



**Arkansas Methodist**  
*Serving One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Methodists in Arkansas*

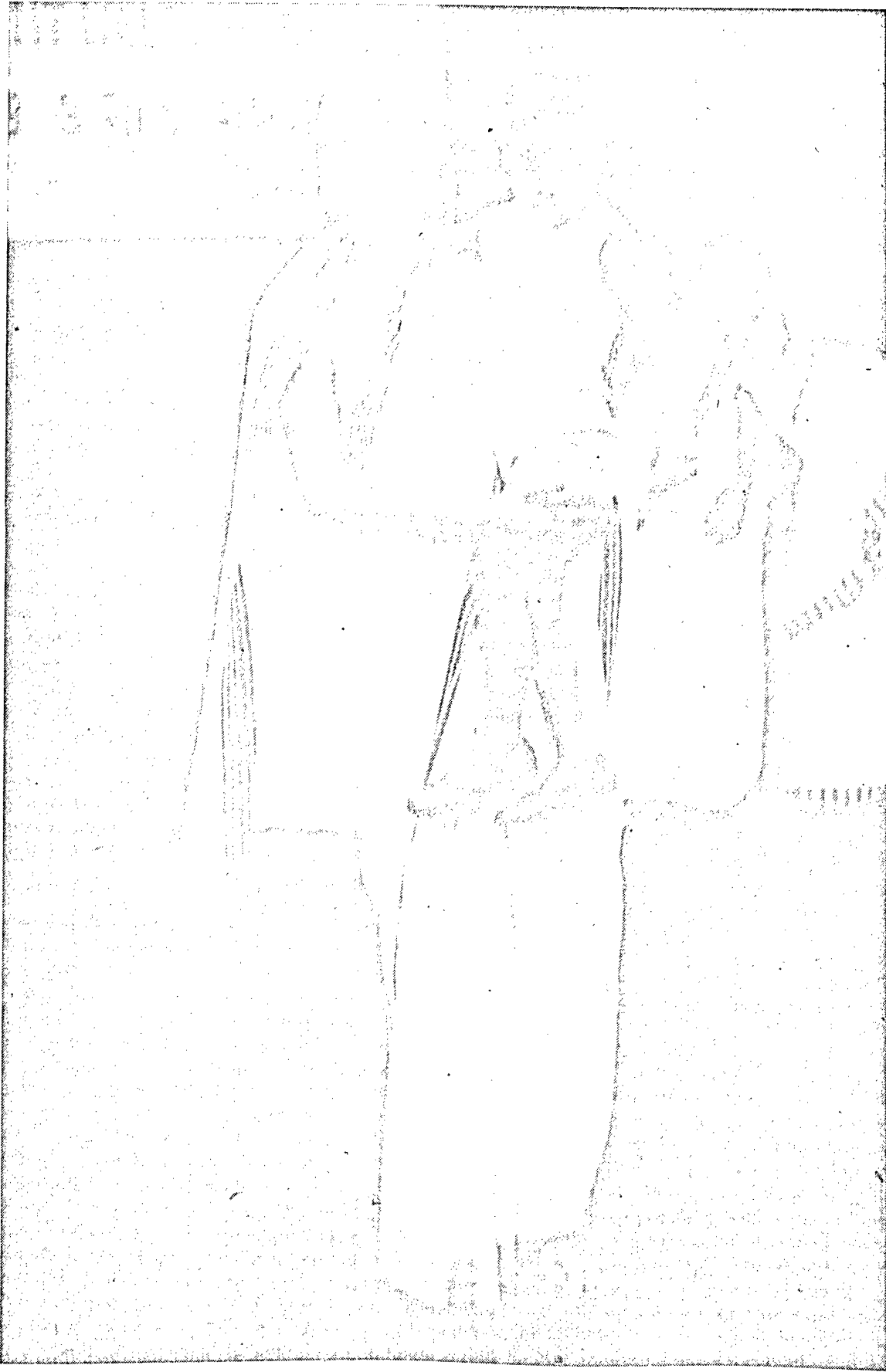
Ark. Dist. Commission  
 State House  
 Little Rock Ark.

"The World is My Parish" — John Wesley    "Go ye into all the world—" — Mark 16:15

VOL. LXVIII

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, OCTOBER 13, 1949

NO. 40



*Mission Welfare Center, Ushagram, India*

**The Gujarat Annual Conference, India**  
Is

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# The Real Advance



By DR. E. HAROLD MOHN

Executive Director of Advance for Christ and His Church

**M**ETHODISM has advanced to new positions. That is a conservative statement. The Advance for Christ and His Church is so rapid and universal that Methodist Churches and their leaders who are busy about many other things while the procession moves on, will soon find themselves not only out of step but out of sight. It is demonstrated once more that when Methodism makes up its mind and mobilizes its forces to move forward, it moves.

This is exactly our position at the end of the first nine months of intensive promotion of The Advance. As a witness of actual progress, dollar figures are utterly inadequate. We may indicate universal interest in terms of dollar goals accepted by conferences and churches, but even when these askings are exceeded it is only a partial measure of what has happened in the life of our great church.

### Spiritual Progress Central

We must repeat again that the Preaching and Teaching Mission is our *Number One* objective. The endeavor to awaken the spiritual life of Methodism is first and central. Our far flung Missionary program that reaches every corner of the globe as well as the total benevolence enterprise sponsored by our eleven general boards and agencies will endure and become increasingly effective provided only that the warm heart of our Methodist millions is re-vitalized spiritually and that increasing knowledge and faith eventuate in deep conviction that God in Christ calls us to be His witnesses everywhere and at all times.

### Revival of Faith

Why believe in God? Can Modern civilization become Christian? What is the business of the Church? These are primary questions asked on every campus in America today. Millions of young people who are the leaders of tomorrow request and require sincere and intelligent replies from Christian churches. We have the answer.

### The Mass Meetings

The seventy-eight Mass Meetings, now in progress across America, are an attempt to engage the entire leadership of Methodism in that enterprise. These meetings will inspire and instruct at least 100,000 of our leaders to deepen their own faith and to help millions of Christ's followers to satisfy the hunger of their hearts.

1. The central theme of these Mass Meetings, there will be at least two in each episcopal area, is "Our Faith." This may be the first time we have tried it on a nation-wide scale, but the working community is to be offered a Communion Service at 6:30 in the morning. This early morning Communion Service represents Methodism's pristine concern for the common man.

2. The Christian family is of no less importance. The forenoon session of these Mass Meetings considers the question of "Rearing Our Children in the Christian Faith." Is there any parent, church school teacher, or public school servant in our churches who does not need to face that issue?

3. At noon these Mass Meetings offer an opportunity, around the luncheon table, to hear from great Methodist leaders about our duty as church members to believe in and bring in the Kingdom of God on earth. Our Faith here needs to be measured by the Faith of Our Lord in the coming of The Kingdom of Righteousness.

4. Do you want to know how The Advance Program operates in the Local Church? Are you interested in how "Our Faith" booklets can be used in the home, in the church, its groups and classes, and in private study? The afternoon session of these Mass Meetings is an open forum for this discussion.

5. And for the young people, of high school and college age, just ready to launch out on their own, there is a dinner meeting at 6:30 P. M. for them. They will be challenged to make their lives a witness for Christ and instructed how to do it. Youth leaders and their counsellors

will crowd these tables of Christian Fellowship and service.

6. Then comes the climax, the night meeting from 8:00 to 9:30 P. M. Two great messages by chosen messengers, in most cases bishops, to lift us to new levels of belief in "The Christian Conception of The Worth of Man" and "Our Faith in Christ."

### Our Faith Booklets

They are here. They may not be here tomorrow for those who neglect purchasing them today. Because these sets of eight booklets on "Our Faith" are being offered and shipped so rapidly that the supply may be exhausted before the Mass Meetings are over, unless we have a reprint of a second edition.

Within ten days after the Faith booklets were on the market, nearly 5,000 pastors had ordered 210,000. Orders range from a few sets for small churches to 1000 sets for large ones.



DR. E. HAROLD MOHN

For the next eight months millions of Methodists will be studying, meditating about, and discussing our Faith in God, in Christ, in the Bible, in Prayer, in Immortality, in the Holy Spirit, in Love, in The Kingdom of God. Can that enterprise be taken seriously by the membership of a great church and nothing happen? Pastors will be inspired and inspire their people with a vital message. Leaders will be lifted to new levels of courage and dedication. Parents and children will have a new basis of understanding and conversation in the home.

What a day for Methodists to learn and live their Christian Faith before the world!

### From Faith To Works

We did it in The Crusade. We are doing it in The Advance. Because Our Faith is working and increasing, the Advance is advancing. Just as coming events cast their shadows before them, so spiritual expectation across the church heralds a new day in Christian service and benevolence. Already there is a fresh eagerness in the response of Conferences and churches to respond to Christ's call—"follow me" and "inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these ye have done it unto me."

### Financial Phase

World Service increase reached nearly 30% in its first year. The Week of Dedication, which is a blend of the spiritual and financial aspects of The Advance exceeded expectations in its first observance, last March 13th to 20th. In 60% of our charges many thousands rededicated themselves at the altars. Hundreds were converted and thousands were received into the church. At the end of that week, out of their love for Christ, with no quotas suggested, these re-consecrated followers of our Lord voluntarily gave \$925,000 in a Dedication Offering for emergency missionary needs around the world. That

observance will be repeated March 5 to 12, 1950 and we hope and pray it will continue annually into the long future. It must never become a money collecting event but always a spiritual experience that emanates in voluntary gifts of love that flow out of normal religious impulse and devotion.

The third aspect of the Financial Phase of the Advance is Missionary Specials. Once more the signs point toward unexcelled achievement. The Spirit is moving the whole church to accept its challenge for enlarged missionary giving at home and abroad, in addition to basic World Service needs. The Kingdoms of the world can become the Kingdom of our Lord in no other way.

Therefore 106 of our Annual Conferences have "looked upon the fields" of our World Parish and accepted responsibility for adding \$20,799,174 in "Missionary Specials," payable during this quadrennium. This amount was not suggested by the General Conference nor by The Advance Committee. It was assumed out of love for Christ and Knowledge of World Need by the Annual Conference of Methodism.

Will our 41,000 local churches accept this responsibility also, and support a program of over 20 million dollars in Advance Specials? We believe they will? Already we have heard from 1735 churches in 44 districts of 11 Annual Conferences. These churches have accepted specific fields and pledged their support in the amount of \$2,105,094. Many other districts and hundreds of additional churches have accepted the financial support of "specials" which they have not yet had opportunity to select. But these figures mean that less than 5% of our churches and 8% of our districts have already assumed responsibility for more than 10% of the total goals set by our Annual Conferences.

The figures themselves are not as significant as the deeper fact they reveal. What they say to us is an eloquent testimony of Methodism's spirit of faith and love. They say simply this: "In our local churches we will endeavor to accept and exceed the goals set for us by our Annual Conferences." Once more, that is witnessing for Christ, in voluntary response to His call within our hearts. And as a concluding and convincing testimony of that spirit look at these figures. In the first eight months of The Advance, \$2,677,893 were received in cash for special missionary projects, in addition to World Service giving. And this has been done before the growing program of The Advance has had time to reach more than a small percentage of our churches in terms of cash remittances.

Looked at in another way the figures say this: World Service reached a new high—\$7,672,339. The Woman's Society, with its own Advance Program reached a new high—\$5,580,373. The Week of Dedication and the Woman's Society Week of Prayer received \$1,325,000. Add the specials for missionary enterprises and the grand total rises to more than 17 million dollars.

This is advancing! In a year when the nation's economy was retreating it is a real advance. It means more than the giving of money by Methodists. It means they are giving themselves.

It is this kind of consecration and stewardship that will move forward from Crusade to a complete conquest of the World for Christ and His Church.

### A PRAYER

"O Holy Christ! draw us after Thee. We are weak, and if Thou dost not draw us, we cannot follow Thee. Give us a strong and willing spirit, and when the weakness of the flesh appears, let Thy grace go on before us, accompany and follow us. For without Thee we can do nothing, least of all, suffer a cruel death for Thy sake. Grant a willing spirit, a fearless heart, true faith, steadfast hope, perfect love, that for Thy sake we may, with patience and joy, surrender our life. Amen."—A Prayer of John Hüs.

# THE DEVOTIONAL PAGE

REV. ROY I. BAGLEY, Editor

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

Enough people praying enough will release into the human blood stream the mightiest medicine in the universe, for we shall be the channels through whom God can exert His infinite power . . .

Prayer is powerful, but it is not the power of a sledge hammer that crushes with one blow. It is the power of sun rays and rain drops which bless, because there are so many of them . . .

One hundred million prayers falling upon our world leaders every day will grip these men with a sense of sacred responsibility, a divine love of humanity, and a great hunger and thirst to look up to God and receive His plan . . .

Secret prayers for others all during the day is an acid test of our unselfishness . . .

Missionaries are better prepared than government diplomats to meet and lift the neediest people . . .

Evangelical Christianity is lost unless it discovers that the center and power of its divine service is prayer, not sermons; God, not the preacher . . .

People listen to each other a million times before they listen to God once . . .

PRAYER—Frank C. Laubach

## "SPECTATORITIS"

Read Isaiah 58:3-5.

E. O. Harbin, dean of Christian recreation leaders, wages a ceaseless battle on the disease he calls spectatoritis. Its symptoms: a preference for watching fun rather than having it, a desire to cheer the team rather than play the game.

The disease is spreading. Churchmanship has become a pleasant spectator sport, too.

If you are reading this you probably go to church quite regularly. So what? Has college life put you into a little niche of fevered activity, well insulated from that Sunday school just off campus that is so in need of a teacher for a class of sharp intermediates? Does your high school chorus claim so much of your time that you are not willing to share an hour that is left with your church's choir? Do you attend your youth fellowship meetings without ever wondering who arranged the chairs and hymnals so neatly, who planned the program? Do you listen to your minister's sermons without hearing, thinking or caring? Do you never read; do you never wonder; do you never try to understand? Could you be sick, too?

For your prayer this morning link your thoughts to God's . . . Think about your church . . . its purpose . . . its potential . . . its needs. Think about yourself . . . your abilities . . . your trained mind . . . your time . . . your money . . . your strength.

Start today to answer your prayer.

Read Isaiah 58:6-8.

—Charles Loney in Power

The most dangerous members of our society are those grown-ups whose powers of influence are adult, but whose motives and responses are infantile.—H. A. Overstreet, Mature Mind. (Norton)

## TO BE A PILGRIM

He who would valiant be  
'Gainst all disaster,  
Let him in constancy  
Follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement  
Shall make him once relent  
His first avowed intent  
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round  
With dismal stories,  
Do but themselves confound—  
His strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might;  
Though he with giants fight,  
He will make good his right  
To be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, Thou dost defend  
Us with thy Spirit,  
We know we at the end  
Shall life inherit.  
Then, fancies, flee away!  
I'll fear not what men say,  
I'll labor night and day  
To be a pilgrim.

—John Bunyan  
No. 265  
The Methodist Hymnal

## MARCHING ORDERS FOR A NEW DAY

"Behold I make all things new."  
Rev. 21:5.

How well I remember the day four years ago when I received that most important piece of paper, my orders to return home from service in the Southwest Pacific. These were my orders for a new day; a document which literally made all things new. After being a part of military objectives with a long-range plan, I prayed that in the new day of peace there might be long-range planning to make all peoples one spiritually and politically. After more than four years we are not so confident that such planning existed.

But thanks be to God, Methodism in its march from "crusade to conquest" does have such planning which is for all of us marching orders for a new day. We advance in every phase of our spiritual life, or we do not advance at all. There must be inner convictions and religious foundations for every part of this program, or it cannot in reality achieve its ends. Our leaders do not call us to restore old things that were, but to "make all things new." Just as the approach of D-day for an invasion stepped up the activity in every department of the military establishment, so the approach of each successive phase of the "Advance" will step up the activity in every part of our individual and church lives. This is certainly true of the preparations which must be made in our devotional and spiritual life.

There will always be those who are more concerned with restoring old things than with building new. After the American Revolution some wanted to restore the old colonial ties with England, but another group cried, "Let's not restore anything. Let's march forward to something new." Today the leaders of our

Advance are saying, "Let's make something new. Let's make a livable world based on the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." There are some like the British cartoon character Colonel Blimp, to whom the problems of world reconstruction are nothing more than the tasks of rearranging the room precisely as it was before last night's wild party. But we want something new. We want to say with Omar Khayyam:

"Ah love, could you and I with  
him conspire  
To grasp this sorry scheme of  
things entire.  
Would not we shatter it to bits—  
and then  
Remold it closer to the heart's desire."

We often find ourselves dreaming and saying, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if there were some sure cure for all the things which ail the world? If we could just discover a serum to purify the bloodstream of all the world." Then we realize that there is and has been all the time. The central note of these marching orders for a new day—this advance on all fronts—is an old, old story, the story of Jesus and his love. It is reported that Clemenceau said to Woodrow Wilson during the Peace Conference at Versailles: "Oh, Wilson you talk like Jesus Christ." We must advance until that day when we can have men in every important deliberative body in the world who talk like Jesus Christ.

Our gravest problem is not an atomic bomb, but it is Adamic men not the new atom but the Adam. And the solution is not in the new physics but in the old Gospel. How this message needs to regain centrally in our education, but most of all it needs to be central once more in our lives. A world which

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

O God, Thou hast led Thy children in ages past. Thou hast been near to them and sustained them. Thou art out front leading us today. Thou hast not been captured by the past. Give us a vision that makes us look forward to find Thee as Thou art leading us on. Give us grace that we may have strength to follow that vision. Bring to Thy Church a renewed sense of the destiny that is before her. Bring to Thy children a new sense of their worth and their ability to serve Thee and each other. Accept our prayer of gratitude for all Thy blessings to us. Our deepest gratitude comes as we think of Thy gift to us in Jesus Christ Thy Son, Our Lord. Take away our discouragement and send us forth with the will to advance for Christ and His Church. Amen.

## REACHING FOR A BETTER WORLD

### A LITANY OF PRAISE AND PLEDGE

For thy good gift to us of those who through the ages have dreamed and labored for a more just and brotherly world,

We praise thee, O God, and bless thy name.

For the channels through which their unfulfilled dream has come down to us, for its rebuke to our self-seeking and its power to lift our eyes to the wider vista of thy delayed will,

We praise thee, O God, and bless thy name.

To the enlarging fulfillment of thy purpose and theirs who have gone before us,

We pledge thee, O God, the nearly matured lives of some of us and the maturing lives of others of our family group.

To a strenuous and intelligent taking hold of the good things undertaken and only partly carried through in our neighborhood and our world,

We pledge thee, O God, all that we are and hope yet to be. Amen.

—The Christian Herald

For 1500 years the great wall of China stood unconquered. One day by the gate, a guard was drunk, and a simple, harmless-looking shepherd came along and engaged him in conversation, corrupted and bribed him. The guard left the gate a moment, it was thrown back and hordes of barbarians poured in. They could not overcome China by bringing force against the wall, but they gained entrance through one man who was weak—Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, Guideposts, (Prentice-Hall)

It would be a great thing for this world if truth and honesty were advertised as much as cigarettes and cosmetics.—Ray D. Everson, Ind. Farmers Guide.

is more afraid of atomic energy than it is of the eternal consequences of sin cannot successfully advance from crusade to conquest. This then is our marching order for the new day—move toward this new day with the old, old story in our hearts and lives.—Alfred A. Knox.

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## A WEEKLY MESSAGE

By FORNEY HUTCHINSON

### THE MITCHELL FAMILY

In 1894, at the District Conference held at Center Point, Arkansas, Charlie Hughes, Arthur Hyatt and I were licensed to preach. Dr. Mitchell, of Chapel Hill, Arkansas, was a delegate to that Conference, and after the meeting was over spoke to us with great enthusiasm about our future work. His wife was a girlhood friend of my mother. She and my mother lie buried today in the same cemetery in Chapel Hill.

After that I was associated with Dr. Mitchell's son, Charles, at Hendrix College, where we were both ministerial students. A little later, Charlie went to Oklahoma to begin his ministry. There I found him when I was appointed to St. Luke's Church in Oklahoma City, and for fourteen years we were associated in the work of the West Oklahoma Conference. The friendship begun in Arkansas grew stronger and stronger in Oklahoma as the years went on. I held a meeting for him at Martha and there became acquainted with his family. Two of his boys became preachers, the older son, Charles, now located in Socorro, New Mexico. Another son, Paul, after an outstanding career at Southern Methodist University, where he received his B.D. degree, turned to missionary work as his field of labor.

About that time I entertained the East Oklahoma Conference at Boston Avenue Church, Tulsa, where I was serving as pastor. At my request, Paul and his father were guests in our parsonage home. It was a delightful fellowship. The three of us talked much together about Paul's desire to give his life to missionary work through our church in Cuba.

We had been talking for some time at Boston Avenue about a missionary representative, and while Conference was in session I saw to it that many of the church leaders, especially those interested in missions, had an opportunity to meet Paul and feel his spirit. After he left I took the matter up with our Board of Missions through our local missionary committee. Very soon plans were drawn up to appoint him as representative of Boston Avenue Church in our missionary work in Havana, Cuba. There for seven years he happily and efficiently served our church, coming each summer, at the request of the pastor, to report on his work and preach inspiringly to our congregation.

This happy relation continued until his father's ill health, and that of other members of his family, made it necessary for him to return to the United States. His duty in the matter was plain and heartily approved by the pastor and the local missionary committee of Boston Avenue Church. He made a splendid record as

## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

**REV. S. R. TWITTY** writes from Fordyce: "Have been in bed at home in Fordyce for more than a year. Would appreciate visits and letters from friends."

**WORD** comes that Rev. Irl Bridenthal is now at home at Lepanto and Mrs. Bridenthal is in the Methodist Hospital, Room 229, Memphis, Tenn. Brother Bridenthal is back in his pulpit and in charge of his work.

**MISS PEARLE McCAIN**, president of Bible Teachers Training School, Nanking, China, who is enroute home is on health leave. She sailed from Shanghai aboard the S. S. General Gordon on September 25th. The boat is expected to reach San Francisco on October 13.

**THE** new organ of the Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock, was dedicated on Sunday afternoon, October 9, with Dr. C. M. Reves, district superintendent, giving the dedicatory address. He was assisted in the dedication by Rev. Arthur Terry, pastor of Asbury Church, Little Rock. The organ was dedicated to the memory of George F. James, who was a member of Gardner Memorial at the time of his death.

**THE BULLETIN** of the Men's Bible Class of the Fordyce Methodist Church carries the following item: "The past year has seen another year of high attendance. Five thousand, four hundred and forty-one men attended our class during the year. That is an average of 105 per Sunday." J. Willard Clary has served as teacher of this class for the past seventeen and a half years.

**BERTIL ARVIDSON** of Stockholm, son of Bishop and Mrs. Theodor Arvidson, is one of three secretaries to the Swedish delegation to the current session of the Assembly of the United Nations. Mr. Arvidson has been employed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Stockholm, while at the same time completing requirements for his law degree. With his wife he will be housed at the Swedish Consulate-General in New York for the next two months.

**REV. ALFRED H. FREEMAN**, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, writes: "Rev. J. M. Hamilton of Hope, Arkansas, was the guest speaker at the Methodist Men's Club meeting of the First Methodist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, on the evening of October 5. He spoke to more than two hundred men and held them spellbound for the entire meeting. Truly he is one of the great after dinner speakers of our church. All of the people here in Wichita Falls appreciated his humor and his inspiration."

**MRS. W. L. RUSSELL** writes from Glen Rose, Texas: "We have bought a home here and moved in on October 3. We think we are going to be very happy here. Glen Rose is fifty miles

an active missionary and our church was proud of their representative.

Since his return to the States he has served suburban churches in various capacities. His last appointment was at Noble, Oklahoma, where he was much beloved. He came to see me early last fall about publishing a book of my sermons. (He had already had published several books of his own in Spanish, as well as the English language). I told him I would be glad to collaborate with him in a piece of work like that, and after a distinct understanding with each other, the work was progressing in a very satisfactory way.

In the meantime, broken in health, I had moved to Tulsa to be near our children, and was awaiting with deep interest the first issue of the book. Then bad news came. At a Sunday School picnic, August 12th, held at a lake one mile from Noble, where he was pastor, a little girl fell into the lake. In attempting to rescue her, they were both drowned. All of his friends were shocked and grieved beyond expression. None felt more deeply his loss than I. He leaves a mother, two brothers and a sister. Thus, after this tragedy, I am bereft of three generations. I am proud to have known the Mitchell family.

southwest of Ft. Worth and is a health resort with artesian water. We have visitors here all the time to drink the water and some to take the baths. Our home is convenient to town and church. Mr. Russell is much better than he has been for two years." Brother Russell is a retired member of the North Arkansas Conference.

**MIMEOGRAPH ILLUSTRATIONS**, formerly released from 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City, to a list of ministers ordering them at a service charge of \$1.00 per year, are now being issued by the World Service Agencies, 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois. These are line illustrations printed four on one side of an 8½" x 11" sheet, together with suggested captions, so that the local church may transfer these by mimeograph stylus to use in the church bulletin, parish paper, or for church school lesson use. They are mailed bi-monthly.

**BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN** announced last week the following changes in appointments in the North Arkansas Conference, effective December 1: Rev. Joel Cooper, Acting Executive Secretary, North Arkansas Conference Town and Country Commission; Rev. J. Clarence Wilcox, pastor Mountain Home Parish; Rev. J. E. Linam, pastor Swifton-Alicia; and Rev. Vann Hooker, pastor Massard-Barling, Fort Smith. Brother Cooper, pastor at Mountain Home Parish since 1945, will succeed Rev. Glenn Sanford who was recently named to the staff of the Division of Home Missions and Church Extension, General Board of Missions, to direct the Town and Country Section of that Division. Brother Cooper was elected by the Town and Country Commission at a meeting held in North Little Rock, Wednesday, October 5. Last summer he was named by Emory University as one of the South's outstanding rural ministers of the year for his work in the Mountain Home Parish.

### DR. ROWE IN THE LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE

Dr. Gilbert T. Rowe of the Duke University School of Theology will spend two weeks in the Little Rock Conference, beginning at Camden, Sunday, November 13th, and at Hope the Sunday following. He will offer the course on "The Meaning of Methodism" at both places.

### SPECIAL SERVICE AT WINFIELD

A special Sunday evening service will be held at Winfield Church, Little Rock, on the evening of October 16. Rev. D. L. Dykes, Jr., pastor of Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville, will preach and Richard Greer will be guest soloist and song leader. Mr. Greer is known internationally as Kiwanis song leader and has a gospel song radio program five days a week.

Bishop Paul E. Martin will be present and will give the dedication prayer for the prayer chapel.

### THE METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME CELEBRATES ITS GOLDEN JUBILEE

The Methodist Children's Home, formerly the Arkansas Methodist Orphanage, is now fifty years old. Organized in 1899, it has passed through various stages of development and growth and is now located in new buildings at 2002 South Filmore Street, in Little Rock.

In commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of its organization, the Home will have an informal Open House to its friends over the state from 5:00 p. m. to 6:00 p. m. October 17. This will be the date of the state wide mass meeting in the interest of the ADVANCE, called by Bishop Martin and his cabinets. There will be time for all who will to run out and visit our new buildings between the close of the afternoon meeting and the evening service at the Auditorium.

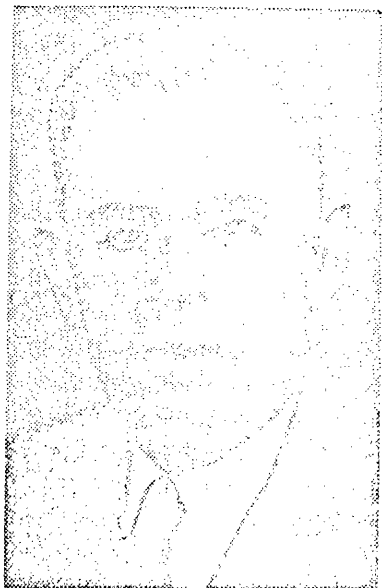
All friends of the Home in Little Rock and over the state are invited to attend and be entertained in our new Home.—J. S. M. Cannon.

# Advance Mass Meeting, Little Rock, October 17

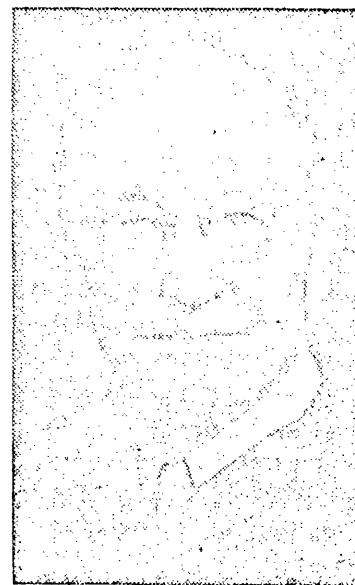
**T**HE Advance for Christ and His Church Mass Meeting to be held in Little Rock Monday, October 17, will likely be the most outstanding assembly ever held by the Methodists of the two Conferences in Arkansas. The attendance upon a meeting held last January under terrible weather conditions was a demonstration of the interest of our people in the program of our Church.

The great rally on Monday, October 17, which is one of a series of similar meetings being conducted across the United States, will help us to gain complete information regarding one of the most constructive and far-reaching programs ever planned by a Church. Outstanding leaders and speakers will inspire and challenge us. Ample time will be given for questions and discussion. The morning and afternoon sessions will be held in First Church. At noon there will be a luncheon at the Marion Hotel. The Young People will have a banquet at 5:30 p. m. in the Lafayette Hotel. The night meeting will be held at Robinson Memorial Auditorium, when we expect to have the largest gathering of Methodists ever assembled in this state for a single service. The day should be a never-to-be-forgotten time for Arkansas.

—BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN



BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN  
Little Rock, Ark.



BISHOP DANA DAWSON  
Topeka, Kansas

## ADVANCE MASS MEETING PROGRAM

Little Rock, Arkansas

October 17, 1949

Bishop Paul E. Martin, Presiding

### Morning Session — First Methodist Church

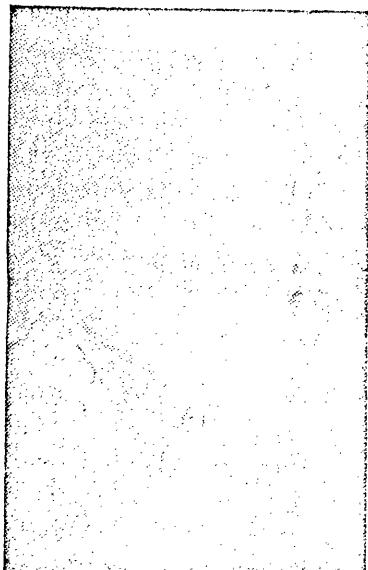
- 10:00 a. m. Worship Service, Bishop Martin
- 10:30 a. m. Panel Discussion, Rev. James S. Upton  
"The Study Of Our Faith In The Church School"
- 11:15 a. m. "The Women and The Advance," Mrs. Charles Mead
- 12:30 p. m. Luncheon, Marion Hotel  
Address "India—Methodism's Great Opportunity", Bishop Dana Dawson

### Afternoon Session — First Methodist Church

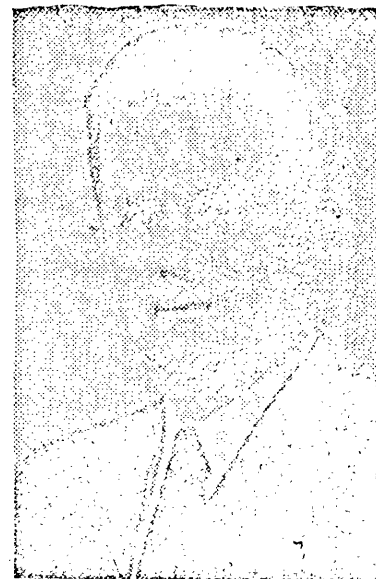
- 2:30 p. m. The Laymen's Part in The Advance, Dr. Matt L. Ellis  
(a) Making Missionary Special A Personal Project  
(b) We Study Our Faith
- 3:15 p. m. The Pastor and The Advance, Dr. Guy Hicks  
(a) Preaching on Our Faith  
(b) Directing The Organization in The Local Church  
(c) Discussion "The Faith" Booklets
- 4:30 p. m. Adjournment
- 5:30 p. m. Youth Banquet (Lafayette Hotel)  
"The Claims of The Faith on Youth"  
Rev. D. L. Dykes, Jr., Speaker

### Evening Session — Robinson Memorial Auditorium

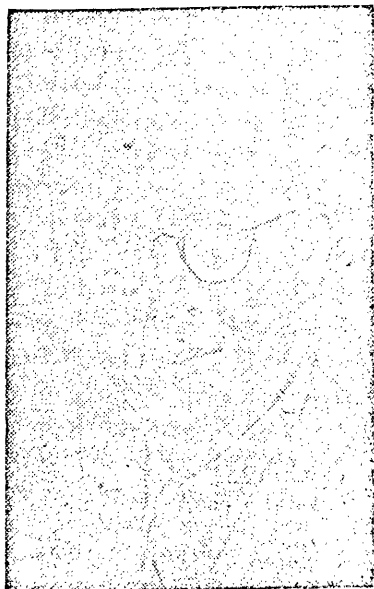
- 7:30 p. m. Mass Meeting Assembly  
Song Service, led by Mr. Richard Greer  
Choir under direction of Mr. John H. Summers  
Accompanists, Mrs. Everett Bowman, Mrs. John H. Summers  
Address, "Our Faith in Christ," Bishop Dana Dawson  
Address, "The Christian Conception of The Worth of Man,"  
Bishop Clare Purcell



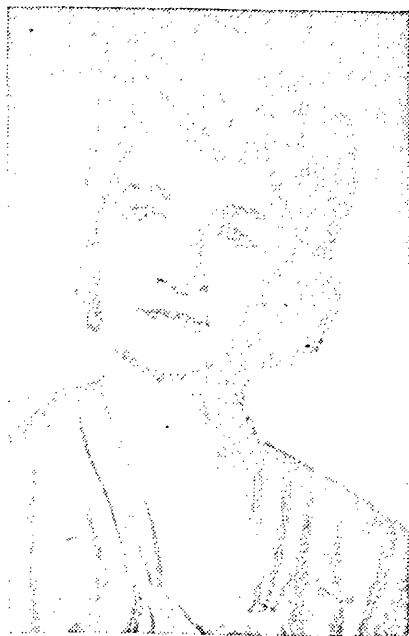
BISHOP CLARE PURCELL  
Birmingham, Ala.



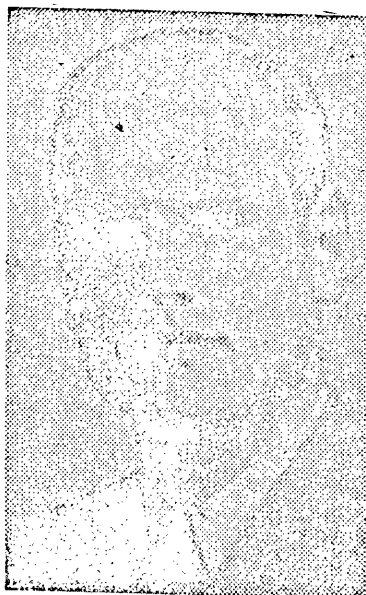
DR. GUY HICKS  
Shreveport, La.



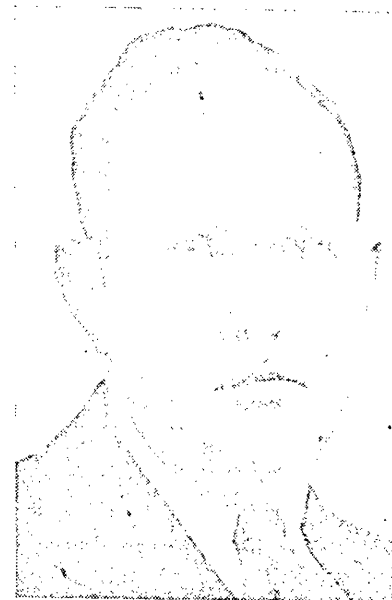
DR. MATT L. ELLIS  
Conway, Ark.



MRS. CHARLES MEAD  
Omaha, Nebraska



REV. D. L. DYKES, JR.  
Fayetteville, Ark.



REV. JAMES S. UPTON  
Conway, Ark.

## INDIA — BRIGHTEST SPOT IN ASIA

By E. STANLEY JONES

(There is probably no living Methodist who knows more about India than Dr. E. Stanley Jones. A missionary to India since 1907, Dr. Jones knows intimately the problems, the conditions, and the probable future of the course of Christian Missions in India. During these many years of his service to the Kingdom in India he has contributed richly of himself and no little of what Christian Missions has accomplished in India this century can be traced directly or indirectly to his leadership.

Dr. Jones is in great demand as a preacher and lecturer. His many books are known to Christians everywhere. The ARKANSAS METHODIST is proud to present this article written by Dr. Jones especially for this Advance for Christ Edition.)

WHEN I choose the above caption many will look at it in surprise. Has the news not been of riots and mass murders and general upset?

True, but they belong to just-around-the-corner. For India has turned the corner. She has met the worst and is still intact. She has met about six converging catastrophes—a revolutionary war, a civil war, two major operations when a portion of India was taken off in the northwest and another portion in the east and made into Pakistan, a transfer of 10,000,000 population into murders attending the transfer, and then the tragic death of the father of the country, Mahatma Gandhi. All these converged into a few months. This convergence would have broken a weaker nation. The fact that India was able to stand shows she can stand anything. The worst has been met and conquered.

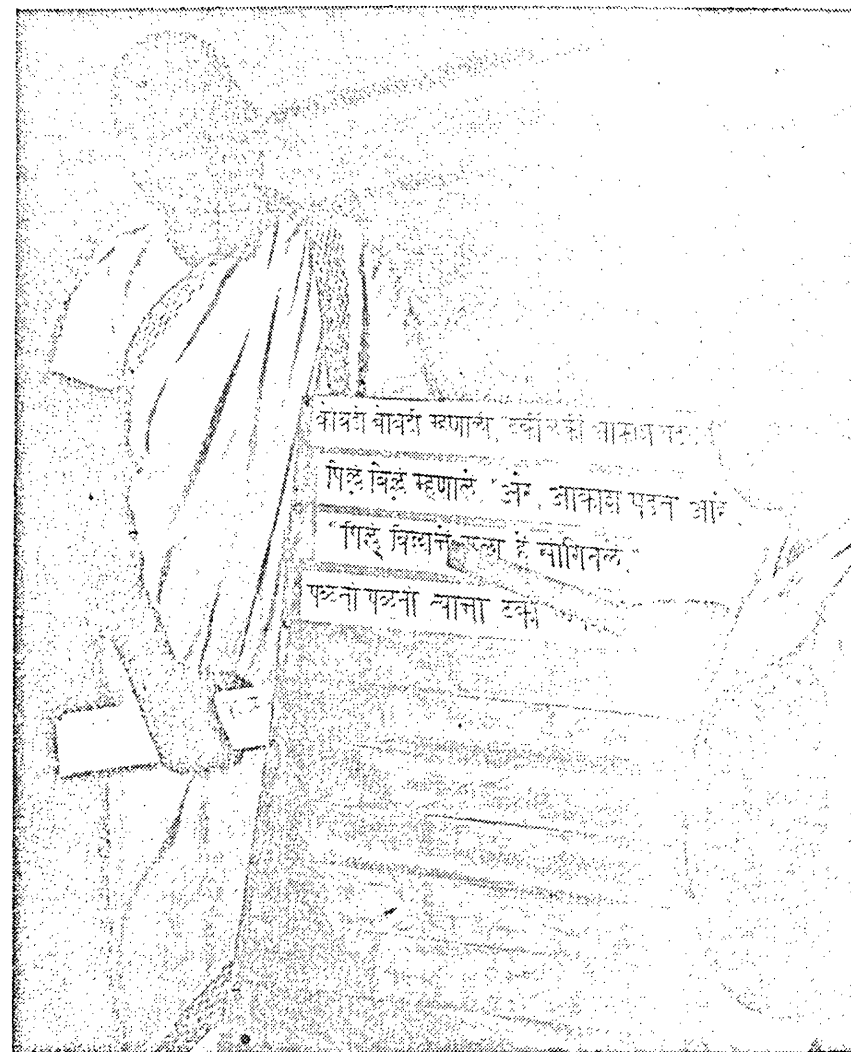
In the midst of this turmoil she has had time and poise enough to pass very significant legislation and accomplish very significant things. (1) She has amalgamated the 562 Native States into India proper and has done it almost bloodlessly. To be able to pension off autocratic princes and merge their States with India and to do it bloodlessly and within eight months of Independ-

ence was a near miracle. No one, not even the Congress leaders, could have believed it could be done. (2) The Constitution of New India forbids the discriminations based on caste and has made them punishable by fine and imprisonment. (3) Monogamy has been made the law of the land, and polygamy illegal. (4) Women now inherit equally with the men. (5) There is in process in every Province legislation which will do away with the landlord system and give the land to the peasants. (6) New public works are under way which will bring millions of acres into cultivation through irrigation and will furnish electricity to the villages. This new India is alive.

In regard to Christian missions there has been put into the Constitution "the right to profess, practice and propagate one's religion." We never dreamed this would be guaranteed by the Constitution. Two hundred amendments were rejected by the government—amendments which sought to nullify the word "propagate." The word "propagate" was left in largely because the Christians wanted it. One non-Christian member of the Constitutional Assembly said in the debate: "The Christians want this because it is an inherent part of their faith to share it".

This opens the way for Christian missions in a way we have never had it opened before. And our Christian faith will be needed now as never before. One prominent Congressman, not a Christian, said as chairman of a meeting: "Our problem is now different. Hitherto it was to gain independence. Now it is to retain independence. To retain it we must have character. There is no doubt that the impact of Christ upon human nature creates miracles of changed character. As such we welcome that impact." There is the great future necessity—character. Christ produces character.

I congratulate your Conferences that you have as your responsibility a part of this new India, and especially because you have Gujarat, for Gujarat has produced a very fine type of Christian and is a very fertile field. Give it your best.



ABOVE:

Learning to read in the W. F. M. S. School in Talgaon, India.

LOWER LEFT:

Dr. E. Stanley Jones.

LOWER CENTER:

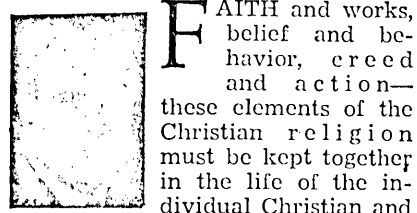
Easter morning, 1949, the pastor of Gujarati Central Church, Rev. A. G. Bhatt, welcoming the visitor, the wife of the governor of Bombay, Lady Maharani Singh. Three congregations worship in this the Centenary Methodist Church in Bombay. The notice board does not all appear in the picture. The Hindi pastor and his services and another can be seen but the pastor in the picture his name is first, thus it failed to show in the picture.

LOWER RIGHT:

Bishop John A. Subhan speaking with two deacons he has just ordained, Bombay Conference.

# Toward A Personal Faith

By BISHOP W. C. MARTIN, Chairman of The Advance For Christ And His Church



**F**AITH and works, belief and behavior, creed and action—these elements of the Christian religion must be kept together in the life of the individual Christian and of the Church. When they are allowed to become separated from each other, they become bloodless and ineffective. One of the big problems which a pastor is constantly wrestling with is how to keep these two basic factors of Christian living in proper balance. There have been times in the history of the Church when so much energy was consumed with controversial speculations about marginal dogmas that there was little left for doing the things that really mattered. At other times a spirit of "activism" has been so much in control that not much attention was given to the final product so long as the wheels were turning.

The contribution of The Methodist Church to Christian thought and action has been largely due to the fact that it has kept those two forces productively related to each other. The Advance for Christ and His Church is designed upon this pattern and will succeed in proportion as these two elements of Christianity are kept moving forward together.

### What Do We Expect?

What have we the right to expect in our churches as a result of the Teaching and Preaching phase of the Advance? I am going to deal with three possible results.

First, there will be a deeper recognition of the fact that what the individual Christian believes really makes a difference. There is a superficial notion that beliefs, particularly theological beliefs, are of no importance; that what a man does is the thing that really counts. An editorial in Life magazine some months ago described The Methodist Church as being "long on good works but short on theology." If this statement was meant to be a compliment, it missed the mark; and to whatever extent it may be true, we ought to be ashamed of it rather than proud of it. Not that we discount the value of good works; we need more of them. But we have insight enough to know that good works which do not come as the logical result of sound convictions can never be dependable. In days of fairly easy-going prosperity, they can be relied upon, but

when adverse circumstances close in, like wet weather springs, they disappear.

All great living comes out of believing. Thomas Carlisle got at the heart of it when he said, "What a man really believes, what he does actually lay to heart concerning this mysterious universe, his duty and destiny there, is by all means the most important thing about him and, creatively, determines all the rest."

It would be a mistake to suppose

insisting on the circumstances. There is no other religious society under heaven which requires nothing of men, in order to their admission into it, but a desire to save their souls. Look all around you. You cannot be admitted into the church, or society, of the Presbyterians, Anabaptists, Quakers, or any others, unless you hold the same opinions with them and adhere to the same mode of worship. The Methodists alone do not insist on your holding this or that opinion;

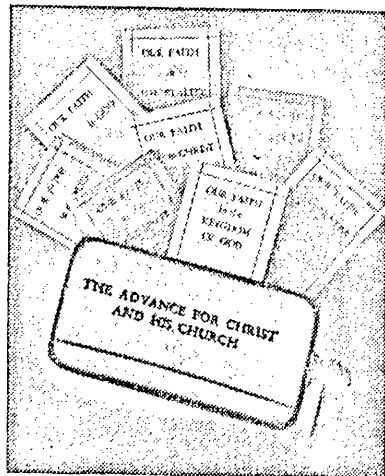
in right living. If this sounds like short-sighted pragmatism, it must be remembered that Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." Robert Louis Stevenson once remarked that, "If your morals make you dreary, depend upon it, they are wrong."

It can also be said, if our beliefs make us narrow, intolerant and pessimistic, they had better be re-examined. They have, by some means, become detached from the true current of the Christian faith. This is not to say that a Christian will be so flabbily tolerant that he loses his powers of discrimination between the true and the false, nor that he holds to a superficial optimism which insists that everything will come out all right whether he does anything about it or not. But it is to maintain that the Christian strives constantly for the breath of God's inclusiveness who "sends rain on the just and the unjust," and that however disturbed he may be concerning the immediate outlook, he has no doubt in his heart about the ultimate triumph of righteousness.

Third, there will be developed in the lives of our members more regular and dependable devotional habits. There is a vast amount of concern just now, and rightly so, about the encroachments of secularism—the kind of living that leaves God entirely out of its consciousness. But how could we expect any other result from a kind of living that is increasingly separated from the elemental forces of nature and which makes no provision for the future and growth of the soul?

Dean Igne said, "When we spend five minutes a day thinking about the things of the spirit and all the rest of our waking hours about the things that are material, it is not to be wondered at that material things are about two hundred times as real to us as the things of the spirit."

If nothing comes from these eight months of special attention to our faith except some sermons and group discussions on Christian doctrines, the results will not be very permanent. But if the daily habits of some people in their thinking about God can be changed, it would be hard to set any limitations as to what will happen. It will be abundantly worth all the effort that is put into this phase of the Advance if a substantial portion of our members can be committed to the search for a more satisfying faith and trained in the methods of a sustaining devotional life.



At the left are pictured the "Faith Booklets" which are packaged in a single carton for convenient distribution. They are paper-bound in eight different colors. One-half million sets have been published—four million booklets in all—to help the vast Methodist membership to know the vital and abiding beliefs of the Christian faith.

They will be read and treasured long after the "Faith Emphasis" in The Advance for Christ and His Church is over. However, during the Advance a suggested schedule, below, has been made.

### SCHEDULE OF USE OF BOOKLETS

- November, 1949
- December, 1949
- January, 1950
- February, 1950
- March, 1950
- April, 1950
- May, 1950
- June, 1950

- Our Faith in God
- Our Faith in Christ
- Our Faith in the Bible
- Our Faith in Love
- Our Faith in Prayer
- Our Faith in Immortality
- Our Faith in the Holy Spirit
- Our Faith in the Kingdom of God

that the literature which will be used in this exposition of Our Faith is to be regarded as the test of the orthodoxy of Methodists. The preface to the eight "Faith" booklets makes it clear that they are not to be taken as doctrinal standards. Theological conformity beyond the essential features of the Christian revelation has never been a part of the Methodist tradition.

Not long before his death John Wesley preached to a congregation in Scotland. In referring to this sermon he wrote, 'I subjoined a short account of Methodism, particularly

but they think, and let think! Neither do they impose any particular mode of worship on your former manner, be it what it may. Now, I do not know any other religious society, either ancient or modern, wherein such liberty of conscience is now allowed, or has been allowed, since the age of the apostles. Here is our glorying; and a glorying peculiar to us. What society shares it with us?"

### Right Beliefs and Right Living

Second, there will be a fuller discovery that right beliefs result

### THE ADVANCE IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL OF THE LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 10)

both on the local church and the district level, who began her work at the first of the Conference year. Miss Dunlap has made splendid beginning and we are looking forward to an advance movement along all lines of youth work. Under her direction, the Conference Council in its recent meeting set the following goals for the year 1949-50:

1. Increase youth enrollment by a minimum of ten per cent.
2. Regular district council meetings to be held at least quarterly.
3. Emphasize further the need for

full-time Christian service volunteers.

4. More leadership training opportunities for both youth and adult workers.

5. General distribution and wise use of the printed materials.

6. Publish quarterly a Conference youth news sheet.

7. All possible aid in the camp development program.

8. Promotion and collection of the MYF Fund.

9. Cooperation with Arkansas Methodist Student Movement.

Our Conference Director of Adult Work, Mr. Roland Shelton, has but to point to what is being done in his own church where he is the ef-

ficient general superintendent to indicate some of the possibilities in this area of work. Many of the same points of emphasis in the age-groups just described carry through the adult program also, particularly with reference to reaching more persons and improving and enriching the teaching program.

We have been encouraged by the increased enrollment of adults as reported at Annual Conference for the past several years. This we believe is as it should be, first, because there are so many unreached adults, and secondly because we feel that if we can reach the parents, the children and youth will naturally follow. It is our hope, there-

fore, that this increase in attendance will continue to an even greater degree in the year ahead.

We have been seeking to improve the quality of work by the promotion of the standard training program, and by the institute and sub-district approach. We have scheduled Dr. Robert S. Clemons for a series of district meetings during the month of November in which the emphasis will be the enriching of the program of the Adult Division.

Encouraged by the results of past work and hoping for success in the promotion of plans formed for the quadrennium ahead, we are praying and believing that it will be a period of advance in reality.



# The Church School In The Advance



## A TEN POINT PROGRAM OF ADVANCE

By DR. J. Q. SCHISLER, Executive Secretary,  
Division of Local Church, Board of Education

**T**HE General Conference inaugurated a great ten-point program for Methodism's church schools. Bishop William C. Martin, general chairman of the Advance for Christ and His Church, says: "This is the Advance in the Church School."

Much work entered into the development of the program based on these ten points. The executive secretaries of all the Conference Boards of Education and others contributed to the development of these plans. They have been "boiled down" into summary form and published in a book of suggestions under the title: *Our Workbook*. Certain features of *Our Workbook* will be of interest to pastors and church school workers:

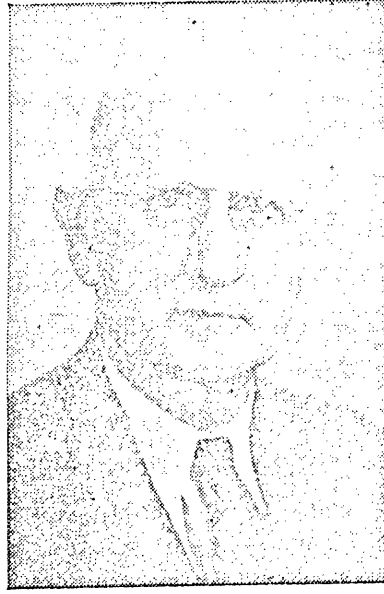
1. It is easy to use in workers' meetings.
2. It gives the workers choices in selecting the items to be included in the Advance in their particular school.
3. It may serve as a means of measuring progress on the activities which are agreed upon.
4. It can be used for the remainder of 1949, and throughout 1950 and 1951.
5. The price is reasonable—25c per copy postpaid from The Methodist Publishing House.

In addition to the ten-point program, *Our Workbook* also offers help on such problems as: keeping a supply of teachers, how to make the best use of our buildings and equipment, how to get the most out of the time available, and suggestions on planning together for best results.

Any church school which uses *Our Workbook* will advance in this quadrennium!

### Using The Faith Booklet

More pastors have asked a question about how to make good use of the booklets on *Our Faith* than about any church-wide endeavor in recent years. The Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship is an answer to that question. Bishop William C. Martin, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Chairman of the Committee on the first objective of the Advance—the teaching and preaching mission—and Dr. Harold Mohn, the general director of the Advance, have said that the Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship is the



DR. J. Q. SCHISLER

best answer to this question.

The Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship is an extension of the fellowship idea. We have the Methodist Youth Fellowship, the Young Adult Fellowship, extended sessions of the primary department and of the junior department of the church school. We have family fellowships at the church. The Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship gathers together all the members of the church's families for good times at the church. It will include worship, study and enriching activities. Permeating all is the idea of joyous Christian fellowship.

Children, young people, adults will meet together for a part of the evening. There will be separate meetings of children with appropriate programs and activities, meetings of youth in the M. Y. F., meetings of adults with discussion of the booklets on *Our Faith*, and other studies, forums and discussions. Program suggestions for every phase of the Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship are contained in *Source*

Book. It may be secured from the Branch of The Methodist Publishing House which serves your annual conference. 50c per copy.

### Lifting World Service Giving

The first "action" program in the Advance is "lifting World Service giving to levels commensurate with world need." This means increasing World Service giving by thirty-three and one-third per cent. In this endeavor, the church school has a most important part through its Fourth Sunday offering. Nothing should be allowed to get in the way of this in our church schools. World Service is the main line support of the Board of Missions and Church Extension and it constitutes almost the entire support of all the other general boards and agencies of the Church. Conference benevolences are the life blood of the conference boards and their work in annual conferences.

Methodist church schools have made a wonderful record in their offering to this cause, increasing from \$750,000 in 1941 to \$2,553,000 in 1948. This is a truly marvelous record for which our pastors and church school superintendents deserve and have the deep appreciation of a great church.

### The Source of Power

Is the Advance another dead weight to be added to an already heavy load? Another program "to be put on"?

If it is, there will be no Advance. And it may be a load instead of a lift and it will be unless we discover the secret of power. The source of that power is not in the General Conference, or the General Advance Committee, or in any other group in the Church. The power is in God.

The electric current which serves our town is continuous and strong. I turned a switch in my house the other day, but no light came on. The connection was broken. The power was there, but I had to repair the connection before my house could be flooded with light.

Is this a parable? Can we advance? Yes, if people and leaders are in such relationship with Almighty God that his power may flow out through them. The better the connection, the greater the power and the further the advance.

## LAYMEN AND THE ADVANCE

(Continued from Page 13)

more members, and at least one for every six churches having less than 300 members. In the North Arkansas Conference our quota is to increase the 10 or 12 which we have at present to 53 by 1952. We believe that the achievement of this goal will greatly strengthen and make more effective the work of our laymen.

Further increase in the effectiveness of laymen can be experienced through wider circulation and regular use of our magazine, *The Methodist Layman*. A few weeks ago it was reported that only 188 copies of this monthly publication are received in the North Arkansas Conference. The Board has set a goal for reaching five new subscriptions for every 1,000 Methodists by 1952. This will mean 475 additional subscriptions in the North Arkansas Conference.

This program carried out in all churches will give *The Methodist Layman* the strength and revenue which it will need for the larger service the staff desires to render the church.

In the end, the work of Christian Stewardship must be a personal experience. "For Christian Stewardship is Faith in a loving God at

work in our world, a realization that all that we are and have is a gift in trust from Him, and the consecration of ourselves and our possessions as co-workers with Him. This faith, when practiced, becomes the motivating sense of responsibility for the Christian well-being of our God-given world."

Laymen who realize for themselves and in themselves the spirit and meaning of the Advance, will know this vitalized faith, expressed through God's will in their daily lives and work, through larger and more sustained support of their church and its total program, through the dedication of all that they are and have to God and to the high purposes for which Christ's church stands.

## LAY PROGRAM IN THE ADVANCE

(Continued from Page 13)

are giving to this work. All charges have accepted the one-third increase and most of them have a mission special.

In the Little Rock Conference most all laymen are stressing Church School enrollment and attendance, more and better trained teachers, and more adequate facilities. Six out of every ten people who join the Methodist Church on profession of faith come through the Church

## ARKANSAS METHODISM AND HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 12)

congregational special, over and above other Advance offerings.

Considerable progress has been made to date in the improvement of the grounds and in construction work. The caretaker's home, a modern brick-veneer cottage on concrete foundation, has been completed, wells drilled and water provided, the playground cleared and leveled and other miscellaneous improvements made. An experienced and dependable caretaker has been secured and is now living on the grounds and looking after our investments.

The Board of Trustees realizes that a type of construction could be followed that would make the camp available more quickly and at less cost, but they believe that the ele-

School, therefore, we must not overlook this important matter always doing our very best so that we may help others.

Laymen of the Conference are aware of their responsibility in the Advance for Christ and His Church and will arise to this occasion in such a manner that their efforts will be felt throughout the Conference.

ment of permanence, the reduced maintenance as well as the added attractiveness and comfort warrant the additional expense and possible delay. The Board is looking forward to the building of an institution that can be used with pleasure as well as profit by those whom it is to serve.

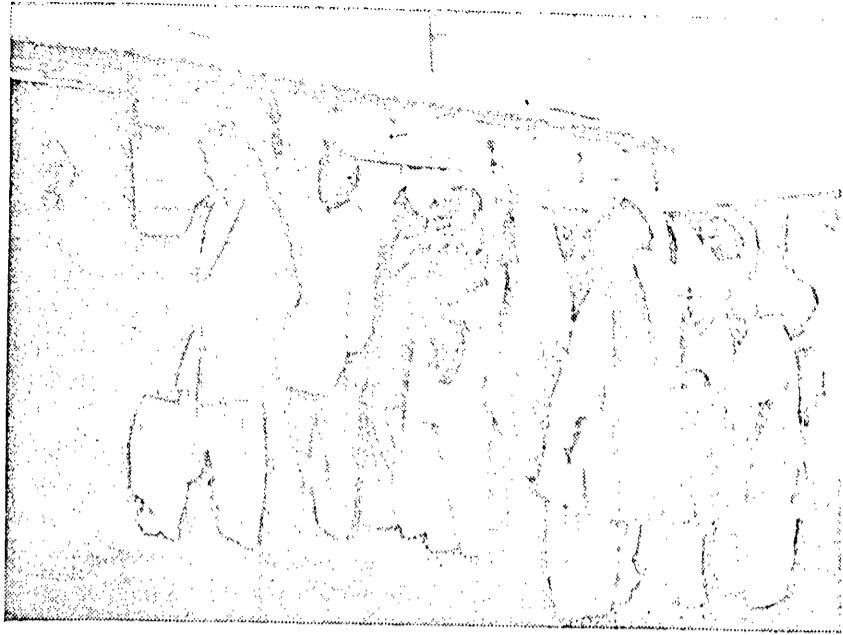
The Methodist Church in Arkansas should be no more interested in home missions than it is in foreign mission. However, we should be as much interested in the points of need about us as we are in the points of need across the world. It should bring a sense of joy and satisfaction to our people to know that we are, through our support of the Advance Specials, going the "second mile" in our contributions for missions at home and abroad.

G O W N S

Religious and Church  
Headquarters for  
RELIGIOUS SUPPLIES

Church Furniture - Stoles  
Embroideries - Vestments  
Hangings - Communion  
Sets - Altar Brass Goods

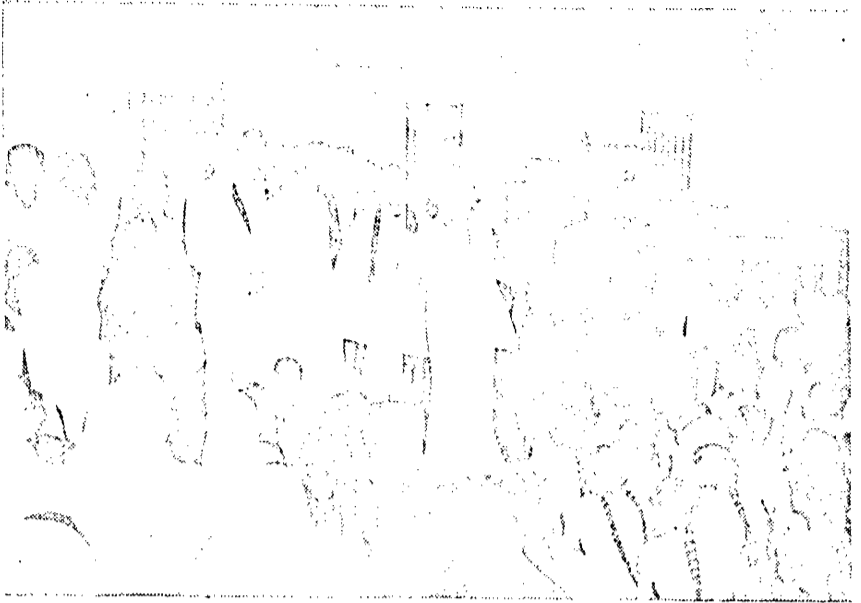
National



LAST EASTER IN GUJARATI CENTRAL CHURCH, GUJARATI CONFERENCE

ABOVE:

Pastor Shanboz welcoming congregation to the church built of airplane boxes.

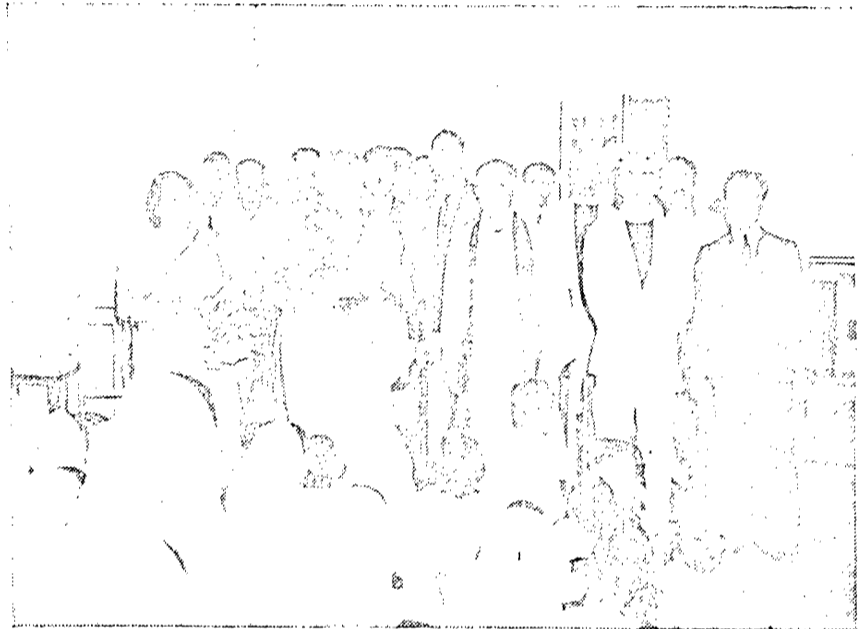


ABOVE RIGHT:

Easter service at the Gujarati Central Church, 1949. The woman speaking is the wife of the Christian governor of Bombay Province. Lady Maharani Singh is bringing a message to the people of Hindi. She is a most gracious lady of high birth. They are of the ruling house of an Indian State in North India. The Indian woman in front of the pulpit is the wife of the former sheriff of Bombay. The American woman is Miss Blasdell, the missionary of Bombay. Next to her is Rev. J. F. Minnis, district superintendent of the Bombay-Poona District. The man with the pulpit gown is Rev. A. G. Bhatt, the pastor of the church, and the other Indian men are his officials.

RIGHT:

Easter service in the Gujarati Central Church. The governor and his wife were asked to attend the morning service, but he was unable to attend. Lady Maharani Singh came and made an address in her mother tongue. The lady beside her is the wife of the former sheriff of Bombay, and there are the pastor with two other Gujarati pastor and a number of officials in the church.

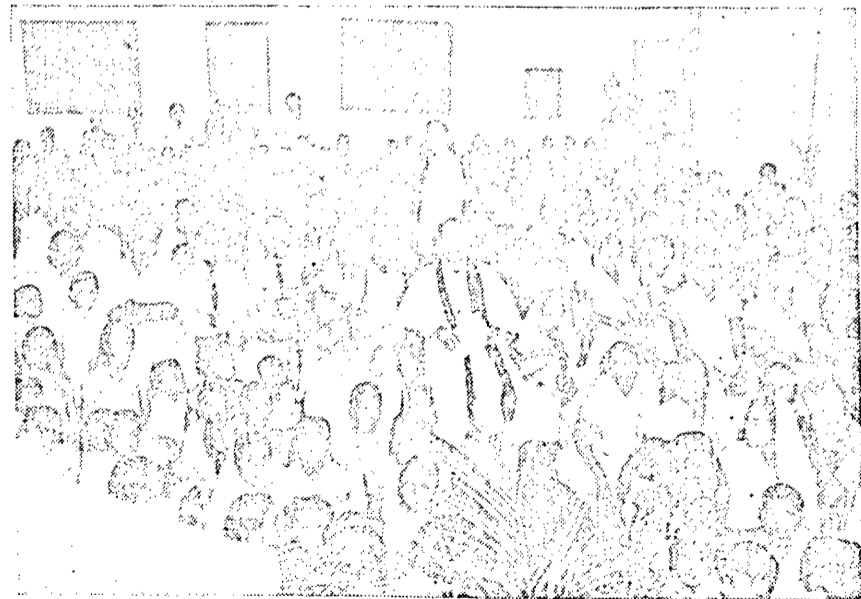
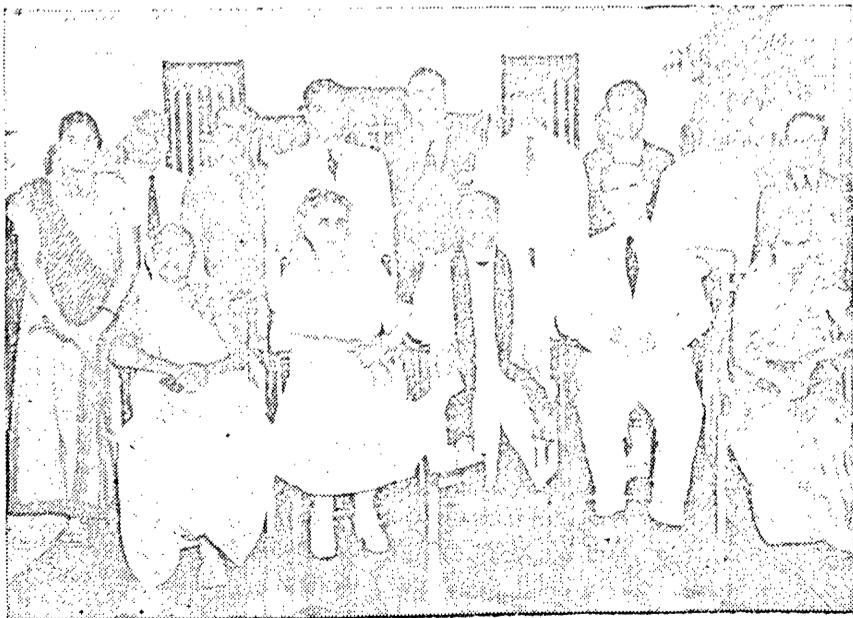


LOWER RIGHT:

Easter service at Gujarati Central Church in Bombay. The picture shows most of the congregation with the pastor in pulpit gown, and Lady Maharani Singh, wife of the governor of Bombay. Sir Mamaraj Singh, her husband is the first Indian governor of free India in Bombay. They are Christian converts from a ruling family in north India. In the back of the church are large boards giving the names of former bishops, district superintendent, missionaries and pastors.

BELOW:

After the Easter service in the Gujarati Central Church in Bombay. The woman standing is the wife of the pastor, Mrs. Bhatt. The Indian woman next to her is not identified. The American woman is Miss Blasdell, our missionary in Bombay, the pastor, Rev. A. G. Bhatt, Rev. J. F. Minnis, district superintendent of the Area and the last woman is Miss Trikamlal, a full-time worker, now studying at Leonard Theological College.



From The Conference Boards Of Education

## NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE CHURCH SCHOOLS IN THE ADVANCE

By IRA A. BRUMLEY, Executive Secretary

**L**ONG before the General Conference enacted the legislation for the "Advance" the North Arkansas Conference was making plans for an emphasis on Our Faith. A large number of persons were invited to prepare themselves as certified instructors in the training courses on CHRISTIAN BELIEFS. A seminar was planned in which these persons worked together for ten days during the session of the Arkansas Pastors' School. The following persons have been certified for the courses on CHRISTIAN BELIEFS: Robert Bearden, Jr.; Roy I. Bagley; Ira A. Brumley; Paul M. Bumpers; N. Lee Cate; W. F. Cooley; Earle Cravens; Joel Cooper; R. A. Dorman; Alf A. Eason; George A. Freeman; W. Henry Goodloe; A. W. Harris; Mrs. D. G. Hindman; J. H. Hoggard; E. J. Holifield; Alfred A. Knox; H. M. Lewis; Thurston Masters; George L. McGhehey; James S. Upton; S. B. Wilford; and E. B. Williams. Others are working on these courses and we hope a number of others will be certified in the near future.

During the past year a large number of churches have used the courses on CHRISTIAN BELIEFS in their training program. Other churches are planning to do so at an early date.

Plans were made at Annual Conference in June to present in District Meetings of pastor and church school superintendents the plans for the Advance in the Church School. These meetings were held during the month of September at the following centers: Leachville; Batesville, Paragould, Searcy, Springdale, Fort Smith, Morrilton, and Brinkley. The general plan of the Advance in the Church School along with materials prepared to use in the program was presented in these meetings. Major emphasis was given to interpreting purpose and plan of OUR WORKBOOK. Six hundred copies of OUR WORKBOOK were placed in these meetings. Many other copies have been secured by local groups. This workbook is proving very popular with our workers.

As a part of the preparation for the Advance in the Church School a series of Bible conferences was held the latter part of August and early September. These Bible conferences were centered in an emphasis on better teaching through the discussion plan. They were led by Dr. Wesley C. Davis of Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, Texas. These Bible conferences were held, one in each district, as follows: Bentonville, Fort Smith, Searcy, Batesville, Paragould, Blytheville, Forrest City, and Russellville.

A Conference-wide Youth Rally was held at Searcy, September 8, for the purpose of presenting the Youth emphasis in the Advance. Bishop Paul E. Martin brought the Inspirational Message emphasizing the challenge presented to youth. His message challenged our young people to make the most of their lives and make their contribution to a better social order. A great group of representative youth participated in the activities of the rally. This is to be followed by District Youth Rallies in many of the districts. Some of the districts have already

sent dates for their rallies.

An effort has been made to encourage local churches to provide for the children's workers the 1949-50 edition of The Children's Division Yearbook, which is built around the idea, "Leading Children in the Christian Faith." A large number of copies have been distributed throughout the Conference.

A Conference-wide meeting of District Directors of Adult Work was held September 5 for the purpose of planning an advance in the adult work of the Conference. Careful plans were made for the promotion of adult work in the local church, Sub-district meetings of young adults, Sub-district meetings



REV. IRA A. BRUMLEY

of adult teachers and Sub-district meetings of Superintendents of Adult Divisions. Rev. Alf A. Eason was elected as chairman of the Conference Council. The Council is to meet again on January 16, 1950.

The Conference Board of Education has accepted the challenge of the Jurisdictional Conference to bring our church school enrollment to 70,101 by 1952. Our church schools in June of this year reported a total of 68,175 members. This leaves us a little less than two thousand as a necessary increase to reach our goal. We believe that it is quite possible that we will reach our goal by June, 1950.

Plans are under way to encourage more of our church schools to develop the Nursery Home Program and the Adult Home Program. We can expand our program through these two extension departments of the church school by numbers far beyond the necessary number to reach our goal for the Advance period.

Some of our districts have already held and others are planning to hold at an early date a series of sub-district institutes for the purpose of training local church school workers to do a better job in the teaching ministry of the church.

The Paragould District is planning a three-day camping program for a number of the pastors, especially the Supply Ministers, through which these men are to be given guidance in working out the program of the Advance in their church schools. This program is to be under the leadership of A. N. Storey, Dis-

## THE ADVANCE IN THE CHURCH SCHOOLS OF THE LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE

By ROY E. FAWCETT, Executive Secretary

**O**UR first objective is to inform our people regarding the Advance program, to impress upon them the reasonableness of the task, and to encourage them to accept it seriously. We are laying particular stress upon increased enrollment and attendance and on a better trained leadership. Otherwise expressed, one of our chief objectives is to reach more people with better Christian teaching.

To that end we are utilizing the current fall season to every good advantage in the promotion of leadership schools, both in large and small church centers. In other situations where formal training is not

a youth evangelistic workshop is being planned in which representative youth from over the Conference will be given guidance in a practical program of evangelism.

We are also cooperating with other Conference agencies in giving direction to the current study of "Our Faith." To that end we have secured a number of accreditations for the standard course on "Christian Beliefs" and are offering it both to youth and adults as a part of our leadership training program. We are making available material on the Sunday evening Fellowship and are seeking to help to stimulate an interest in the use of the "Faith" booklets made available for winter and spring use.

Our Conference Director of Children's Work, Mrs. W. F. Bates, is seeking to encourage the workers with this age group to rethink and revitalize their own Christian faith, and to think through ways and means of leading their children into the Christian faith and experience. Mrs. Bates makes the following suggestions:

1. Work to reach all children in the community for whom the church is responsible.

2. Plan for improved teaching by a more careful study of both the pupils' materials and the teachers' helps and by systematic visitation in the home of the pupils in order that there may be a better understanding of their needs.

3. Participate in the Advance for Christ by encouraging workers to attend the State-wide Rally, and by including in the training program courses which emphasize aspects of the Christian faith. The course entitled "The Child's Approach to Religion" will be found helpful to parents and teachers of children.

4. Wise use of the abundance of helpful printed materials made available for the information and guidance of workers with children.

The greatest forward step in the youth program in recent years has been the employing of a full time Conference director. The Board was fortunate in being able to secure Miss Emogene Dunlap, an experienced worker in the youth program

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REV. ROY E. FAWCETT

practical, we are meeting in institutes and other informal groups in order to give workers a better understanding of their task and how to do it.

We are sharing with the Board of Ministerial Training and the W. S. C. S. in a program of discovery and enlistment for vocational Christian service. The response for full-time lay work has been encouraging and we are hopeful of finding an increased number of recruits for the ministry. A life service retreat was held during the past summer, and

district Superintendent, and Ira A. Brumley, Executive Secretary.

Miss Mary Shipp Sanders has been secured for a period of weeks for training programs for Children's Workers. She has already conducted schools at Heber Springs and Marianna. She is in the Paragould District for a two-weeks' period, October 9-21, conducting four three-day training schools on Teaching Children. Following these schools she will be in the Searcy District for the Searcy Training School and one three-day school. She will complete her work at Berryville, October 31 to November 2.

A large number of district, sub-district and area training schools are being planned for the fall and winter months. These schools will be helping local church workers prepare to carry out the emphasis in the Advance in the Church School. Many local churches are planning their own training programs. The North Arkansas Conference is fortunate in having more

than a hundred certified training school instructors. Many of these are not only called upon to serve within the bounds of the Conference but find their services in demand in other Conferences. Most of the churches of the Conference can make plans for some formal training program where such is desired.

The Executive Secretary is getting into as many local churches as time will permit. He is contacting many others through sub-district or area group meetings.

The Conference Office is seeking to present suggested materials for the guidance of pastors and church school workers in making the objectives and plans of the Advance in the Church School as meaningful as possible.

Our Bishop, our District Superintendents and our laymen have been most co-operative in helping promote plans in keeping with the Advance in the Church School. We want to express our appreciation for the co-operation of all.

# The Advance As Conference W.S.C.S. Presidents See It

## WOMEN AND THE FAITH ENDEAVOR

By MRS. E. D. GALLOWAY

SOME one has said, "An awakening of Faith comes with need." If we should proceed as a church on this premise, we would have to say that a great Faith movement is not only timely, but long overdue.

The Church faces the need for such an emphasis, not only as the structural undergirding of a great program such as the Advance, but to cleanse and give reality to current living.

I have been concerned, as all of us have, with recent trends in the society of our day to discount and ignore the Christian Faith as being vital to personal development and moral stability. Such an idea was expressed recently by Dr. Robert S. Lynd, American Sociologist, who says, "Religion in its traditional forms, is a dying reality in current living. And yet no culture can live vitally without a central core of emotionally resonant loyalties, widely shared by the mass of people. . . . Needless to say the theology, eschatology, and other familiar aspects of traditional Christianity need not have any place in such operating system." In other words, he is saying our culture must have a loyal emotional center, but it need not depend upon the Christian Faith for it.

Dr. Bernard Iddings Bell, in his book, "The Crisis in Education", bemoans the fact that so many of our college graduates are so many religious illiterates. He says, "The American University looks on religion as a minor amusement. It has, occasionally, a religious education emphasis week in which students are urged to talk like babies in a kindergarten about God and the good life".

Whether or not this is an overstatement, we do not know. But with education and radio with its new arm of television disclaiming, all too generally, interest and responsibility for religion, we do sense a trend that smacks of similarity to a totalitarian state practice of our day, that says, "we know what we want and need, but we can achieve them without a God or His help." "Science, psychiatry, sociology, and all the rest can do it for us."

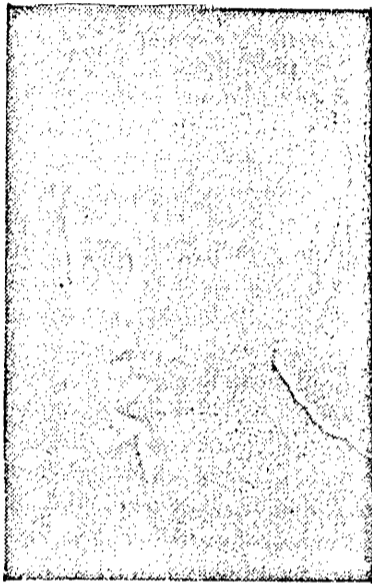
Along with these and other familiar trends, is the stifling, smothering, irreligion of secularism—so well analyzed in "The Christian Faith and Secularism," edited by Dr. Richard Spann. The home, the Church, education, the missionary enterprise, organized labor, industry suffer the influence of this "practical atheism," a subtle nebulous 'fluid' sort of thing, 'about as easy to describe as air.'

How vital is our faith in the Christian Faith? A faith that "is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen," Heb. 11:1—Revised Standard Version.

While Methodist women have a great Advance program in the Society, we have a great responsibility for the Christian Faith in God, in Christ, in the Bible, in Love, in Prayer, in Immortality, and in the Kingdom of God.

Nowhere can we do more to establish and re-establish a working, living faith than in the homes we keep. The need here is more than sufficient for "an awakening."

The rapid changes in the American home life pattern, seem to have taken place, more or less by happen-so, rather than by planned, intellectual choice. A brief analysis of the home-life pattern in America will show these changes to have come about largely at the mercy of chance. The early family was a world within itself, an independent unit of society, living its life within its circle, and sustaining itself with its own economic efforts. It might well be called an institutional family pattern. Everything was done within the group—this was an economic necessity. It had its own health department—babies were born at home—bark tea, poultices, and castor made up the drug



MRS. E. D. GALLOWAY

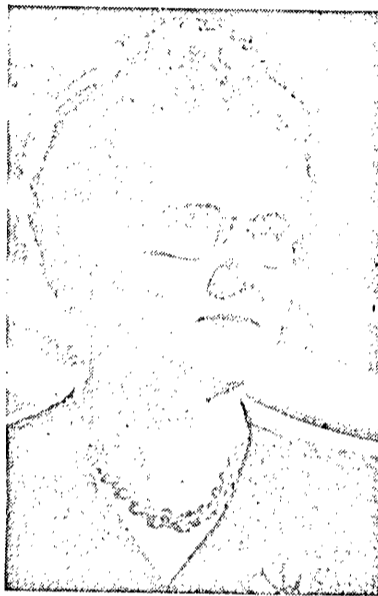
department; it had its own police department, the old shotgun over the door; it had its own fire department—the well bucket and wet blanket; its own recreation—candy makings, and the Saturday night square dance; its education department, where parents taught not only lessons from books, but living; and it had its world of industry, the soap, the soup, the apple butter, the jeans cloth, the clothes, the cheese, the plows, and the wagon tires were all made by the family for the family. Economic necessity placed material things as a "first must" with the family. But even so, the doing of these chores together produced central core of unity, usually spiritual unity, we do not have today, in the transfer of these economic functions to the community. In those days the family was large—the old folks lived in it—the children were an economic asset. But today the family is small, 3 to 6 persons—the old people live in institutions, the children are economic responsibilities, costing about eighteen thousand dollars each to rear and educate. The industry that provides all its needs takes place outside the home. Entertainment is largely commercial, and often questionable. Today's pattern is yet does not have a suitable name. The old pattern was super-imposed by necessity, today's pattern could be stabilized in the name of the Christian faith by intellectual choices. We choose the way we live as families today, or we exist by whatever

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## THE CHURCH WOMAN

By MRS. J. E. CRITZ

"TO be, or not to be—that is the question," mused one of Shakespeare's characters. Within a very short time men and women of today must answer that same question. The mightiest physical force known gives to the world the power to commit suicide on the one hand, or, if controlled by peace-loving and God-fearing wisdom, the means of making a rich contribution to the realms of industry and medicine. It was said of the early Christians, "They held the world together." In these days of stress and strain, power and conflict, will the faith of Christians 2,000 years after Christ walked among men again be able



MRS. J. E. CRITZ

to hold the world together? Crises on today's horizon will not be solved by lackadaisical efforts—the wholehearted cooperation of large numbers of Methodism's 8 and one-half millions, united with Christians of every creed and nation, is demanded to stem the tide of distrust, secularism and atheism.

In First Corinthians we read, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, but when I became a man I put away childish things." In his book, "The Mature Mind," H. A. Overstreet stated, "The maturity concept is central in our whole enterprise of living. This is what we must now accept if we are to move forever out of the confusions and despairs of our day. These are days in which childish minds are dangerous—particularly when housed in adult bodies." We comment upon the burden of taxes and unsolved problems which we of this generation bequeath to the next. Do we mean thereby that we who are chronologically adult are going to fold our hands and with a shawl draped about our shoulders rock away our remaining years?

We appreciate the fine work of leaders who prepare materials and plans to guide us in teaching, program building, study, community projects, interracial understanding and numerous other areas, and the minds that embrace and guide the church in the Advance For Christ. These persons have been tried and proven. However, if Methodism is strong only at the top it will topple. It must be strong through the rank

and file of its membership. We common people are the salt of the earth. Upon our consecration, fidelity and labor will the Kingdom rise, or fall.

The church woman realizes that more than anyone else, she is indebted to the Christian religion for her present status. She has been lifted from the degradation of slave or chattel, to a place of responsibility socially, politically and religiously equal to that of men. In the Advance For Christ even a new day of opportunity is breaking before Methodist women. The first step toward preparation for this new day is that of personal commitment. "Be still and know that I am God." Let's search our hearts sincerely and intensely, put from us the hindrances found there, and set hearts, minds and motions in God-directed avenues.

The church woman is first a homemaker. The old adage, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," cannot be considered lightly. When the glow on the faces of children and parents gathered around the table rivals the light of the candles, more has been dreamed and done than waxing floors, washing windows, marketing and roasting. The close-knit ties of love abide, each feels needed and important, there is respect for personalities and possessions, and God is praised for His generosity and care. The Christian home is the hope of the world. It must be a bulwark of strength to lift the community above those that are little more than an address for delivery of mail, shelter when there is no place else to go, where children are left to their own disposition of Christ without parental responsibility, and too often the frowned upon corner saloon of my youth has been brought within its walls.

What can one church woman do alone? Some really gifted and highly creative persons can do much alone, but why alone? The Church School and the Woman's Society of Christian Service offer wide opportunities for service. Talents and efforts are multiplied many times as we fuse the individual's power with that of other Christians.

Church Schools are rising rapidly from the slump of a decade past and present a crying need for the host of Methodists unemployed at any church task to volunteer as teachers. The church woman will recognize this as a call of extreme urgency. If teaching is not her skill there are many other tasks in the church's education program where she can serve.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service offers numerous channels for her talents in this, the largest woman's organization in the world. The inspiration of the Sunday worship services can find here the vehicle for her effective expression for universal good. She will enroll as an active member, take leadership in its wide projects and accept direction of a group formed for special service, becoming a part of the great army of women whose interest in in the total program of the church—World Service and Benevolences, Hospitals and Homes, Colleges and Universities, Home and Foreign Missions and a host of other

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# ARKANSAS METHODISM AND HOME MISSIONS

By ROY E. FAWCETT and E. T. WAYLAND

When we think of the missionary phase of the Advance for Christ and His Church it is not uncommon for our minds to turn to the program in foreign fields without due recognition of the important program this movement has made possible in the home field.

We would all feel that it is quite proper that our missionary program in foreign fields has received large emphasis in the Advance program. Under present plans the Foreign Division of the Board of Missions and Church Extension receives sixty per cent of the sum raised through the Advance Specials. This income, added to the increased amounts being received through World Service, is making it possible to give our missionary program in foreign fields the largest financial backing it has ever received without a special financial campaign of some character.

Our people will heartily approve of the fact that ten per cent of the amount raised for specials goes to Overseas Relief and thus makes it possible for Methodism to have a larger part in this Christian work of rehabilitating the war-torn countries of the old world.

The thing we would like to emphasize in this article, however, is the fact that thirty per cent of the total amount raised through Advance Specials goes to the division of Home Missions and Church Extension of the General Board. This income from Specials, added to the regular income through World Service is making possible a progressive, expanding home mission program which holds large promise for building the kingdom in needy fields at home. The Methodist Church must continue to strengthen the home base if it is to continue to meet its responsibilities for world evangelism.

While there have been no quotas assigned for Advance Specials, there is an over-all general financial goal for the church for this quadrennium. Advance Specials are part of that general financial program. Our last General Conference set up a financial program for the quadrennium which our leaders hope will result in benevolent giving through World Service and Advance Specials of an amount at least as large as the total asked of the church through World Service and the Crusade for Christ in the past quadrennium. That goal is certainly not impossible since we have already reached it once with a substantial surplus.

In order that each area may have a standard by which it can measure its responsibility in such a program, each Annual Conference in Arkansas, as all Annual Conferences, has received a suggested amount to raise in Advance Specials. In our two conferences these suggested amounts have been divided among the districts of the state. Each District Superintendent, by this method, knows the total minimum responsibility for his district if it is to carry its proportionate part of a church-wide program.

Of the total amount suggested for Advance Specials for each district, it is the responsibility of the District Superintendent to so direct the acceptance of Advance Specials that sixty per cent of the specials are for the foreign fields, thirty per cent for home fields and ten per cent for overseas relief.

In Arkansas, by joint action of the leaders of the two conferences, the thirty per cent we are to raise for home missions was further divided as follows: Sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of the home mission funds will be used for local projects within the conference where it is raised. Thirty-three and a third per cent will be used for special work in Alaska.

Just as our two Annual Conferences have joined forces in the support of the Gujarat Conference in

been fixed as the financial goal for the Alaskan Mission by the North Arkansas Conference. It is quite possible that there are few other areas, if any, on the North American Continent where an investment in religious work will pay a larger dividend in the physical, social and spiritual development of people than in Alaska. Arkansas Methodism has a challenge in this Home Mission Special that should inspire us to deeds of sacrificial service. Alaska must look to the United States for

nual Conference authorized the appointment of a commission to select and purchase a suitable site. Two years were spent in search of a location that would combine the essentials of such an institution.

According to the survey, the tract purchased contains 315 acres located on Lake Catherine approximately mid-way between Malvern and Hot Springs. It is also located on State Highway 171 and is accessible at all seasons of the year. It is as centrally located as any site could be that would be both desirable and available.

The building of the Camp is a cooperative enterprise shared by all the major Boards of the Conference and the W.S.C.S.—all of which have contributed financially to the development program. It is, therefore, an enterprise open to all Conference agencies and to local church groups who may wish to hold institutes and retreats on its grounds. It is in the plan to winterize enough of the accommodations to provide for small groups at any season of the year.

The building program is under the careful supervision of a competent architect, himself a leading layman of one of our Little Rock churches. An over-all plan is being worked out with a long-range development program in view. Construction is to be largely of fire-proof material, concrete, tile and brick so that maintenance and fire hazards will be reduced to a minimum. Construction will be in units so that they may be added to as needs arise and funds permit.

We have secured skilled guidance in the planning of the kitchen for the most practical and convenient service possible. When both units are completed the dining room will have a seating capacity of 250.

At an attractive location overlooking the lake, a chapel, or assembly hall, will be an important feature of the development program.

The present goal is twenty-five cottages with a maximum capacity of ten campers each. As they are constructed, these cottages will be roughed in for water connections so that when funds are available, they may be equipped with running water and modern conveniences. These cottages will be constructed after a uniform pattern, and will be alike in design and plan. According to a builders estimate, they will cost approximately \$2250.00 each. The young people of the Conference are taking these cottages as one of their financial objectives, and it is hoped that there will be a number of local churches taking one as a

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## OVERSEAS RELIEF

In each of the fourteen districts of Arkansas Methodism, ten per cent of the "Advance Specials" being accepted by the local churches are "specials" for Overseas Relief. This channeling of Advance funds into the area of relief where great need exists will make possible the continuation of the great work which Methodism has been doing in this field for a number of years through its Committee for Overseas Relief.

These Advance Overseas Relief Specials are so organized that they may be assumed by individuals, small groups of individuals, families, Sunday School classes, church organizations, etc. These specials include emergency aid for Christian workers, food for the hungry, clothing for the naked, medical attention for the sick, and assistance in resettling the unnumbered homeless and displaced persons of the world. Consult your pastor for details as to how you or your group can have a part in this ministry of love and service.

India, as a foreign Mission Special, so our two Arkansas Conferences have united in choosing Alaska as one of their home mission projects to which one-third of the home mission special in each conference will be devoted.

The Little Rock Conference has chosen Seldovia, on the Kenai Peninsula, in Alaska, as its Methodist Mission Center. The Little Rock Conference plans to raise \$4,050 each year for the next four years, or a total of \$16,200 for mission work in Seldovia.

The Methodist Church in Seldovia now has a pastor, the Rev. Oscar Olson. The building in which the membership now worships is a remodeled residence which now serves both as a residence for the pastor and family and a church building for the congregation. A new church building is an imperative need in Seldovia if our mission there renders the service it should in this land of opportunity.

Sand Point, in the Shernagin Islands of Alaska, is the Methodist Mission Center which the North Arkansas Conference will support. A goal of \$4,800 a year for the next four years, a total of \$9,600, has

practically all of the help it needs from the outside world. This is eminently true in its spiritual development. There is no other country on earth that even considers Alaska as a mission responsibility except the United States. Unless we furnish it religious leadership until the church is established there, no one will.

The North Arkansas Conference has elected to support a large number of smaller projects within the conference with the money raised for the home mission special which is to be expended within the conference. There will be a number of new church buildings which will receive aid from the Advance Special in sums ranging from \$500.00 to \$4,800.00. There are also some newly organized churches that will receive some aid from this fund. Other projects that will receive support from this program will be some parsonages; a district camp; a rural extension program and a County Clinic.

The Little Rock Conference Camp has met with almost unanimous approval as a local Advance Special. This camp had its beginning official when the 1945 session of the An-

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For Arkansas Methodist Laymen



# Lay Activities And The Advance



## LAYMEN AND THE ADVANCE

By DR. MATT L. ELLIS, Lay Leader, North Arkansas Conference

THE Advance for Christ and His Church assigns no new duty to Methodist laymen; it simply challenges men, all of us, to do more effectively that which has always been our Christian privilege and duty. We have no change of job in the work of the church; we are only called upon to do our old job in a much better way, in a way that will reveal to every observer that we are advancing from the place where we now find ourselves to a higher position in Faith and Good Works, a position nearer the standard of life which we believe Jesus desires of his followers. Individuals and institutions are called to a renewed and strengthened faith in God, expressed in practical helpfulness to people in need, at home and abroad.

In recent years Methodists have observed encouraging growth in the activities and services of lay workers in the church. The Crusade for Christ last quadrennium was a great boost to many forms of lay activity. With the program for men receiving particular emphasis in one of the four years, The General Board of Lay Activities led the entire church in rewarding effort and enriching service. It was a great Stewardship Year. Laymen were also effectively active in all other phases of the Crusade. In The Advance we begin at the top of these achievements and move on to higher ground.

In the Discipline we read that "The General Board of Lay Activities is charged with the cultivation and promotion of Christian Stewardship in The Methodist Church. It shall initiate plans, develop literature, and perfect organization to utilize effectively in the work of the church and in the development of Christian character this vital doctrine of Christian faith and practice."

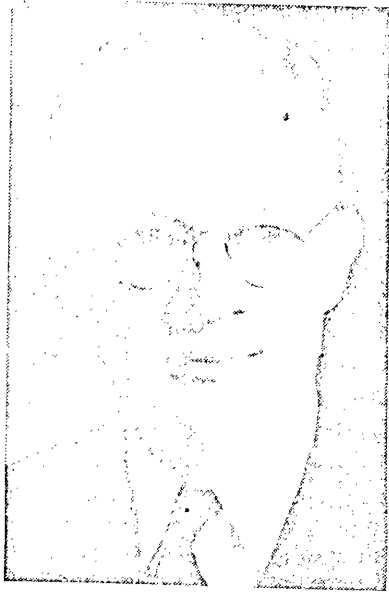
The General Conference of 1948 at Boston urged "the continuance during the quadrennium of 1949-52 of a church-wide emphasis on Christian Stewardship." This is the job for laymen, our old job and our new job; it will be our job tomorrow and through all of the days of our years.

We believe this vital promotional work on Stewardship can be done in two ways—through groups meeting for fellowship and cooperative planning, and through persons in individual work and worship.

Group activity planned for this quadrennium includes area meetings in which leaders may develop effective programs of work, district meetings in which promotional emphasis may be carried directly to the leadership of Methodist Men, chartered by The General Board, and carrying on a program in local churches which will mobilize laymen for regular and permanent support of the ongoing program of Methodism.

It is proposed that a Two-Day Regional Stewardship Promotional Conference be held in our area in the spring of 1950. Similar meetings will be held in other areas. These Conferences will be attended

by the bishop, the district superintendents, the Conference lay leaders, other leading laymen, and representatives of various church boards and agencies in the annual Conferences—Executive secretaries of Boards of Education, Conference Missionary secretaries, Conference secretaries of Evangelism, chairmen of World Service and Finance Commissions, Conference presidents of Woman's Societies of Christian Service, directors of Town and



DR. MATT L. ELLIS

Country Commissions, conference presidents of Methodist Youth Fellowships, chairmen of Committees on Christian Vocations. The big purpose of the Conference will concentrate on the training of district lay leaders, associate district lay leaders, and selected pastors, that they may be equipped to lead in district Conferences in a unified and permanent program of Stewardship Cultivation and Education.

In the district conferences we shall want to concentrate on selected leaders in the local church—pastors, chairmen of boards of stewardship, Church School superintendents, presidents of Methodist Men, presidents of Woman's Societies of Christian Service, chairmen of finance committees, church treasurers, chairmen of committees on Evangelism, presidents of Methodist Youth Fellowship, and other carefully selected leaders. In these meetings we shall hope to elevate the Stewardship ideal to the end that laymen in increasing numbers will practice Christian stewardship of self and of property by all available methods and means.

It is desirable that we have in every local church an enthusiastic and active organization of laymen, chartered by the General Board of Lay Activities as Methodist Men. Last spring it was reported that in the South Central Jurisdiction there were only 187 chartered units of Methodist Men. The General Board has launched a program to increase this number by 1952 to 955. This calls for at least one chartered Methodist Men organization for every three churches with 300 or

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## LAY PROGRAM IN THE ADVANCE

By ROLAND M. SHELTON, Lay Leader, Little Rock Conference

THE Methodist Church has made great progress in recent years. Every phase of The Crusade for Christ was a remarkable success. For this quadrennium we have The Advance for Christ and His Church Movement which gives to all laymen a great challenge—a challenge that has been widely accepted. In this important Movement the main endeavor is to advance in the total program of the Church. In carrying on this en-



ROLAND M. SHELTON

deavor it will not be necessary to add new organizations or new programs but take what we have and do a better job than we have been doing.

The Conference Board of Lay Activities has in connection with the Advance a most comprehensive program—a program that embraces almost every phase of the general Church program including Christian Stewardship, Christian Fellowship, Personal Evangelism, Lay Speaking and Preaching, Circulation of Church papers and other Christian Literature, World Service and Conference Benevolences and Mission Specials, Adequate Support of the Ministry, Sound Finance in the Local Church, Attendance upon Worship Services, Men's Work, Training Official Boards and Boards of Stewards, Christianizing Personal and Community Life, and Cooperation

with other Boards and Agencies.

During the period of the Crusade, one of the major emphasis was on Stewardship. So effective was our efforts in this respect that the results have continued and we will continue to emphasize it throughout the period of the Advance. Christian Stewardship accepted in a true sense involves a great responsibility and causes one to give generously of his time and abilities as well as his material possessions. The need for this is well known to all of us and if applied as it should be would result into a mighty force for the Church and its program.

Another phase of our Conference program is Christian Fellowship. It binds together a spiritual force that becomes a powerful influence in the community in which the members are located and our goal for the period of the Advance is a unit of "Methodist Men" in every Church if possible.

Evangelism will be stressed throughout the Advance as well as Lay speaking and preaching. It is planned that on Laymen's Day or as near thereto as possible that a Lay Speaker will be in every church in the Conference. John Wesley discovered a "mine of ability in his Lay Preachers."

Laymen of the Conference are assisting in every way possible in the distribution of our Church papers and other Christian literature and its influence in forming high ideals and molding Christian character cannot be overestimated.

Adequate support of the Ministry is an objective that will be given attention particularly in our endowment program.

Methodism has made progress in sound Church finance but most of us agree that further progress can be made in this part of our Church program. Our per capita giving is still a little low and many laymen are making every effort possible especially during the Advance to correct this situation.

One of the most gratifying accomplishments of this Conference Year has been in our World Service and Benevolence program. Pastors, District Superintendents and Laymen alike are doing a fine job in this respect and churches are to be congratulated for the fine response they

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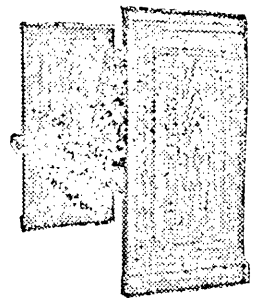
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# METHODIST YOUTH AND THE ADVANCE



## LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE MYF IN THE ADVANCE MOVEMENT

By Emogene Dunlap,  
Conference Director  
Of Young People

When Simon Peter asked Jesus what was his plan by which the world could be brought into the Kingdom of God, His reply was that he was training his twelve apostles in order that they might "go into all the world and preach the gospel." and that as the gospel was spread, all men would love each other as brothers. In reply to Simon's next question: "Then, Master, what is your plan if we should fail?", Jesus replied, "Simon, I have no other plan."

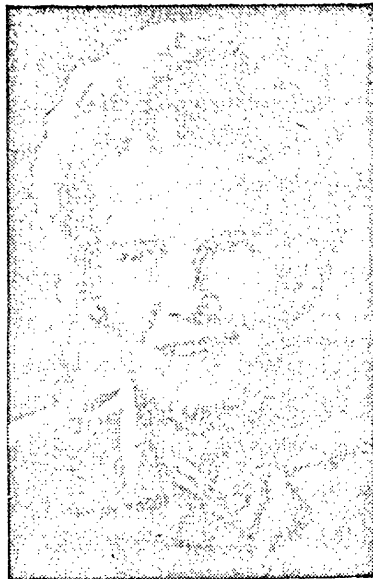
Just as Jesus had no alternate plan for the world if man should fail Him, so is there no alternative in the program of the Advance for Christ if the Methodist Youth should fail to assume their share of this great movement.

(1) As their first and foremost goal in this year's youth program, the Little Rock Conference MYF is seeking to increase the enrollment in the youth division of each local church at least ten per cent. Regular reports will be made each quarter by each local youth group to the district directors of youth work who in turn will file their reports with the conference director. Some groups plan to use extensively the services of local visitation teams; all groups are stressing the need for better programs and better trained youth adult leadership, and many groups are planning to begin their own particular drives by taking a religious census in the public schools.

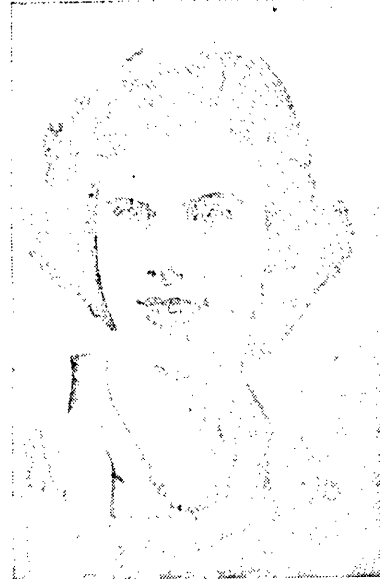
(2) Also in keeping with the goals of the Advance, concerted effort is being made by the youth organizations to present the ever-increasing need for full-time Christian Life-Service volunteers. A series of district vocational clinics is being planned for the conference through the help of Fellowship and Vocational Teams which are being trained on the campus of Hendrix College. These district vocational clinics are to be the bases on which a conference-wide vocational clinic will be planned. All this of course will be done in cooperation with the conference committees on Christian Vocations and Ministerial Training and the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

(3) In an attempt to reach and to help strengthen the rural churches, the Youth Council is wholeheartedly endorsing the proposed plan of the Town and Country Commission to have a laboratory training camp for Rural Fellowship Teams to be held in this conference July 10-15. Plans for this new endeavor are still tentative pending definite action on the part of the Town and Country Commission.

Briefly the plan is this: seven young people and two adult workers with youth from each of the districts in the conference will be given the opportunity to attend, it being understood in the beginning that they will be willing to spend at least four or six weekends of the summer working as members of a fellowship team in a rural church within their own particular districts. At the training camp, plans are to spend the morning sessions in preparation and discussion for the work in the rural churches, and the after-



MISS EMOGENE DUNLAP



LOLA FEATHERSTON

## NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE MYF IN THE ADVANCE MOVEMENT

By Lola Featherston,  
Conference President

As youth members of the Methodist Church, we will cooperate with our local church in its special project. Just as our parents will sacrifice to pay for our Gujarat Conference in India so we also will give up a few luxuries.

We, as a youth organization, will not undertake to raise a large fund for the project because we will be emphasizing "Our Special," the Methodist Youth Fund. We have pledged ourselves to support it so that it can continue the helpful things it is now doing. It ministers not only to the spiritual needs of people at home and abroad but also to the physical and educational deficiencies. You see if we fail to support it this year, many people will die, remain illiterate, or live without the news of Christianity. It depends upon us to increase our Methodist Youth Fund giving at the same time that we give to our church to support our "Special" in our church.

Bringing new members into the Methodist Youth Fellowship, bringing them into the church, and helping them to learn the meaning of Christian living, or in one word, 'evangelism', is a specific emphasis for this year. Each of us as local youth will do evangelistic work by bringing unreached youth to our services. Each of us will feel a sense of responsibility in trying to reach them. By our daily living we will show others how to live as a Christian.

Our literature, our conference assembly, our camps, our sub-district meetings, and our institutes will be planned around the theme "Jesus' Way—Our Way". This theme will influence us by giving us more insight into the Christian faith and especially as it relates to service for Christ.

We have been having several meetings recently to aid the Advance. The idea of "Youth's Place in the Advance" was stressed at our Conference Rally at the Searcy Methodist Church. Several districts have had rallies similar to this following the conference rally. A training conference was held for the presidents of district and sub-district MYF's and the District Directors of Youth Work. We will participate in all mass meetings such as the state meeting to be held October 17.

Already we have done much to interest youth in entering full time church-related vocations. But this year we hope to increase the number through district vocational institutes. Any district desiring a fellowship team from Hendrix to conduct a weekend district vocational institute should contact Rev. James S. Upton soon.

If we really do a good job of working for Christ and His Church through the Advance, we will have to spend an hour every day in Bible reading, prayer, meditation, and service. Young people, Christian living demands that we give this. Let's not let Christ down.

when I look out of the window and think of something else, he draws my mind back to him!"—Dagmar Renshaw Lebreton, "Sermons That Stick," Homiletic — Pastoral Review, 7-'49.

## NEWS ABOUT HENDRIX COLLEGE

### Religion And Life Week Planned

Rev. J. Kenneth Shamblin, pastor of Pulaski Heights Methodist Church in Little Rock, will be leader of Hendrix's annual Religion and Life Week, it has been announced by Dr. Matt L. Ellis, president.

Mr. Shamblin will open the week by speaking at the First Methodist Church in Conway on Sunday night, October 16. He will speak again on the following Tuesday and Thursday mornings and on the nights of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Mr. Shamblin, native of Fayetteville, received the bachelor of arts degree at the University of Arkansas and the bachelor of divinity degree at Southern Methodist University.

### 12 Denominations Represented

Twelve religious denominations are represented among this year's student body at Hendrix, according to Victor Hill, registrar.

Methodists lead with a total of 374 students, or approximately 75

per cent of the student body. Baptists are second with 52 or 10 per cent and Presbyterians run a close third with 39 representatives.

Other denominations represented are the Christian and Episcopal churches with 13 students each; Church of Christ, five; Catholic, four; Christian Science, three; Lutheran, two; and Quaker, Greek Orthodox and Nazarene, one student each.

### Staff Enrolls In Hospital Plan

Surgical and hospital service under the Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan is now available to Hendrix College Staff members, officials at the college have said, which goes into effect October 1, it was said.

Service in Arkansas is given under the Arkansas Medical and Hospital Service, Inc., a non-profit organization, and it is understood that services will be available through any accredited hospital when final details are determined. Arkansas, last of 48 states to accept the plan, adopted it last January.

noons and evenings will be spent working as members of a Fellowship Team in one of the rural churches in the Little Rock District. In this manner, each person will receive first-hand instruction and experience in the work and will be better prepared to do the job back within his own district. This plan will enable the rural churches to have the experience of a Youth Caravan (on a smaller scale) which, as the conference program is set up now, only the larger churches can afford.

(4) Youth's share in the financial goals of the Advance is to promote further the pledges and collections of the Methodist Youth Fund. Little Rock Conference Youth have pledged to the MYF this year a total of \$3173 which is an increase of \$600 over last year's collections. More and more local youth groups are following the plan of personal pledges and are thus steadily increasing their local pledges and payments. The film strip recently released on the Methodist Youth Fund, "Your Nickels—Your World" has been shown throughout the conference at various youth meet-

ings with encouraging results.

(5) In an extensive program of leadership training both for youth leaders and adult workers with youth, the force and power of Methodist Youth in the Little Rock Conference will steadily be felt. Included on this program are mid-year institutes to be held on the sub-district levels, Christian Adventure and Youth Activities Weeks within the local churches, Christian Adventure Camps for intermediates on a district level, Senior and Older Youth Camps to be held on the conference level. In addition to these youth programs, there will be training schools for adult workers with youth, a conference recreation workshop for both youth and adult leaders of recreation, and adult workers' institutes throughout the conference.

The ten thousand young people of the Little Rock Conference have pledged their wholehearted support to the Advance for Christ and His Church.

A college freshman said of his history professor: "That guy is good;

**THE ADVANCE AS CONFERENCE W. S. C. S. PRESIDENTS SEE IT**

(Continued from Page 11)

projects contributing to civic better-the day brings. Women, could we not use the next ten years to make the American family a family of faith? Consistent, conscious, intelligent choice, is necessary to such an ideal. But how rewarding it would be! Here are some suggestions:

1. Find a new definition for the home, its sphere being all that shapes its life, the community, the school, and the Church.
2. Unify our activities to include only such things as build the better home life.
3. Purify the family conversation to talk about good things, good people, good living, and goodness.
4. Family worship every day. Declare our faith in some way together each day. Study the faith booklets together—find time—talk of immortality, of prayer, of Christian marriage, and love.
5. Place the Church right at the head of all we do. Go to the classes on faith. Teach a class. Join the Woman's Society. Help where ever you can. Attend Church with the family every Sunday.

Every Methodist woman has stood before the altar of her church at some time in her life and heard the minister ask, "Will you put away thought, word, or deed and accept and confess Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord? Will you diligently study the Bible as God's Holy word, and in all things strive to make it the rule of your life? Having been taught how the spirit of our Lord separates right from wrong, will you faithfully endeavor to live so as to be pleasing unto Him?" And we have answered, "God helping me, I will."

Women, if we have not done this, for the sake of the faith, our homes, our generation, our God, let us begin the Faith endeavor of the Advance.

**THE CHURCH WOMAN**

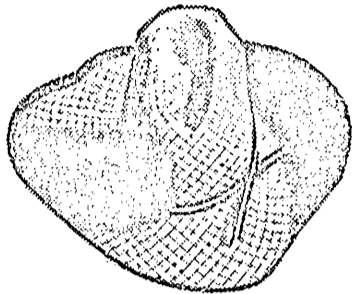
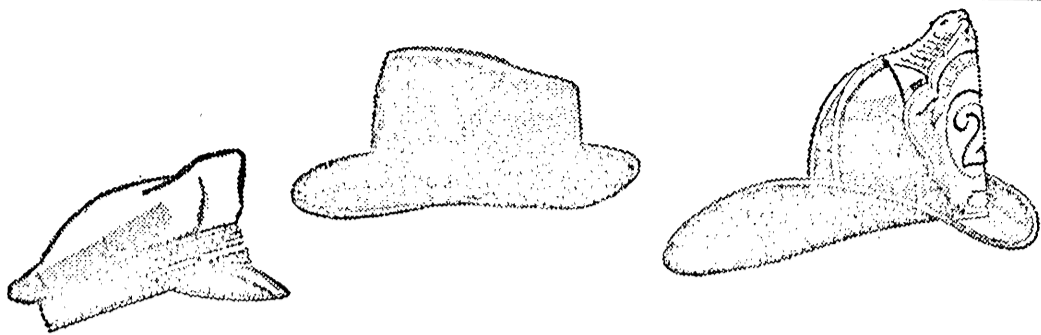
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ment. Her interest is a new World Order, World Relief, Displaced Persons and Evangelism will broaden by participation in study groups.

The privilege of working shoulder to shoulder with women of other denominations through the Council of Church Women leads to global-mindedness as expressed by "Pieces For Peace" and other means, and beyond that, to that highest privilege, prayer. The outreach of our prayers is limited only by the boundaries of our hearts and minds.

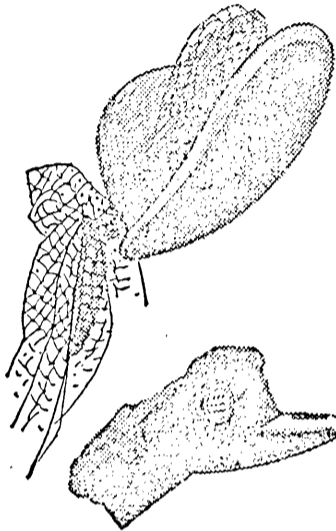
The church woman bestirs herself with the problems of government, civic justice, prohibition, equality for all citizens and the public school system. How many of Arkansas' 23,375 Woman's Society and Wesleyan Service Guild members voted Tuesday? Does the assessed valuation of our personal property need to be increased six times? Are we willing to do as did the Baptist minister who when he investigated conditions in a certain school and saw that more money was the remedy for the situation?

One church woman's faithful stewardship of time, talent and prayer in the place she now is, can count mightily in the total effort being made to swing the world from suicide to salvation. Let's ADVANCE TOGETHER.

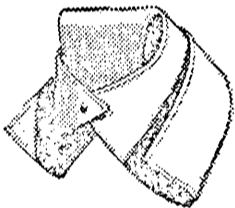


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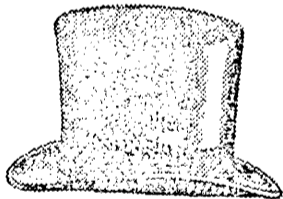
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So you can see how the electric industry IS owned by the people it serves... and anything that is designed to hurt this industry will surely hurt you and your neighbors.

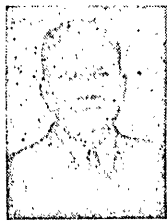


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HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

## The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN



### A NATION'S PRIMARY SECURITY

LESSON FOR OCTOBER 23, 1949

SCRIPTURE TEXT: Isaiah 12:2; 26:1-7; 30:1-17.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is staid on thee; because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3.

This is a timely lesson indeed. Many of the conditions that Isaiah faced are similar to those of our day. His message to the nation of Judah might well be heeded by the various nations of our time.

At the time Isaiah spoke these words there were two great nations—Assyria and Egypt—which were vying with each other for world domination. Many smaller nations were lying between these two great countries. These nations were buffer states. The larger rivals could not reach each other without passing through their territory. This made life very perilous for these smaller nations. The temptation on the part of these smaller countries was always to ally themselves with first one and then the other of these larger powers.

Isaiah was bitterly opposed to such alliances. He felt that they showed a lack of faith in God, since God was being left entirely out of the picture, and then, too, it was placing Judah in the fold of the pagan nations. At the time the words of our lesson were spoken Judah was about to form an alliance with Egypt. Isaiah knew that such procedure would prove the downfall of Judah.

#### I. World-Wide Need of Security

During Isaiah's time Judah was seeking security. Above all things else she needed security. That is also the greatest need of our time. During one generation, the world has passed through two devastating wars. The second of these wars was much greater than the first. Made so, largely, by the improved implements of destruction. We have come upon a time of total war; a condition where one nation goes out to totally destroy another. This means that civilians are in about as much danger as are the soldiers. This improvement of the tools of destruction goes on. One might well pause to wonder just what would be the consequence if another world war were to come. We can rest assured of one thing, it would not be at all like the past two. They would look tame indeed compared to the destruction that would now come upon the world. Some one has called attention to the fact that man is getting the power of God without the character of God. This brings about a dangerous situation. It is well enough for man through his creations, discoveries and inventions, to get power provided he has character enough to use it for the good of all rather than the destruction of all.

#### II. False Hopes of Security

The great need for security has brought a lot of day dreaming and wishful thinking on the part of many. Great numbers of people are willing and anxious to turn to any source whatever that has promise of help. Under the circumstances we will have to exercise care to prevent the turning to some desert

mirage or broken reed for help. That was the thing that Judah did, and the mistake might be repeated in our day.

Judah turned to Egypt in the time of her danger and this proved to be a broken reed. We, too are thinking a lot in terms of alliances. We feel if we can get enough of the nations of the world on our side, we will be secure. We are thinking in terms of Canada, South America and many of the nations of Europe. It may be well that we do this for we are dealing with an enemy that understands no language but that of force. We may have to form these alliances until something better is found that will prevent war. There is one thing, however, we must never forget and that is alliances alone have never permanently prevented war. This is the old balance of power idea. It will work for a while. It may enable us to hold to the fort until something better can be found. The trouble with the plan is the other side in the conflict is also getting more power all the while. The time will finally come when the aggressors feel that they are sufficiently strong to cope with the situation and then the trouble will begin.

Isaiah was not against alliances per se. The lesson of last Sunday quoted what he had to say about the matter in chapter 19, verses 23 through 25. There we find him predicting an alliance between Assyria, Egypt and Israel. This alliance, however, was not for the purpose of war. It was for the purpose of worship of God and service to humanity: "In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land." The thing that Isaiah objected to was an alliance for the purpose of war, and especially the fact that God was left entirely out of the matter. He commended alliances where they were made to do good rather than harm. If the alliances we are making today have only good as their chief motive, then good may ultimately come of them. On the other hand, if they are wholly for frightening the enemy and defeating him if war comes, then war will more than likely come.

It is rather strange that in the forming of alliances we usually work on the negative side of the question. Nations will get together to prevent war or to win it if it does come, but they will not get together for the purpose of rendering world-wide service. There are many world problems that need to be settled and it will take the co-operation of all to get the job done. For example, there is the race problem, the problem of capital and labor, the problem of world trade, and the lifting the standard of living throughout the earth. The solution of these problems will make for peace and not merely for the prevention of war. Permanent peace

will never come to this world until nations are just as positive and sacrificial in their efforts to win it as they are to win a war. Nations with vastly different ideologies can get together to win the war, but they are miles apart when it comes to winning the peace. Yet it takes the same degree of co-operation to win the one as it does the other.

Another false hope of security is that of improved weapons. For many months we had a monopoly on the atomic bomb, but all thinking people knew that that could not go on forever. It was estimated that the Russians would create the bomb in anywhere from five to eight years. They came through on the lesser time estimate. Now the world is in the midst of an armament race which is the surest way to lead finally to war.

Some feel that the way to prevent war is to make our would-be enemies fear us. That is about the most foolish hope of all. The best way to get a man to kill you is to make him thoroughly afraid of you. When he gets the drop on you he will use it. The same is true with a nation.

Yet another false hope is that of diplomacy and the "cold war". Some feel that if we can out-smart those who oppose us we will win out. The trouble with this is no one knows at what moment a cold war might develop into a hot one. If the two sides in the cold war world struggle keep jockeying for the advantage some one is more than likely to stagger into a situation that will start a shooting war. Surely, the hope of security does not lie here.

Politics is also a false hope. There are many who feel that the politicians will get the problems worked out. Isaiah began his career with that feeling. He placed his hope in Uzziah. In fact he trusted so fully in Uzziah that he could not see anything else until the king was removed: "In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord." Not many years ago hundreds of thousands were placing their hope in our late President. There is no doubt that FDR was a great man, but no man can solve the problems of this world.

#### III. Dangerous Trends

There are certain trends in our nation today that are not so wholesome. There is the trend, for example, toward inflation. If this should get out of hand, it could cause plenty of trouble. It has certainly done so in other nations.

Another evil is that of pressure groups. These are selfish people who want more than their just share of the good things of life. Some of them stand high in government circles. They barter their influence for a mess of pottage. They sell their good name for gold and their character for cash.

One of the most dangerous trends in our nation today is the ever increasing amount of government expenditure. One wonders when individuals in high places will cease adding unneeded personnel to the payroll of the government, and that at a time when taxes are already high and the budget is in the red.

There is also a dangerous increase in the consumption of liquor on the part of both men and women. The death toll on the highways of this nation is appalling. More people die annually on our highways than the number of our soldiers who were killed during any one year of the recent war. It is estimated that three-fourths of these accidents can be charged up to people driving or

walking the streets and highways while under the influence of liquor.

#### IV. Real Security

Isaiah believed that real security is to be found in God alone; "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid: for the Lord, even the Lord, is my strength and song; and he is become my salvation."

The Prophet felt certain that there is a personal, holy God who deals in the affairs of nations. Good will finally be rewarded and evil punished. He was certain that "There is a power not ourselves that makes for righteousness." He had unbounded confidence in the fact that "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a curse to any people." He was sure that God had a final goal for the world toward which he was moving. Rebellious individuals and nations could slow the Lord's progress, but they could not finally defeat his purpose. Peace that passeth understanding and a feeling of security that words cannot describe will come to the individual or the nation that trusts in God: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is staid in thee; because he trusteth in thee."

Isaiah's idea of trusting in God was not a do-nothing policy. "Faith without works is dead." One must both "trust and obey" if he is to be the happy recipient of God's blessings. Jesus said, "Not every one who saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he who doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven." The Prophet accused the nation of turning from God to seek help in false security. He warned that national salvation would come only in returning to the Lord: "For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; in returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength."

Isaiah was not only a prophet to Judah and during his particular age of the world. He is a prophet to all nations and during all ages. He stands out as a great statesman in history who interpreted international affairs in terms of God's law and moral purpose. He spoke a truth that will stand as long as time shall last. Over and over again he emphasized the fact that only in God can an individual or a nation find security. The world needs that security today. It is an inward matter rather than outward. The burning need of our time is a renewing of and a deepening of interest in the spiritual facts of life. This and this alone will stop the sweep of paganistic materialism.

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