

# Arkansas Methodist

*Serving One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Methodists in Arkansas*

"The World is My Parish" — John Wesley

"Go"

— Mark 16:15

VOL. LXVII

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1948

NO. 1

## Arkansas Methodist In Every Methodist Home

OUR annual Arkansas Methodist Circulation Campaign opens officially on January 11th. It will run through "Arkansas Methodist Week", January 11-18. Throughout these seven annual Circulation Campaigns we have regularly had goals and quotas and, as a result of the wonderful cooperation we have received from our ministers and members of The Methodist Church in Arkansas, our circulation has had an unprecedented increase.

We all know, however, that the value of The Arkansas Methodist to our church general in Arkansas, or to any particular Methodist church in Arkansas is in almost direct proportion to its circulation. For that reason none of us should be satisfied until The Arkansas Methodist is going into every Methodist home of the state.

Because the circulation goal this year was left at twenty thousand, some have the impression that the office of The Arkansas Methodist is not interested in an increase in our circulation. The management of The Arkansas Methodist will never be satisfied until our church paper is going into all of the homes of our church in the state. Any pastor who wishes to increase the number of subscribers in his charge over the number of last year will receive every cooperation possible from our office.

The difficulties of publishing a paper have increased rather than decreased since the close of the war. Nevertheless, our office will assume the responsibility of furnishing a paper to any additional number of subscribers a pastor may wish to send in. One of our larger churches has reported that it has fixed its own goal this year at several times the number it reported last year. We are very much encouraged with the prospects for a very successful campaign this year throughout the entire state.

We have mailed to each pastor in both Annual Conferences the following materials for use in the Circulation Campaign: (1) A list of all subscribers sent in from the charge last year; (2) Coin envelopes for use in making the campaign in the local charge; (3) Display posters for use in advertising the campaign; (4) Report forms for use in reporting the results of the campaign to the District Superintendent and to the office of The Arkansas Methodist. If any pastor has failed to receive any of this material or needs additional material of either kind please write us.

## "The Itch For Something New"

IN a great address at the Ecumenical Conference in Springfield, we heard Dr. W. E. Sangster, minister of Central Hall, in London, England, say that "The itch for something new has led us astray."

Dr. Sangster was discussing the attitudes of some of the leaders of Methodism who seem to feel that the salvation of the human race depends on a "new approach" of some character by the church.

He was saying that "the itch for something new" sometimes causes our ministers to resort to methods of a sensational or novel nature simply to attract the attention of people as if to "have a crowd" is the ultimate objective of the minister.

Our ministry should adapt itself to the needs of our people. Our messages should be timely and interesting. However, Methodist ministers should never "be led astray by the itch for something new."

## Another Year, Decisions

AS we begin the New Year, we "take stock" of the year just closed, we are painfully conscious that 1947 shows little progress in the solution of the world's major problems. Practically every major problem confronting us at the beginning of 1947 is with us still, perhaps even in a more intensified, baffling form.

This year, 1948, will be a year of fateful decisions or a year when fateful decisions already made will be revealed more clearly to the masses—decisions that will affect the world for generations to come.

This year will likely reveal whether the open break between the East and the West is final or whether there re-



main untried bases on which friendly relationships between our divided world can yet be established. This in turn will determine whether we are to have an "all out" armament race in which the world would be practically enslaved by the spirit of militarism. Throughout history, armament races have inevitably ended in a scourge of unbridled war.

The fate of the United Nations will likely be revealed this year. Will the United Nations, already weakened, remain as a power for world peace or will it degenerate into a powerless international debating society? It is quite possible that the answer to this question will be evident before the year ends.

Despite past failures, there is still a faint hope that some form of international control of atomic energy can be established. This year will likely see those hopes realized, or abandoned in favor of individual, national control. Without international control of atomic energy we can never be sure what the tomorrow may bring.

America must make two unavoidable decisions in 1948. It must make a decision regarding the threat of dangerous inflation. The spirit of isolationism also is gradually growing in America like the deadly disease of creeping paralysis. A decision in 1948 regarding our place in world affairs will not wait.

Christian people should face the world's worst problems unafraid. They should have an unqualified faith in the ultimate triumph of good over evil because they believe in God.

## Enemies Of The Christian Religion

AS the Christian church in America faces the New Year, and the times of testing ahead, it should realistically examine the enemies that threaten its survival.

We hear much today from pulpit and press and street corner theorists regarding the clash of ideologies between the East and West. We are told that there is an inevitable clash ahead between nations with an atheistic philosophy and the Christian nations of earth.

Without doubt there are great nations in the world today with a godless philosophy and an anti-Christian spirit that would drive the Christian church underground as completely as it was in the early centuries of the Christian era if those powers ever control the world's life. That threat to the Christian Church in America, however, is not immediate and it may never become an actuality.

Christianity in America faces immediate enemies more threatening and more immediately dangerous than Russian atheism. The Christian church here faces enemies on all sides that, left unchallenged, could fatally cripple the church long before the "inevitable clash" between the East and West comes, if it ever comes.

There is the blighting curse of secularism that by-passes the church and would make it secondary to the whims, desires and ambitions of the individual. There is a gross materialism that directly reverses God's estimate of the value of material things. Christ said: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Materialistic, money-mad masses in America are seeking "things" first and hoping all other values can be had with money. No nation in history has wasted its wealth in such unimaginable quantities for liquor as we are now doing in America. The gambling spirit of "get something for nothing" evidenced on radio, in gambling dives, at race tracks, street corner raffles and elsewhere is a deadly thrust at spiritual progress. The threatened breakdown of the home is an immediate danger to the church. If the home fails our whole social structure is threatened.

We have a "holy war" here at home with these and other enemies of the Christian church that we must win if the church is to be able successfully to meet the challenges that face it either at home or abroad. If we fail here we fail everywhere. If we win here we can win anywhere.

## Temporary Change In Mailing System

LABOR conditions, at the present time, are such as to make it necessary for us to discontinue temporarily the plan of printing addresses directly on the margin of the paper. We like the system, we believe, as much as our readers could like it. As soon as conditions permit that system will be used again.

For the time it will be necessary for us to use a mailing strip. This strip is made in our office with the same machine that we used in printing the name on the margin of the paper. It will give us every advantage of the Addressograph system installed in our office, except the actual printing of the name on the paper. This will be resumed when labor conditions permit.

In the plan we will temporarily use, the mailing list will be in our office and we will be responsible for any errors it may contain. Corrections will be gladly made if our office is notified.

# New Men In A New World

By BISHOP ARTHUR J. MOORE

(The following sermon was preached by Bishop Moore on The Methodist Hour and was broadcast from Atlanta, Ga.)

Text: "Do Ye Not Remember?" (Mark 8:18)

**T**HAT one of the most critical and fateful hours of human history is now upon the world no sane person will deny. Someone said recently that "we are at both the end and the beginning of an age." Only time can reveal the truth or falsity of this assumption, but the consensus is that in this epochal period the days and the weeks have the fullness and the significance of years and of decades. The furnace of life has been heated seven times hotter than ever before, and into that furnace the thinking, the ideals, the institutions current in this testing moment of history all have been poured. They are at present in molten form. It becomes the task of this generation to draw them off into new molds, so that the world of tomorrow may be absolutely fashioned by the ideals cherished, by the goals sought, and by the convictions held about God, about man, about brotherhood, about justice, and about immortality.

Among the many wise men in the world of today both within and without the church, there are those who are beginning to realize that all is not well, either with the church or the world. They think that the boasted civilization of this era, if not crumbling, is at least tottering. Numbers of devout men and women sincerely believe that for a long time the world has been moving from bad to worse and that just now there rapidly approaches a stupendous crisis in the affairs of mankind. Surely to accept their conclusions is to subscribe to a council of despair, thereby disregarding faith in the sovereignty of God and the ultimate supremacy of righteousness.

Soon after my arrival in Korea this March, where I went on a mission of good-will and relief for the church, a Korean handed me this quotation:

"If you wish to make a new world we have the material ready. The first world was made out of chaos."

It seems as if we will have to make this new world out of chaos, too. For while I was in Korea I came more and more to appreciate the significance of that statement. Certainly the perplexing problems confronting both the Government and the church in Korea cannot be understood unless they be viewed against the long and torturous history of this people.

The liberation of Korea has thrust this country into the international limelight. Especially are the eyes of all small nations on what happens there. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek has said, "Korea's failure to achieve independence, freedom and equality would be equal to China's failure to achieve independence, freedom and equality. If Korea is not independent—the peace of East Asia and the world cannot be secure."

Such chaos that exists in Korea is only one uplifted item in the experience of the nations of the world. The picture is dark everywhere. The only highlights are those that come from the light of the Gospel. Think with me for a minute of the conditions that exist everywhere—save in America.

Cities have been reduced to rubble, millions of human beings have been uprooted and their nations bankrupt. Disillusionment, hatred and revenge fill men's hearts everywhere. Everywhere there are staggering new problems.

In such a world as this the Christian church is now called upon to demonstrate its ability to release resources of goodwill and sacrifice to take the place of this resentment and oppression.

The church is now on trial before the bar of mankind. Either it will drift with the paralyzing circumstances with which it is surrounded or it will get a more tenacious hold on the everlasting certainties and lead mankind in a radical rediscovery of the Christian way of life.

Do ye not remember? These words of our text were a question that was once on the lips of our Lord. If we listen carefully we can de-

fect in its tones surprise and reproach. Let me fix the scene before your eyes. Jesus and his disciples were in a little boat crossing toward Capernaum. It was immediately after that amazing miracle when with a few small loaves and a few fishes Jesus had fed and satisfied four thousand men.

Just before they had embarked the Pharisees, those who passed as the religious leaders of the people, came professing to be doubtful as to the means by which Jesus had accomplished His mighty works.

In the course of the voyage Jesus turned and warned the disciples against the unbelieving spirit of the Pharisees, saying, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees." The disciples thought He was talking of earthly bread, and that He was rebuking them because they had not brought bread. When Jesus saw His disciples still moved in the realm of the material and physical and seemed incapable of rising to the



BISHOP ARTHUR J. MOORE

spiritual He asked this question, "Do ye not remember?"

He was amazed that they could get into a panic about bread when only a few days before they had seen Him feed a multitude of hungry men.

Then with surprise and reproach He asks, "Do ye not remember?" Have you forgotten the sessions of the feast? If only they had remembered, they would have been delivered at once from all their trepidations and fears. If only they had remembered, they would have known that as long as they had Christ it really made no difference whether they had one loaf or a hundred. If only they had remembered, they would have known that because they had Christ they had all things. All they needed to banish fear and to restore confidence and courage was to remember. Their fears grew out of their forgetfulness.

We are not free from fear nor from the danger of despair. The constant discordant notes of the fearful symphony of disaster and doom that come from all parts of the world steal away our confidence. But when we fall into trepidation and fear it is only because we forget. Remembrance is the great antidote of fear.

By a recital of past mercies and present assets we can fire our hearts, purge our spirits and prepare ourselves for nobler issues. The psalmist declared, "My soul shall be satisfied and my mouth shall praise Thee when I meditate in the night watches." Therefore, to cheer our souls and strengthen our faith, I beg you to call to remembrance certain eternal and inexhaustible resources which are ours.

No man will deny that the task confronting us is formidable. The foes are fierce, the battle is long. We are in the most terrible moral crisis of the centuries. On every hand are incontrovertible evidences of the terrible depths to which men and nations can drop. These hideous crimes did not occur among primitive savages, but in the very heart of our boasted western

civilization. Our mechanistic interpretation of life has led to an unbridled despotism and barbarism; to the near extinguishment of every freedom of the human spirit. How can we face such a situation with brave and cheerful hearts?

I.

There is, first, the adequacy of Christ.

Historic and supernatural Christianity stands or falls with Christ. Christianity is builded and based, from first to finish, upon the supernatural Christ. You may take other religions and separate them from the person of their founder and not materially hurt them—but not so with Christ. Christianity is not merely a body or doctrine about God and duty. It is fellowship with a personal Lord. When we contend for the New Testament conception of Christ we are contending not for some unimportant outpost which can be abandoned without any detriment to our main position, we are defending the very citadel of the faith.

Everything for our life, for today and eternity depends on the answer we give to the question, "What think ye of Christ?" Is He the meagre human Jesus, or is He the mighty Christ of the New Testament? If He was only a peasant prophet—He sleeps His last sleep in Joseph's grave. But if He was the Divine and Living Christ He is mightier than death and lives forevermore. Prince of Life—Saviour from Sin—Judge of all men, the unchallenged Master of human hearts, the unique and solitary Son of God.

The Church has borne witness down the centuries not to a pale prophet but to the exalted Christ. The New Testament Christ is not simply an article in the churches' creed. He is a Fact—the Fact in the churches' life. For uncounted millions He has been and is the Living Presence. A multitude whom no man can number rise up to tell us of the crushing burden of sin and the ineffectiveness of the law. They speak of the redeeming and life-giving power of Christ. In every century and on every continent they have declared, "We know He is risen and alive because He lives in us." Millions, like John Bunyan's Christian, have gone to the foot of the Cross and there the burden of sin has been loosed, never to be seen again.

With majestic stride Christ has gone on His way releasing captives, making weak men strong, and timid women brave, until today an innumerable company stands before us washed, justified, and sanctified in His blood.

So we may be quite sure of Christ. We go everywhere daring men to put Him to the test. Men who are haunted by the fear of sin, bound by its power. Men with weak wills, defeated and shamed by wrong doing, men whose spirits are restless and whose hearts long for peace.

Betake yourselves to Him. He will release you from the tyranny of sin. He will give rest to your souls. Only trust Him. Only trust Him.

II.

Then again there is the Divine mission of the church.

Christ organized His followers into a directed and disciplined body which He called "My Church." It is simply inconceivable that He would have left such stupendous undertaking as the Christianization of the world to a group of free-lances without any organization and program.

It is His church and it is set to do with and for Him all He undertook to do while still physically present in the earth. The Kingdom about which He spoke so often and for which we pray and labor is not to come by a divine decree. It is to come as the result of the vision, the toils and the sacrifices of His church. If His message is to be interpreted, if His mission is to be accomplished, it will not be by angels, but by men and women who share in the high adventure of the Cross. Whenever we take Him seriously we discover immediately that the Christianization of the whole world is the supreme and inevitable mission of the Church.

The Methodist Church has attempted to  
(Continued on Page 5)

# THE DEVOTIONAL PAGE

REV. H. O. BOLIN, Editor

## PEACE THROUGH PRAYER

Declaring that recent events have revealed "the impotence of unaided human efforts for peace," Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, New York City, in a recent sermon called upon the Christian people of America to unite in a crusade of prayer. "The issues at stake," said Dr. Bonnell, "are so critical and so important that Christian people of all denominations ought to unite in a great crusade of prayer for the leadership of nations and for their representatives in the United Nations organization that they may be given the spirit of understanding of each other's viewpoint, of reconciliation, and above all, a will to peace and brotherhood . . . We should pray for ourselves that we may have the wisdom in our national policies to avoid acts of acquisition and of aggression which arouse the anger and fear of other nations." Similar calls have appeared again and again in the Christian Observer from the pens of Dr. P. Frank Price, Mrs. May Dixon Thacker, and others. When will the world learn that if we would have peace on earth we must first of all follow the Prince of Peace?—Christian Observer.

## INNER VICTORY

Marvelous to behold is a ship in the air or on the sea moving steadily toward its sure haven. Marvelous also train, trolley, or motor car responding to the touch of engineer or motorist. Yet, far more marvelous in each instance is he or she who sits at the controls. Man has gone farther toward perfecting motors than motives. Bishop Broomfield in the first sermon of his episcopal ministry remarked, "If my life be hid with Christ in God, no evil can get to me except it first break through Christ and God. I can be sure, then, that my life shall suffer no violence, save from within."—United In Christ in spirit victory within and without is assured.—In Southern Christian Advocate.

## SENTENCE SERMONS

No one can fill your pew for you . . .

Every man makes his conscience either the prosecuting attorney or the lawyer for the defense . . .

A desecration of the Sabbath means a blow at the entire structure of faith . . .

It is a dangerous thing to suggest a new idea in some old churches . . .

Reduced to its basic significance, stewardship means responsibility.—The Christian Advocate.

## "THIS ROAD WE WALK"

Church World Service has recently issued an important motion picture showing the actual receipt of food and clothing from the churches in America by the needy people of Europe and Asia. It is relief actually at work—the relief given through the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief and similar church agencies. The showing time is twenty minutes. The picture entitled "This Road We Walk," is issued in 35 mm. for use in theaters and large churches; and in 16 mm. for use in homes and smaller churches. Bookings may be made at any regional CWS office and at denominational film offices.

## A DEAD SEA

I looked upon a sea  
And lo, 'twas dead,  
Although by Hermon's snows  
And Jordan fed.  
How came a fate so dire?  
The tale's soon told.  
All that it got it kept  
And fast did hold.  
All tributary streams  
Found here their grave,  
Because that sea received  
But never gave.  
O sea that's dead! Teach me  
To know and feel  
That selfish grasp and greed  
My doom will seal.  
And help me, Lord, my best,  
Myself to give,  
That I may others bless  
And like thee live.

—Author Unknown

From "LOOK" The Report of the  
Executive Secretary of the Division  
of Foreign Missions.

## METHODIST MEN CHALLENGED

J. DEWEY MUIR Secretary, Illinois Conference

Singing Methodist men, something over 500 of them, sent aloft their resounding and vibrant praises unto God in such words as "He Leadeth Me," "Rock of Ages," "Sweet Hour of Prayer," and other great hymns of the Church at the Illinois Conference Men's Rally sponsored and promoted by the Conference Board of Lay Activities. The meeting was in the new Memorial Center Building at Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois, and was the first to be held in the finely appointed dining room.

Mr. Elmer Jolly, Conference Lay Leader, presided over the meeting. Mr. E. I. Pilchard, Lay Leader of the Champaign District, and Mr. L. M. Bittinger, Lay Leader of the Bloomington District, led the music.

Mr. Andrew H. Phelps, Vice President of the Westinghouse Company, and Lay Leader of the Pittsburgh District, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was the principal speaker. Among other things Mr. Phelps said: "In each gathering of Methodist Men there is the same fellowship and the same faith which binds us to our common Lord and Saviour." Mr. Phelps called attention to the fact that on October 31 the world witnessed the 430th anniversary of the nailing of Luther's theses to the cathedral door and the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. He then challenged the men present to labor for some new quickening of the spirit which would mean for this century something of what the Reformation and the Wesleyan movement meant.

He stated: "Winning the world for Christ is pretty much in the hands of laymen. It cannot all be left to the ministers. A laymen not in his pew, unless prevented by serious illness, is neglecting Jesus Christ. You pay the preacher to preach for you, not to preach to an empty pew which you ought to occupy. You have influence. Every person has influence whether he recognizes it or not. If you are not using your influence for the Kingdom of God, you are not using it

rightly. We must give the best we have as laymen and ministers to young life, directing youth into the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

In another portion of his address, Mr. Phelps declared: "War is an institution of the devil and comes straight from hell. It never did anyone any good. Sometimes it is said that big business wants war. Men in big business do not want war and do not gain by war. Let us talk and work against war. We must do all we can as laymen and ministers to forestall another war."

In his brief address, Bishop J. Ralph Magee stated that every man must be engaged in making himself what he can be; that he must do this by coordinating self, controlling self and the forces and powers of life. He said the only way a man can become mentally and spiritually great is by the coordination of life forces. Referring to this year's Crusade emphasis upon the church school, Bishop Magee said: "In this Church School year of the Crusade you men ought to be getting in there and working at the job. We can never make a strong Church by women and children working alone. It is a man's job. Let us invest our lives to help build the Kingdom of God among men."

During the afternoon session Dr. Charles C. Turner of the Board of Education, Nashville, Tennessee, interpreted the Crusade emphasis upon the Church School, outlining step by step the development which is possible within each local church. He challenged Methodist Men to take a leading part in the program and to do their full share in visiting, in teaching, and in administration. Dr. Charles H. Thrall, Executive Secretary of the Board of Education, Illinois Conference, spoke of the program of the Crusade within the Conference and the part that each man can have in achieving the goals.

The Conference Rally was a day of real challenge to the Methodist Men of the Illinois Conference.—Methodist Layman.

## A PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst pray for thy disciples that they might be one even as thou art one with the Father, draw us to thyself that, in common love and obedience to thee, we may be united to one another in the fellowship of the one Spirit, that the world may believe that thou art Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.—From The Grey Book.

## CALVERT'S MYSTERIOUS MR. KOPF

Calvert has a tricky lot of ads telling the public that Mr. So-and-so has switched to Calvert because of this or that. One of their latest told us that "Mr. Henry Kopf has switched to Calvert because Calvert tastes better." Seems fair enough, at first glance.

But a nosy P. M. (New York) reporter named Ira Peck just didn't like the smell of the ad, and he decided to do a little private detective work. He looked up Henry Kopf, found him ("A flabby looking man around 55") in a fifth-rate saloon in Union City, New Jersey. Questioned about his switch to better-tasting Calvert, the alcoholic Henry replied:

"I didn't get nothin' out of it . . . Me and Louis Setti, we were sitting here drinking . . . So while we were drinking, the agent of the Calvert Company, he comes in and says, 'Did you ever try Lord Calvert?' So we says 'No'. So he says, 'Have a drink on me.' John (the bartender) didn't have Lord Calvert, but he did have Calvert Reserve—that's a little cheaper—and we found out it's a very good drink. Then he asks me and Louis for our names and addresses and we gave it to him . . . I'm a whiskey drinker . . . I'd drink any whiskey just so long as it was whiskey."

Well, that's how Calvert made the amazing discovery that the discriminating, particular, taste-conscious Mr. Kopf picked their brand! No wonder Methodists are going all-out in a campaign to help the passage of the bill by Senator Capper (S. 265) which would prohibit interstate liquor advertising. More power to their Methodist fist.—The Christian Herald.

## MOVIE STAR WHO REFUSES TO DRINK OR SMOKE

Coleen Gray, the Minnesota farm girl who worked as a waitress and librarian and even mowed lawns to get a college education, has persuaded Twentieth Century-Fox to insert a clause in her contract insuring that she will not be called upon to smoke or drink in any of her pictures.

Miss Gray who recently landed a place opposite Tyrone Power in "Nightmare Alley", the William Lindsay Gresham best seller about carnival life, explained that she had promised her family that she would not smoke or drink, either on or off the screen, when they gave her permission to come to Hollywood.—The National Voice.

The best way to keep good acts in memory is to refresh them with new.—Cato.



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## A WEEKLY MESSAGE

By FORNEY HUTCHINSON

### SOME ADVENTURES IN SERVICE NO. 1

In 1924, in company with a group of congenial friends, I made a tour of the Holy Land. While there, I noted some adventures in service, which I wish to share with my readers.

The first of these came under my observation immediately after we had landed at Beirut, which is the chief city of Mount Lebanon. I speak of the American College located in that city. The institution has had a very remarkable history and has rendered a wonderful service in that section of the country. Its first president was Dr. Daniel Bliss, a Congregational missionary at that time, to the near East. Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge, of New York City, associated with some other men of wealth, backed Dr. Bliss in establishing the school. When Dr. Bliss retired, his son, Howard, succeeded him, and he in turn was succeeded by Dr. Bayard Dodge, the son of Cleveland H. Dodge, and a son-in-law of Dr. Howard Bliss.

After visiting the school, I had a delightful conversation with Dr. Dodge. He was a strikingly handsome man and, of course, I knew something of his antecedents. I said to him, "Dr. Dodge, I know you; I know you are a son of one of our wealthiest American philanthropists, Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge." (I heard much of him during the First World War. He was the treasurer for practically all the movements that were set for the raising of relief money during that dark period. He was known far and wide as a man of integrity, with financial and other types of ability.) "America was open to you, if you had chosen to stay there. In face of those conditions, tell me why you came to this disadvantaged land, to render this altruistic service."

He paused for a moment, looked away to the distant mountains, and then said simply: "This seemed an opportunity for service and I am glad I am here." He said, "It happened like this:

Dr. Daniel Bliss was visiting in my father's home while doing some work in America for the College. I was a recent graduate of Princeton University, home for the summer, making my plans to launch out into some sort of business enterprise. I listened far into the night while Dr. Bliss talked with my father about the American College. At the last, he said, 'Most of all, Mr. Dodge, we need a young man qualified to take over the department of English.'

I retired to my room, not to sleep, but to

## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

NEWS comes that Mrs. Dickerson, widow of the late Rev. J. R. Dickerson is in the Methodist Hospital in Hot Springs.

REV. CECIL R. CULVER, district superintendent of the Fort Smith District, who has been ill for several weeks with virus pneumonia, is reported to be improved.

REV. J. M. HARRISON, pastor at Holly Grove, writes that the Christmas Cantata, "The Inn", which was presented Sunday evening, December 14, was enjoyed by an overflow congregation.

BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN will dedicate on January 11 the new organ, chimes and chancel in the Springdale Methodist Church. The church extends an invitation to all former pastors to attend this service. Rev. E. G. Kaetzell is pastor.

THE memorial tower and carillon of bells, the gift of Fagan Bourland in memory of his wife, Julia Bailey Bourland, was dedicated in a service at the First Methodist Church, Ft. Smith, on Sunday, December 21. Rev. Fred G. Roebuck, pastor, was in charge of the dedicatory service.

REV. FRED HAMILTON, retired, who has been living for several years at Siloam Springs, suffered a cerebral hemorrhage, December 5 while visiting his son Lt. Col. Robert Hamilton, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Brother Hamilton's condition continues to be serious. Lt. Col. Hamilton's address is 178 Artillery Post, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

REV. J. W. NETHERCUTT writes: "I am settled down again as pastor and am happy here on the Holly Springs Circuit among a fine people who are doing things in a fine way. They have just finished one of the nicest parsonages in the Conference which is modern in every way. Brother Small did a good job here with these people. The year has started off well and I am well pleased."

THE following communication with a Christmas card has been received from Dr. John W. Cline, missionary in China: "... The Methodist comes and comforts ... Here conditions, circumstances and besetments are difficult but they do not mean defeat. The challenge is unmistakable. I am without question content to be here. I have lately completed my first fifty years with China and am in my second. Over here we are in a very serious undertaking. Greetings." Dr. Cline's address is Room 416, 168 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, Shanghai O, China.

THE marriage of Miss Frances McClurkin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McClurkin, Magnolia, and Glenn H. Pinnell, son of Rev. and Mrs. Hal H. Pinnell, Warren, was solemnized Sunday, December 21 in the Central Baptist Church, Magnolia. Brother Pinnell read the

think and pray. I had majored in English, and knew, that if there was anything I was fitted to do along the educational line, it was to teach English. After a restless night, I went down to breakfast the next morning just as my father and Dr. Bliss were taking their seats at the table. Without any preliminaries, I said, 'Dr. Bliss, I heard your conversation last night, and if you can use me, I will be glad to go.' The matter was soon consummated and I was head of the English department until Dr. Bliss, and his son Howard, both passed away. I was then elected president of the institution and have served in that capacity ever since. I have found it a most congenial task."

I had been inspecting the institution and was delighted with what I had seen. I then bade him goodbye, but many a time since I have thought of him in that far-away land, separated from loved ones and friends, rendering a service of love to a disadvantaged people. What a wonderful adventure Dr. Bayard Dodge was making in unselfish service!

double ring ceremony and the prayer was said by Rev. Lloyd L. Hunnicutt, pastor of the Central Baptist Church, Magnolia. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn H. Pinnell are both graduates of Hendrix College, Conway. The couple will be at home in Warren after a vacation in Louisiana and Texas.

FROM the Bulletin of December 25 of the Gardner Memorial Methodist Church, North Little Rock: "It was indeed appropriate that our Adult and Junior Choir should lead us in our first service in our new church. This service was held in the basement which was filled to capacity. What a thrill to get at least one foot back into our church home. Our evening services will be held in the basement until our Sanctuary is completed." The Gardner Memorial Church plant was destroyed by fire in August, 1946.

SEVEN independent churches, formerly missions from America and Britain, have united in South India to form "The United Church of South India," and the new body starts with a membership of more than one million Indian Christians. The new Church now includes what were formerly Episcopalian, Baptist, British Methodist, Congregational, and Presbyterian communions. One American Christian leader says, "This all means that almost insurmountable difficulties have been overcome in transcending both national and ecclesiastical difference—a union that took 28 years to complete."

THE December 18 issue of the First Methodist Church of North Little Rock has the following statement: "The Official Board and congregation of the First Methodist Church voted to sell the present site and building and to purchase a new site at Twenty-second and Poplar streets. The new location which will border on the proposed park site is 130 by 556 feet. While details have not been completed, officials said the new structure would be 'the most modern in North Little Rock.' The new location is less than two blocks from the North Little Rock High School."

MORE than 2,500 young people, representing colleges and universities in all parts of the United States and Canada, together with Christian leaders and students from some sixty overseas countries, will meet in Lawrence, Kansas, from December 27 to January 1, under the auspices of the Student Volunteer Movement. The Movement is interdenominational. Through the years it has recruited most of the young people who have gone out from America as foreign missionaries, evangelists, teachers, doctors, and specialists. Among those who will address the gathering will be: Dr. John R. Mott, Nobel peace prize winner; Congressman Walter H. Judd, a former missionary to China; Dr. K. S. Latourette of Yale; Dr. Roswell P. Barnes of the Federal Council.

THE Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America says: "If national states are to meet the challenge of moral leadership in the present crisis, great responsibility rests with the churches of Christ. The individual Christian can exert his influence not only as a citizen, but also as a member of the church which in its corporate life develops integrity and mutual trust. It demonstrates them in its own life among various race, nationalities, and communions. It develops the bases of understanding. Its missionary movement constantly extends the fellowship of those who share the same loyalties and purposes. Its ecumenical movement deepens and consolidates that fellowship. Its program of relief and reconstruction restores hope to the despairing and reconciles those who have been enemies. Its cooperative agencies give stimulus and leadership to the more direct impact of the churches on the current problems of relations between nations. In this time of testing, the churches of Christ are called to witness to the reality of this Gospel by faith in God, persistent goodwill, and sacrificial deeds of mercy."

# The Christian Jatra In Udgir

By PAUL W. WAGNER, Missionary in Udgir, Deccan, India

ONE-THIRD of the Christian community of the Udgir District, representing 75 per cent of the Christian village groups, travelled to the village of Digi for the annual Udgir Christian Jatra during a recent week.

A jatra, or "religious fair", in Maharashtra (the Marathi-speaking country of Western India) is a natural expression of individuals and groups of people who travel far, often on foot, to have a darshan or "vision" of Vithoba or some other Hindu god. How often individuals or groups are seen trudging along the dusty roads of Western India carrying their brick-red triangular banners as a witness that they are



Part of the procession at the Jatra in Udgir, India

on pilgrimage to bow at Vithoba's feet.

On Wednesday evening one village group after another marched into the jatra ground behind their newly-made Christian flags, singing and shouting "Christa Maharajki Jay" and "Jaya Christ," (slogans of "victory to Christ.") These flags were afterwards carried back to their villages as a witness, and they their homes for the next year. The jatra was under way!

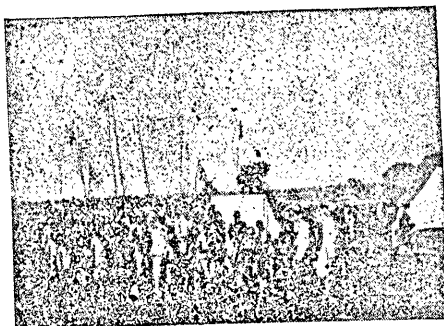
The Christians of Digi had taken days in cleaning their homes and courtyards, in carrying loads of firewood for the devotees who were to come, in cleaning the jatra ground under large mango trees, in preparing sanitary arrangements and drinking facilities and other details. In a real sense the jatra is a "family reunion" for the people of the Udgir District. This family includes not only those who are related by birth or marriage, but by rebirth in Christ. The beauty of this relationship attracts many non-Christians.

On the second night of the jatra the non-Christians requested us to delay the showing of the cinema, "The Life of Christ", for an hour so that they could attend. We co-operated. Hundreds of these people completed one of their Hindu festivals and then came on Thursday evening to sit with perfect silence as the story of the Christ of the Cross was told and they saw His Day of Eternal Life offered to all men. (A borrowed generator and loud-speaker unit made this possible; we hope for the day when we can have such a projector for our constant use.)

The afternoon of sport was welcomed by young and old. No records were established for speed, except in a pagadi wrapping contest (Indian turban wrapping contest). Prizes of lovely colored Christian pictures will help to decorate and bring His message to some drab village homes. The "peanut scramble" was an innovation fly from a tree near the center of that was welcomed by the children—and some adults pressed rather close on the heels of the children!

The jatra is a time of instruction in Christian living. As the conference director of the Crusade for Christ, I was able to present the

challenge of the year of stewardship. Our conference Crusade for Christ calendar was the basis for goals and standards for stewardship. This was the first year that



The Jatra procession approaches the village of Digi, Udgir, District

a thank offering was received. Some came more than once to present their gifts before an altar set up in the field of the jatra grounds.

One tangible of this year of stewardship is the determination of the Christian community of Sangam to build the first place of worship in the Udgir District. This Marathi-speaking group movement in the Udgir District was only begun a little over a decade ago, with hundreds turning to Christ. Another village far from the main roads is of its own initiative planning a community first-aid and simple medical venture.

Miss Emma Stewart, missionary in Udgir conducted a special meeting program for women on the subject, "The Christian Home". Only the simplest type of program for village women was set forth. A large number of children from the Udgir Boarding School and village schools demonstrated, by their accepted order of worship and re-

sponses, how corporate worship should be conducted. As a whole, the pre-Christian concepts or worship of these people is worship by the individual. Since they plan their social, economic and political life as a group, so it is important for them to be united in Christian living.

The social and educational values of the jatra continually lap over into the spiritual aspect of the jatra. Surely, the parents and relatives of the school children, whose clothes, though still ragged, were cleaner than their own, were proud of the sincere and orderly worship of the children.

The bhajan contest that was represented by several village bhajan mandalis ("singing groups") gave the adults a place to display their knowledge and joy in Christian fellowship and worship. Prizes of musical instruments will encourage greater enthusiasm in the nurture of this indigenous means of worship and praise that is often used in Maharashtra to sing abhangs (a kind of song) of Tukaram, Namdev, Eknath and other "bhakta saints".

On the last night of the jatra, some thirty to thirty-five people accepted an invitation to join in special prayer for individual needs. Some prayed for victory over temptations and weaknesses; others accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior but it is the highest hope of the Udgir District that the young leaders who prayed to receive the Holy Spirit for deeper Christian service may realize this experience.

On the closing morning as the sun broke in brilliant colors through heavy clouds in the East, the Lord's Supper was celebrated. And in this fellowship in Christ and with one another, the Udgir Christian Jatra ended for another year.

## NEW MEN IN A NEW WORLD

(Continued from Page 2)

define the mission of the Church—"To make the Lord Jesus Christ known to all people in all lands as their Divine Saviour, to persuade them to become His disciples, to gather these disciples into Christian churches; to enlist them in the building of the Kingdom of God; to promote Christian fellowship throughout the world; and to bring to bear on all human life the spirit and principles of Christ."

Thus we see that the mission of the Church is to bring God to man and men to God. On one hand is the imperative task of making disciples out of men and women who before were alienated from Christ: The Church must be busy turning sinners into saints, the godless into the God-fearing. Then these saved of the community must go forth to save the community. They must go forth to leaven the life of the world with Christian ideals and spirit.

This seems to be the set time for the Church to assert its right to speak a clear word for God; to insist that men recognize the supremacy of God over all human system. It is high time the Church quit asking questions and began to make some great affirmations. The Church must tell men that however bad the world situation may be, it is not irretrievable. God is at work to redeem and to restore. Christianity is not a religion of escape or a way of retreat from the horrible realities of life.

The central affirmation of Christianity is "Sin and suffering are real enough, but there is a remedy and a power by which we may triumph." A Christian cannot accept the world as it is because he sees the conflicting forces of confusion. The Christian—believing in God who says, "Behold I make all things new"—feels himself bound to look and labor for a world

which will in some true sense reflect the mind and purpose of God. The Church is deathless because its Leader is alive forevermore. It will be preserved until the end of time.

### III.

No sane person will deny that there is a great deal in human nature to depress and discourage us. Yea; enough to fill us with disgust and despair. Robert Louis Stevenson quotes a philosopher who declared he could believe in humanity were it not for men. It is easy to idealize human nature in the abstract, but actual living men and women are a different proposition.

But the clearest thing in the life of Christ was His daring hopes for man. In spite of all man's sin, tragic lapses, and miserable failures Christ ventured to believe in him. Christ had an extraordinary belief in the spiritual responsiveness and competency of the average man. He believed there was something in the human heart—in every human heart—that would recognize and respond to truth when the truth was declared.

Jesus preached a sermon on the spirituality of God and the universality of worship to a despised and degraded Samaritan woman. It was an amazing compliment He paid to the spiritual capacity of human nature. He was never afraid of wasting time or truth on publicans or sinners. He believed man was made in the image of God and consequently no matter how ignorant or sinful, there was something in him that would respond to the Divine Voice.

One day Jesus went home with Zacchaeus. His critics grumbled that he would accept the hospitality of a Publican. The people cried, "He is a sinner." But Jesus said, "He is also a Son of Abraham." Jesus saw the worst and believed the best.

I do not mean that Jesus took a rose colored

view of the world. His faith was not a false and shallow optimism that denied the bitter facts of life. He never pretended that sin, pain and death did not exist. He did not mock men by telling them they could get rid of these things by ignoring them. He recognized their reality and awfulness. Jesus knew man was evil, but He also knew man could be redeemed. To Him Christianity was not for the favored few.

He never despised any man. There were no hopeless cases. He gathered up the outcasts. Every sinner was called to be a saint. He found jewels in gutters. The degenerate could become the regenerate. Men could not only be snatched as brands from the burning but set at last perfect before the Throne.

The results have abundantly justified this amazing and challenging hopefulness of Christ. Around the earth today there is a multitude no man can number who walk in victory. Out of every kindred tongue and nation they have come to fall at His feet in adoration. And yonder around His throne another eternal company stands spotless in their white robes with palms in their hands. He took them out of horrible pits of unspeakable shame, preserved them through the first of great tribulation—and there they stand complete and perfect—washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Let us gird our loins. Let us forsake comfort for combat, remembering that the new world for which Christ died is available to men and women who are determined to have it.

Will you become a new man in Christ? Will you confess your sins and accept His forgiveness? Will you let Him live in you, so that you may do His work in this new world composed of those who have placed themselves under the mastery of His redemptive purpose.



# THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



## IN STORYLAND

### I WISH

By Rachel Gobbel

Once there lived a little black kitten. The little girl who was his mistress called him "Blacky"; but cats and other animals called him "I Wish," because he would go around wishing he could be a tiger, or a bear, or that he could have wings.

One day Blacky strayed away from the house where he lived. He kept getting farther and farther away until he came to a woods. In this woods lived fairies and elves. Some of the fairies heard Blacky wishing he had horns so he could butt people. The fairies decided that they would make the seven wishes that he wished for come true. The reason for seven wishes was that each fairy could grant only one wish, and there were seven fairies who were going to grant the wishes.

Blacky didn't know what they had decided because if he had and had known what would happen, he would not have wished out loud. But, anyway, the next thing Blacky wished was that he could have wings. Before he could realize what had happened, he felt something very queer on his shoulders. He looked around and saw that he had wings. At first he didn't know what to do with them. Then he decided to try them out. He made them move up and down. In a few seconds he was flying. He was actually flying! He thought it was wonderful at first. But as he got higher and higher, the branches of the trees brushed against him. They began to hurt. He tried to make the wings take him down, but they wouldn't. In despair, Blacky cried, "I wish these wings would take me down. I wish I hadn't wished for them in the first place." Immediately after he said this, he was let down, and the wings disappeared.

Three wishes had been granted. There were still four to be granted.

Blacky continued to wander through the woods. He thought to himself that he wouldn't wish any more because of what had just happened. But after a while he forgot and wished again. This time he wished that his paws were big and tough so that the sharp rocks and sticks would not hurt him. Right after he wished, his paws began to get larger until they were almost as large as a person's feet, only his paws still looked like paws, but were enormous. Blacky tried to lift one of his paws. It wouldn't budge. He tried another paw and got the same results. Blacky became very tired trying to make his paws move, so he lay down and went to sleep.

When he woke up, his paws were still large. He tried to move them, but they wouldn't move. In despair, he cried, "Oh, I wish I could move my paws. I wish they weren't so big." Immediately his paws shrank, and he was able to move them again.

Six wishes had been granted. There was one more to be granted.

Blacky had been away from home a long time. He was beginning to

fear that he was lost in the woods. Discouraged almost to the point of giving up, Blacky cried, "I wish I could find my way out of here. I wish I had something to eat. I'm hungry." Just then Blacky discovered that he was at the edge of the woods. When he got out into the field, he saw Janie, his mistress, coming toward him.

Wishing that he could find his way out of the woods was his seventh wish. The wish for something to eat was not granted by the fairies, but by Janie. When she and Blacky got to the house, she gave him a great bowl of milk. My! It tasted good to Blacky.

That evening after Janie and her family had eaten supper, Janie played with Blacky. She held him on her lap and petted him. He liked that very much.

After the experience he had had that day, Blacky promised himself that he would not try to wish for anything. He promised himself that he would be contented to be just a little black kitten who had Janie for a mistress.—N. C. Christian Advocate.

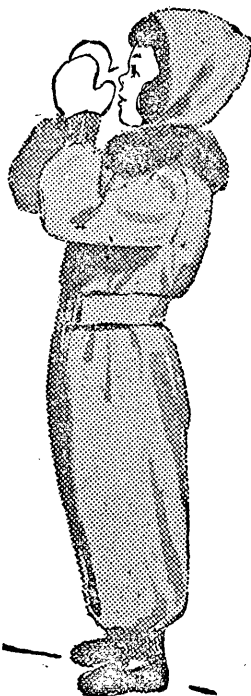
Slim: "Did the cloudburst fill your basement with water?"

Slimmer: "No, my wife was cleaning house and she had the whole house turned upside down."

\* \* \*

A boy was about to purchase a seat for a movie in the afternoon. The box office man asked, "Why aren't you in school?"

"Oh, it's all right, sir," said the youngster earnestly, "I've got the measles."—Selected.



### THOUGHTFUL JANE

By Clarice Foster Booth

*Brave little birds of winter,  
What would you like to eat—  
A crust of bread or corn I've popped  
Or tiny grains of wheat?*

*Would suet be more tasty—  
Placed safe within your reach?  
You have no words to tell me,  
So I'll give you some of each,*

—In The Christian Advocate

## IN THE WORLD OF BOYS AND GIRLS

### HAPPY NEW YEAR

"Happy New Year!"

"Happy New Year!" responded little Mary Ann, as she placed her basket of laundry on the sidewalk and looked up into the cheery face of the elderly lady who had greeted her and received a pleasant smile.

"Happy New Year," she said a minute later as Tim Graham ran by her.

"Humph," responded Tim, stopping quickly and turning around. "Aren't you putting on airs, Mary Ann?"

"They're not airs, Tim," said Mary Ann; "they're just things to pass along. Before I came out this morning, mother said, 'If you get anything good while you're out, just pass it along.' I got a real pleasant 'Happy New Year' from the white-haired lady you just met, so I'm passing it along to you. It's your turn now."

"Mebbe," said Tim, as he turned away and pushed his bare hands deep into his torn pockets. "But," he added to himself, "I wonder who'd care for my 'Happy New Year!' Guess I'll try it, though."

"Happy New Year!" he said in a half-bashful way in a minute afterwards, as he met an officer of the law.

"Happy New Year!" responded the big policeman, cheerily. "It seems good to have a chap like you speak up so free and honest."

"Say, will you pass it along?" asked Tim, looking up into the face above him. "That's what Mary Ann said to me, sir."

"That's what I'll do, my boy, and be glad to. It's a good thing."

"Happy New Year, ma'am," he said cheerily, as he approached an apple stand, behind which an apple woman stood shivering.

"Happy New Year!" said the apple woman, as Mrs. Murphy stopped to buy some apples.

"A 'Happy New Year' is it you're giving me?" exclaimed Mrs. Murphy. "Sure, if it's a happy new year to the loikes of you a-shivering behind that apple stand, what might it be to me sick man at home who has a good fire and plenty of hot gruel? I'll take that home to him, and sure he'll stop fretting because he can't get out to work till next week."—Ex.

'stan' indicates 'the place of.' For example, Afghanistan—the place of Afghan. Hindustan—the place of Hindus. Now can any of you give me another example?"

"Yes, teacher," replied little Clarence: "umbrellastan—the place of umbrellas."

\* \* \*

"Now boys," said the teacher, "tell me the signs of the zodiac. You first, Thomas."

"Taurus, the Bull."

"Right! Now you, Harold, another one."

"Cancer the Crab."

"Right again, and now it's your turn, Albert."

The boy looked puzzled, hesitated a moment and then blurted out: "Mickey the Mouse."—Van couver Province.

## JUST FOR FUN

Frankie wanted a watch for Christmas and he teased so hard for it that his father finally ordered him not to mention that word again. He obeyed the injunction with difficulty.

The next morning at family prayers there was a round of Bible verse and when Frankie's turn came he piped up. "What I say unto you I say unto all. Watch."—Jnl. of Education.

\* \* \*

A Des Moines school teacher asked her 1st grade students the name of the pres of the U. S. One child named the school principal. Another said Santa Claus, And a third said Jesus.

"No," said the teacher. "But I'll give you a hint. You've heard him on the radio and his 1st name is Harry."

A little girl raised her hand. "I know," she said. "Harry and the Pirates."—Gordon Gammack, Des Moines Register.

\* \* \*

A guest of a small Southern state hotel was awakened early one morning by a knock on his door.

"What is it?" he called drowsily, without getting up.

"A telegram, boss," came a Negro's voice.

"Well, can't you push it under the door without waking me up so early?"

"No, suh; it's on a tray."—Tid-Bits.

\* \* \*

"Children," said the teacher, "keep in mind that the use of the affix



# A Great Meeting of A Wonderful Board

By H. O. BOLIN

IT was the writer's privilege to attend the recent meeting of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church which was held at Buck Hill Falls, Pa. The term "great" is the only adjective that will adequately describe this assembly.

This was a great meeting when we consider the people who attended it. Large numbers of the great and the near-great of Methodism were present. The Board members themselves, both ministerial and lay, have been chosen with great care. They are people of deep consecration, world-vision and spiritual enthusiasm. In the presence of such a group, one is made to feel proud of his membership in our Church. Our bishops were there—both the active and those who have retired because of old age. Returned missionaries to the different countries that our Church serves, throughout the world, were present.

Again, this was a great meeting from the standpoint of the reports made. These people called attention to world-wide conditions, needs and what is being done to meet those needs. A few things were outstanding—First, the doors of nations and countries are open now to the cause of missions as never before. All over the world people are confused. They are groping for a way out. In non-Christian lands the old way of life has broken down. For the most part the people are ready and even anxious to try something new. There is a terrible race on between Christian Democracy on the one hand and Communism on the other. What is done will have to be done quickly, otherwise we are likely to get there "too late and with too little". Millions of dollars spent now to Christianize the world may prevent the spending of billions later on to destroy people whose minds have been poisoned by a false way of life. A representative from India, who is studying in our country, called attention to the fact that it cost the U. S. Government \$2,500 to destroy each Japanese killed in the Philippine Islands. In addition to this there was the destruction of much property and the loss of many American lives. He spoke of the danger of the spread of Communism in India and insisted that the time might come when the U. S. would be sending armies there to prevent world domination by a false way of life. He urged that missionaries be sent now to live in their country and teach its citizens the true way of life rather than that

soldiers be sent later to die there and be buried in their soil.

A second emphasis called attention to the fact that a much greater sacrifice will have to be made by the home church if we are to carry on abroad. We can't even hold what we have, on our present budget. Inflation is rampant everywhere—in some countries more than in others. This alone calls for the expenditure of much more money than was the case in the past. We have come upon a time when we must either advance or retreat. In the face of world con-



H. O. Bolin

ditions we can't afford to retreat. The marching order of our Captain is always "forward". We recall a historical event. The battle was going sorely against the army of Napoleon. He commanded his drummer boy to beat a retreat. "Sir," said the boy, "you did not teach me to beat retreat. I can't beat one. But I can beat a march that will cause the dead to fall in line." The command came quickly: "Beat a march." The soldiers rallied and a great victory was won. We, too, must go forward, but it will be done at double and even quadruple the amount of money we have contributed to the

cause of missions in the past. All the returned missionaries who spoke, plead for more money and more missionaries to carry on in their respective fields.

Yet again, this was a great meeting when we consider the future plans made for our Church. This Board has undaunted faith in the willingness and ability of the Church to meet the challenge of the hour. The plans call for the expenditure of great amounts of money and the sending of large numbers of missionaries to the needy places of the earth. But there was not one single note of doubt that these plans would be fully met.

The report of the confused and even bewildered condition of large sections of the world would have led to much pessimism had it not been for the inspiring faith of our mission leaders. These good people insisted that our very obstacles will be used as stepping stones to higher things. The world is now out of the rut of conservatism. Rapid change is in the air. It is a time fraught with much danger. Change alone does not insure progress. But along with the danger, it is a time of great opportunity. It is for the Christian people of the world to see to it that the change is in the right direction. To do this, greater sacrifice than ever before will be required. We will have to give our money and our sons and daughters to a degree yet undreamed of. We will meet this challenge for God is in it. It cannot be proven that the Jewish law concerning the tithe is binding upon modern Christians, but it is a good starting point. In a time like this, no Christian should dare do less than the Jews did under the law. The tithe should be the minimum for the poor. The well-to-do should never dare stop with that amount under present circumstances. The world is hanging in the balance. The activity of this generation will determine its history a thousand years hence.

Last, this was a great meeting from the standpoint of information and inspiration. The writer has never before attended a meeting of such power along these lines. The enthusiasm was not generated by wild-eyed radicalism or claptrap methods. There was a sense of realism through the whole affair. The inspiration came directly from the information. The progress thus outlined for our Church is built solidly upon facts. May God help us meet the challenge that is before us.

## METHODISM AND HOME MISSIONS

Methodists who now give more than \$2,000,000 per year for the building of new churches and for missionary services in the neglected areas of the United States, will be asked to increase that giving by approximately 97 per cent each of the next four years, according to report made by the annual meeting of the Division of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Board of Missions in sessions at Buck Hill Falls.

Askings totalling \$15,827,260 for the years 1947-52, will be presented to the World Service Commission of the Methodist Church, according to Dr. Earl R. Brown, executive secretary of home missions and church extension.

One of the largest items represents aid to the building of new churches within continental United States and in outpost missions in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Church Extension advance includes buildings needed by college foundations serving Methodist students.

"An average of one new church building for every day of the year will be needed during next four years, and possibly the next decade," Dr. Brown stated, "if Methodist churches move with their numbers. We have given assistance to the building of 361 new churches during 1947.

"Our responsibility increases in service to American Indians, to Negroes, to foreign language groups and in our outpost missions," Dr. Brown continued. "Recent sessions of the National Methodist Rural Life Conference and councils of city pastors have prompted the advance in home missions. Methodism must as-

## NEW MISSIONARIES AND DEACONESSES COMMISSIONED

Twenty-six young people, graduates of colleges and of professional training schools, were commissioned as missionaries or deaconesses of the Methodist Church on Friday evening (December 12) by the Board of Missions and Church Extension in sessions at Buck Hill Falls, Pa. Bishop Arthur J. Moore, of Atlanta, Georgia, presided at the commission service, and was the principal speaker.

Those commissioned for foreign service under the Division of Foreign Missions, of which Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, of New York, is president are: the Rev. Earl E. Harvey, of Dallas, Texas, going to China for evangelistic work; Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. King, of Evanston, Ill., going to the Philippine Islands — Mr. King for engineering service, Mrs. King for social work; Mr. and Mrs. James L. Pottenger, of Warsaw, Indiana, to Africa for educational service; Mrs. Alton Ridgway, of Upland, Indiana, to Africa as a nurse; the Rev. Duncan A. Reily, of Victoria, Texas, to Brazil as a pastor; the Rev. William T. Robison, of College Grove, Tenn., to Bolivia as a pastor; and Mr. and Mrs. Paul K. Snead, of Nyack, N. Y., to the Malay Peninsula in educational work.

The Division of Home Missions presented its full responsibility in interdenominational cooperation in ever-widening areas of comity."

for commissioning the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Bliss Billings, of Norwalk, Conn., for evangelistic and educational service in Hawaii.

The following were commissioned for overseas service under the Woman's Division of Christian Service: Miss Martha Berry, of Louisville, Ky., going to India as a nurse; Miss Marjorie Hein, of Portsmouth, Va., to Cuba in educational work; Miss Madaline Klepper, of Midwest City, Okla., to the Philippine Islands in educational work; Miss Mary Lawson, of Aledo, Illinois, to Africa in public health and educational work; Miss Nellie Lewis, of Salem, Ohio, to India in medical work; Miss Gladys Yynch, of Salem, Illinois, to Uruguay in educational work; Miss Dorothy Sandfort, of Humboldt, Nebr., to Peru in educational work; Miss Alice R. Smith, of Fredrickton, Ohio, to Africa in educational work; Miss Eleanor Warne, of Winlock, Washington, to Japan as a social worker.

Also under the Woman's Division of Christian Service five young women were commissioned as deaconess of the Church and assigned as indicated: Miss Cynthia Harriet Brooks, of Port Henry, N. Y., to the Allen High School, Ashville, N. C.; Miss Edith Roberts Glasgow, of Philadelphia, Pa., to the North Barre Community House, Barre, Vt.; Miss Mildred Lee May, of Danville, Ky., to be appointed later; Miss Margaret Lelia Stimson, of Gorham, Maine, to the High Street Methodist Church, Auburn, Maine; Miss Sarah Ramelle Lowder, of Albemarle, N. C. as district youth director, Baltimore South District, Baltimore, Md.

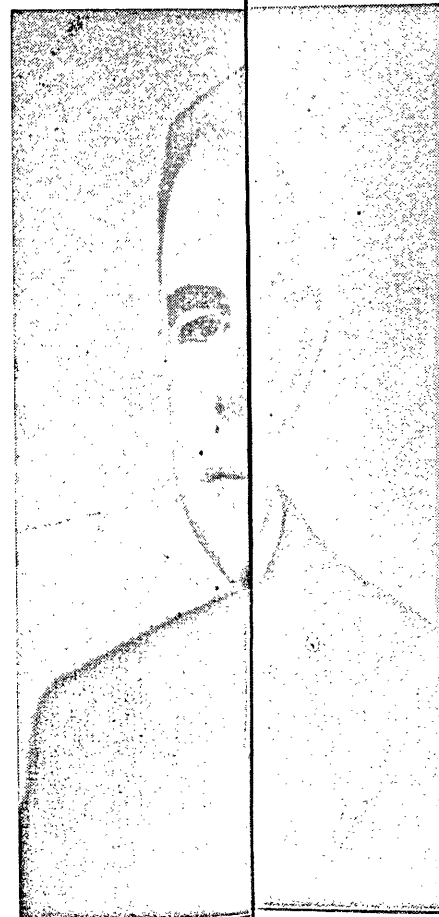
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1. Solicit every Methodist Home for a new subscription or renewal for the Arkansas Methodist during the week of Circulation Campaign.
2. Make a report on Monday, Jan. 19th, to the District Superintendent and to the office of the Arkansas Methodist, Little Rock, of the results of the Campaign.
3. Any necessary follow-up work can be reported as soon as complete.

There will be additional reports in later issues of the results of follow-up work. Watch for these reports!



BISHARTIN

To Ministers And Members  
Methodist Church In

The ARKANSAS METHODIST  
other person. It has already proved  
able to carry forward our program  
editor, Rev. Ewing T. Wayland, and  
of the staff have furnished us one  
The period just before us is a  
relates to our Church School is  
General Conference and the Jurisdiction  
to be aware of the great program  
Therefore I urge all Methodist  
METHODIST during the period  
finer work than to use this period  
had for subscriptions, both new  
pastors will be given loyal cooperation

Sincerely you

Paul

The Meeting of the General Conference  
and the Crusade Evangelism

**THE ARKANSAS METHODIST**

A "MUST" Conference Year  
Know Arkansas Methodism

# ARKANSAS METHODISM GIVES ONE WEEK TO TRKAN.



# WE UNITE IN THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CIRCULATION CAMPAIGN

January 11th Through January 18th!

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### The Subscription Price \$1.50

The heavy increase in the cost of printing and paper caused our two Annual Conferences to vote a small increase in the subscription price.

At \$1.50 per year, the subscription price of THE ARKANSAS METHODIST is still lower than any other Conference organ of similar size, grade of paper and workmanship in American Methodism.

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1. The Charge has reached its quota when, in the Charge, new subscriptions, plus renewals, plus subscriptions not due equal one subscription for each seven active members in the Charge.
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Methodist

AS METHODIST - - - JAN. 11th Through JAN. 18th

## WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. SUE M. WAYLAND, Editor



## North Arkansas Conference News Sheet



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Mrs. J. E. Critz

These are such full, busy days. Many details have to be attended to in order that the year 1947 may be richly recorded, and while these are being done, we are making preparation for 1948. New officers have been elected and most of the District Officers' Training Days have been held. Surely each officer has learned much regarding her area of responsibility and by sharing in the work shops has enriched her own experience and others. These training days are invaluable.

I hope that every society has had the pleasure of a Harvest Day, and that is truly was a day for ingathering. Was your Goal Chart in evidence and was each point carefully checked? I saw a lovely one a few days ago. There was a shining gold star beside each goal — every one had been met!

Harvest Day is a time of rejoicing over pledges paid and goals met, but is also a challenge to do greater things in the coming year and we can if we set our goals high.

There are two areas of work that I wish to call attention to at this time. The Wesleyan Service Guild has set us a wonderful example in daring to do big things for God in their threefold program to triple membership, triple the number of Guild units and to triple its services. Let every society cooperate to the fullest extent with its Guild and assist in this fine program, making its aims reality.

The Methodist Youth Conference which was held in Cleveland was a most significant meeting for youth in this generation. Were some of your young people among the 9,000 in attendance. Isn't there something that all of us can do to help?

As we celebrate again the birth of the Christ-Child may your faith be renewed and may peace dwell in your hearts.

## MESSAGE TO VICE PRESIDENTS

By Mrs. Johnnie McClure

At the beginning of a new year we each should take stock: Our first obligation is; World Federation of Methodist Women. According to the recommendation of the Division Committee on Federation, the "smallest coin of the realm" — the penny — for each member is to be paid by each local society as the contribution of the United States Unit, in keeping with that of the other units. This can be done yet. See that your society responds at once.

Are you stressing co-operation of your ABUNDANCE in projects for sharing our ABUNDANCE with the suffering peoples abroad?

How about "Special Memberships"? Have you met your goal? One Special Membership for each and every society. It is not too late. Let us get this done at once.

You will soon receive report blanks to be used for next year. Watch out for these and be sure you use them.

Thank you for the splendid work that has been done already by each of you.

## A NEW YEAR'S WISH

By Louella C. Pool

*Oh might the Prince of Peace hold  
Ring, pealing bells, as ne'er before!  
And shout for joy, all that ye would  
Hear nevermore the cannon's roar,  
The weary world, death-sick of war,  
Desires peace and brotherhood!*

*The world at peace! O might it be,  
Beginning this glad New Year's Day!  
Peace everlasting, land and sea  
From sinful strife forever free!  
Oh might the Prince of Peace hold*

*O'er the lives of all mankind,  
And rule in every human breast!  
Oh that true brotherhood might bind  
In union of heart and mind,  
From Pole to Pole, from East to West,*

*Our father's family—children all  
Of Him who gave the gift of life!  
Ring, joyous bells, from cot and hall,  
Proclaiming with your clarion call  
The birth of Peace, the end of strife!*

—Ex.

## LITERATURE AND PUBLICATIONS

By Mrs. J. A. Bretherick

Isn't our new literature attractive? So colorful. There should be no difficulty in working out interesting and entertaining programs, from the easy to read type in the program, and worship service materials.

The Officer's Letter File too, is unusual and beautiful with its bright gold covering, and inside the perforated pages the personal messages to each of the officers, as well as some of the Chairmen of Committees, should be very helpful.

The year's work is rapidly drawing to a close and I would like to take this opportunity to express to each of my district secretaries my sincere appreciation for the cooperation I've received, and to wish for them a most happy and prosperous New Year.

May we resolve NOW that in the year of 1948 our work is going to show an even greater increase, and we can begin to make this a reality by following these suggestions for the month of January:

1. Organize Literature Committees, and plan your work.
2. Check or start record of magazine subscriptions.
3. Order World Day Prayer materials.
4. Ask president for five minutes time at each meeting (business). Promise to make novel and entertaining of it to introduce new literature or promote magazines.
5. Ask pastor to mention magazines in the pulpit and bulletins.
6. Confer with WSG representative to see if their needs are met.
7. See if Study and Action Committee want Study Books ordered.

HOW MANY WILL YOU DO?

## PROMOTION

By Mrs. W. F. Cooley

We stand at the crossroads, looking back upon our work of 1947 and looking forward to the challenge of 1948.

We feel a certain sense of achievement as we note our gain in membership this past year. But we are humbled when we realize that there are approximately 50,000 Methodist women in the North Arkansas Conference and our total adult membership (both Woman's Society and Wesleyan Guild) is approximately 12,000. How many women in our church were unreached for this magnificent program to help answer our prayer, "Thy Kingdom Come."

In most phases of our program advance was made, and we begin the new year with a determination "To Make His Way Known." This is the title of our Goal Chart this

year and should be the aim of every officer as she fulfills her duties.

Each society should get the large Goal Chart from Literature Headquarters (20 cents). It is the responsibility of the local promotion secretary (we have been calling her corresponding secretary) to present these goals at least once a quarter. She should note the need for work in some lines and give credit to those who are meeting the goals. This will encourage continued effort throughout the year.

Our main concern for the first quarter will be our Membership Campaign. Please read the December Methodist Woman, page 30, "How One Society Did It." You can find no better or more specific advice.

Of course every society must get the Officers' Letter File if it is to know the exact plans for our work in the new year. By using the

## MISSIONARY EDUCATION AND SERVICE

By Mrs. Elmer H. Hook

Progress has been made in every area of our work as far as figures can tell. Some evidences of progress are: the definite action taking place as a result of programs and study; variety of subject matter being used for informal studies, and some genuinely improved program presentations.

Our entire picture of Missionary Education would be changed if we could secure something like 100 per cent in reporting. This is where the breakdown really comes, as the district secretaries were 100 per cent in reporting every quarter. If your society has had a study anytime during the year that has not been reported, be sure to report that class in this fourth quarter.

Attendance at seminars has increased over last year. There was marked interest and enthusiasms in the work done.

All S. J. R. applications for classes held in 1947 must be in by the end of the year if they are to be counter the 1947 annual report.

The new leaflet, "Action from Study in 1947-48" is free for the postage and very valuable to every society.

Many new local secretaries will be elected this quarter. They should all have copies of the free leaflet, "Questions and Answers about Missionary Education." Be sure to complete your fourth quarter's work and report to your district secretary of Missionary Education and Service before turning over records to your successor. Will the eight district secretaries please get their reports in my hands by January 10 as annual reports have to be made and in New York January 20? Thank you.

I am wishing for each of you an increase awareness of the presence of the Prince of Peace in your own life.

## FORT SMITH DISTRICT

The work of the W. S. C. S. in the Fort Smith District is moving steadily forward. The reports of the third quarter show progress in most lines of work.

The outstanding project of the district is our Grace Stone Scholarship. Miss Billa York of Forrester, Scott County, a volunteer for full time service, was granted the use of this scholarship last summer. She is now in National Training School at Kansas City.

Two new societies have been organized. Rev. and Mrs. Woodrow Woods, new to the Fort Smith District, have organized societies on their work, one at Kibler, the other at Mountain View.

The fine spirit of the women, their loyalty and eagerness to carry on this work is indeed a constant source of inspiration.

We have plans and hopes for the new year that it will be the best in the history of the Fort Smith District.—Reporter.

Calendar of Activities we can "plan our work and work our plan" that Thy way may be known upon earth."

## FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT

By Mrs. Denver Misenheimer

As we come to the close of the year and begin to evaluate our work, we are proud of the societies in this district because our women seem to have a deep sense of the needs of the work and a desire to share with all of God's children everywhere.

A very practical and effective piece of work for district cultivation is our news sheet which is published once a quarter. It is our outstanding method of contacting our societies.

We have had four good district meetings. At three of these a special offering was taken for a special purpose and met with a good response which shows that our women are interested in our work and workers abroad.

Our Officers' Training Day was well attended and the workshops were planned. However, the high point of this meeting was a quiet hour with meditations on our three pledges of gifts of prayer, service and money. This was indeed beautiful and inspiration because we all left with a feeling of God's nearness and a desire to do more for him.

## SEARCY DISTRICT

The Searcy District has just completed a successful year for the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Two training days have been held recently. One of these was at Harrison. The other was held at McCrory. Mrs. Jesse Johnston of McCrory was elected recording secretary for the district; Mrs. John Burke of Cabot was elected secretary of Youth Work to succeed Mrs. Thomas R. Whidden who moved from the district. The district voted to support a missionary project for the next year. Mrs. Dan Holmes of Harrison was elected as editor of the district news sheet.

The district has presented two adult memberships this year; one to Miss Mary Ferguson, deaconess, who left the district for missionary work, and one to Mrs. S. J. Allbright, retiring president.

Plans have been made for the executive meeting of district officers to be held at the home of Mrs. Walter Jimerson of Augusta early in January. Mrs. P. B. Davidson, president, will preside.—Reporter.

## TO TREASURERS OF LOCAL SOCIETIES

By Mrs. E. G. Kaetzell

I want to pay tribute to our eight district treasurers. Every one of them has done a good job this year and we wonder now why we ever hesitated to have them. Each has a permanent ledger now in which the district's records will be kept for years to come. The books will be audited at the end of the year just as the Conference treasurer's books are.

May I urge all district and local treasurers to read the December 1947 issue of the Methodist Woman! It is on finance from beginning to end and should be helpful for the local societies as they make their pledges for the coming year. If someone should ask you how the dollar they give is spent, could you tell them? Or would you say that you just send it to the district treasurer, she sends it to the conference treasurer and after that you don't know what becomes of it? (Read page 25 of this issue of the Metho-

## WHAT THE SCRIPTURES SAY

*Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting... Thou art God... Ps. 90, 1-2.*

*The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us. I Kings 8, 57.*

*What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things. Rom. 8, 31-32.*

*Behold, I make all things new' I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. Rev. 21, 5; 1, 8.*

## A CALL FROM THE CONFERENCE SECRETARY

Below there is a very important letter from Mrs. Brooks, a member of the Supply Work Committee.

Please read it and get to work packing boxes for our fellow Christians who are in such needy condition. At the end of the letter there is a list of the names of missionaries in Korea and Japan who will receive and distribute your gifts.

I am sure you will want to send some of your supplies to Miss Nellie Dyer for use in Korea. Please report any contributions on your 4th quarter's report.—Mrs. A. L. Smith.

Dear Jurisdiction and Conference Secretaries of Supply Work, As a member of the Woman's Division Committee on Supply Work, I am writing you at the request of our chairman, Mrs. S. E. McCreless.

As some of you may know, I have recently returned from a survey of the mission work in Korea and in Japan. While visiting in these countries, I saw need that is desperate beyond your imagination. I also rejoiced over the great assistance that our Supply Work has given, and will continue to give, to our Christian friends in these countries.

Used clothing and food can now be sent to both countries; eleven (11) pounds to Korea and twenty-two (22) pounds to Japan. You can secure the proper tags at your post office. Be sure to mark "Gift Relief Package."

I found it was almost impossible to buy men's suits, coats, shoes, women's coats, dresses, etc., for the prices are beyond all reason. Food, such as dried fruit, sugar, sweetened cocoa, baking powder, prepared puddings, and yeast are much appreciated. Soap, thread, and small pieces of cloth are also greatly desired. Even cleaning cloths are priceless. Wrap each item separately in a cloth.

I realize there are many calls for relief, but I hope you will not forget our Christians in Korea and in Japan. Relief is going in a magnificent to both of these countries through large relief agencies, but such relief goes largely to institutions, hospitals, etc. It rarely reaches our own needy Christians.

Mrs. McCreless and I thought you might like to have names of a few missionaries in different centers to whom you could address gift, relief packages. If you have missionaries in your own conference, who are working in Korea and Japan, send your packages to them, of course.

Otherwise you can send to one of those listed below. These missionaries know the needy, deserving Christians and are very happy to distribute your gifts.

Korea	Japan	Japan
Miss Nannie Black	Miss Myra Anderson	Miss Mary McMillan
Methodist Mission	Seibi Jo Kakko	Hiroshima Jo Gakuin
Songdo, Korea	Yokohama, Japan	Ushita Machi
Miss Ada Hall	Miss Gertrude Byler	Hiroshima, Japan
Ewha College	Hirosaki Jo Gakko	Miss Dora Wagner
Eeoul, Korea	Hirosaki, Japan	Iai Go Gakko
Miss Bessie Oliver	Miss Alice Cheney	Hakodate, Hakkaido
Methodist Mission	12 Hachiyama	Japan
Seoul, Korea	Shibuya-ku	Miss Mabel Whitehead
Miss Nellie Dyer, Civ.	Tokyo, Japan	Seiwa Joshi Gakuin
Methodist Mission	Nishinomiya, Japan	Okadayama
Chaplain's Office		
Hq. U. S. A. M. G. I. K.		
APO 235-2		
c-o Postmaster		
San Francisco, Calif.		

Thank you for your interest and trouble. It does take time and effort to get a box ready, but I have seen the boxes received and I assure you your effort is not in vain.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. F. G. Brooks.

dist Woman and file it for reference.)

As you studied the Conference Minutes this year, did you read item 4 of the recommendations of the Vice-President? Don't forget to include this penny for each member of your society in your last quarter's report.

Many women increased their pledge a penny a day this year.

Others increased it as they felt able to and we are going to have a good report this year. God has truly been good to us. As we make our pledges for another year, let us be thinking of our program theme for 1948 "That Thy Way May Be Known Upon Earth".

Do not cause thy brother to stumble.

## JONESBORO DISTRICT

The only real accurate record of goals achieved in the Jonesboro District W. S. C. S. is in the hearts and lives of the women themselves. Their visions have been enlarged through greater programs, their attitudes have been changed through such studies as that of "Christian and Race", "We, the People" and "World Evangelism", their souls enriched through spiritual life work in the observance of Week of Prayer and Self Denial and other quiet days and times.

Their concerns have been deepened with church and community needs and the improving of human relations around the world. Their increased giving through pledges, special membership and supply giving made them better stewards of their own possessions. Their interest in other women of the church sharing the rich blessings of the W. S. C. S. brought in a host of new members who are anxious too, to help bring the Kingdom into the lives of others. Their vital concern of the urgency to train life service volunteers for tomorrow's Kingdom building resulted in the Hendrix Scholarship which has been given to Miss Sue Osment of Jonesboro.

Sue says to the women of the district: "It was your faith in my power to transform your love and gifts into building God's Kingdom." Satisfaction came, to an extent, in the peace that they have answered "Here am I Lord, send me" through Sue.

Their definite knowledge that women's place in the church, and in the world, is rapidly becoming more important has brought into action Status of Women secretaries who are seeking Christian women with creative ability, deep consecration and yearning hearts who will go out to make Christ's way known.

We have realized anew that we have a stewardship entrusted to us and as our horizons become wider, the call to soar higher becomes more insistent and we leave 1947 in the hope that our efforts may continue to bear fruit without pomp and heraldry, but in humbleness toward making Christ's way known to countless other people through the year of 1948 and those others to follow.

## SECRETARIES OF STUDENT WORK

By Mrs. G. A. Trobough

"What should I do as a Secretary of student work?" The answer to that question is just off the press. In the new publication "Handbook for Secretaries of Student Work". All local, district and conference secretaries will find material and information that is very helpful. Please secure your copy at once from our literature headquarters: 420 Plum Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. The price is only 15 cents.

Have you been watching the Student page of "The Methodist Woman" for the suggestions written for us monthly by our jurisdictional officers? It is a good idea to make a scrap book of these materials for your use and to pass on to your successor.

With the need so great for full time Christian Life Service Workers we must be constantly presenting the work of our church as a challenge for world service. If the need is made known to the students, the response will be gratifying.

AN ACTIVE STUDENT SECRETARY IN EVERY LOCAL SOCIETY SHOULD BE OUR GOAL FOR THE COMING YEAR.



# CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

## JONESBORO DISTRICT NEWS

Miss Mary Shipp Sanders of Denton, Texas under the guidance of Rev. Ira A. Brumley and the Boards of Education has conducted four area training classes in the Jonesboro District at Fisher Street Jonesboro, Manila for the Buffalo Island Area, Lake Street Blytheville, and at Bay. A large number enrolled at each place and a large number of credits were issued for the course "How To Teach In The Church School."

Rev. Raymond Krutz, new pastor at Carraway-Black Oak-Macey, reported sixteen additions by certificate. He is also giving full-time to Carraway and Black Oak by using Lay Witnesses from nearby stations.

Rev. Allen D. Stewart, First Church Blytheville, reported an increase of 50 per cent in Church School attendance over the same period last year. A committee for new parsonage has been appointed as the old one must be removed as they get ready to build their sanctuary. Salary increased to \$5,000.

Rev. H. H. Blevins, Lake Street Blytheville reports all available space in use for Sunday School, no room for improvement until new educational annex is available. He reported plans in this direction.

Rev. C. C. Burton, Dell, reports 50 per cent increase in Church School attendance since Annual Conference. He also reported \$20,000.00 in cash and pledges on new church building.

Rev. W. A. Lindsay, Harrisburg, reported Sunday School and Church attendance up 25 per cent since installation of new heating plant. The salary has also been increased.

Rev. W. B. Yount, Dyess, reported plans for new Church Building to replace one destroyed by fire last year.

Dr. W. Henry Goodloe, Jonesboro First Church, reports 20 per cent increase in Church School attendance over last year. The total budget of the church has been increased 20 per cent over last year and has already been subscribed.

Rev. Jefferson Sherman, Huntington, Ave., Jonesboro, reports increase in Church School attendance and advance in salary.

Rev. Thurston Masters, Fisher Street Jonesboro, reports increase in church and Church School attendance. He stated that his evening worship service attendance has trebled. The salary has been increased \$400.00 above last year.

Rev. Martin Bierbaum, Manila, reported that a new educational building 28 by 72, two stories is nearing completion at cost of \$18,000.00. It is of steel, concrete block, and brick veneer construction. The first floor will be of concrete above ground level and will be used for recreation hall, dining hall, and kitchen. The second floor of hardwood will be used to house the Children's and Youth Divisions with assembly rooms and class rooms. Two rest rooms will be located in the connecting link between the church and new building. The building should be completed by the first of March. The salary of the pastor has been increased to \$3,000.00. All

## NEWS FROM ULM CHURCH

Mr. and Mrs. Seidenschwarz of Haze, who are moving to a new home south of Pine Bluff, gave a piano to the Ulm Methodist Church. We are very grateful to them and feel that it will add to our services. The Seidenschwarzes were members of our church when they lived here.

A number of our church folks met at Mr. and Mrs. Uhlenbrocks the night of the 9th and gave our pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. G. R. Andrews, a pounding. A pleasant evening was spent in singing and conversation despite a rainy night.

Many good things were brought to eat and an aluminum roaster and pans were presented by Mr. and Mrs. Bursis.—Reporter.

## RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, certain persons are making application to the Arkansas Racing Commission for a permit or certificate to operate a dog racing track in Crittenden County, Arkansas, and

WHEREAS, the members of the Men's Bible Class of the Marion Methodist Church, Marion, Arkansas, are unalterably opposed to the operation of such a dog track in Crittenden County,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Men's Bible Class of the Marion Methodist Church, Marion, Arkansas, that the Arkansas Racing Commission be requested to deny the application of any person, firm or corporation to operate or maintain a dog racing track in Crittenden County, Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to: Hon. Ben S. Laney, Governor of this State; the members of the Arkansas Racing Commission; the Memphis Commercial Appeal; the Memphis Press-Scimitar; the Arkansas Gazette; and The Arkansas Methodist, and the county papers.

C. H. Bond, President.

## ATTEST

Amos Walker, Secretary.

Items are paid a month in advance.

Rev. Herchalle Couchman, Osceola, reports average of 268 in Church School for month of November. Eighty-nine present at regular WSCS meeting. 100 new Hymnals added and 50 copies of bulletins added to take care of congregations. \$92,000.00 in cash and pledges on sanctuary now under construction. The gliders are now being placed for the roof. \$1,000.00 has been spent for furnishings for the parsonage. All World Service and Conference apportionments totalling \$1607.00 has been raised and Paid IN FULL. The salary has been increased \$600, making the salary \$4200.00.

Rev. S. O. Patty, Wilson, reported fifteen additions to the church since Conference. He also reported a thorough home visitation on the part of the pastor. He delivered the opening message for the WSCS Officers Training Day at his church Dec. 5.

Rev. Charles Lewis, Luxora, reported installation of a new heating plant for his church. Increase in Church School attendance and also an increase in salary to \$2100.00.—Martin Bierbaum, District Reporter.

## JACKSONVILLE

At the Forrest City Annual Conference this writer was assigned to Jacksonville, a community of five thousand people, fifteen miles north of Little Rock. Since there was not a parsonage, it was one month before we had a home. Now we are well located in a new house north of Jacksonville on the highway. The church and community gave the parsonage family a public reception with a bountiful shower of numerous things to eat and use. The Woman's Society took the lead in the movement that placed a new gas range in the parsonage kitchen. Their response has been wonderful, and the optimism in the community and the church has been inspiring.

We found a growing church and it has continued to grow since we came. We had six additions to the church the first month of the year. This church has a great field in this growing community. There are many unidentified Methodists here and they continue to move here as fast as they can find a home. Many new housing units and several business enterprises are being planned for the new year. The public school has an enrollment of twelve hundred.

Our church plant is crowded. A new educational building was decided on last year. We now have suggested plans for the building, and an active campaign for money will be made early in the new year. Late arrivals at the church services on Sunday morning have to use the front pews.

Our new district superintendent, Rev. J. Kenneth Shamblin, was with us on December 7th. All were delighted with his message and his fine leadership in the business session. He did us much good.—Henry A. Stroup, Minister.

## WHITTON M. Y. F. BANQUET

The Whitton Methodist Youth Fellowship crowned their year's achievements with a banquet given at the Whitton community house on December 6 at 7:00 p. m. The Baptist young people and their leaders were guests for the evening.

The purpose of the banquet was to increase fellowship and cooperation among the young people of the community, and to establish our theme for the coming year which is "Sharing Christian Concern."

The three areas of concern discussed were "Achieving Higher Moral Standards," by Nina Mooring; "Achieving World Brotherhood" by Billy Proffitt Jr. and "Winning Youth for Christian Life and Service" by Fred Mooring. The highlight of the evening was the address given by our district superintendent, Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, on the theme "Sharing Christ's Concern."

The menu was prepared by our Woman's Society of Christian Service.

As a follow-up of the banquet, a Christmas play was planned by the joint young people. — Fred Mooring, Tyronza.

## KNOX SUB-DISTRICT

The sub-district M. Y. F. met in the Methodist Church at Tuckerman, Dec. 8th. Umsted Memorial Church of Newport was in charge of

## RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, There is a report that certain persons are making an effort to open a dog racing track in Hot Springs, thus adding more evil to the objectionable horse race track located here, and

WHEREAS, This effort by selfish interests, if granted, will work to the detriment of the commercial, moral, and spiritual interests of all the people in, or near, Hot Springs, and

WHEREAS, Such forms of gambling seeks to enrich the few selfish persons interested at the expense of unsuspecting and inexperienced youth as well as mature people, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: First, that we raise a most solemn protest against this iniquitous evil.

Second, that we invite all the churches of Arkansas, especially in and near Hot Springs, to join in this protest.

Third, that we call upon all legitimate business of Arkansas to rise up against this monster which seeks to undermine and destroy worthwhile business interests for its own selfish gains.

Fourth, that we call upon Governor Ben Laney, and the Arkansas Racing Commission, to refuse a permit for a dog race track anywhere in Arkansas.

Fifth, that a copy of these resolutions be sent Governor Ben Laney, a copy be sent the Arkansas Racing Commission, a copy be sent the Hot Springs Ministerial Alliance, a copy be sent the religious Press of Arkansas, a copy be given the Associated Press, and a copy be sent to Commissioner of Revenues Otho A. Cook.

Signed,

Hot Springs Methodist Ministers Association.

F. A. Buddin, Chairman  
C. D. Meux, Secretary.

Adopted in  
Hot Springs, Arkansas  
December 15, 1947

## DODDRIDGE CHARGE

Wife and I are glad to be on the Doddridge Charge. We were received with a very gracious spirit which we appreciated. The churches gave us a nice pounding of many good things. Since we came to the charge there has been one M. Y. F. organized, and we hope for one more soon. Olive Branch has paid all of its claims for this year amounting to \$108.00. The charge has promised to paint the parsonage and build a new porch and three sets of steps.

The people are very loyal in the church work on the charge. I am hoping for a great year.—R. M. Crain, Pastor.

the program. There were 69 present.

A district-wide conference will be held January 12 in Batesville. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear reports from the delegates to the National Youth Conference which was held in Cleveland, Ohio, December 30-January 2.

Knox Sub-district was chosen as the name for the sub-district, honoring Rev. Alfred Knox, the counselor for the sub-district.—Reporter,



## The Church... and the Countryside

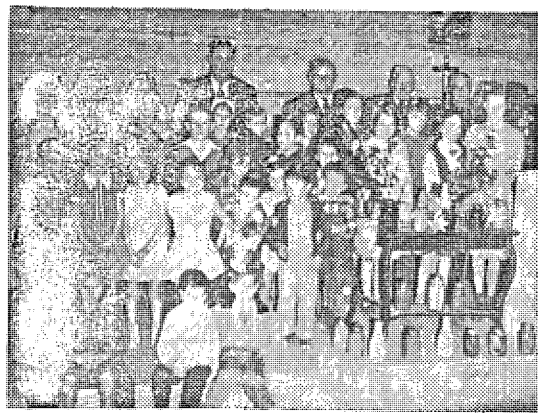
By GLENN F. SANFORD

### HARVEST FESTIVAL AT BOTKINBURG

It was a great privilege for me to attend and have a part in the Harvest Festival celebration at the Botkinburg church on Thanksgiving Day. Botkinburg is a new Methodist organization and a new church building located a few miles north of Clinton, Van Buren County.

Rev. A. A. Noggle, the efficient pastor, and his people had a clear

bright, pastor at Clinton, and Miss Grace Badgett, deaconess in Van Buren County, spoke on "The Broader Meaning of Thanksgiving" and "Reaching Others for God in the Church." Since Van Buren County is working on the Group Ministry plan a large map was placed on the wall showing the location of all the other churches and the cooperative program was



Some of the Children and Youth in front of Church

vision of what a special day like that would mean and thorough preparation was made. The prepared Harvest Festival ritual was used in the morning services which began at 10:30 a. m. It was my happy privilege to bring the Thanksgiving message.

More than fifty youth and children were in the large congregation that filled the house at every service.

A great feast, prepared largely from the products of their farms, was spread at the noon hour. The informal fellowship during that period was one of the most helpful experiences of the day.

The afternoon program brought us face to face with many of the practical phases of Christian living. Mr. Floyd Cannady, County Farm Agent, spoke on the theme "Youth and the Soil". Rev. W. W. All-

explained. Other helpful features of the afternoon were a quartet arranged by Mr. Clarence Ledbetter, a duet composed of Alice Ann Ledbetter and Rebecca Robinson, and reading by Marilyn Upton, Naomi Roberts, and Ruth Ledbetter.

A large crowd attended the night service. Congregational singing from songs projected from the screen and a sound moving picture were the items of chief value.

The altar of the church was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit, vegetables and canned foods of many types. It was truly a day of Thanksgiving, not only for the material things but for their community fellowship, their church, and the many spiritual blessings.

The example which this little church has given us should inspire others to do likewise.

### A BANNER DAY AT FIRST CHURCH, FT. SMITH

At the First Methodist Church, Fort Smith, Rev. Fred G. Roebuck, pastor, Sunday, Dec. 21st, was a banner day. The attendance in Sunday School totaled 1104. At the morning service there was a capacity congregation with chairs in the foyer and every available space for the overflow. There was a dedication service for the twenty-five tubular bell carillon, a gift to the church by Mr. Fagan Bourland in memory of his wife. Mr. Bourland also gave the tower which houses the carillon. The Deagan Co., Inc., Chicago, sent their musician to instruct our organist, Miss Edna Earle Massey, and other organists in playing the carillon. From the console of the organ there will be a carillon recital every Sunday at noon and at six o'clock. The carillon can also

be played by means of records. During the day, the bells chime the quarter hours and strike the hours.

At the vesper hour a splendid Christmas pageant was given by the children. All activities of the church continue in a fine way.

Student Recognition day was observed Sunday the 28th and a class received into membership bringing the total since conference to 54 new members, 22 of them on profession of faith.—Mrs. J. C. Billingsley, Sec.

Nature is methodical, and doeth her work well. Time is never to be hurried.—Emerson.

The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials.—Selected.

He who overcomes by force hath overcome but half his foe.—Milton.

### JONESBORO DISTRICT STILL ADVANCING

By Martin Bierbaum  
District Secretary, Reporter

The sixth year of the administration of Rev. J. Albert Gatlin on the Jonesboro District promises to be the best of the six. In our two District meetings at Jonesboro First Church and at Wilson this year the pastors reported advances on all lines, especially on Church School enrollment and attendance, buildings under construction, and increases in salaries and other budget items.

At the Jonesboro meeting in November the district superintendent spoke in high appreciation of the Town and Country Cooperative Movement as it has been operating thus far in the District at the following points: Jonesboro First Church working with Lorado Circuit, Manila working with the St. Johns Circuit, Blytheville First Church with West Blytheville Parish, Truman with McCormack Circuit, Leachville with Delfore, Tyrone with West Black Oak, and Joiner with Louise Chapel. To expand this work the following assignments were made: Luxora to work with Rosa and Tomato; Lepanto, Wilson, Osceola and Keiser to work together in creating a new charge around Victoria, Marie and Garden Point and building a new parsonage; Osceola, Wilson and Joiner to assume responsibility for Island Thirty-five; Blytheville First Church and Dell to assist Simpson Memorial; Fisher Street Jonesboro to work with Brookland Circuit, Jonesboro Huntington Ave. to work with Bono Circuit; Monette to work with Macey. Through the use of Lay Witnesses worship services are conducted and many churches normally having service only once a month now have services every Sunday.

The connectional interests of the church and conference were presented in a most interesting manner by Rev. Ira A. Brumley, Dr. Matt L. Ellis, Rev. W. F. Cooley, Rev. Ewing T. Wayland, Rev. Glenn F. Sanford, and J. S. M. Cannon at the Set-Up Meeting at Jonesboro First Church in November. Rev. S. B. Wilford, district superintendent of Batesville District, explained the Group Insurance Plan of the Conference. Rev. J. Kenneth Shamblin, new district superintendent of the Searcy District, visited with us at Jonesboro.

The Jonesboro District is cooperating with the Batesville and Paragould District in the erection of a new Youth Camp to be located at Wayland Spring near Imboden at an initial cost of \$20,000.00 to be ready for use next summer. Fifteen cabins, a chapel, a kitchen and dining hall will be erected before next summer. The committee from the Jonesboro District is composed of Rev. Allen D. Stewart, Dr. W. Henry Goodloe, Rev. Irl Bridenthal, Rev. Charles Lewis, Rev. Martin Bierbaum, Mr. Charles Stuck, and Mr. Carroll Watson. This Committee will also make the apportionments to the churches in the District. Our District will assume \$8,000.00 on this project and \$1,000.00 for Mt. Sequoyah. The month of February has been set for this Campaign.

The pastors and laymen of the District presented a cash love offering to Brother and Mrs. Gatlin at the Jonesboro meeting in November.

There are four active Sub-District

Methodist Youth Fellowship organizations functioning under the direction of Rev. Charles Lewis, District Youth Director. A large number of youth delegates attended the Cleveland Youth Conference Dec. 30-January 2.

There are three active Adult Fellowship Area meetings each month: The Methodist Men's Fellowship for the Jonesboro Area meeting on the second Friday each month, The Buffalo Island Area Adult Fellowship meets every first Monday night, The Pionsett Adult Fellowship meets every second Monday night.

The Buffalo Island Area Preacher's Fellowship meets every fourth Monday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock for pot-luck supper. Rev. E. H. Hall of Leachville is chairman and the next meeting will be with Rev. and Mrs. Martin Bierbaum at Manila in January.

In our second district meeting at Wilson in connection with the District W. S. C. S. Officers' Training Day December 5th the district superintendent and pastors made plans for carrying out a well-rounded program up to and including the District Conference which meets at Wilson on May 20th.

The following received major emphasis: Arkansas Methodist Children's Home Offering and Cleveland Youth Conference in December, Arkansas Methodist Circulation Campaign, January 11-18, and the Crusade to Reach Public School Children in January. The group voted to combine the completion of the Hendrix College Million Dollar Campaign and the February Special Offering and close out both by January 25th. February will include Ministers' Week at S. M. U., Race Relations Day, and Layman's Day as well as being the time set for raising \$8,000.00 for Wayland Spring Camp for Youth, and \$1,000.00 for Mt. Sequoyah; March will be the month devoted to Evangelism in the Church School and the District Wide Simultaneous Visitation Evangelism in the Church School Campaign March 7-14; Church School Day, Vacation School Clinics, and the Undergraduate School for Supplies will be in April; Christian Family Week and the Golden Cross Campaign will be observed in May. The District Conference will convene at Wilson on May 20th.

"A great advance could be made toward the reduction of the alcohol problem if in each community and social group there would be those who dared to set the pace in gracious hospitality by making it fashionable to serve non-alcoholic refreshments," says the Board of Temperance of the Methodist Church in a recent statement. "To change this custom would be to save many a good man and woman from alcoholic enslavement and financial and moral disaster. It would save many a home from being broken through suspicion, jealousy or neglect, due to alcoholic conduct. It would safeguard the sacred rights of children and youth who stand to suffer most when their home goes on the rocks of divorce."

My friend is one before whom I may be sincere; before him I may think aloud.—Emerson.

Keep thy tongue from evil and thy lips from speaking guile.—The Bible.

He rightly reads Scripture who turns words into deeds.—Bernard.



## Putting The "New" In New Year's Day



WHY is this New Year's Day different from any other New Year's Day? The answer to such a question would, in general, fall into two groups — those of the pessimists and those of the optimists. The former would say, in effect: "Nothing's different about this New Year's Day. As a matter of fact, far from being better, things are worse. We're still struggling to win the peace. But how can we hope to win when people themselves don't pull together toward any common goal? No — the prospects for 1948 are far from auspicious."

How would the optimist reply? He would point to one salient fact — a certain intangible — something that might be called a heightened sensitivity, or perhaps a reawakened conscience. The optimist would concede that we are still trying to win the peace, but would stress that we have made tremendous strides, for today we have a much greater awareness of what it will take to effect that victory.

We know that clashes among nations can only be avoided by unity among their citizens. We are more convinced than ever before that the spirit of brotherhood must prevail throughout the world. We have seen in our own country how swiftly the flames of hatred can be fanned, once that spirit breaks down. Outbreaks of anti-Semitism have resulted in the most outrageous vandalism — desecration of synagogues

of our awakened conscience — the and cemeteries. Latent religious prejudices stirred the notorious Ku Klux Klan into an attempted resurgence of action.

On the other hand, a Christian spirit is abroad. The peddlers of race hatred and religious bigotry are finding fewer followers. The Ku Klux Klan has had its charters

revoked in state after state. In fact, on many fronts Americans today are making a concentrated effort to apply to their everyday living the principles of "love thy neighbor" and "all men are created equal."

The optimist thinks this is a most encouraging sign. But he goes farther and points to another evidence

realization finally born upon the American people, that the peace will not be won, nor the world be steady in its course, until the "haves" lend a helping hand to the "have-nots".

We recognize today that America cannot be strong and rich while Europe is weak and impoverished; that there can be no satisfaction in our well-stocked leaders, while there are countless thousands of starving children in Greece and Italy; that we cannot call ourselves humanitarian nor uphold the traditions of our forefathers while we refuse to admit our fair share of the 850,000 homeless, displaced persons now confined in the displaced persons camp in Austria, Germany and Italy.

Faced with these facts, the optimist bids us put something new into the New Year of 1948. He reminds us that while the bestowal of peace, unity and accord are in God's hands, their development is in ours. Then he challenges us to live more nearly as we pray, when he says: "Resolutions not acted upon, die in their tracts." We fervently join with him from the collect of the Book of Common Prayer:

*"Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil, and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice among men and nations."*

—Religious Press Committee.

## THE NEW YEAR

*One song for thee, New Year,  
One universal prayer;  
Teach us—all other teachings for above—  
To hide dark hate beneath the wings of love,  
To slay all hatred, strife,  
And live the larger life!  
To bind the wounds that bleed;  
To lift the fallen, lead the blind  
As only love can lead—  
To live for all mankind!*

*Teach us, New Year, to be  
Free men among the free;  
Our only master, duty, with no god  
Save one—our Maker—Monarch of the sod!  
Teach us with all its might,  
Its darkness and its light,  
Its heart-beat tremulous,  
Its grief, its gloom,  
Its beauty, and its bloom—  
God made the world for us!*

—James hitcomb Riley

## NEWS ABOUT HENDRIX COLLEGE

## Seventeen Hendrix Students To Cleveland Conference

Attending the National Methodist Youth conference in Cleveland, Ohio were about 248 delegates from the Arkansas conferences, 17 of which are now students at Hendrix. Ten thousand Methodist youth and youth leaders met in the special conference held December 30 to January 2 by the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church.

Of the Arkansas delegation, approximately 25 were adult counselors. Most of the young people are of high school age. The North Arkansas Conference sent about 150 and the Little Rock Conference about 100.

Rev. Ira C. Brumley and Rev. Roy Fawcett, executive secretaries of the North Arkansas Conference and the Little Rock Conference, respectively, were in charge of preparations for their conference. Rev. James S. Upton, professor of religion at the college, attended as one of the adult counselors.

The conferences was to provide inspiration and guidance for Christian living and dramatic expression of youth's part in the Crusade for Christ. Among the prominent speakers were Dr. E. Stanley Jones, Christian missionary and statesman, and Dr. G. Baez-Camargo, of Mexico. There were representatives from many nations and races as well as delegates from every annual conference of the Methodist Church.

## French Club Aids Needy French

L'Heure Francaise, French club, has provided two boxes of food and clothing for the Alenandre Dessoliers family of Tourlaville, Manche, France, Mary Matthews, of Heber Springs, president of the club, announced. Money was sent to the

Co-operative Association for the Rehabilitation of Europe, better known as CARE, with instructions to give the aid to the Dessoliers family, war time friends of Charles Donaldson of Little Rock.

The 28 members of L'Heure Francaise, under the sponsorship of Miss Myrtle E. Charles, professor of French, meet twice a month for a French program. Recent programs have been about famous men of France. French is spoken at the meetings.

## Theta Alpha Epsilon Inducts Twelve

Twelve students were inducted into Theta Alpha Epsilon, music sorority, in a candlelight ceremony held December 11.

New members are: Eloise Arnold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Arnold of Monticello; Lewis Crawford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Crawford of Marion; Colleen Delzell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Delzell of Van Buren; Dot Gilbert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Gilbert of Jonesboro; Mary Margaret Holmes, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. O. E. Holmes of Crossett; Barbara Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Lawrence of Harrisburg; Elizabeth McDowell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. McDowell of Mt. Ida; Nancy Lane Purkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. DuVall Purkins of Warren; Georgia Stocks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Stocks of DeWitt; Elizabeth Ann Wakefield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Wakefield of Ozark; Bettie Louise Whitman, daughter of C. M. Whitman of Malvern; and Suzanne Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Williams of Clinton.

During the induction ceremony, soft background music was provided by Martha Landers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Landers of Altheimer. Doris Nell Darby,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Darby of Fort Smith is president of Theta Alpha Epsilon.

## Christmas Decorations On Campus

A nativity scene made of life size figures and statues was placed on the campus by the art department. The scene, consisting of statues of Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus, were placed at the entrance to the Science building and was lighted at night. Victor Zanolich, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Zanolich of North Little Rock, Ray King, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. King of Perry, Joseph Nemec, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Nemec of Little Rock, and Mrs. F. W. Norton, son of Pine Bluff, designed and constructed the scene.

The entrance and the lobby of the library was decorated in keeping with the season. Each of the residence halls was also decorated. —Harold L. Nance.

## THE CHURCH

"I am firmly convinced that the church has a great mission which holds within its power the future of our civilization and I think the Church should take the lead not only in fighting the forces that are anti-Christian and anti-democratic, such as Communism and crime, but should likewise be in the forefront of bringing about a way of life that is more truly representative of the Christian Gospel.—J. Edgar Hoover.

No cheap religion is going to win the world. The friends of Christ everywhere will have to live their religion more heroically and more sacrificially if the world is to be won for Christ.—Geo. W. Truett.

Very important—the First Sunday in Lent.

## OHIO PASTORS TO RE-EXAMINE PROTESTANT BELIEFS

Columbus, O. — (RNS) — Protestant clergymen of this state will re-examine their beliefs at the 29th annual Ohio Pastors' Convention, scheduled here for Jan. 26-29.

Some of the topic Convention speakers will develop include: "Why Luther Broke With Rome," "Why Protestant Missions in Roman Catholic Countries," and "The Protestant Position as Viewed by Roman Catholics." Other subjects will be the Protestant belief about freedom, the Church, authority, sin and grace, and the religious competence of the individual.

In announcing the meeting, Dr. B. F. Lamb, executive secretary of the Ohio Council of Churches, pointed to the national and world-wide tendency to introspection by Protestant beliefs to 14 denominations, national and world unrest.

He addressed his appeal for a soul-searching re-appraisal of Protestant belief to 14 denominations, their clergy and congregations, all of whom have membership in the state council of churches.

"The problems that Protestants face today," Dr. Lamb said, "summon every Protestant to an examination of his beliefs. There is widespread ignorance of fundamentals, even among good church members. And when it comes to explaining 'why we believe', nearly all of us need some enlightenment, or at least some revival of interest."

There is one thing more I wish I could give you. It is the religion of our Lord Jesus Christ. With it—if you have nothing else—you could be happy. Without it, though you had all things else, you could not be happy.—From the will of Patrick Henry.



# COMMITMENT DAY



*Be Getting  
Ready!*

## WHEN IS IT?

- ★ FEBRUARY 15, 1948  
The First Sunday in Lent.

## WHY IS IT?

- ★ Because of the frightful damage being done to life---especially young life---by beverage alcohol.

## WHAT IS IT?

- ★ It is an opportunity for every member and friend of The Methodist Church to commit himself or herself to abstinence from the use and serving of alcoholic beverages.

In every department, every organization,  
every group of your church.

*The* **BOARD of TEMPERANCE** (With the Cooperation of the Bishops  
and Boards of Methodism)

## The Sunday School Lesson

By DR. O. E. GODDARD



### WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT GOD

LESSON FOR JANUARY 11, 1948

SCRIPTURE TEXT: Isaiah 40:28-31; Matthew 6:9; John 14:8-14; Acts 17:22-31.

GOLDEN TEXT: Without faith it is impossible to please Him. For whosoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.—Hebrews 11:6.

The sceptic could say that the finite cannot comprehend the Infinite. Man is finite, God is Infinite, therefore man cannot comprehend God. The finite cannot comprehend all about God but he can comprehend something about God. The finite mind can not comprehend all about gravity, but can comprehend something about gravity. The finite mind has learned enough about gravity to utilize its powers and avoid its dangers. Men can build a skyscraper fifty or more stories high and gravity will not pull it down. He can span a stream with a bridge that will bear tons and tons of heavy traffic with safety.

These little minds of ours cannot comprehend every truth in its entirety. All truth stretches out beyond the range of finite ken. But we can know enough about things and matter to learn to benefit by them. We can also know enough about God to adjust ourselves to Him and get his blessings.

#### God Reveals Himself in Nature

He who has eyes to see may see God here and there and everywhere. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handiwork." He may be seen in every shining sun, in every flashing comet, and in every twinkling star. His wisdom may be seen written on every leaf and wafted on every breeze. We may see "books in running brooks, tongues in trees, sermons in stones, and good in every thing."

"God moves in a mysterious way  
His wonders to perform  
He plants his foot prints in the sea  
And rides upon the storm."

This is indeed our Father's world and we see manifestations of his wisdom, love, and power everywhere. He who does not see God over head, under foot, and round about is inexcusably blind.

#### God Reveals Himself In The Bible

More than a century ago, deism was a popular religion (if religion it may be called.) among the intellectual highbrows. They believed in God but did not believe he had revealed himself. They believed in a concealed God. We believe in a revealed God. The Bible begins and ends with a revealing of God. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

"He which testifieth these things saith, surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."—Revelation 22:20-21. Everything between these two questions is an unfolding of God, the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit. God wants his children to know Him—to know his power, his love, and his mercy. How cruel it would have been for God to have concealed himself. How glorious it is that he has revealed himself. The Bible, printed in all the languages and dialects of the world is in reach of all literate people today.

God Revealed In Jesus Christ  
It is true that nature is one con-

tinual panorama of God's wisdom and power. It is true that Holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit told us who God is and what is our relationship to him. It is true that God in his benign providence preserved those writings and that they have been handed down to us printed in every language that has been reduced to print, and that it is the purpose of the Bible societies and churches of the world to make the Bible available to every person who can read his language.

Nevertheless we need a fuller and a more perfect revelation of God in Jesus Christ. He who saw Christ saw God incarnated, saw God compressed into human form, heard God doing deeds of tender, loving mercy. "Philip sayeth unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Phillip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me or else believe me for the very work's sake. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he

do; because I go unto my Father.—St. John 14:8-12.

#### Did Jesus Mean It?

Is it possible for the followers of Jesus to do greater works than Jesus could do? On the fact of it, such a question seems preposterous. There are two interesting statements in the New Testament. Apart from me ye can do nothing." "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me." What did Jesus mean when he said, "He that believeth on me, the work that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do because I go to the Father." How can this be true? Qualitatively it cannot be true. The works of Jesus were along three fundamental lines—teaching, healing, preaching.—See Matthew 4:23.

Jesus' healing was confined to the few afflicted folk with whom he came in contact. The Christian churches of the world have several hundred hospitals in which the lame are made to walk, the blind are made to see, and fevered brows cooled—all such by the thousands. Where Jesus healed one person, the Christian hospitals heal today by the thousands and more. Jesus preached to persons and groups as He had opportunity. The preachers of the Christian churches preach to a thousand times as many people in a day as Jesus preached to in all the years of his public ministry. Jesus taught on the wayside, in the homes, and in the synagogues.

The Christian churches of the world in their colleges, and in their Church Schools in all the local churches teach a hundred thousand where Jesus taught one person. This is evidently what Jesus meant about his followers' doing more and greater works than he did. He was referring to the quantity of work along these three fundamental lines—teaching, healing, and preaching.

It behooves us to try to make our preaching, healing, teaching, as nearly like Jesus did as possible. Christian teachers, healers, and preachers ought all to do their work

as unto the Lord. They ought to have a consciousness that they are partners with Jesus, in their teaching, healing, and preaching.

#### Linked With The Supernatural

The most amazing thing I know is that God makes us fellow-workers with Him. God wants to invest supernatural power in all his partners. How much of the supernatural enters into your work? Do you realize you can link God's power with your power in your work of preaching, teaching, and healing? Do not try to preach, teach, or heal without help from the senior Partner.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home!

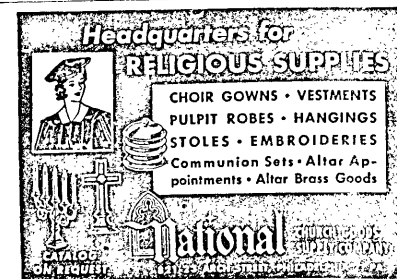
Under the shadow of thy throne,  
Still may we dwell secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.

A thousand ages in thy sight,  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the  
night,  
Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come;  
Be Thou our guide while life  
shall last,  
And our eternal home!

(The Methodist Hymnal,  
No. 533. Isaac Watts)

To be 70 years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be 40 years old.—Oliver Wendell Holmes.



## LET'S BRING TO A CONCLUSION FINAL PAYMENTS ON THE CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

\$27,776,524 Subscribed; \$26,987,728 Paid

CLOSING DATE—JANUARY 31, 1948

**Let every treasurer send  
in any Crusade funds  
on hand**

Of 33 Areas, 8 have paid their quotas in full.

Of 110 Conferences, 27 have paid their subscriptions in full; 85 have paid their quotas in full.

Of 560 Districts, 148 have paid their subscriptions in full; 413 have paid their quotas in full.

**Remember--**

**Complete Success Depends  
on Every Congregation**

**Crusade for Christ—1944-1948**

