

Arkansas Methodist

Serving One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Methodists in Arkansas

"The World is My Parish" — John Wesley

"Go into all the world" — Mark 16:15

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Him... Wicked Hands Have Crucified

THE caption of this article is taken from the sermon the Apostle Peter preached on the day of Pentecost. To this statement Peter adds, "Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it."

In reading these words we are reminded of a legendary story about satan. The story says that the devil one day found some seeds. Because he was the avowed enemy of God and all God was interested in, the devil decided to destroy the seeds. In order to destroy them, he decided to bury them. In the soil, of course, the seeds were in their native element and sunshine and showers soon caused them to produce the life for which God had made them.

This is about what happened when "wicked hands" crucified and buried Jesus. The enemies of our Lord, in their efforts to destroy Him, but created a situation which made possible the most impressive, convincing triumph in the life of Jesus as He arose from the dead on Easter morning.

It has often happened that the efforts of the world to destroy the Christian church have but driven Christian people into closer fellowship with God and thereby increased their power to live and grow. It was Tertullian, in the early days of the Christian church, who said, "Blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church." If the world crucifies us today it but gives us again an opportunity for the resurrection experience.

This Could Go On Indefinitely

IT is not difficult to understand why General MacArthur has declared, under present circumstances, that the settlement of the Korean war must await the work of diplomats.

The fortunes of battle have rested with first one side and then the other while the location of the battle lines has moved backwards and forwards across Korea with a monotonous regularity. According to MacArthur's opinion this process could go on indefinitely so long as the present limitations are experienced on each side.

It appears that the communists have definitely failed in their attempt to drive the United Nation's troops out of Korea. It appears, also, that no definite victory at arms is possible for the United Nations' troops so long as Manchuria may be used for mounting new attacks without interference by our forces. The man-power of China is all but inexhaustible. Given time and opportunity they could mount dangerous attacks just as often as we could prepare to resist them.

For the sake of everybody concerned, every effort possible should be made to stop such a worthless, indecisive loss of life in battles that, under the present limitations on both sides, could go on forever. Unless there is a change of attitude on the part of the Chinese or a change of policy in directing the forces of the United Nations we may expect the Korean war to last a long, long time.

It is generally expected, when our troops have reached the 38th parallel, that renewed efforts will be made for a cease-fire order. If the actual fighting could end, the possibility for successful negotiations would be more hopeful. No one, however, can be sure that the Chinese communists want peace. Their leaders may, in fact, want the fighting to continue.

Tragedy To Triumph

THE trial, the scourging, and the crucifixion of Jesus is the world's most astounding example of "man's inhumanity to man." Remembering the character of life Jesus lived, the tireless service He rendered to humanity in His day and the profound, deathless truths He so impressively taught, it is hard to imagine crucifixion as man's reward for such a life.

It is little wonder that those who knew Jesus best were stunned by the shock of His tragic death. They were bewildered by the knowledge that one like Jesus could receive such treatment by their fellow countrymen. Not only were they



amazed at what had happened to Jesus, their lives also were gripped by a deadly fear for their safety and by utter despair for the cause they loved.

The women who had watched at the cross while Jesus died also wept beside His open grave, believing that they had lost even the body of the One they had called Master and Lord. The two disciples traveling to Emmaus were so depressed that they were ready to reveal even to a stranger their loss of faith and hope. When the women reported to the disciples in hiding their conversation with angels at the empty grave of Jesus on that first Easter morning, Luke says, "their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not."

It was on such a tragic night of black despair that the glorious sunlight of the resurrection morning shone. Not only did Jesus himself pass through tragedy to His most amazing triumph, but His followers also went with Him through blackest night to the incomparable dawn of the first Easter morning. The darkness of the tragedy made all the more impressive the supreme miracle of the resurrection.

Meeting To Emphasize Rural Work

THE attention of North Arkansas Methodists is especially directed to the full page announcement on page 13 of this issue of the conference-wide Town and Country Church Convocation scheduled for Saturday, March 31, at the Fourche Valley High School, State Highway 28, between Briggsville and Bluffton. The meeting, sponsored by the North Arkansas Town and Country Commission, is projected to bring into focus the various agencies which are available for bettering the total life of the rural community. It is expected that District Superintendents, pastors and many laymen from over that conference will be present to join in the one day program.

Leadership secured for the meeting all but insures a profitable experience for those interested in the rural community. A. B. Bonds, State Commissioner of Education, L. A. Dhonau, State Director Agriculture Extension Service, Dr. P. K. Merrill, Arkansas Tech, Dr. Earle H. Hunt, President Arkansas Medical Association, Bishop Paul E. Martin, Arkansas-Louisiana, Dr. Ira A. Brumley, Executive Secretary North Arkansas Conference Board of Education, Mrs. Johnnie McClure, President North Arkansas Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service, and others, are listed for important addresses. The public is invited.

Convocation Program Announced

WE want to urge the lay Methodists of Arkansas to attend some of the several sessions of the Jurisdictional meetings in Little Rock, Monday through Thursday, April 2-5. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan now to be present for as much of the program as possible. Seldom do Arkansas Methodists have an opportunity to hear and share with others the inspiration of great messages by important leaders from beyond Arkansas. A glance at the program personnel of the Convocation on pages eight and nine of this issue should be convincing evidence that one of those rare opportunities is at hand.

Local church leaders in the Woman's Society of Christian Service will be especially interested in the program of Monday, April 2, when the Annual Meeting of the SC Jurisdiction Woman's Society of Christian Service will be held. Besides reports of the various lines of work of this organization, addresses will be given by Bishop A. Frank Smith, Houston, Tex., Mrs. C. A. Barr, Jurisdiction President, and Dr. G. Ernest Thomas, Spiritual Life Secretary, General Board of Evangelism.

By word of explanation, the Convocation proper is a meeting of the various Boards and Agencies of the SC Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church, that meets every four years, usually the third year of the quadrennium. This meeting is not an officially constituted meeting in that there is a disciplinary provision for it. In that respect the Convocation is not a legislative meeting. Rather, it is a simultaneous meeting of the several Boards and Agencies of the Jurisdictional organization. The members of these various Jurisdictional groups are thus the "delegates" to the Convocation. These delegates will meet in their respective Board sessions, altogether in the public sessions, and separately in the ten in-

(Continued on page 4)

Resurrection . . . Immortality

By W. W. REID

THE Apostle Paul had learned that here were certain people in the church in Corinth who said "there is no such thing as a resurrection from the dead"—meaning none for the human race. Apparently, they believed, however, that Christ rose from the dead.

To them Paul wrote: "If 'there is no such thing as a resurrection from the dead', then even Christ did not rise; and if Christ did not rise, then our preaching has gone for nothing, and your faith has gone for nothing too." (Moffatt)

Indeed, we may boldly assert that if there is no future life, nothing of existence for the individual after this life, then we live in an unmoral world. If there is no opportunity for a man to reach out farther toward the ideals for which he was striving in his earthly life—a striving definitely handicapped by an imprisoning body, its sins, its shortcomings; if there is no opportunity to conserve the lessons and experiences of the earthly pilgrimage and probation; if there is no opportunity for forgiveness, for repentance, for atonement, for understanding, for justice: then life has no meaning and is not worth the "effort of living." It would not even measure up to men's standards of fairness, righteousness, justice, morality. It would be a despot, a tyrant, a wastrel of human personality and character.

If men do not live on after this life, there may be point to the worldling's advice, "Let's eat and drink, for we will be dead tomorrow"—and we'll be a long time dead! Without immortality, human life would be unrelieved tragedy.

But the more men delve into the mysteries of the universe the more they come to an almost inevitable conclusion that, in the economy of the Creator, nothing is lost, though there is constant change of form and

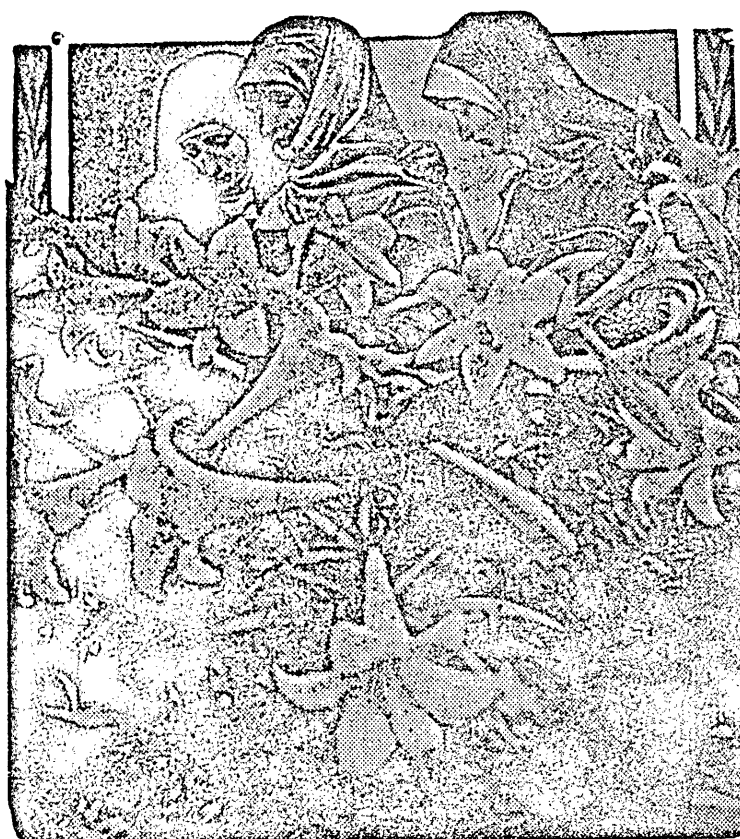
substance; nothing is without orderliness and design, and therefore purpose; and that there are powers, and stresses, and "influences" (some known, many unknown) that are at work on the earth and in the universe—and within the atom. These men cannot see, or weigh, or measure. Yet they are very real,

and even man is what he is largely because of them. Today no scientist will dogmatically say, "There is no life after this life." He may have questions, he may have definitions different from ours, but he cannot think of any force or value being "lost."

We recall that Dr. Einstein labored for years to perfect a scientific formula because he could not believe there was "chance" at work in the world. And Atomic Energy Commissioner Pike said only the other day, "The atom is a completely law-abiding creature: the use to which its energy is put depends entirely on the people who guide it." In every scientific field—microscopy to biology and astronomy—men are expressing amazement and awe at the orderliness of the universe and all that is therein. And whenever there is orderliness there is purpose.

Because I believe this is a purposeful universe, I believe it is a moral one. And because it is moral (with far higher ideals of justice and right than are mine), I believe God (and his universe) will not fling away my personality, my hopes, the fruit of my travail upon earth. Rather will my spirit (now housed in an imperfect physical chamber) be freed for new understanding, growth, and achievement. So, with the poet, I believe:

*"Thou wilt not leave us in the dust:
Thou madest man, he knows not why,
He thinks he was not made to die;
And Thou hast made him: THOU
ART JUST."*



STEPHENS CHURCH OBSERVES WEEK OF DEDICATION

By ALFRED I. DOSS, Pastor

THE planning committee met weeks in advance to make plans for the Week of Dedication in our church. Last year we invited former pastors to preach each evening and we were happy over the results. The committee decided, this year, to take the emphasis to the various groups in our organization.

On Wednesday evening preceding the Week of Dedication, we held family night. Each family brought a basket of food and the attendance was splendid. The work of the planning committee was presented to this group and was discussed.

her subject was, "To Your Altars, Methodist Women." She also showed pictures of the work of the Little Rock Conference women. After the program, a tea was given in Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday evening was Methodist Men's Night. This was a dinner meeting served by the local Woman's Society of Christian Service. Monroe Dixon of Camden, was the guest speaker. Other guests were Dr. Connor Morehead, district superintendent, Rev. Fred Ward, local Baptist minister and Dr. Henry G. Hearnberger. Sixty-five men were

in attendance and voted to meet again in March to organize a Methodist Men's Club.

Thursday evening was Choir Night. Discussions on "The Ministry of Music in Public Worship" and plans for the work of the choir for the next quarter was the order of the evening. The pastor led the discussions. Miss Nora Morgan is organist and director.

Friday evening was Church School Workers' Night. A set of slides on "A Tour of Jerusalem" was presented and a recording, "The Story of Mrs. Henderson," was given. An

interesting and profitable discussion followed "The Story of Mrs. Henderson." A number of decisions developed that will improve our program or religious education. W. J. Hatley is general superintendent, Mrs. Helen Smith is Adult Division superintendent, Mrs. Alfred Doss, is Youth Division superintendent, and Mrs. Jamie Talley is Children's Division superintendent.

Sunday was THE DAY OF DEDICATION. A great congregation filled the sanctuary at the morning hour. Our attendance was the largest since Easter Sunday. The pastor's Sermon was "We Take a Look" (Continued on page 14)

The congregation of the Stephens Church on Sunday morning at the Day of Dedication service.

So Loudly They Hailed

A PALM SUNDAY SERMON

By ALFRED A. KNOX, Pastor First
Methodist Church, West Memphis

Editors' Note: The following Palm Sunday sermon was delivered by Rev. Alfred Knox at First Methodist Church, West Memphis, where he is pastor. At the request of the Editors of the Arkansas Methodist the manuscript was made available for publication.

"The whole multitude began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice." (Luke 19:37)



I am often amused at the way in which talent shows on radio decide the winners—by the loudness of their applause. This has never been a reliable method of counting the forces on any side of a question. When I visited in the Arkansas Legislature recently I was impressed by the operation of the voting machines. There was a time when the man with the loudest voice could exert an influence on

legislative action far out of proportion to what he should have been able to bring to bear, simply because he outshouted the others. When one reads the history of American politics he is made aware of the fact that even presidents have been nominated and elected by this device. "So loudly they hailed" is a phrase from our national anthem, and it also is a testimony of weakness in our national politics. But it was not a device to fool our Lord.

There are some who believe that the events of Palm Sunday were the spontaneous outbursts of seven hundred years of pent-up Messianic expectancy in the hearts of the Jews in town for the Passover. Others believe that certain of his followers, anxious to have him declare himself as political and military leaders of Israel, decided that by a planned demonstration they would force Jesus' hand and compel him to step out and declare himself. But Jesus was not so easily fooled. He had a purpose in entering Jerusalem in a messianic fashion, but his purpose did not coincide with theirs. There was a shout in the air, loud "hosannas" filled the streets, but his eyes were filled to overflowing with tears.

To have been at the center of the Palm Sunday triumph, and then to have known what course the same people would take ere the week was over, as Jesus did know, would have made any of us weep. In *The Nazarene*, Sholem Asch has his central character, one of Jesus' company say: "Two great tears were seen to swell up in his eyes and to roll down his cheeks. He knew then in his heart that which all of us felt then, and He prayed: 'O God have mercy on Jerusalem'."

At the Passover season Jerusalem had put on a new garment and welcomed her children streaming in from the far corners of the world . . . Babylonian Jews with thick, black, curled beards . . . Phoenecian Jews with the beasts of the field and forest embroidered in gold on their garments . . . thousands of poor Jews with the smell of the fields and waters of Israel on their garments . . . some authorities say that there were as many as three million Jews in the city for the Passover. And the Sunday of Jesus' triumphal entry was the occasion when they selected their Pascal Lamb for the great sacrifice. Conceivably Jesus took advantage of that day to offer himself as the "lamb for the slaughter."

Entering the city this did not start as a great procession. Peter was leading the animal on which Jesus sat, and only a few of the closer and poorer followers of Jesus came along behind. The days immediately before had been days of extreme unpopularity—the following had dwindled. No longer were there thousands following in His train. But when Judas made the announcement: "Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, which comes in the name of the Lord," then people came from everywhere—they caught the fever of enthusiasm—they had

waited centuries to crown the Messiah—they had marched half-heartedly in similar processions each year at Passover. But now the spark was fanned to its brightest flame—and the clamor of their shouting had never been equalled in loudness. Borrowing the description of the scene from *The Nazarene*: we read "The people were now almost frenzied . . . suddenly possessed of the idea that they would never have to return to their poverty and daily occupations . . . a vast procession of people hungry for salvation—a tormented people unable to wait any longer rushed toward the Temple with their Prophet and Liberator, to be witnesses of the great fulfillment."

Jesus rode straight on in majesty because his aim was high—his mind was in the heavens. His purpose reminds us of a story told by Dr. Earl Marlatt. He was in Officers Training School with his brother in World War I and was about to fail because he couldn't even march straight. The brother would take him out after hours and practice with him. Finally his brother said: "You can learn to march. All you have to do is pick out something high and far against the sky . . . a tree, a steeple, a star, then march right toward it. You'll go straight if you just look high enough." Disciples, his enemies, his own mind had sought to turn him from this course, but now his mind was high and his purpose was true as he rode through the multitude which hailed him so loudly—and so blindly.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
Then take, O God, thy power and reign.
—Henry Milman

I. Chief Characteristic of This Triumphal Entry Was Its Loudness

A popular demonstration is notoriously untrustworthy, always running to extremes—necessarily uttering itself with a loudness far in excess of individual convictions, and gathering to itself the loose and floating mass of people who have no convictions of their own, and are thankful to anyone who leads them and gives them a cue. Have you not often noticed onlookers carried away by the tide of a day's circumstances. So were many of the idle pilgrims in Jerusalem swept off their feet by the contagious cry which Judas had started: "Hosannah in the highest." It must have been a humbling experience for our Lord to be ushered into Jerusalem by a crowd, through whose "Hosannah's" he could already hear the mutter of their curses.

Too often, men who would follow Jesus have sought to re-enforce a lack of faith with loudness. We heard of a minister who, in his sermon outline, was accustomed to putting notations in the margin as to the color of his delivery at certain points. At one point in a sermon was this advice to himself: "Yell like the Devil—there's not much here."

Dr. Ralph Sockman tells us: "But glorifying God is not a mere explosion of emotion in words or song. It is the glow of love generating the power of godly action. It means so living that men may see our good works and glorify not us, but our Father which is in Heaven. It means getting ourselves out of the picture and putting God in."

In the matter of both loudness and size the church has been so often threatened by the temptation to "jumboism". We are reminded of P. T. Barnum's great elephant Jumbo whose only claim to fame was her size. Halford Luccock in commenting on this temptation in religion reminds us: "On a certain Sunday more



than 600,000 people jammed the boardwalk at Coney Island . . . more than all the Christians who took part in the Crusades. More than all the missionaries who have gone out to spread the Christian faith since the day of Resurrection . . . but what does such a crowd add up to . . . PEANUTS! Let the church beware of the threat of Jumboism—size—loudness—so that it becomes a Coney Island crowd (a Palm Sunday crowd) instead of a company of disciples.

"Hosannah in the highest!
That ancient song we sing
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of Heaven our King
O may we ever praise him
With heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence
Eternally rejoice."
—Jeannette Threfall

II. Jesus Was Not Fooled By The Clamor.

Jesus knew that the throne to which he was now called was the cross, that his coronation was the placing on his own brow of all the thorns and stings and burdens that man's sin had brought into the world. He did not fancy that the redemption of the world was an easy matter which could be accomplished by an afternoon's enthusiasm. He measured with accuracy the forces against Him and understood that His warfare was not against the forces of Rome, but with principalities and powers, a thousand-fold stronger; with the demons of hatred and jealousy; of lust and wordliness; of carnality and selfishness.

Jesus was never fooled by the attitudes of the multitudes. He knew their motives were selfish. As he had called down woes on the cities of Bethsaida and Capernaum, so we would not conclude that He took the loud praises of Jerusalem seriously when He paused in the journey to see the city as it was and say: "If thou hadst known, even though at least in this last day, the things which belong unto thy peace. But now they are hid from thine eyes."

No one actually took the Triumphal Procession seriously. The Roman soldiers said it's just another Jewish observance; the followers went with Jesus to the temple and quickly dissipated their emotions; Jesus went through the whole experience with a sad look on his face. He knew that the time of his ascendancy had come—but it was not the loud Hosannahs which made for triumph, it was the victory of the cross which he knew was His.

He allowed Himself to be hailed as king on that day when He knew there was to be no political upheaval. It was later in the week when the cross became a cruel weight upon His shoulders that He said: "Be of good cheer I have overcome the world." You see, with Jesus and His true followers the reality of conquest does not wait for the recognition of conquest . . . the hour of real victory is not when the public acclaims the achievement, but when the victor becomes certain of conquest in his heart. There are many who did the most to bring the United Nations to V-Day who have not yet felt in their heart that victory has been achieved. When Francis Scott Key rode out a harrowing night on a British warship writing the Star-Spangled Banner which includes these words, "then conquer we must for our cause it is just", certainly his confidence was not based on visible signs of victory because they were not there, but there was faith in his heart that triumph was inevitable.

Jesus did not let himself be tempted with
(Continued on page 4)

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A WEEKLY MESSAGE

By FORNEY HUTCHINSON

THE LAND OF BEGINNING AGAIN

Recently I was re-reading what I consider to be a beautiful poem. The first verse sets forth the title of the poem and reads as follows:

"I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again;
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
And all our poor selfish grief
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat
at the door,
And never put on again."

It appealed to me greatly, and as I thought about it, I found myself saying, "There is a place just like that. It is at the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ." There we can lay our burdens down and go away with a song. There we come, stained with sin, and go away "washed and made whiter than snow." The Cross not only saves us from our "mistakes, all our heartaches and poor selfish grief," but more than that, it saves us from our sins. Nothing else can.

The need of our poor, sin-stained, war-ridden world today is the cleansing that comes through the cross of Jesus. Nothing less can provide this cleansing.

"In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime."

Burdened, sin-stained, heavily-laden, let us come to the cross and there lay our burdens down, and "go away with a song." Thank God, there is a Land of Beginning Again! Every day should mark for us a new beginning. It's the "land that is fairer than day."

NOTICE TO CHURCH TREASURERS

The books of the Central Treasury will be closed for the credit of receipts to the current fiscal year with the close of business on Wednesday, June 6, 1951.

Your help is needed in securing from the local church treasurers, a full remittance of all general funds received through Sunday, May 27th.

A few conferences failed to receive full credit last year due to the slowness of the mails. June 2nd should be a safe date for mailing your remittance.

Thank you sincerely for your assistance.

Cordially,

Thomas B. Lugg,

Treasurer, World Service and Finance

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

REV. ROLAND E. DARROW, pastor at Monticello, was the speaker at the Warren Men's Fellowship dinner on Wednesday, March 14.

REV. ALFRED KNOX, pastor at West Memphis, writes: "We are having a visitation campaign this week with Rev. S. B. Wilford directing, and our first night gives indication that we will have a very successful campaign."

HOLY WEEK services are being held in Warren alternating between the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches. The pastors, Rev. Gordon MacPherson, Presbyterian Church, and Rev. J. E. Cooper, Methodist Church, are doing the preaching.

THE Little Rock Sub-District Methodist Youth Fellowship will see the motion picture "Again Pioneers" at their monthly meeting at Henderson Methodist Church Monday, March 26, at 7:30 p. m. Barbara Agee will be in charge of the program.

DR. C. M. REVES announces the meeting of the Planning Committee of the North Arkansas Conference, Wednesday, March 28, 10:00 a. m., First Methodist Church, North Little Rock. Committee members and other interested persons are invited to attend.

DR. ROY L. SMITH of Chicago, publishing agent of The Methodist Church, will deliver the sermon on the Columbia Broadcasting System's Church of the Air on April 1, from 9:00 to 9:30 CST. Dr. Smith's subject will be "Our Debts to Fools."

BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN announces the appointment of Rev. Jeff E. Davis as associate minister of Winfield Church, Little Rock. Brother Davis has just finished his theological training at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University.

MRS. JESSIE HOTCHKISS SMITH of Hot Springs passed away on Thursday, March 15, at the home of a nephew, Brooks Hayes, in Hot Springs. Mrs. Smith was for many years treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Little Rock Conference and was very active in other lines of church work.

REV. GEORGE TROBOUGH, member of the North Arkansas Conference in attendance at the Boston University School of Theology announces that the Holy Week Services at the Flint Street Methodist Church, Somerville, Mass., where he is serving as student pastor will include sermons by Rev. Chester F. Waterman, Dr. Elmer A. Leslie, Bishop Lewis O. Hartman, Rev. Archiver J. Strait, and Bishop John Wesley Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the Vanderbilt School of Religion's Spring Convocation which is to be held April 2, 3 and 4, in Nashville. The general subject is "Psychotherapy and the Pastoral Ministry" and speakers are Dr. Paul Scherer, Brown Professor of Homiletics, Union Theological Seminary; Dr. Albert Outler, Dwight Professor of Theology, Yale University and Dr. Otis Rice, religious director of St. Luke's Hospital, New York.

REV. H. W. JINSKE, pastor of the Gravette Church, writes: "Dr. Matt L. Ellis, president of Hendrix College, filled the pulpit of the Gravette Methodist Church on Sunday morning, March 11. He was the guest of the parsonage family. His message on 'Bearing one another's burdens and bearing one's own burden' was well received and appreciated by the congregation. He prefaced his message with statements relative to Hendrix College and its program of education. Miss Charlotte Ann Ferrell, Miss Crow and Miss Ragsdale, juniors at Hendrix, accompanied him to Gravette."

As indicated above it will be necessary for us to close our books with reports which have reached our office through Sunday, May 27.—C. E. Hayes, Little Rock Conference Treasurer.

SO LOUDLY THEY HAILED

(Continued from page 3)

the habit-forming drug of lust for flattery, a temptation which with many of His disciples destroys the effectiveness of work in His kingdom and becomes an end in itself and the substitute for achievement. The craving for recognition, the manipulation to get it, have so often demoralized the working forces of the kingdom. Jesus offers two cures for this habit: 1. the grip of the great enterprise itself; 2. the realization that the most glittering honor—His Distinguished Service Award—is when He said, "Behold I have called you friends."

III. As No Other Day In The Church Year, This Should Be The Day of Self-Examination. All through Holy Week, we are apt to be judging those who because of the circumstances were thrown directly into the ugly lights and shadows of the Passion picture. We condemn them, and say, Had we only been there the whole scene would have been different. Yet we are the ones of whom Jesus thought and for whom he wept, for we crucify him anew:

Not only once, and long ago
There on Golgotha's rugged side,
Has Christ the Lord been crucified
Because He loves a lost world so.
But hourly souls, sin satisfied,
Mock His great love, flout His commands,
And drive nails deep into His hands,
And thrust the spear within His side.
—John Richard Moreland

There is the searching question in the negro spiritual: "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" And the obvious answer is "No, of course not, how could I have been there?" But then the song goes on with its inquisition, driving us all to look within ourselves and sing in that last line, "Sometimes it makes my heart to tremble—tremble!"

In one of his great masterpieces Rembrandt has pictured for us the Crucifixion. Gathered about the foot of the cross are those familiar figures who were there and who were a part of that cruel experience. But there in the background is one whom we do not recognize. Who can that stranger be? Students of art tell us that it is Rembrandt himself, painted into the scene to suggest to all of us that none is free of responsibility for these cruel things which were done to our Lord. "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" You certainly were. And so was I!

We are confronted with an awful spectacle. A moving picture on a vast screen, but back of it are small films, the incredibly small films of individual people and their sins, in whom the larger picture has its origin and explanation. We are often aware of the Hollywood technique of photographing a scene in a movie against a background made by projecting other films. So was Golgotha projected onto the screen of eternity and because this is so, no one of us is totally free of responsibility for what took place.

Conclusion

I rejoice as much as any person in the recreation of the events of the great day on which our Lord rode triumphantly into Jerusalem, and into our lives. I would not suggest that we leave off singing the triumphant hymns so long associated with Palm Sunday. But my dear friends as we sing them—as we so loudly hail our King, let us take heed lest we crucify him afresh when we would be crowning him.

"Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes 'Hosanna' cry:
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road—
With palms and scattered garments strewed."
—Henry Milman

CONVOCATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

(Continued from page 1)

terest groups which will deal with the many aspects of the Convocation theme: "Our Ministry—The Minister and The Laymen Working Together."

The public sessions are open to all persons interested in attending and it is in these sessions that addresses by outstanding churchmen will be delivered. Again, let us urge a careful study of the program as outlined elsewhere in this issue, and may a great host of Arkansas Methodists take advantage of this rare opportunity of hearing these leaders who have much to offer.

CURRENT NEWS IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD

Selected from Religious News Service Releases

Sen. Tobey Asks Return To Religion

Sen. Charles W. Tobey (R.-N. H.), made an impassioned plea for a return to religious principles at an open hearing of the Senate crime investigating committee in Federal Courthouse in New York. The 70-year-old New Englander wept as he told a crowded courtroom that there is a need for "the return by men to the Master of Men." Sen. Tobey quoted from the poem, "Problems," by John Greenleaf Whittier, which ends with the couplet "Solution there is none, save in the Golden Rule of Christ alone." "When the hearts of men and women are touched," Sen. Tobey said, "they will have a righteous and a new America, and we will have in this nation a nation in which dwelleth righteousness, and before God, it is high time!" For a moment the spectators were silent, then they burst into applause.

Kansas Drys Launch Prohibition Drive

A state-wide drive to bring prohibition back to Kansas was launched in Kansas City, Kans., by Kansas United Dry forces. The Rev. Sam Morris, San Antonio, Texas, temperance leader, will address a series of regional rallies held in connection with the campaign. Mr. Morris told an audience of 800 persons at the Washington Avenue Methodist church in Kansas City that legal control of liquor is not a satisfactory solution to the alcohol problem. "When you vote for legal control instead of prohibition," he said, "you endorse the sale of liquor, whether you ever buy or sell any of it yourself or not." Mr. Morris, a Baptist clergyman, cited statistics from townships, towns, and counties in states which have local option, showing how much the prohibition movement has advanced in recent years.

Pro-Communists Seize Control Of Chinese Lutheran Church

A pro-Communists minority of native church workers has seized control of the Lutheran Church in China and has announced its intention to build a "Chinese People's independent Church," cut off from "the influence and relationship of imperialism," the National Lutheran and Council has disclosed. According to information received by the Council, the coup occurred at Hankow late in January at a special meeting arranged by a small group of young pastors and attended by a select list of "over 40" native churchmen. The meeting deposed Dr. Peng Fu, president of the church, and other officers, replacing them with pastors more amenable to Communist domination. Participants in the meeting adopted a manifesto in which they described themselves as an "Enlarged Council" representing "90,000 Christians"—the entire membership of the Lutheran Church of China. The body is made up of 16 synods which were founded and supported by Lutheran mission agencies in North America and Europe.

Big Attendances Expected At Easter Sunrise Services

Record attendances are expected

at Easter sunrise services in various parts of the country this year. Organizers of such services anticipate heavy attendances despite the possibility of inclement weather due to the fact that Easter Sunday comes early this year—on March 25. In several instances plans have been made to transfer scheduled outdoor services indoors in case of bad weather. Easter sunrise services will be held in a number of areas for the first time this year. One of these is Dallas, Texas, where the 75,349-seat Cotton Bowl will be the scene of a gigantic Easter pageant sponsored by the Dallas Council of Churches.

Communist Regimes Abolishing Army Chaplaincies

Communist regimes in Eastern Europe are working toward the abolition of chaplaincies in their armed forces, recent developments indicate. In Poland, Protestant and Jewish chaplains have been pensioned off and the vacancies are not being filled. There is still a Catholic chaplains' department in the Polish army, but it is staffed by "patriotic priests." In Romania the situation is similar, while in Czechoslovakia and Hungary army chaplains have been declared "redundant."

Texas Legislature Gets Prohibition Bill

A bill calling for a state-wide prohibitional election in Texas next year was introduced in the state legislature in Austin, Texas. The measure would prohibit the sale of whiskey, beer, wine or ale, except for medicinal purposes. It provides for an election the first Monday of November, 1952. Texas already has 142 counties totally dry by local option, according to the 1950 annual report of the State Liquor Control Board. In 91 counties distilled spirits are legal; in 19 counties 4 per cent beer is legal, and in two counties 14 per cent beverages are legal.

480 Native Korean Pastors Vanish

Four hundred and eighty native pastors, Protestant and Roman Catholic, have "vanished" under the North Korean regime. This report was made in San Francisco by the Rev. Edward Adams, Presbyterian field secretary in Korea, enroute to that country after a visit to the United States. "I would say the chances are nine to one against their still being alive," he said. Dr. Adams said he based his figure of 480 on reports collected by church headquarters in the United States. "It began under the Russians," he said, "and when they pulled out the North Korean government continued with it. First the pastors were asked to sign pledges supporting the North Korean government. Then many of them were told to give only one service a week. Children were told not to attend Sunday school. They seemed far more concerned with the children than with the old people." Dr. Adams said the Communists also applied pressure against Christians through their system of giving out food and jobs.

Soviet Zone Relaxes Pressure On Church

There are indications that the

pressure exerted on the Evangelical Church in the Soviet Zone of Berlin by Communist authorities is relaxing and—on the surface—giving way to a "conciliatory" attitude. The politburo of the Socialist Unity (Communist) Party was reported here to have instructed Eastern German authorities to show a "friendly attitude" toward the Churches, particularly the Evangelical Church. Earlier, Premier Otto Grotewohl had advised the Brandenburg government to continue paying State subsidies to the Berlin-Brandenburg Church management.

Quakers Urge Action For World Disarmament

American leadership in pressing for general world disarmament was urged in a letter to Secretary of State Dean Acheson by the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia. "We believe," the Quaker group said, "that war has ceased to be effective as an instrument of national policy, and has become an instrument of civilization's destruction; therefore, disarmament is a first order of business for the world." Signed by Henry J. Cadbury, chairman of the Committee, and Lewis M. Hoskins, executive secretary, the letter said: "The time has come to implement the United Nations Charter and the Assembly Declaration, to eliminate all weapons of mass destruction, and reduce and control other armaments."

President Urges Reverent Good Friday Observance

President Truman has urged a more reverent observance of Good Friday. In a letter to the Rev. J. Warren Hastings, chairman of the Washington Committee for the Three Hours Observance of Good Friday, the President said that it would be well for the nation if Good Friday were "widely observed throughout the country." Writing from Key West, Fla., where he is on vacation, Mr. Truman noted that the Washington Committee is made up of representatives of all denominations, and said "our hearts should be filled with gratitude that in the capital of this free nation Christians of the various loyalties and convictions are preparing to keep with due solemnity the Three Hours observance."

Government Warns Religious Groups On Construction Controls

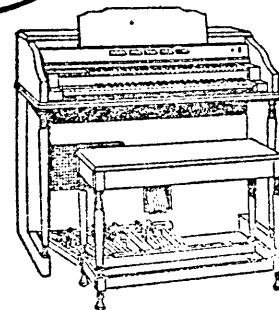
Religious bodies must apply for permits before erecting any type of building other than an edifice designed exclusively for worship, the National Production Authority has said. The government agency added, however, that it would give "sympathetic consideration" to requests from religious groups. The NAPA, in a statement clarifying its construction control order, M-4, said that all types of building contemplated by the YMCA, YWCA, and YMHA and similar service organizations are prohibited under the order and that special permits must be granted before construction can begin. NPA officials said that because permission has been granted in many instances to religious organizations for the erection of community buildings. Sunday

school additions, and similar non-worship facilities, the impression has been given that religious groups are totally exempt from the construction order. The officials pointed out that this is not true, and advised that religious bodies make certain that construction is of an authorized type before proceeding lest penalties be incurred. It was also pointed out that alterations, including such jobs as the installation of acoustical tile, are not considered maintenance and repair and that if the value of such work exceeds \$5,000 in any one year, it is necessary to secure a permit for it.

Protestants Ask Continuation Of Present Postage Rates

An appeal for continuation of the mail subsidy for religious publications which has been in effect since 1879 was made to the House post office and civil service committee by representatives of 38 Protestant publishing houses. Five witnesses, appearing jointly on behalf of the church-owned publishing houses, told the committee that a proposed doubling of second-class mail rates would cost their denominations nearly one million dollars a year. Testifying before the committee were Luther Wesley Smith, secretary, American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia; Porter Routh, representing the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn.; Col. H. Torrey Walker of the United Lutheran Publication House, Philadelphia; Dr. John Ribble of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., Philadelphia; and Dr. Roy L. Smith of the Methodist Publishing House, Nashville. Congress is considering legislation which would increase second-class mailing rates 50 per cent immediately, and 25 per cent additional each of the next two years. The bill also would double the the postcard mailing rate and the one-cent per-cancelled rate, both heavily used by religious groups.

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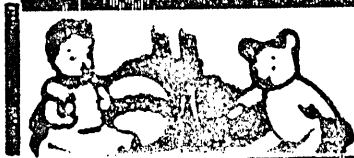


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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURN, Editor



IN STORYLAND

A VIOLET'S EASTER

By Thomas R. Waring, Jr.

Did you ever stop to think that flowers had an Easter? Why, of course they do, and mighty happy ones too. Well I am glad to tell you about a violet's Easter.

In a little town called Brookville there was a big river by which the children used to play. Now by this river there grew one lonely violet bush, that grew one violet a year. No one had ever noticed this bush before so it just grew, for the beauty of growing. One day about a week before Easter Mrs. Lovell was walking by the river, when all at once she saw the little violet looking so sweet and pretty in the grass. She looked at it and then said: "Oh! what a lovely violet, I will pick it and put it in the bunch I have to decorate the church with for Easter." So saying she knelt down and picked it. The violet was so happy that it could have screamed for joy. Mrs. Lovell carried it home and put it among some other very handsome violets. They stayed in the beautiful house until one day Mrs. Lovell came in and took them to the church. Every one admired them, but above all the rest they noticed the little violet that had come from by the river. "Oh! how lovely that one is," they all said.

"And, oh, it has such a pretty color."

"Where shall we put it?" they said.

"We will put it on the altar," said Mrs. Lovell.

So the little violet and all of the other violets were put in a beautiful vase and placed on the altar. Easter morning every one admired them, and after church a lady beautifully dressed came up to Mrs. Lovell and said, "Would you please give me violets from the altar? They are so handsome and I know a poor little sick boy who would like them." "Why certainly I will with pleasure." So the little violet and all of the rest were given to the lady.

She carried them home and packed them in a beautiful box and sent them to the poor little sick boy. When he opened it he exclaimed: "Oh! Mother, look, a beautiful bunch of flowers from the altar. And, oh! look at this dear little one here." "Yes, they are indeed beautiful! I will put them here in the window where they can get sunlight, and you can see them all the time," said his mother.

So they were placed in the window and that night if the violet could have talked I am sure it would have said: "I am the happiest little violet on earth."—In Ex.

AN EASTER SECRET

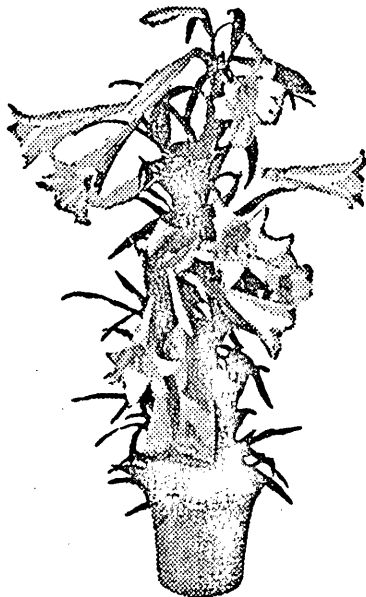
By Lulu A. Brett

Easter flowers look so happy!

Wonder why they look so gay—
Guess it's cause they're giving, giving,

So much of happiness away!

—In Ex.



EASTER LILIES

Beautiful Easter flowers,
Lilies so stately and fair
Speak of God's love to all children,
Tell of His great loving care.

Speak of new life at springtime
Coming out of winter's sleep,
Of sunshine and rain and lush brown earth,
Protecting and warm and deep.

Beautiful Easter lilies
In gleaming dress of white,
Bringing their beauty to all the earth,
To brighten and delight.—A.E.W.

STORY OF A DANDELION

A dandelion grew in a garden plot,
In the shade of an old stone wall;
Her slender leaves made an emerald mat,
Where the stem grew straight and tall.

In the cool spring days she had worn
a hood
That was small and tight and green;
She wore it as long as she possibly could,
Till many a hole was seen.

Then she sent down word through
her stem and mat
To the storehouse under her feet,
That she needed at once a bright new hat,
With trimmings and all complete.

It was fine as silk and yellow as gold,
Like a star that had fallen down;
With brightest trimmings and all complete,
The gayest hat in town.

And next she wanted a summer hat,
Adorned with small white plumes;
So they sent her one in place of that
They had sent with yellow blooms.

For many a day she waved and danced,
And bowed to the birds and bees;
For many a day the sunbeams glanced

Through leaves of the friendly trees.

But a brisk little wind went by one day,
"Please give me your hat!" he cried.

He carried the little white plumes away,
And scattered them far and wide.
—Kindergarten Review

JUST FOR FUN

The woman lion tamer had the animals under perfect control. At her summons the fiercest lion came meekly to her and took a lump of sugar from her mouth. The circus crowd marveled—all except one man. "Anybody could do that," he called repeatedly until the ringmaster scornfully said: "Would you dare do it?"

"Certainly," said the cocky customer, coming into the ring. "I can do it as well as the lion can."—Ladies' Home Journal

The homeseeker had searched throughout the California countryside for a place to call his own. Driving into a small town, he tracked down the local realtor. This transplanted Iowan said he had nothing available and then consolingly added: "You know, friend, there's nothing like the green fields

IN THE WORLD OF BOYS AND GIRLS

KEEPING EASTER

O fresh new grass, what will you do
To help the world keep Easter?
I'll dress the hills in forest green
And deck the vales in velvet sheen
To help the world keep Easter.

O little flower, what will you do
To help the world keep Easter?
With odors sweet I'll fill the air
And spread abroad my colors fair
To help the world keep Easter.

O little bird, what will you do
To help the world keep Easter?
I'll gaily flit from tree to tree
And sing my sweetest songs with glee
To help the world keep Easter.

—Selected

A CHILD'S EASTER SONG

The world has come awake
And will be lovely soon
With warm sunlight at noon
And ripples on the lake.

Now soon the ground will flower
And scarlet tulips grow
Down borders in a row
All open in an hour.

For where the earth was brown,
The pointed leaves of green
Reach out, and there are seen
Red flowers folded down.

The snows have gone away
And all the little birds
Sing songs that need no words
For this is Easter Day!

—Margaret Widdemer, In Ex.

GOOD NIGHT

Some things go to sleep in such a funny way;
Little birds stand on one leg and tuck their heads away;
Chickens do the same, standing on their perch;
Little mice lie soft and still as if they were in church;
Kitten curl up close in such a funny ball;

Horses hang their sleepy heads and stand still in the stall;
Sometimes dogs stretch out, or curl up in a heap;
Cows lie down upon their sides when they would go to sleep.
But little babies dear are snugly tucked in beds,
Warm with blankets, all so soft and pillows for their heads.
Birds and beast and babe—I wonder which of all
Dream the dearest dreams that down from dreamland fall.

—Child Lore

for your carpet, and then at night Mother Nature covers you with a blanket of stars and the blue sky is your roof."

"I agree with you," replied the homeseeker, "but I need something smaller."—Christian Herald

LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT YOUTH VISIT NASHVILLE, TENN.

A four-day tour may sound like child's play to those who enjoy longer periods of travel. But, to ten Methodist students and those of us privileged to be their guides, our recent trip will long be remembered. It began Wednesday, February 21st, at 5 p. m., and ended Sunday night, February 25th. We were grateful for the experiences of those four days for we came to the end of Dedication Week truly determined to dedicate our lives to the Christian way of life. One student expressed it this way. "I am fully convinced that I must have a purpose in life to be happy, or get much out of living, and that purpose must be to find my place of service in God's Kingdom."

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Little Rock District sponsored the tour to encourage the student volunteer, and to help him in finding his place of service. The student secretaries from the local churches and Mrs. Fred Arnold, District Secretary of Student Work, prepared a delicious and bountiful picnic lunch for our first meal. This was the beginning of our new appreciation of the Woman's Society of Christian Service!

Arriving at Wesley House in Louisville, Ky., around noon Thursday we were rushed to the home of Mrs. Sam Overstreet, former Conference Secretary of Missionary Personnel, who had prepared lunch for us. Seated around her huge dining room table were the thirteen of us, Rev. and Mrs. Hightower, Miss Berry, a missionary from India, Helen Mandlebaum, Head Resident from Wesley House, and the elderly father-in-law of Mrs. Overstreet. He was quite a Kentucky gentleman, using his mustache cup which was the first one most of us had seen used. The fellowship of this hour was very stimulating, and thus our adventure began.

We spent the afternoon and evening seeing many groups in action at Wesley House, in conference with Miss Mandlebaum, and walking over the neighborhood to somewhat study the community before our last discussion with the staff. Each of us was given a packet of materials including the history of the institution, a program of activities, annual report, etc.

On our way to Nashville Friday morning we made hurried visits to My Old Kentucky Home, and to the birthplace and boyhood of Abraham Lincoln. We arrived at Bethlehem Center around four. After a tour of the institution and staff apartments, and a discussion on the program activities, we had dinner in the Center dining room. Our meals were prepared by members of the staff, and each one was a delightful occasion. Guests from other settlements, Scarritt College or the community were included, and the fellowship was most inspiring.

Friday evening some Nationals enrolled at Scarritt College from China, Japan, India, Sweden and Peru joined us at the Center for a round-table discussion. Miss Margaret Young, head of the Group Work School of Scarritt, and a former head resident of Bethlehem Center, climaxed the evening for us.

Saturday morning Fred Rogers, Head Resident of Bethlehem Center,

led us on a tour to Vanderbilt, Peabody, Fisk and a settlement house in North Nashville. We returned to Fisk at 12:30 to hear the rehearsal of the Jubilee Singers. What a thrill! We then visited the Wesley House in South Nashville, and Lucy Holt Moore Community Center. Since we had an hour before our scheduled tour of Scarritt College we drove out to the Hermitage for a hurried visit to the home of Andrew Jackson. After our guided tour through Scarritt College we had dinner there. We could not help catching something of the spirit of Scarritt through our association with its family, and lingering in its buildings. The Tennessee Student Conference was in session, so some of us heard Roy Smith that night, while others joined Wong in a visit to a Chinese Restaurant, and to see the lighted parthenon!

Our trip home on Sunday was a joy in itself. It gave us time to analyze and evaluate the work of the five agencies, especially the two in which we were given free entertainment. We were overwhelmed by the need and value of these settlements in the crowded industrial sections of our big cities. The personalities and spirit of the workers had deeply impressed us. A few we felt had chosen the wrong vocation, while most of them were so truly in their rightful places. We came to the conclusion that one could not be too careful in choosing his vocation, that no matter what our talent might be there was a place waiting for us in the World Service projects of our great Methodist Church. We were convinced that one should not hurry into some field of service, but, concentrate on thorough preparation for a job, and complete dedication to the Christian way of life.

Again our hearts overflowed in appreciation to the women of our church! It was the Louisville Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service that made our meals at Wesley House possible. It was the Nashville Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service that made our meals possible at Bethlehem Center. It was our own Woman's Society of Christian Service that made the trip possible.

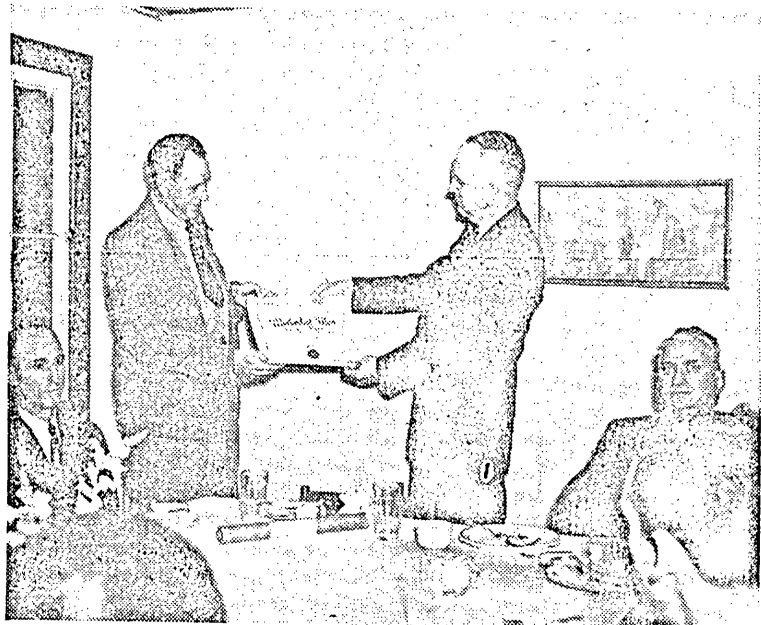
As we rode along enjoying the rolling hills, the warm sunshine and beauty of our Father's world, we were listening to a Dedication message over the radio. Our hearts cried out in response:

"Take all of me, Lord."

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WALDRON MEN'S CLUB RECEIVES CHARTER



Eugene Mitchell, President of the Men's Brotherhood of the Waldron Methodist Church, receives from Dr. Matt Ellis, Conference Lay Leader, the Brotherhood's charter. 1. to r. Rev. Elmo Thomason, pastor, Mr. Mitchell, Dr. Ellis, Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Conference Secretary, Town and Country Commission.

The Methodist Men's Brotherhood of The Methodist Church, Waldron, met in charter session Friday evening, February 23, and received its charter from the General Board of Lay Activities. The charter was presented by Dr. Matt L. Ellis, Lay Leader of the North Arkansas Conference. Rev. Elmo Thomason, pastor, presided at the meeting and introduced Dr. Ellis who spoke to the group on "The Christian Use of

Time." There are 31 men in the membership.

According to their pastor "The laymen are carrying on a splendid laymen's program in Scott County. Some one or two of this group hold services every Sunday." Among visitors for the charter meeting was Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Secretary, Town and Country Commission, North Arkansas Conference.

Take all of me.
This day I dedicate my life to Thee."

Those making the tour were: Carolyn Ricketts, Mary Ann Kincannon, Nancy Sanders, Dot Baber, Lynette McKenzie, Bobbie Lee Hayes, Jeanie Coe, Helen Pat Hamilton, Norman Totten, Wu Tsuan Wong, Mrs. Cora Matkin, Verna and Mike Willis.—Verna Willis

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WHO'S WHO AT THE CONVOCATION



DR. H. BASCOM WATTS



MRS. C. A. BARR



BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN



BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM



BISHOP A. FRANK SMITH

- Bishop Paul E. Martin, Little Rock, Ark., Arkansas-Louisiana Area, Honorary Chairman on Local Arrangements
- Bishop W. Angie Smith, Oklahoma City, Okla., Oklahoma-New Mexico Area
- Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, St. Louis, Mo., St. Louis Area
- Bishop William C. Martin, Dallas, Tex., Dallas-Ft. Worth Area, Chairman of The Advance For Christ and His Church
- Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, New York City, New York Area, Secretary Council of iBshops, Vice-Chairman Advance For Christ and His Church
- Bishop A. Frank Smith, Houston, Tex., Houston Area
- Dr. H. Bascom Watts, Tulsa, Okla., District Superintendent, Chairman of Convocation Committee, Chairman of Jurisdictional Council
- Dr. Paul D. Womeldorf, Oklahoma City, Okla., Executive Secretary, South Central Jurisdiction
- Dr. Umphrey Lee, Dallas, Tex., President, Southern Methodist University
- Mrs. Frank G. Brooks, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, President, Woman's Division of Christian Service
- Mrs. C. A. Barr, Austin, Tex., President, Woman's Society of Christian Service, South Central Jurisdiction
- Mrs. J. D. Bragg, St. Louis, Mo., Secretary Dept. of Foreign Work, Woman's Division of Christian Service
- Mr. Francis B. Sayre, Washington, D. C., Member U. S. State Department
- Honorable Sidney McMath, Little Rock, Ark., Governor of Arkansas
- Dr. A. W. Martin, Dallas, Tex., Chairman of SC Jurisdiction Board of Missions and Church Extension
- Dr. Matt L. Ellis, Conway, Ark., Chairman of the SC Jurisdiction Board of Lay Activities
- J. M. Willson, Floydada, Tex., Chairman SC Jurisdiction Board of Hospitals and Homes
- Dr. Dawson C. Bryan, Houston, Tex., Chairman SC Jurisdiction Board of Evangelism
- Dr. L. F. Sensabaugh, Dallas, Tex., Chairman SC Jurisdiction Board of Education
- Dr. L. L. Evans, Roswell, New Mexico, Chairman of SC Commission on Finance
- Rev. Marvin T. Judy, Cainesville, Mo., Chairman of SC Jurisdiction Town and Country Commission
- Mr. Glen Johnson, Dallas, Tex., Song Leader
- Dr. Francis A. Buddin, Little Rock, Ark., District Superintendent, Chairman, Local Arrangements
- Rev. Cecil R. Culver, Little Rock, Ark., Winfield Methodist Church, Host Pastor, Associate Chairman, Local Arrangements
- Mrs. J. Russell Henderson, Little Rock, Ark., Associate Chairman for Woman's Society of Christian Service

PROG

THEME—CIN

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

Dr. H. Bascom Watts

- 10:00 Worship, Bishop W. Angie Smith
Statement by Dr. Watts
Address, Dr. Umphrey Lee, President
- 11:40 Meeting by Interest Groups
- 12:30 Lunch

AFTERNOON

- 2:00 Meeting by Interest Groups
- 5:00 Meeting of Jurisdictional Council

EVENING

Mrs. C. A. Barr

- 7:30 Program in charge of the Jurisdictional Council
Speaker, Mrs. Frank G. Brooks
of Christian Service, The Methodist Church
- 9:00 Reception for Delegates and Friends

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Bishop Ivan Lee Holt

- 9:00 Worship, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt
Address by Mr. Francis B. Sayre
Intermission.
- 10:30 The Advance for Christ and His Church
Dallas.
- 11:00 Meeting of the Jurisdictional Council
Christian Service.
- 12:30 Lunch

AFTERNOON

- 2:00 Meeting of the Jurisdictional Council
Christian Service.

EVENING

Bishop Paul E. Martin

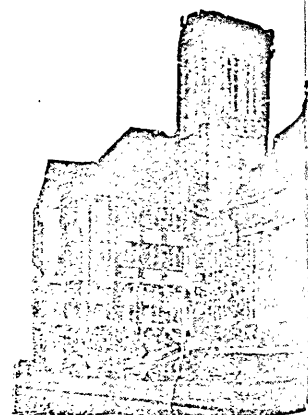
- 7:30 Worship, Bishop Paul E. Martin
Presenting The Honorable Sidney McMath
Address, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Bishop A. Frank Smith

- 9:00 Worship, Bishop Smith, Host Pastor
Reports.
Miscellaneous Business.
- 11:00 Address, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam
Adjournment.

All sessions of the Convocation of the Jurisdictional W. S. C. S. will be held at the Sixteenth and Louisiana Streets.



CONVOCATION, APRIL 3, 4 AND 5

Jurisdiction Woman's Society of Christian Service Holding Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Woman's Society of Christian Service will convene for a one day session Monday, April 2, at the Winfield Methodist Church, with Mrs. C. A. Barr, Jurisdictional President, presiding. A meeting of the executive board of this group will meet the preceding afternoon and evening. Other meetings of the Woman's Society of Christian Service are scheduled on Wednesday during the Convocation.

Delegates

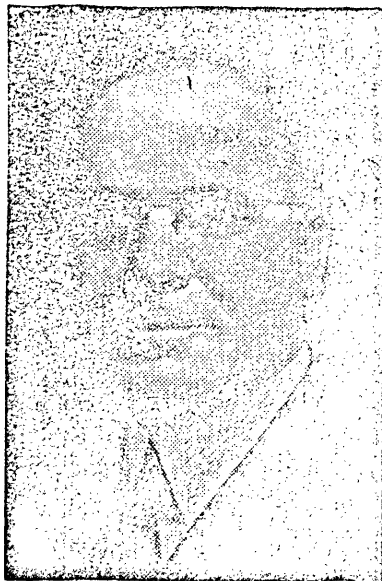
Members of the Boards and Agencies of the SC Jurisdictional Conference are official delegates to the Convocation. However, attendance is open to all persons interested. Delegates and visitors from the eight states comprising the Jurisdiction will attend. These states include Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and New Mexico.

Of Special Interest

Of unusual interest to Methodists of Arkansas will be the special addresses scheduled for the general sessions of the Convocation. Among those presented will be Gov. Sid McMath, a Methodist, and member of the Winfield Methodist Church where session of the Convocation will be held. Featured speakers from outside Arkansas include Dr. Umphrey Lee, President, Southern Methodist University, Mrs. Frank G. Brooks, President, Woman's Division, Mr. Francis B. Sayre, U. S. State Department, Bishop W. C. Martin, Advance Chairman, and Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, who will give two addresses. All these addresses are open to the general public affording a rare opportunity to Methodists of Arkansas to hear these leaders of Methodism. The program gives the date and hour of the addresses.



DR. PAUL D. WOMELDORF



DR. UMPHREY LEE



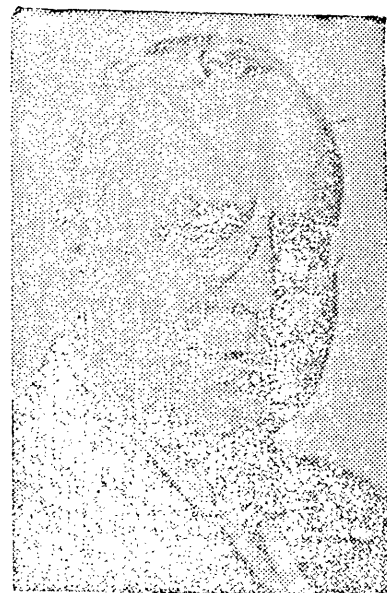
MRS. FRANK G. BROOKS



BISHOP W. ANGIE SMITH

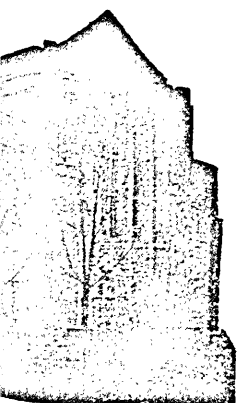


BISHOP WM. C. MARTIN



BISHOP IVAN LEE HOLT

Annual Meeting of the SC Winfield Methodist Church, Rock, Arkansas.



LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT ORGANIZES FOR EXTENSION WORK

Approximately 60 pastors and laymen representing the pastoral charges of the Little Rock District met at the Asbury Methodist Church, Monday, March 11, to organize a District Board of Missions and Church Extension for the announced intention of stepping up the work of church extension in the district. Meeting under the direction of Dr. Francis A. Buddin, District Superintendent, the Board adopted a constitution, elected officers, adopted a budget to begin its work, appointed a Survey Committee, and began plans for immediate work of organizing new church congregations in the district.

Officers of the Board elected include B. F. Allbright, chairman; Rev. Arthur Terry, 1st vice-president; H. F. Buhler, 2nd vice-president; Fred Poe, 3rd vice-president; Roy B. Hill, secretary, and James H. Johnson, treasurer. A proposed budget of \$8400 was adopted for the year 1951-52, following the June session of the Little Rock Annual Conference. Apportionments to the various Little Rock District charges will be made later.

H. F. Buhler was named chairman of the Survey Committee with O. D. Longstreth, Jr., S. C. Daniel, Fred Poe and Rev. Arthur Terry as other members. This committee will ascertain where churches should be located and make recommendations to the Board where and when new churches should be organized.

Present plans for church extension work include work in the Cammack Village - Kingwood-Queen's Manor areas of Little Rock, further work in Mt. View area which has been a project of the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, possible relocation of the St. Mark's Methodist Church in east Little Rock, and a survey for possible organization in an area west of Little Rock on West Markham.

The organization meeting was the result of action taken at the 1950 session of the Little Rock District Conference at Bauxite when the conference voted to give emphasis to this area of work.

HENDRIX COLLEGE NEWS

Students Produce Benefit Variety Show

Students wrote, directed, and produced a variety show last week for the benefit of World Student Service Fund. It was sponsored by the Hendrix Christian Association.

Written by Jim Abraham of Lonoke, Clint Burleson of Gurdon, and Bob Newton of Warren, the variety show was directed by Mary Alice Branham of Fort Sumner, N. M.

The program featured on old-time melodrama, skits, songs, and music by John Cooper of Paragould and his Dixieland Band. The pro-

HENDRIX COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

JOHN R. STEELMAN, internationally known labor conciliator and special assistant to President Truman, will be speaker for Hendrix graduation exercises next June. The Rev. Paul V. Galloway, pastor of Boston Avenue Methodist Church, Tulsa, Okla., will deliver the baccalaureate sermon, according to President Matt L. Ellis.

Mr. Steelman was born in Thornton, Ark., and has degrees from former Henderson-Brown College and Vanderbilt and Harvard Universities. He has served as director of the U. S. Conciliation Service and the U. S. Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion. Since 1946 he has been special assistant to President Truman, acting as conciliator in a number of major labor-business controversies.

Mr. Galloway, also a native Arkansan, was born at Mountain Home, and has attended Hendrix, Henderson-Brown, and Yale University. He has held a number of outstanding appointments of the church in Arkansas, including Central Methodist Church in Fayetteville, where his work with university students attracted much atten-

ceeds from the two showings of the entertainment were given to WSSF. WSSF funds are distributed to foreign university students for food, clothing, medical aid, books, and housing.

Hendrix Host to Arkansas Deans

Deans of Arkansas colleges held their spring meeting at the college last week. Dr. W. C. Buthman, Hendrix dean, is president of the deans.

Problems discussed at the meeting included the one of coordinating the entrance tests given entering students at various institutions in the state.

Treasurer's Son Candidate For Degree

Wain Martin, Jr., son of E. W. Martin, college treasurer, and Mrs. Martin, has recently successfully completed all his general examinations for the doctor of philosophy degree in mathematics from Ohio State University.

Martin received his A. B. degree from Hendrix in 1947 and became a



REV. PAUL V. GALLOWAY

tion, and Winfield Church in Little Rock from 1948 to 1950. In 1950 he was called to the pastorate of Boston Avenue Methodist Church in Tulsa, reputed to be the fifth largest Methodist church in America.

graduate assistant in Ohio State that fall. Since then he has continued his work as an instructor along with his graduate study. Only completion of his dissertation remains before the granting of his degree.—Cynthia Brown.

Wesley originally designed that no Methodist preacher should be settled in any one place. He embodied in the regulations: "Let every Methodist preacher consider himself as called to be, in point of enterprise, zeal and diligence, a home missionary, and to enlarge and extend as well as keep the circuit to which he is appointed."—Barclay, To Reform the Nation, p. 287.

No cloud could cast a dark shadow if the sun were not behind it.—Ex.

RELIGION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Little Rock, Ark.—The second annual Institute on Religion in Higher Education was held March 6-9 at Philander Smith College. The conference was a combination of the annual Week of Prayer at Philander Smith and the annual meeting of the Association of Volunteer Religious Workers in Methodist Institutions. Resource leaders were drawn from various areas of religion and education in the Methodist Church to help the religious worker improve techniques for promoting religious life on the college campus, as well as to project leadership from the college into the local churches during the vacation period. The conference also provided a period of religious inspiration for the local college community and proposed to intensify the deep sense of devotion of volunteer religious workers in Methodist as well as other Christian institutions. The workshop plan was the basic pattern of procedure in order that several phases of religion in higher education might be considered.

Among those participating on the institute program were Dr. Harry Denman, Methodist Board of Evangelism; Dr. Lem Stokes, Methodist Division of Educational Institutions; Mr. Herman Will, Commission on World Peace; Mr. Jameson Jones, President of the National Conference of Methodist Youth; and Bishop Edward K. Kelly, resident bishop of the St. Louis Area.—Methodism on the Campus.

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WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. SUE M. WAYLAND, Editor

NORTH ARKANSAS WESLEYAN SERVICE GUILD ANNUAL WEEKEND

The eleventh Wesleyan Service Guild Week end, held March 3 and 4, at First Church, Searcy, Arkansas, was attended by more than 200 delegates and guests from the North Arkansas Conference.

Mrs. J. H. Moore, Conway District Secretary, opened the meeting Saturday afternoon with a Quiet Hour held in the sanctuary, with Mrs. L. P. Myers, Searcy, as organist. The theme of the devotional was "Love and Prayer".

Miss Gertie Stiles, Ft. Smith, Conference Secretary, officially opened the session and Mrs. Robert H. James, Searcy, extended greetings. The following Workshops were held: Spiritual Life, with Mrs. Clarence Oakes, Siloam Springs, and Mrs. Monroe Scott, Bonanza, as leaders. World Brotherhood Workshop, Miss Helen Stephens, Clinton, and Mrs. W. H. Goodloe, Ft. Smith. Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities Workshop, Miss Marcelle Phillips, Booneville, and Mrs. Walter Jimerson, Augusta. Supply Workshop, Mrs. J. H. Moore, Conway, and Mrs. Ben DeVoll, Paragould. Status of Women Workshop, Mrs. Julian Vogel, West Memphis, and Mrs. H. J. Couchman, Morrilton.

Mrs. K. W. Warden, Memphis, Tennessee, and Spiritual Life Chairman of the Standing Guild Committee, was guest speaker at the dinner held Saturday night at the Rendezvous, and used as her theme "The Advance—Calling Every Methodist Woman". Mrs. John Lovelace and Miss Tomile Abboud, Searcy, accompanied by Mrs. B. L. Oliver, brought special musical numbers. Miss Gaynelle Boroughs, Little Rock, showed slides on Aldersgate with Mrs. Myrtle Morton, North Little Rock, reading the script.

At the breakfast held at the Mayfair Hotel, Mrs. Dismukes, Westville, Oklahoma, and vice-president of the Standing Committee, led discussions on the various phases of each officer's work. Mrs. Homer Williamson, Wheatley, W. S. C. S. Literature and Publications Chairman was a guest at the breakfast.

The morning session was opened with devotional led by Mrs. Kenneth Pettit, Corning, Paragould District Secretary. The conference attended morning worship in the church sanctuary to hear a sermon by Rev. Ralph Hillis, pastor, on "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

At the luncheon, at which time Mrs. Homer Taylor, North Little Rock, presided, Miss Marcelle Phillips, Ft. Smith District Secretary, brought highlights of the Mid-century Conference on Children and Youth which she attended in Washington. Rev. C. E. Whitten, superintendent of Searcy District, and Miss Hanna Kelly, Secretary of Wesleyan Guilds in Little Rock Conference, were guests at the luncheon.

At the closing session Mrs. George Dismukes gave a talk on "What's Ahead for the Wesleyan Service Guild?" Miss Margaret Marshall, director of the Little Rock Methodist Council, gave a most inspiring address on "Our Part in God's Plan." The meeting closed with a

Annual Meeting of South Central Jurisdiction

Woman's Society of Christian Service PROGRAM

MONDAY, APRIL 2

THEME: That It May Be Our Highest Joy Our Father's Work To Do.

MORNING SESSION

- 8:50 Organ Prelude Mrs. Everett Bowman
 9:00 Convening the Tenth Annual Meeting of the South Central Jurisdiction Woman's Society of Christian Service—Mrs. C. A. Barr, presiding
 Hymn—"O Master Workman of the Race" (No. 118)
 Worship Mrs. Ivan Lee Holt
 Roll Call Mrs. C. A. Barr, President
 Message Mrs. Kenneth L. Spore
 Solo—"Forward To Christ" (O'Hara)
 Business
 10:00 "Here and There in Rural Work"—Miss Elizabeth Thompson, Louisiana; Miss Arline Tyler, Southwest Missouri; Miss Estelle McIntosh, North Texas
 Questions and Discussion Mrs. O. Ray Cook, Leader
 Group Singing Bishop A. Frank Smith
 Address—"Europe in Transition"
 12:30 Luncheon (Courtesy Arkadelphia, Camden, Hope, Monticello and Pine Bluff Districts) at the First Baptist Church, 12th and Louisiana streets—Mrs. J. Russell Henderson, presiding

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:45 Organ Prelude Mrs. Everett Bowman
 Hymn—"Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling" (No. 288)
 Prayer Mrs. Paul D. Womeldorf
 Reports of Standing Committees Mrs. C. E. McMeans
 Solo "Fields are White and Harvests Waiting"—Miss Kathryn J. Bieri, Miss Julia Visseta, Miss Pearle McCain
 3:30 "In Appreciation of Our Workers"—Mrs. J. B. Pollard, Mrs. Joe T. Rogers, Mrs. E. H. Farmer
 Closing Prayer

EVENING SESSION

- 7:30 Organ Prelude Mrs. Everett Bowman
 Hymn—"The Voice of God Is Calling" (No. 454)
 Worship Rev. Cecil R. Culver
 Organ Offertory Philander Smith College Choir
 Music Dr. G. Ernest Thomas
 Address—"They Were All Waiting For Him"
 Benediction

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Scott Street Methodist Church

- 11:00 A. M. Departmental Clinics conducted by the Jurisdiction Officers
 12:30 Deaconess Association Luncheon—Conference Presidents attending (Courtesy Little Rock District Wesleyan Service Guild) at the Scott Street Methodist Church.
 2:00 P. M. Tour to Aldersgate, leaving from the Albert Pike Hotel
 4:00 Tour to Aldersgate for the members of the Deaconess Association, leaving from Scott Street Methodist Church

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE FINANCIAL STATEMENT For Dec., Jan., Feb., 1950-51

RECEIPTS:

W. S. C. S.	
Pledge	\$8,624.34
Missionary Projects	794.17
Special Memberships	1,020.00
34 adults	850.00
6 youth	90.00
1 junior	10.00
14 babies	70.00
"In Remembrance" Gift	13.50
Youth	2.00
Children	14.30
Narcotic Education	109.17
World Federation	5.58
Week of Prayer	778.13
Membership Pins	11.00
Exchange	4.65
Supplies	1,301.70
National College Student	93.30
	\$12,771.84

W. S. G.	
Pledge	1,695.95
Missionary Projects	392.55
Special Memberships	145.00
4 adults	100.00
9 babies	45.00
Narcotic Education	15.40
World Federation	.25
Week of Prayer	96.11
Picture Fund	2.00
Supplies	52.75
	2,400.01

M. Y. F.	232.11
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$15,403.96

DISBURSEMENTS:

TO DIVISION—	
W. S. C. S.	
Pledge	\$7,038.17
Missionary Projects	809.17
Special Memberships	995.00
"In Remembrance" Gift	13.50
	\$ 8,855.84
W. S. G.	
Pledge	1,925.00
Special Projects	20.00
Special Memberships	145.00
	2,090.00

pledge and dedication service led by Mrs. Johnnie McClure, Springdale, and president of W. S. C. S., and Mrs. Ben DeVoll, W. S. C. S. treasurer.

To the members of the Pearle McCain Wesleyan Service Guild, Mrs. J. E. Mason, president, the Junior Guild, Mrs. R. H. James, president, Mrs. Ules Hillis and the members of First Church, deepest appreciation for a splendid weekend of fellowship and inspiration was expressed by all in attendance. — Mrs. Don Schaber.

Youth	274.11
Children	14.50
	288.41
Total on Appropriations	\$11,234.25
Week of Prayer	874.24
Cash Supplies	1,200.00
Supplementary Gift	150.00
Replace Membership Pin	2.25
	2,226.49
Total sent Division	13,460.74

Otherwise—	
Cooperative	400.00
Administrative	667.76
Miscellaneous	143.55
Total Disbursed Otherwise	1,211.31
TOTAL DISBURSED	\$14,672.05
MRS. BEN DE VOLL, Conf. Treas.	

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS:

BATESVILLE DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. Walter Martin, Mrs. T. E. Williams, Mrs. A. E. Sarter, Newport First Church; Hon. Baby: Michall Paul Hefner, Batesville First Church; Allen Rutherford Crouch, Franklin Reed Insell, Charles Edward Mabry, Batesville Central Ave.

CONWAY DISTRICT: Adult Life: James Patrick Doherty, Danville; Mrs. W. C. Landers, District; Mrs. Vernon Chalfant, Mrs. James M. Bell, Hon. Baby: William Scisson Lewis, Monticello; Rosemary Neff, Conway, Wesley Memorial.

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. W. A. Guinn, Mrs. Sam Yancey, Mrs. William Shermer, Mrs. P. L. Hathcock, Sr., Mrs. Ernest Standley, Mrs. Herbert Thomas, Mrs. E. M. Murphey, Fayetteville, Hon. Baby: Mary Ann McNair, Prairie Grove; Helen Diane Covey, Gravette; William John Vick, Oakley Chapel; Youth: Catherine Hawkins, Barbara Ann Crolley, Shirley Ann Davis, Carolyn Glee Dunlevy, Margarita Hankins, Nancy Vanderslice, Fayetteville.

FORREST CITY DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. M. J. Monahan, Mrs. Y. Y. Dorris, Wynne, Hon. Baby: Mary Nell Davidson, Beverly Davidson, Marvell; Jake Owens IV, West Memphis.

FORT SMITH DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. J. J. Galloway, Ft. Smith Goddard; Mrs. J. H. Cardin, Mrs. Annie Hagler, Mrs. John Wren, Mrs. Rachel Guinn, Mrs. Ida Rose, Mrs. Horace Rogers, Ft. Smith First Church; Mrs. Elizabeth Calloway, Mrs. H. N. Hall, W. S. G., Ft. Smith First Church.

JONESBORO DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. George Sullens, Hickory Ridge; Mrs. W. A. Hollingsworth, Blytheville; Mrs. Hershell Davis, Mrs. Doris Stivers, Mrs. Madge Brown, Manila; Mrs. Lena Brown, Jonesboro Fisher Street; Mrs. Foster Clark, Jonesboro First Church, W. S. G. Junior: Sue Barger, Jonesboro Huntington Ave, Hon. Baby: Sara Snow McDonal, Manila.

PARAGOULD DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. S. M. Gregory, Paragould First Ch.; Mrs. Albert Fowler, Paragould First Ch.

CAMDEN DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS

The parsonage home of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Geissen of Fairview Church was the meeting place of the executive committee of Camden District W. S. C. S., March 2.

Mrs. Nelson Thornton of Camden, district president, opened the session with prayer. Roll call showed the following present: Mrs. Chas. Prim, Mrs. J. W. Rhea, Mrs. W. C. Farley, Mrs. Otis Fincher, Mrs. M. E. Scott, Mrs. T. H. Owens, Mrs. Harvey Crumpler, Mrs. Alfred Doss, Mrs. Chas. Geissen, Mrs. W. P. Reasens, Mrs. J. G. Brown, Mrs. Esdell Finch, Miss Olivia Bradley, Mrs. Neill Hart, Mrs. R. H. Cole, Mrs. Edward Harris.

Announcement was made of the South Central Jurisdiction Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Convocation of the South Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist church which will be held in Little Rock April 2-5, 1951. A letter from Mrs. Charles Lyle, president, W. S. C. S. of Magnolia, was read, in which the society invited the district meeting to be held in Magnolia. The invitation was accepted and April 26th was the date agreed upon.

Miss Sunny Mann, District Worker, gave a very comprehensive report on her work in the district.

At the noon hour a most bountiful luncheon was served by Mrs. Geissen, assisted by Mrs. Neill Hart, Mrs. Alfred Doss, Mrs. Nelson Thornton and Miss Bradley.

Lovely spring flowers were used in the dining room and the tables were set with china which Mrs. Geissen brought from Japan when she served as a missionary there.

After the meal the session was resumed at which time Mrs. Farley led the group in singing "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes Unto The Hills", after which there was a chain of individual prayers.

Reports from the various officers and committee chairmen showed renewed activity in the District as a whole although the recent bad weather has slowed down the CHAIN VISITATIONS.

Mrs. Prim, Mrs. Doss, Mrs. Crumpler, Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Geissen were named as the committee to arrange the program for the district meeting. The Research committee to consist of Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. Lewis. Mrs. Thornton led the closing prayer, and the meeting adjourned.—Mrs. J. W. Rhea.

Representatives of the Councils of Church Women representing the five boroughs of the City of New York, under the Protestant Council in 1950 met some 17,400 displaced persons, speaking a score of languages when they arrived at the City's piers. Milk, clothing, and toys were provided for the children.

W. S. G.; Mrs. J. N. Beakley, Walnut Ridge.
 SEARCY DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. John H. Yarnell, Mrs. P. L. Kirby, Searcy; Mrs. F. G. Ringgold, Cabot, Hon. Baby: Mary Patton Roberson, Searcy; Louis Paul Chalfant, Augusta; Nancy Carol Griffin, Jennett Louise Jackson, Jack Fonce Mullen, Kay Edwards, Michall Edwards Irwin, Rickey Lynn Johnson, Johnnie Ruth Neal, Reber Springs W. S. G.

CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT MINISTERS' MEETING

The Fayetteville District Ministers' Meeting was held March 9 in the First Methodist Church, Springdale, with Rev. W. F. Cooley, district superintendent, in charge. Brother Cooley conducted the devotional service and led the singing with Mrs. Alf Eason at the organ.

In his opening remarks Brother Cooley called attention to the missionary and connectional program of the church. He said, "One mission of the church is to bind the people of the world into a Christian fellowship."

Rev. E. G. Kaetzel, Conference statistician, stressed the importance of proper records and proper evaluation of church property.

Rev. D. L. Dykes, Jr., and Rev. Alf Eason presented the cause of the Wesley Foundation program in Fayetteville.

Rev. Arnold Simpson spoke in behalf of the Golden Cross, stating that our Methodist hospitals are in great need of funds since they do a great deal of charity work.

Rev. James Randle was placed in charge of the sale and distribution of literature for the Training School, March 12-16.

Rev. N. Lee Cate spoke in behalf of summer camps and the Student Caravan work for the coming summer. He also called attention to the National Convocation of Methodist Young People which is to take place during the summer on the Purdue University Campus.

At noon the Parsonage Dames and their husbands had lunch in a downtown eating place. Rev. and Mrs. S. M. Yancey were also present.

During the luncheon Rev. Alf Eason announced that Lindsey Rowland had been licensed to preach by the District Licensing Committee.

In discussing church projects it was discovered that the following churches either had parsonage or church buildings under construction: Bentonville, Decatur, Farmington, Sulphur Springs, Springdale, Elm Springs, Berryville, Fayetteville, Siloam Springs.—H. W. Jinske

GEYER SPRINGS CHURCH DEDICATED

The debt on Geyer Springs Methodist Church was paid in February, and Bishop Paul E. Martin dedicated the church Sunday night, March 4th.

Five former pastors and their wives were present, namely: Rev. and Mrs. Ben F. Fitzhugh, Rev. and Mrs. Charles H. Giessen and their two children, Rev. and Mrs. Curtis Williams, Chaplain Gerald C. Dean and Mrs. Dean, Rev. and Mrs. Clyde T. Parsons and their two children.

Dr. Francis A. Buddin, district superintendent, and Mrs. Buddin, were present and had a part in the service. Mrs. Paul E. Martin was also with us to the special delight of our women.

Bishop Martin preached a most helpful sermon and led in the dedication service. Dr. Buddin and all former pastors had a part in the service. The church was presented for dedication by the Trustees, namely J. L. Jaynes, W. C. Jones, and S. E. Whitwell, who led in payment on the debt.

Many of our friends from Asbury, Pulaski Heights, Scott Street, Primrose, Douglasville and Twenty-Eighth Street churches were present. The women of our church served a bountiful basket supper in the basement of the church at 5:30 p. m., at which time our people had the privilege of visiting with Bishop and Mrs. Martin, Dr. and Mrs. Buddin and the other ministers and their families. It was a high point in this year's work.

Geyer Springs Church has been a station less than three calendar years. It was formerly a preaching point on Mabelvale, then Douglasville. Now it is a full time station, fully organized, with a splendid Sunday school under the leadership of S. E. Whitwell, superintendent; three groups of Youth meeting each Sunday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barron and Mrs. C. E. Marshall Counselors; Miss Charlotte Jaynes is superintendent of the Youth Division. An active W. S. C. S., with Mrs. S. E. Whitwell as president, with two circles doing

splendid work. George L. McCroskey is Chairman of Board of Stewards and Luther J. Miller is chairman of Finance Committee. The Board is well organized and looking well after the finances. Recently we organized a Men's Club which meets each first Thursday night. Membership is now well over fifty.

The old church burned when we were at Prescott. I remember our Prescott church sent a contribution to this congregation to help rebuild the church. We now have a beautiful sanctuary, with hardwood floors and modern pews; on the first floor, which is only a half basement, we have room for our Children's Division, a well-equipped kitchen, and recently installed modern rest room.

The beautiful neon-lighted cross on top of the church can be seen for miles around at night when it is lighted.

The membership is not large, but growing steadily, and composed of wonderfully fine people. They have been lovely to this pastor and his wife. We live in a beautiful, new, modern parsonage located in a growing community. Any Methodist family that would like to live near Little Rock and a splendid Methodist Church should write this pastor. New homes are being built all around us. This is one of the cleanest, most peaceable communities, near the city of Little Rock.—S. T. Baugh, Pastor.

It was prettily devised by Aesop; the fly sat upon the axletree of the chariot wheel and said: "What a dust do I raise."—Bacon

The thing that breaks our back is not so much the load we are carrying now, as the weight of what we fancy may be tomorrow's burden.—Sentinel

BISHOP MARTIN TO DEDICATE LEWISVILLE EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

Bishop Paul E. Martin, on Easter Sunday, will dedicate the new Educational building of the First Methodist Church in Lewisville, Ark.

The two-story educational building, comprising a spacious Fellowship hall, four classrooms, pastor's study, kitchen and restrooms, was begun in 1947 under the leadership of Rev. James A. Simpson, pastor of the church, the Board of Stewards, members and friends of the church.

This building, costing approximately \$35,000.00, is being decorated on the interior at this time, with beautifully selected color scheme and floored with hardwood on concrete by members and friends. Original plant classrooms are also being redecorated in fitting colors.

The church parsonage has been recently put in good state of repair and redecorated with the cooperation on the W. S. C. S. A new Hammond organ was given the church by one of its members, Mrs. S. H. Turner.

Recently a new young adult church school class was organized with a membership enrollment of approximately forty.

As a result of a church in action, the Lewisville Methodists during the past five years have more than doubled their pastor's salary, more than doubled its church school and church service attendance, its increased offerings for world service and other church askings, owes no outstanding financial obligations, and, it is said, is enjoying more spiritual enthusiasm than at any time in its history.—J. Marvin Tackett.

Happiness consists in the active employment of the faculties.—Aristotle.

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For it is Life, the very Life of Life.

In its brief course like all the Verities

and Realities of your Existence:

The Bliss of Growth.

The Glory of Action.

The Splendor of Beauty."

—From The Sanskrit

North Arkansas Town And Country Church Convocation

Saturday, March 31, 1951

10:00 A. M. - 3:30 P. M.



Fourche Valley High School

Between Bluffton and Briggsville

On State Highway 28

FOR: All District Superintendents, Pastors, Lay People Interested In Developing A Better Community Life

Toward A Better Community Life

“WHERESOEVER the Roman conquers he inhabits,” was the pertinent statement made by Seneca in the days of Roman glory. That, we may well say, is the right and the privilege of the conqueror and always his demand. This is true whether of person or of philosophy. One conquered by fear will be inhabited by fear; one conquered by the spirit of heroism and enlightenments will be thus inhabited. Who and what shall be the conquering person or idea of our many communities across our land now lying in the valley of decision? Shall the great communities now going through the process of change in many life factors be ministered unto and served by those who can render a rich service or shall they be left alone to “worry out” their own salvation the best they can? There is a solution; may it be found and applied.

Perhaps there is a total agreement on the part of all leaders and people in the matter of desiring a full and an abundant life for all the many communities across our land. The ways and means of attaining that life and the philosophy and all religious beliefs entering in are where the wheels mire down. It goes without argument that there is a possibility of people living in a satisfactory manner to themselves, to their neighbors and to their God. The finding of a pattern to guide toward that life is indeed a great challenge.

Certainly there is first of all a great guiding principle that must be accepted and practiced by all if that good life is to be enjoyed. The golden rule way as taught and lived

PROGRAM

THEME: Toward A Better Community Life

Morning Session

Dr. C. M. Reves, District Superintendent, Conway District, presiding

- 10:00 Devotional—Paul Dean Davis, Pastor
- 10:15 The Purpose of the Meeting—J. Albert Gatlin, Executive Secretary, Town & Country Commission, North Arkansas Conference
- 10:30 Christian Education in Community Life—Dr. Ira A. Brumley, Executive Secretary, Board of Christian Education, North Arkansas Conference.
- 10:45 Methodist Men Serving the Community—Dr. Pierce K. Merrill, Head of Department of Social Sciences, Arkansas Technological College, Russellville, Arkansas.
- 11:00 Promoting the W. S. C. S. in Rural Communities—Mrs. Wilma Fulbright, Promotional Secretary, W. S. C. S., North Arkansas Conference.
- 11:15 Five Minute Recess
- 11:20 The Worship Service—Bishop Paul E. Martin, Arkansas-Louisiana Area.
- 12:15 Noon Lunch
- Informal Fellowship — Viewing of Displays

Afternoon Session

Rev. Floyd G. Villines, President, Town & Country Commission, North Arkansas Conference, presiding

- 1:30 Devotional—Mrs. Johnnie McClure, President, W. S. C. S., North Arkansas Conference.
- 1:45 The Changing Agricultural Scene—L. A. Dhonau, Director, Agricultural Extension Service, State of Arkansas.
- 2:15 The Medical Profession and the Rural Community—Dr. Earl Hunt, President, Arkansas Medical Association.
- 2:45 Toward A Better Community through Education—Dr. A. B. Bonds, Commissioner of Education, State of Arkansas.
- 3:15 “All Together We Serve”
- The National Anthem
- Special music during program by Hendrix Chapel Choir

by the Great One is that principle. All thoughts, words and deeds that are directed by that principle will result in peaceful and full living. The many complications that have arisen due to the changing patterns of life in every realm of human endeavor make it difficult to see clearly through to right conclusions. That which at one time was thought to be a satisfying life to those of certain generations no longer obtains. Before the days of refrigeration those fortunate enough could provide deep pits in which they could store ice taken from frozen streams in the wintertime. They were satisfied with that up-to-date way of cooling their drinks in the hot summertime. That method of refrigeration is no longer satisfying. In the day when physicians bled their patients for certain ailments a certain degree of relief was received by patients from this effort to effect a cure. This type of medical care no longer satisfies. Blood transfusions are a more satisfying experience in these days. In the realm of education it no longer suffices to stop with the mastery of the three R's, though that is certainly a necessary and fundamental beginning, but one's mind is led to go into many areas of knowledge. In the realm of religion, heart hunger and mind stimulation and desire for more fellowship with God and man urge us on to higher and nobler things. In the matter of economics the old dollar and a half per day will not turn the trick. Life throws at us necessities that demand far more than in the days gone by, not to speak of comforts and luxuries desired by most human beings.

Changing ways and methods of living have changed community and neighborhood life but they must still be served by the great institutions and professions. Since many of

(Continued on page 14)



DR. C. M. REVES



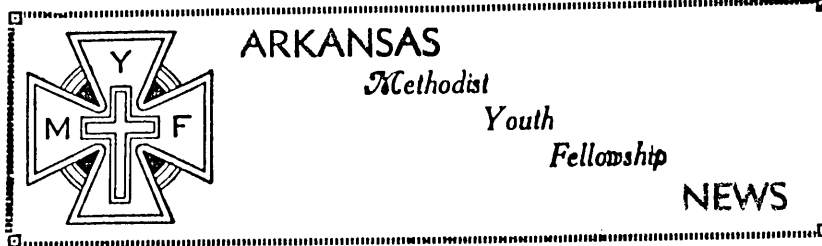
REV. J. ALBERT GATLIN



REV. PAUL DEAN DAVIS



REV. FLOYD G. VILLINES, JR.



CONWAY-PERRY COUNTY SUB-DISTRICT

The Conway-Perry County Sub-District meeting was held at Morrilton Methodist Church, March 5. A very inspirational worship program was led by James Martin, Mary Jane Kennedy, and Mary Dean Rankin. William Moose sang "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied by Horace Brinkley at the piano. The Girls' Ensemble, composed of Doyleene Scroggins, Elizabeth Ann Britt, Johnnie Byrd, Ann Williams, Mary Jane Kennedy, and Pat Thompson, sang "Sweet Hour of Prayer." Then Horace Brinkley and Pat Thompson played an organ and piano duet. "The Old Rugged Cross." Mary Dean Rankin told a story "The Light of the World." A period of recreation was held with ladies of the church serving refreshment.

Miss Bobbie Sue Tarvin, president, presided over the business meeting. There were 52 present. The next meeting will be held in the Perryville Methodist Church April 2.—Reporter

NORPHLET INTERMEDIATES ELECT OFFICERS

The Norphlet Intermediate M. Y. F. elected officers for the year as follows: President, Marlene Benton; Vice-president, Evelyn Ware; Secretary, Virginia Buckner; Treasurer, Jacky Evans; Reporter and program chairman, Hallette Thomas. Commission chairmen are: Recreation, Berry Morrison; World Friendship, Lois Couch; Worship and Evangelism, Joan Henley; Community Service, Patricia Watts; Co-sponsors, Mrs. David Long, Mr. Floyd Gibbons and the pastor, Rev. S. B. Mann.—Hallette Thomas

POINSETT SUB-DISTRICT MEETING

The Poinsett Sub-District M. Y. F. met at Tyronza, March 8. A hymn study was given by several members.

The Sub-District is allowed two representatives to the National Youth Conference. Betty Bolton was elected as a representative and Rev. Thurston Masters was given authority to select another delegate. There were 95 present.

A recreation period was held with refreshments served.

Harrisburg had charge of the closing worship service.—Reporter

BATESVILLE SUB-DISTRICT MEETING

An impressive candle-light worship service on the Easter theme climaxed the Batesville Sub-District meeting which was held at the Desha Methodist Church. Miss Nona Faye Presley was the leader assisted by Harold Bell, Dorothy McClendon, and Charles Nash.

There were 67 representatives present from the following churches; Asbury, Central Avenue, First Church, Bethesda, Desha, Moorefield, and Newark.

Bobby Leonard, president, was in charge of the business meeting. Rev. Loy T. Atkinson, new pastor of the Moorefield and Asbury churches, was introduced to the young people.

Ann Wilford, chairman of recreation, directed the group in games and songs. Refreshments were served by the Desha M. Y. F.—Carol Ottinger

STEPHENS CHURCH OBSERVES WEEK OF DEDICATION

(Continued from page 2)

At God." When the invitation was given, the worshippers came to the altar to rededicate their lives and to make their offerings to the needs of others. The offering was \$100.00. The picture accompanying this article was made as the people were leaving the Day of Dedication Service.

We are grateful to those who gave leadership to the Advance for Christ in the Methodist Church. We have endeavored to follow every step and always we have received joyous blessings. The influence of the Week of Dedication can be seen in every phase of our church life. It has brought a revival to our church.

TOWARD A COMMUNITY LIFE

(Continued from page 13)

these cannot come to us we must go to them. The best of modern methods and means must be theirs.

What shall be the outcome? With keen mind, willing, cooperative, and righteous spirit, the body of American citizenship working together, leaders of all walks of life can find that abundant and satisfying life. We meet together in a one day convocation representing many areas of human life for inspiration and information which we hope will lead to greater aspiration for a more abundant life for all. — J. Albert Gatlin.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE M. Y. F. PLEDGES AND PAYMENTS

ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT			LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT		
	Pledge	Amt. Paid			
Amity	\$	\$ 12.00	Austin Circuit:		\$ 4.00
Arkadelphia	75.00	58.50	Concord		
Dalark Circuit			Bauxite	45.00	30.00
Manchester	24.00	16.40	Benton	50.00	30.00
Delight		4.50	Bryant Circuit:		
Gurdon	35.00	36.00	Salem	15.00	11.35
Hot Springs:			Carlisle	50.00	25.00
First Church	60.00	25.00	Des Arc	20.00	15.00
Grand Avenue	100.00	46.55	Geyer Springs		5.00
Pullman Heights	15.00	15.00	Lonoke		10.50
Malvern:			Little Rock Churches:		
First Church	60.00	35.50	Asbury	120.00	56.33
Keith Memorial	50.00	41.40	First Church	202.50	91.72
Mt. Ida	12.00	30.00	Forest Park		20.00
Murfreesboro	43.00	32.00	Henderson	35.00	35.00
Butterfield	20.00	20.00	Highland	54.00	8.00
Shorewood Hills	15.30	5.26	Hunter	50.00	10.59
TOTAL	\$514.30	\$378.11	Oak Forest	60.00	
CAMDEN DISTRICT			Pulaski Heights	60.00	
Buckner	\$ 5.00	\$	Scott Street	55.00	30.00
Buena Vista	6.00	6.00	Winfield	165.00	80.99
Camden Churches:			De Valls Bluff	5.00	5.00
First Church	75.00	53.26	Mabelvale	30.00	32.90
Fairview	30.00	23.30	Primrose	30.00	30.00
Timothy	15.00	15.00	Little Rock Circuit:		
Dumas Memorial	24.00	16.00	Walnut Grove	5.00	
Callon		8.80	Bethel		5.51
El Dorado Churches:			TOTAL	\$1051.50	\$536.89
First Church	125.00	108.17	MONTICELLO DISTRICT		
Vantrease	25.50	25.50	Crossett	\$230.00	\$120.08
Harmony Grove	5.00		Dermott	20.00	
West Side	10.00	5.00	Hamburg	30.00	30.00
Holly Springs	6.00	6.00	Lake Village		4.00
Junction City	25.00		McGehee		29.90
Lewisville	40.00		Monticello	60.00	25.00
Louann Circuit	6.00		Thornton	18.00	10.50
Magnolia Churches:			Newton's Chapel	15.00	6.25
First Church	75.00	32.50	Warren	30.00	25.00
Jackson Street	21.00	14.00	TOTAL	\$403.00	\$250.73
Maple Street		8.00	PINE BLUFF DISTRICT		
Norphlet Circuit (Inter-			Almyra	\$ 40.00	\$
mediates)	12.00		Bayou Meto Circuit:		
(Seniors)		23.00	Lodge's Corner	63.00	56.25
Parker's Chapel		23.00	Carthage		6.00
Pleasant Grove		10.30	DeWitt	75.00	
Smackover	75.00	55.00	England		10.00
Stephens	25.00	11.00	Gillette	15.00	
Village Circuit		12.50	Good Faith	25.00	12.00
TOTAL	\$578.00	\$472.33	Grady	25.00	15.00
HOPE DISTRICT			Humphrey	65.55	15.50
Ashdown	\$	\$ 25.00	Leola Circuit		2.50
Blevins Circuit:			Little Prairie Circuit:		
Blevins	20.00	10.00	La Fargue		12.00
McCaskill	10.00		Pine Bluff Churches:		
DeQueen	30.00	15.00	Carr Memorial	30.00	
Doddridge Circuit			Hawley Memorial		5.00
Olive Branch	30.00	5.00	First Church	54.00	25.00
Emmett	15.00	25.00	Lakeside	75.00	
Hope	50.00	40.00	Stuttgart Churches:		
Prescott			First Church		44.25
Texarkana Churches:			Grand Avenue	175.20	87.60
College Hill	20.00	21.00	Whitehall		
Fairview	45.00	21.00	Oak Grove		2.35
First Church		23.66	TOTAL	\$547.75	\$293.45
Polk County Sub-District		15.00	GRAND TOTAL	\$3427.55	\$2133.17
TOTAL	\$232.00	\$216.66	Oak Grove		2.35

This report of M. Y. Fund contributions is through February 28, 1951.

EASTER FINERY



From

Pfeifers of Arkansas

Easter is a lovely moment to be bountiful to those you love... for this is the natural expression of your soaring spirits, reflecting your irrepressible joy in the Spring-born beauty that blooms about you now. You'll want brand new fashions to go with the new 1951 Easter, too, and Pfeifers has been the Easter shopping center for all of Arkansas since 1865.

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OBITUARIES

McKNIGHT — Augustus McKnight, aged 46, of Paragould, passed on to the home of the soul on Friday night, February 23. This is the third time death has entered the family of Rev. and Mrs. B. A. McKnight of Belleville. Chaplain Captain Thos. E. McKnight, age 36, was killed in the Battle of Luzon, P. I., February 9, 1945, while carrying a wounded private to a place of safety. Rev. Paul J. McKnight, age 43, died January 30, 1950 of heart failure while serving the second year as pastor of Tulip Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.

The subject of this obituary, Gus McKnight, as he was known, was a church member since the age of five, uniting with the church at Elsberry, Mo., where his father was pastor. He has for 41 years lived well in the church, never refusing to serve in any way the church called. He was married at Mountain View to Miss Shellie Ginn some 26 years ago. To this union one daughter was born. She is now the wife of Dr. Don Purcell of Memphis, Tennessee. For a livelihood he served Barnett Mercantile Co. at Batesville. Moving to Paragould, he for 17 years served as a salesman. The last seven years he has served as city salesman for the Hurt Grocery Co. He was a past president of the Young Men's Civic Club, a member of the Board of Stewards of First Methodist Church, Paragould, and also a member of the Kiwanis Club. Earlier in his life he served as scoutmaster.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. Don Purcell of Millington, Tennessee; his parents, Rev. and Mrs. B. A. McKnight of Belleville, Arkansas; three sisters, Mrs. Maynard Wherry, McCrory; Mrs. Mason Moudy and Mrs. Gladys Galloway of Belleville; five brothers, Woodrow, lawyer of Little Rock, business man of Dallas, Texas, Rev. Wilson, salesman of Lonoke, John, Milton McKnight of Enid, Oklahoma, and Captain J. W. McKnight of Trieste, Italy, and one granddaughter, age 4.

As the father of Gus McKnight I must say, he lived a good Christian life. In the words of Job, "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord." May God help us all to be ready when the journey ends is my prayer.

Funeral service was held in First Church, Paragould, by the pastor, Rev. R. E. Connell, with burial in Paragould.—B. A. McKnight, minister 58 years.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF MRS. JAY B. WENDELL

(Adopted by the Wesleyan Service Guild of the Marion Methodist Church, Marion, Arkansas)

On January 8, 1951, Mrs. Jay B. Wendell heard the eternal chimes of peace, as she languished on her bed of suffering, from which she was tenderly borne away by God's messenger to await the coming of loved ones.

Like a weaver's shuttle she had woven her threads of silver and gold into a mantle of charity and love for her fellow man.

She bore her sufferings with a

fortitude of a true soldier of Christ. Her death on earth was her birthday in heaven. With that thought in mind we can humbly say "Thy will be done," and can repeat the words of King Lemuel, "Give her the fruit of her own hands, and let her own work praise her in the gates."

RESOLVED, that the Wesleyan Service Guild has lost a loyal member who will be missed by the

Guild as well as the church and community.

That we extend our deepest sympathy to the bereaved husband and children. Also to her father and sisters. May God comfort them in their hour of sorrow.

That a copy of these resolutions be sent to her husband, Jay B. Wendell and children, also a copy be sent to her father, Mr. N. W.

Sanders, Joiner, Arkansas.

That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Wesleyan Service Guild and published in the **Arkansas Methodist**, Little Rock, Arkansas, and the Crittenden County Times, West Memphis, Arkansas.

Mrs. George Weidman
Mrs. G. C. Johnson
Mrs. V. B. Kyzar



WWith spring cleaning time almost here, don't you need a new vacuum cleaner? It sweeps, beats, noses out and swoops up dust . . . does a quick job . . . and leaves YOU feeling fine! Your favorite appliance dealer has the new ones . . . both tank and upright styles . . . waiting for your inspection. See them soon.



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The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

Lesson based on "International Sunday School Lesson: The International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching," copyrighted 1951 by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.



HOW CAN WE FIND GOD THROUGH HIS CREATION?

LESSON FOR APRIL 1, 1951

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:
Genesis: chapters one and two; Psalm 104; John 1:1-3.

GOLDEN TEXT: "O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all."—Psalms 104:24

A Look At The Scripture

We have for our consideration today the account of the creation of the world as given in Genesis chapters one and two. Scholars are agreed that this is the most profound account of the creation ever written. It is also the most reasonable. There are at least a half dozen other accounts. Some of which—like the Babylonian story—parallels the Genesis record at some points. The Genesis account, however, is far superior to all others. All of these other records have a plurality of gods carrying on the creation and there is more or less jealousy and bickering between them. The scholars are agreed that these records are nothing more than myths. They simply cannot bear the light of modern research and knowledge. On the other hand, in the place of research hurting the Genesis record, it is proving the truth of great portions of it.

The Book of Beginnings

As the name implies Genesis is the book of beginnings. For example, we have here the beginning of the world, the human race, revelation, civilization, sin, sorrow, death, and redemption.

According to Genesis there is only one Being that did not have a beginning and that is God. One of the most profound statements in all literature is this first sentence in the Bible: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." If one begins his thought concerning the creation with this background, he does not have too much trouble imagining how all things came to be. If there is a person of the type the Bible makes God out to be—an individual with unlimited power, unlimited intelligence and present throughout all space, then he can accomplish great things. He is a sufficient Cause for all things both seen and unseen.

On the other hand the most confusing thing on earth is to try to think of creation and leave God out of the picture. One who tries to do this finds himself in about the same position as did the dove that was first sent out from the ark by Noah: "But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth." The mind goes out on its weary flight of imagination but it has no peg to hang its ideas on and finally, in defeat, is forced to return to its starting point. All of our reasonings and experiences teach us that nothing comes from nothing. But we have to have something. The universe is a reality. Therefore, it must have come from something. Genesis tells us that that something is God.

Creative Acts and Periods

According to Genesis there are

eight creative acts which were accomplished in six creative periods. There is a creative act for each of the periods except for two and in them there are two acts each. These periods are called days. Whether or not that means days of twenty-four hours is immaterial. In Second Peter 3:8 we read, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." These might have been days of twenty-four hours or they might have been longer periods of time. As a matter of fact a lot of good time and space is sometimes wasted on points of this nature. Bishop Usher lived in England some three hundred years ago and he set the date of the creation at 4004 B. C. That would make the world today about six thousand years old. The geologists have proven beyond a doubt that the earth is much older than that. The part of wisdom is to accept this truth just as we have the fact that the earth is global in shape rather than flat and that it moves around the sun rather than the sun moving around it. The Bible itself does not give the date of the creation of the world. So far as the writer knows we have no record as to where Bishop Usher got his idea as to the date of creation.

The Great First Cause

There are various opinions concerning the creation. Some argue that there is no all-wise and all-powerful Person within and back of the universe. They think of God only in terms of energy, life and power. They tell us that God is unconscious of his own existence. To them, he is simply blind force operating through the means of natural laws.

They deny that God is a person at all. A person is one who can think and feel and will, but they claim God can do none of these. What they make God out to be would have to be called "it". It would be improper to apply to him the personal pronouns of he and him. They contend that matter is eternal; it has always been, and down through the ages it has been changing forms. It has assumed its present form not by any plan of an intelligent mind but through chance. Much as if one would take billions of letters of the alphabet and toss them up long enough until they would finally fall into the form of the Bible or the plays of Shakespeare. To most of the human family this idea seems ridiculous.

On every hand we see the results of intelligent purpose. We see the adaptation of means to certain ends. We see seed which possess the germ of life. We see soil in which seed may be planted. We see moisture and sunshine which causes the seed

to germinate and grow. We see living bodies which require food to sustain life. We see food taken into those bodies and realize that through the process of digestion this dead food becomes living tissue. We see the planets moving in their orbits, each in its own path and according to its own schedule. Taken over a period of ten thousand years these planets will not vary in their time schedule a fractional part of a second. Here is a watch. It keeps reasonably good time. We examine its mechanism and discover that the various parts are fitted together with a purpose. We wisely conclude that there must be an intelligent mind back of it. All admit that a watch must have an intelligent maker. Isn't it foolish for some to insist that a universe which is much more intricate in its mechanism and absolutely perfect in its operation just happened to be or came about by chance without an intelligent Creator? The Bible speaks truly when it says, "The fool has said in his heart, There is no God."

May we mention briefly two other opinions concerning the creation. One is to the effect that God is everything the Bible makes him out to be—all-wise, all-powerful, all-loving and present everywhere—but the holders of this opinion insist that matter as well as God is eternal. They tell us that there has never been a time when there was not matter in some form. They claim that God made the universe in its present form but he made it out of matter that was already in existence. A carpenter builds a house, but he builds it out of material that is already in existence. He did not create it out of nothing.

Another opinion is much like the one above except for the fact that it does not teach the eternity of matter. The holders of this opinion insist that God alone is eternal. That he alone has always been; he never had any beginning. There has never been and never will be a time when there is not a triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. According to this idea—which is held by the vast majority of Christians throughout the world—God is able to create something out of nothing. He alone can do this. There was a time when he existed alone, and he created other objects and beings. Some speak of God as the Great First Cause. No mind has ever been able to penetrate beyond that thought. With all of our modern inventions, discoveries, education, etc., we have not been able to go beyond the first statement of the Bible.

The Genesis Account of The Creation

There are two opinions concerning this account. Some tell us that the account is taken from various sources. They seek to prove this by pointing out the fact that two separate stories of the creation are given in the first and second chapters of Genesis. The first story which is found in the first chapter is more mystical than the second. It speaks of God in terms of a great Spirit brooding over his creation as much as a fowl broods over eggs in order to hatch them. This first story has man and woman created at the same time and makes them to be the last and culminating point of creation. The second story which begins with the second chapter of Genesis is a bit less mystical than the first. It goes more into the details of creation. In this story Adam

was created before the beasts of the field and was given the task of naming these lower animals and other creatures. Eve was created after the beasts. She was created from a rib taken from Adam's side, according to this story.

Some scholars say that these are two separate stories concerning the creation and were included by Moses, the author of Genesis, in that record. Others contend that this is but one story of the creation. They insist that the second chapter of Genesis only repeats and goes more in detail in recording the events of creation which had already been mentioned in chapter one.

Lessons From The Creation

There are many helpful lessons which come to us from the account of the creation. One is the fact of God's existence. The Bible nowhere tries to prove that there is a God. It simply starts out with that assumption. It shows God at work in his universe and this is the best way to prove his existence after all.

Another lesson that comes to us from the account of the creation is the power of God. With much feeling and deep appreciation the Psalmist David sang, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge." Since the days of David we have learned that this universe is a million fold greater than he ever dreamed that it was. If what he saw only with his natural eyes in his day caused him to marvel at the glory and power of God, how much greater should be our realization of the glory and power of God today!

Still another lesson is God's wisdom. It took an infinite mind to plan and create this universe. The universe is truly a unit. There is a oneness that extends throughout creation. This is truly a cosmos and not a chaos. Everything moves in perfect order and precision and operates under the great law of cause and effect.

Another lesson from the creation is God's providence. The Lord has made ample provision not only for human beings but for all his creatures. His provisions for the human race extends both to the material and spiritual sides of life. The perfect love of God is revealed only in his Son and this revelation came many years after the creation, but one can see quite a bit of God's love in the marvelous provision he has made in his creation or all his creatures.

One of the great lessons of the creation is the kinship that exists between God and man. Somehow God saw fit to create man in his own image and in his own likeness. This, of course, has to do with the spiritual side of life. God is a self-conscious Being who is possessed of intellect, emotion and will. He can think and feel and determine. It is at this point that man is created in his image. Man also has the power of choice. God has made him a free-moral agent.

The last lesson we will note here is the sustaining power of God. This idea also comes from the creation. We fully realize that the same God who had power to create the universe in the beginning also has power to sustain it so long as he desires. God is big enough to make the very wrath of men praise him. He can make all things work together for good to those who love and obey him.