? Will you, like the shepherds, be "glorifying and praising God" this Christmas? You will if you, like them, go to the manger and meet Jesus. If you go to this world's

empty show of celebration, you will return empty (see v. 20).

May the blessed peace of Christ be yours this Christmas. That is my wish from the heart to you.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCES

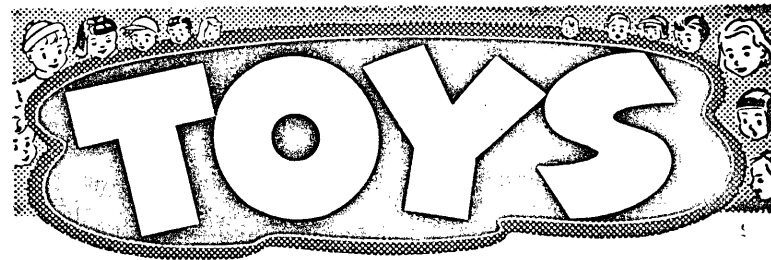
Prescott District First Round

Saline Circuit, at Saline, Dec. 22, 11 a. m.
Murfreesboro-Delight, at M., Dec. 22, 7:15 p. m.
Mineral Springs Ct., at M., Dec. 29, 11 a. m.
Washington-Ozan, at Wash., Dec. 29, 7 p. m.
Nashville, Jan. 1, 7:15 p. m.
Okolona Ct., at Okolona, Jan. 5, 11 a. m.

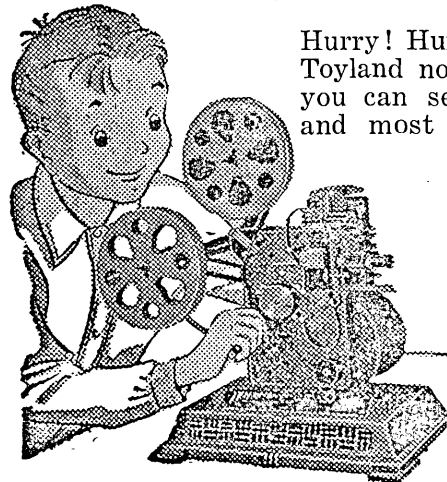
Prescott Station, Jan. 5, 5 p. m.
Mt. Ida Ct., at Mt. Ida, Jan. 12, 11 a. m.
Glenwood Ct., at G., Jan. 12, 7 p. m.
Blevins Ct., at Blevins, Jan. 15, 7 p. m.
Center Point Ct., at Center, Jan. 19, 11 a. m.
Emmet-Beirne, at Emmet, Jan. 19, 7:30 p. m.
Gurdon, Jan. 22, 7:30 p. m.
Waterloo Ct., at Waterloo, Jan. 26, 11 a. m.
Amity Ct., at Amity, Jan. 26, 7 p. m.
Hope, Jan. 29, 7:30 p. m.
Bingen Ct., at Bingen, Feb. 2, 11 a. m.
Forester, Feb. 2, 7 p. m.
Prescott Ct., at Midway, Feb. 9, 11 a. m.
Spring Hill Ct., at Bethlehem, Feb. 16, 11 a. m.
Columbus Ct., at Columbus, Feb. 23, 11 a. m.
District-wide Missionary Institute at Prescott, Jan. 8, 7:30 p. m.
Christmas offering for the Orphanage, Dec. 22.—J. D. Baker, D. S.



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AND IN THOSE DAYS THERE WENT OUT A DECREE FROM AUGUSTUS CAESAR that all the world should be enrolled. (Now this first enrollment was made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be enrolled, every one to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the family and household of David), to be enrolled with Mary, his espoused wife, being with child. And while they were there, the days were fulfilled, that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her son, the first born, and swathed him, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

AND THERE WERE IN THE SAME COUNTRY shepherds lying out in the field, and keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, an angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and

they were sore afraid. And the angel said to them, Fear not; for behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign to you; ye shall find the babe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace; good will toward men.

AND WHEN THE ANGELS WERE GONE AWAY from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us go to Bethlehem, and see this thing which is done, which the Lord hath made known to us. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger. And having seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child. (Luke 2: 1-17.)

From John Wesley's Translation of the New Testament

THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN — FOUNDED IN 1789

OUR NEW MEMBER

Miss Mary Ann Edwards, 1422 Broadway, vows.

REMEMBER THE ORPHANAGE

A group of fatherless and motherless children at the Arkansas Methodist Orphanage are depending on the Christmas offering next Sunday for their support throughout the year. We hope every member of the church will remember them with a cash offering. In your effort to remember your friends and loved ones with a gift don't forget these children. What the Methodists of Arkansas give next Sunday is their only means of support. If you did not get a special envelope last Sunday you will find one at the church next Sunday.

BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO A WORTHY FAMILY

If an individual or Church School class wishes to help a worthy family during the Christmas season, they may secure the name and address of such a family at the Church office, phone 2-1990 and Miss Clark can give you the particulars. There are hundreds of them to be helped and it is hoped that Winfield members will do their part.

CIRCLE CHAIRMEN FOR 1941

Members of the Woman's Society of Christian Service who have been selected to serve as Circle Chairmen for the coming year are as follows: Mrs. W. P. Ivy, Mrs. J. P. Sibeck, Mrs. C. C. Arnold, Mrs. F. B. Thacker, Mrs. F. M. Stevens, Mrs. A. S. Ross, Mrs. R. A. Raney, Mrs. W. M. Rankin, Mrs. H. C. Graham and Mrs. W. J. Pennington.

BUSINESS WOMEN TO HAVE PARTY

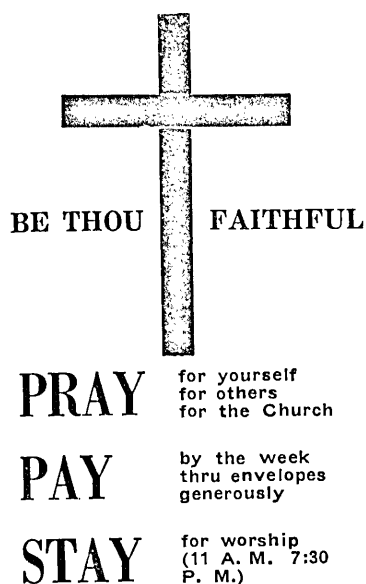
Members of the Wesleyan Guild will have their annual Christmas Party Friday night, Dec. 20, at 7:30, at the home of Mrs. J. Thad Wilson, 101 Ark.-Mo. Highway, Park Hill.

All business women of the church are cordially invited to attend.

BABIES TO BE CHRISTENED SUNDAY MORNING

Parents desiring to have their baby christened at the morning worship service Sunday are asked to please telephone the church office, 2-1990.

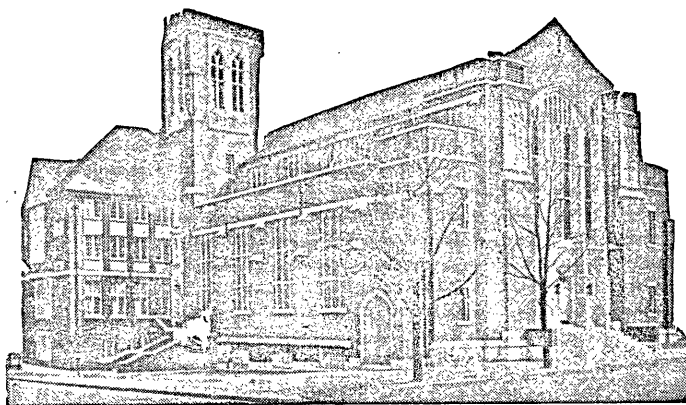
GREET YOUR FRIENDS AND MEET NEW FRIENDS SUNDAY. MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS JOYOUS BY COMING TO CHURCH SCHOOL!



VOL. XII

Pulpit and Pen

NO. 51



Winfield Methodist Church

Sixteenth and Louisiana, Little Rock

This Page Devoted to the Interests of This Church

GASTON FOOTE
Minister
HAL H. PINNELL
Associate Minister
KERYMT ROEBUCK
Student Minister
J. R. HENDERSON
Supt. Church School



E. V. MARKHAM
Chairman of Stewards
MRS. I. J. STEED
Minister of Music
MISS KATE BOSSINGER
Organist
MARGUERITE CLARK
Church Secretary

Next Sunday At Winfield

- 10:00 A. M. CHURCH SCHOOL—Be On Time for special Christmas programs.
11:00 A. M. "WE BEHELD HIS GLORY"—Sermon by Pastor.
6:00 P. M. Jr-High, Senior, Young People's Leagues and the Sunday Evening Club.
7:30 P. M. "A CHILD IS BORN," A Nativity Pageant.

THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

By GASTON FOOTE

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The members of the church staff wish to take this opportunity of expressing to each of you our genuine appreciation of the many courtesies that have been extended us during the year. The heavy responsibilities which seemingly grow heavier rather than lighter are made easier because of a cheerful word of encouragement and appreciation from you. The knowledge that many of you remember us in your prayers, that you are always willing to do more than your share without complaint, that Christ and the church come first in your life—these things are a constant inspiration to us and encourage us to want to give our very best to the work of Winfield Church.

As we approach the Christmas season it is our wish that you may not only be blessed with many good things but that you may be more abundantly blessed as you SHARE the good things with those less fortunate. And since Christmas is the festivity of Christ's birthday may you carry the spirit of the Incarnate Christ in you throughout every day of the year ahead. This truly means a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

With a good wish for each of you, we are,

Cordially Yours,

MARGUERITE CLARK, Secretary
H. H. PINNELL, Minister
GASTON FOOTE, Minister.

Christian Education

By HAL H. PINNELL

Church School Attendance
Last Sunday (Rain) 554
A Year Ago 648

	Department Reports			Stay
	Pres.	On Time	Cont.	
Jr. Hi	55	46	40	36
Sr. Hi	57	41	40	36
Y. P.	50	38	27	29

Adult Report

Hinton Class	38
Men's Class	35
Couples Class	34
Jenkins Class	30
Fidelity Class	28
Brothers Class	23
Ashby Class	19
Wedding Ring Class	15
Bullington Memorial Class	14
Young Men's Class	5
Total	241
Y. P. Dept., Evening—6:30	24
Sr. High Dept., Evening—6:30	28
Jr. High Dept., Evening—6:30	18

BUILD THE CHURCH SCHOOL GOALS—CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Christmas Sunday and we ought to make this day our Christmas gift to the Church through loyalty and attendance. NO GREATER GIFT CAN YOU MAKE THAN THE GIFT OF YOURSELF:

Adult Division:

ASHBY CLASS	30
BROTHERS CLASS	25
BULLINGTON CLASS	25
COUPLES CLASS	50
FIDELITY CLASS	40
HINTON CLASS	55
JENKINS CLASS	40
MEN'S CLASS	50
WEDDING RING CLASS	25
YOUNG MEN'S CLASS	20

Junior Division:

NURSERY DEPT.	35
BEGINNERS DEPT.	35
PRIMARY DEPT.	60
JUNIOR DEPT.	65
SENIOR HIGH DEPT.	65
JUNIOR HIGH DEPT.	75
YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.	75

IF IT RAINS OR SNOWS, MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO COME. INVITE SOMEONE ELSE TO COME WITH YOU. WE WILL EXPECT YOU SUNDAY.

Members of the Young People's Department will have a Christmas Banquet in Fellowship Hall, Friday, December 27, at 6:30. Young people home from school for the holidays will be honor guests.

PROGRAMS, SUNDAY EVENING

Junior High Department: "Joy to the World"; leader, Miss Helen Dilahunty.

Senior High Department: "There's a Song In the Air"; leader, Miss Billie Louise Wilson.

Young People's Department: "The Christmas Spirit"; leader, Miss Bobbye Allbright.

Sunday Evening Club: Mrs. Gus Ginocchio, leader; a program of Poetry, Music, Articles and Scripture centering upon the story of Christmas. Poem, "The Three Kings," Longfellow; given by Miss Eleanor Weber. Article, "Earth, 'Peace and Goodwill,'" by Mr. John Marshall.

WEDDING

Miss Tibby McWhirter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. McWhirter, and Dr. E. Edwin Edwards were married in the Sanctuary Wednesday night, December 11, with Dr. Reves and Mr. Foote performing the ceremony.