

# Arkansas Methodist

Serving One Hundred

Thousand Methodists in Arkansas

"The World is My

"Go ye into all the world—" — Mark 16:15

VOL. LXX.

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NO. 23

## The Abnormal Becomes Normal

ONE frequently hears the sigh of a friend "I'll be glad when things get back to normal." This expression of normality usually refers to lower prices or a lessened state of international anxiety or a less hurried way of living, etc. However, we have been so long in the current state of mind that what was once referred to as abnormal has become for many normal, and what was once thought of as normal now becomes abnormal.

An excellent illustration of this shift in thinking is seen in the recent break in prices as a result of a Supreme Court ruling regarding fair trade items which have had, by agreement, a fixed price. These lower prices have become big news and in the larger cities where price wars are in progress consumers are running over each other to take advantage of the abnormal situation. Prices that were once normally high become abnormally low. Just how long this bit of relief for some will last or how far the lowering of prices will spread remains to be seen.

The greatest dangers we see in this shift of thinking, however, is in the field of international relations. It will be a sad day indeed if the great existing tension between the West and East becomes so commonplace that a considerable degree of easing of it will be an abnormal experience requiring painful adjustment.

## Anxious Moments

WITHIN the next two weeks appointments will be discussed and decisions made which will affect the more than four hundred charges and ministers of our two Annual Conferences. A matter of such magnitude affecting so many people could not but cause some anxious moments for all concerned.

It is a serious matter for a church to have a change in leadership in the pulpit. It is a serious matter for a preacher to move from a charge where he is familiar with the problems and possibilities and be assigned to a new charge where he must all but begin over again.

When Jesus said, "Take no thought for the morrow," He must not have had in mind the inevitable anxieties that exist during a Methodist Annual Conference. Preachers normally are concerned about the field they are to serve in a new conference year; churches are concerned about the pastoral leadership they are to have in a new conference year. A preacher who lacks interest in the charge he is to serve the next year is not likely to do much wherever he serves. A church that has little interest in who their pastor is to be before the appointment is made often does not have much interest in him after the appointment is made.

The thing we should guard against at Annual Conference times are "anxious moments" that result from either a lack of confidence in our leadership or self interests that outweigh concern for the kingdom.

We should also keep in mind that "anxious moments" in an Annual Conference session are not confined to pastors and churches. The Bishop and members of his cabinet are often under a pressure in making appointments that the term "anxious moments" only mildly describes. The whole process, for all concerned, requires a patience, a consecration and a faith in Divine leadership characteristic of Methodists if the total results are to be as satisfactory as ministers and churches desire.

## Bishop Holt Guest Preacher At Little Rock Conference

THOSE in attendance at the Little Rock Conference at Hot Springs this week are having the high privilege of hearing Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, the guest preacher for the conference session.

Bishop Holt was born at DeWitt, Arkansas, January 9, 1886. He is the only native son of Arkansas to be elected Bishop in The Methodist Church. He is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and received a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.



BISHOP IVAN LEE HOLT

His first regular appointment was Professor of Greek and Latin in Stuttgart Training School. He served as pastor of University Church, St. Louis and Centenary Church, Cape Girardeau before being elected Professor of Old Testament Literature in Southern Methodist University. He became pastor of St. John's Church in St. Louis in 1918 where he had been serving as pastor twenty years when he was elected Bishop in 1938. He was elected Bishop at the last General Conference held by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Since 1944 he has been the Bishop in Charge of the St. Louis Area.

It is not possible in this brief article to attempt an enumeration of the high honors that have come to Bishop Holt both inside and outside The Methodist Church. He has received practically every high honor Methodism could bestow. He was at one time the President of The Federal Council of Churches of Christ and in many ways has made an outstanding contribution to the ideal of church unity and church union and is still quite active in that work.

Bishop Holt is the author of "Babylonian Contract Tablets," "The Return of Spring to Man's Soul" and "The Search for a New Strategy in Protestantism." He is a great executive and an outstanding preacher of Methodism. Arkansas is honored in giving him as a minister to the church and honored in having him return to his native state to minister to us in an Annual Conference session.

## North Arkansas Conference Meets At Paragould

THE North Arkansas Conference will meet next week for its one hundred sixteenth annual session at the First Methodist Church in Paragould. The first session of the conference will open at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday, June 13th, Bishop Martin, our resident Bishop, presiding. This will be the third time that Paragould has entertained the North Arkansas Conference.

Dr. Warren Johnston, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Ft. Worth, Texas, will be the conference preacher. Dr. Johnston is a native son of Arkansas and the son of one of the great leaders in Arkansas Methodism of former years, Dr. F. S. H. Johnston.

At the North Arkansas Conference, as in all Annual Conference sessions in our church this year, the election of delegates to the General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conference, which meet next year, will be one of the important items of business on the conference program.

The item of business which always receives the number one rating in any Annual Conference is the reading of appointments for the new conference year. Next Sunday will mark the reading of the appointments for the Little Rock Conference. The following Sunday, May 17th, the appointments for the North Arkansas Conference will be announced. In the making of these appointments the Bishop and cabinets of our two conferences carry a responsibility that can be fully appreciated only by those who have helped make appointments. In this work our leaders should have the prayers and sympathetic support of all ministers and churches of Arkansas Methodism.

## Hendrix Closes 67th Year

FRIENDS of Hendrix in attendance at Commencement Exercises Sunday, June 3, had the unusual treat of hearing an address by a qualified government official that dwelt in a large measure with certain aspects of the present national and international crisis. We were impressed that John R. Steelman, Assistant to President Truman, was being cautiously hopeful in his outlook, and we don't think his remarks were designed to curry the political favor of his hearers. Among other things he stressed that the way out of the present confusion was through personal responsibility and sacrifice.

Threatening rain, which has become almost as traditional on Commencement Sunday at Hendrix as the graduation exercise itself, failed to discourage the capacity crowd which gathered in Axley Gym for the conclusion of the Commencement Exercises. Baccalaureate Services had been held that morning at the First Methodist Church. One hundred twelve students received degrees, including several ministerial and life service volunteer students of unusually fine caliber.

Mr. Steelman and Dr. Harry Little, Little Rock educator, Rev. Paul Galloway, Tulsa, and Rev. Fred Harrison, Texarkana, received honorary Doctorate Degrees. Dr. Galloway was the baccalaureate preacher.

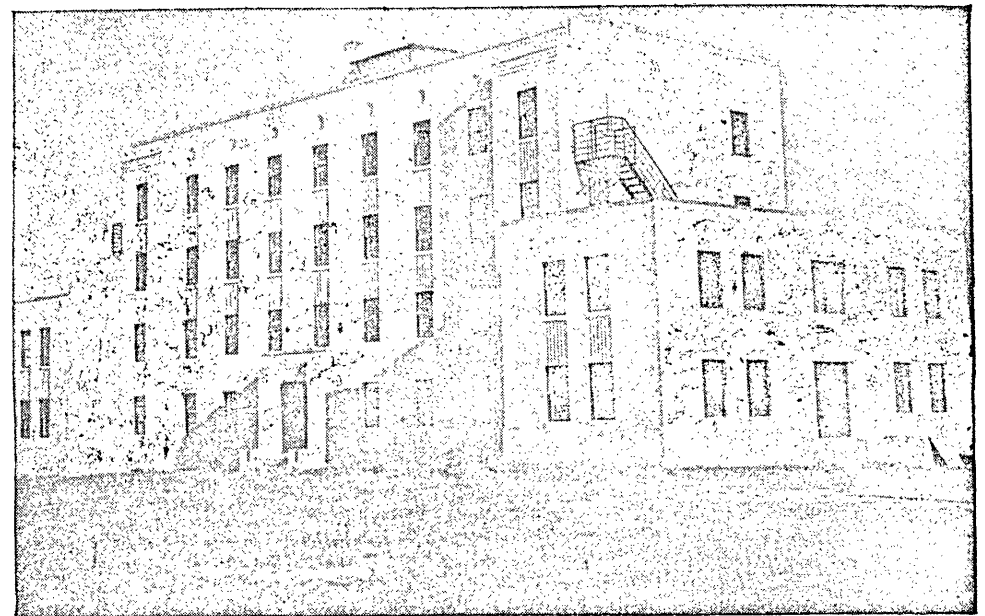
Many visitors to the campus viewed with interest the chapel-auditorium now under construction. Work is progressing rapidly on this building, with good prospects that it will be ready for use when the fall semester at Hendrix gets under way.

Arkansas Methodism can justly take much  
(Continued on page 4)

# The City of Paragould

By The

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



*The Community Hospital, An Affiliated Methodist Hospital*

**P**ARAGOULD is unique in at least one respect—there is no other city of the same name in the world. This means that a letter addressed to “Paragould” and mailed at any post office in the world will find its way to the friendly city in Northeast Arkansas.

This history of Paragould, Greene County and Crowley’s Ridge has been traced back to 1541, when forty Spaniards (De Soto’s Scouts) crossed the “ridge” and traded Spanish trinkets to the Delawares for beans and roasting ears. Many groups of Spanish and French explorers entered the area during the next three centuries. In 1813, “Arkansas” was attached to Missouri as one county, with one representative appointed to the Missouri Legislature that met in St. Louis. Lawrence County was created in 1815, and it embraced the territory now known as Greene County. In 1819, Arkansas county became Arkansas territory and the year following, 1820, Benjamin and Samuel Crowley moved to the ridge and were the first white settlers to reside permanently in Greene County. The first Post Office was called Crowley Ridge, after the two brothers, who were also the first postmasters. Greene County was created in 1833 with the first county seat established at Paris, in 1835. In 1840 the records and county seat were moved to Gainesville, where they were destroyed by fire

twice in the years following. The years between 1850 and 1860 found Crowley’s Ridge and Greene County growing in population, as families moved here from Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. 1882 is an important historical year for the area. First, the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Helena Branch R. R. and then the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas R. R. built lines across the county. A station was established at “Crossing” (where the two lines crossed). Later the name was changed to “Parmley” and finally to Paragould. (Paragould received its name by using a portion of the name of Col. J. W. Paramore and the surname of Jay Gould, two pioneer railroad builders.)

In 1884 the county seat was moved from Gainesville to Paragould, and in 1888 the new brick court house was built. Moving forward in 1891 the first electric lights were installed in homes and on the streets, in 1898 the first city water plant was installed, and in 1915, the Paragould Chamber of Commerce was organized by absorbing the Commercial Club of former days, and since then it has continued to be an active and useful force for the advancement of Paragould and the surrounding territory.

In 1925, Harmon Playfield was established. While in 1930 Paragould made international headlines when the largest meteorite found on the

American continent landed nearby, and an accurate record of when and where was recorded. It weighed in excess of 840 pounds, and is now on display at the Field Museum in Chicago. 1934 was another headline year when Paragould won first place in the Arkansas “Clean-Up Paint-Up and Fix-Up” campaign. 1936 marked the Arkansas Centennial and dedication of Crowley’s Ridge State Park, near Walcott.

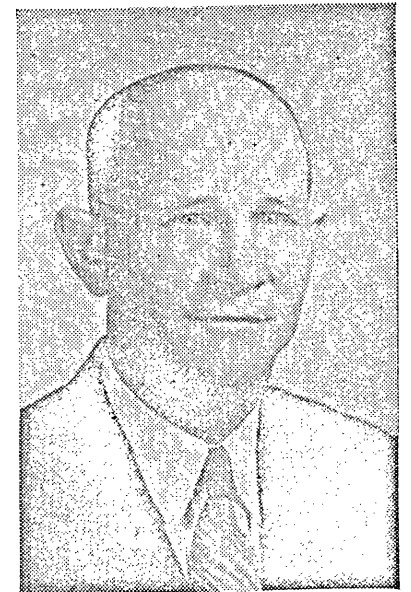
Paragould has numerous industries of which it is proud. Among these are the railroad shop, shirt factory, shoe factory, heading mill, laundries, two electric plants, two ice manufacturing plants, two bottling plants, three cotton gins, farm implement business, four wholesale grocers and three building and manufacture mills.

The Community Hospital, a modern, well equipped hospital of 100 beds, was completed in 1946, makes Paragould a medical center for Northeast Arkansas. The Community Hospital is a Methodist affiliate hospital.

Paragould has twenty churches representing several denominations. Some of these church buildings are among the most beautiful of the state. Four elementary schools, one Junior High and one Senior High School and one Parochial School.

Three newspapers, The Big Pic-

ture in Paragould and The Paragould Soliphone, semi-weeklies, and The Paragould Daily Press, a daily, keep Paragould and the surrounding territory abreast of the time in news. A radio station KDRS furnishes up to the minute news together with cultural and entertaining programs.



**REV. ROBERT MONTGOMERY**  
*Pastor, Paragould Circuit*

# THE DEVOTIONAL PAGE

REV. ROY I. BAGLEY, Editor

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

For Jesus, therefore, prayer must always be personal, even when it is offered in set terms by a company worshipping together. . .

We need constantly to ask ourselves whether our religion holds when nobody is looking at us. . .

But prayer should be made in secret because its very object is to get direction from God. . . But in prayer we deliberately ask God's judgment, and if we are to have it all disturbing influences must be shut out. . .

Jesus lays down certain rules which are to guide us in offering prayer. He demands for one thing that it should be expressed in simple language. . . A prayer should likewise be brief. . . But while prayer should be brief and concise it must also be insistent. . .

He did not wish that the prayer should be said mechanically, as if there were some magical virtue in the words themselves. He meant that our own minds should be active, that his prayer should be ours. . .

In the act of prayer we do not speak familiarly as to our fellow-men. We are conscious of the majesty of God and this sense of awe reflects itself in the words we use. . .

—From "The Lord's Prayer"  
by E. F. Scott

## THE EAGER VOLUNTEERS

*He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.* (St. Matthew 10:38)

When Jesus dealt with penitent sinners or with the discouraged and down-and-out He could be radiantly encouraging. But when He was dealing with bright and confident volunteers He was sternly exacting.

The requirements for the true disciple were stringent, for Jesus could run no risks of diluting His small company or weakening the impact of His message or His mission. He had but a brief time for a task of supreme difficulty and of infinite value; and to that end He had given Himself completely, with no reservations and with uttermost devotion.

Whoever seeks to cooperate with Him on easy terms hampers His work and delays the coming of His Kingdom. There are many enterprises in which half-hearted support is better than none at all. But half-hearted support of Christ, half-hearted enlistment in the Kingdom of God, is really a denial of His claims and a betrayal of His cause.

To say to the leader in whom God is uniquely incarnate and who demands all that we have and all that we are, "I will follow you so far as I can without incurring pain or running risks or causing myself any inconvenience," is nothing short of insulting. Yet it is a well known form of blasphemy.—Forward

A sense of values is the most important single element in human personality, more important than knowledge, intelligence, or imagination. — Report of Carnegie Foundation



## "IF YOU ARE QUIET"

**A**N old man sat one evening by his door,  
His face was tranquil, in his eyes was peace,  
His hands were still, his long life work was done,  
He had a look about him of release.

And I, who needed much to learn the things  
That he had learned, sat down beside him there  
On the low doorstep in the scented dusk,  
He smiled his gentle smile, he touched my hair,  
He said: "My child, I, too, was restless once,  
I, too, was hurt by life, and blind and dumb  
I groped my way; then a wise one said these words:  
"If you are quiet, so will help come"  
'Twas an old folk saying from an old loved land.  
I listened to its teaching, listened long,  
And learned its secret. He who trusts in God,  
And who goes quietly, he will grow strong."

GRACE NOLL CROWELL

## THE POWER OF QUIETNESS

Text: "Come away by yourselves to some quiet place, and rest a little while." (St. Mark 6:31)

**H**OW oftentimes do we find Jesus drawing apart from the crowd into a quiet place.

There were times in which he even sent His disciples away in order that He might be alone. There are times when He counsels His followers to go into some secret place and pray. We live in a world of crowds. We try to lose ourselves in the whirl of activity. We only find physical exhaustion and momentary relief. With the coming of a new dawn our problem is still with us. One woman said, "I'd go crazy if I had to be alone too long." That is too characteristic of all our lives.

This counsel of Jesus comes when they had learned the news of the murder of John the Baptist. His disciples were in a state of turmoil and needed to get alone to think it over. We too need our quiet places not only when life deals its harshest blows but also when life flows along smoothly.

What is this power of quietness? It is the power that helps us over bitterness when life deals its most stunning blows. We do have sorrows and disappointments that touch the deepest chords of our lives. Every person has those moments when his world goes to pieces. Then he needs to get alone and discover a deeper

power than he has ever known before.

It is wonderful and necessary for us to talk our problems over with a friend. We ought to talk with others more than we do. But going over and over our problems leads people to suspect that we really enjoy our troubles.

It is not a matter of becoming a recluse, hidden away from the world; but it is making an opportunity so that we can think deeper than we have ever gone before. We cannot give too deep thought when we are in a crowd. We must have quietness that our confidence might be restored.

Each person has a tendency to grow bitter in the crucial test of life. There is grave danger in self pity. Others are fighting just as serious battles as we are called on to fight and many are growing stronger as they wage their warfare against the engulfing flood of self pity.

Then the power of solitude helps us to a new and deeper insight into life. This does not come merely when troubles flood our souls, but quietness is remunerative as we practice a daily period whereby we may come to know that we are not fighting our battles alone, but there is Another who is there to help us.

We run up against knotty problems every day. Life becomes tangled and confused. Ideals become mixed and it is only as we get alone that we are able to look ourselves squarely in the face and get a new perspective. There was a young person who seemed to be having more than his share of these problems. They were coming thick and fast. Many of his friends were offering numerous suggestions. Finally the young person said almost in desperation, "Let me alone, I've got to think." Here was a courageous attitude of mind that challenges each one when we are up against it.

This power of quietness helps us to empty our minds so that we can think clearly. God speaks to us in our quietness and we are able to recognize His voice. Dr. Stidger was calling home from Grand Central Station. He was complaining because he could not hear his wife. Finally she said, "William, close the door to your telephone booth and you will shut out the noise. Then you can hear me." We need to close the door of our secret place so that we can hear God's voice speaking to us. We remember the story of the prophet who fled from the wrath of a woman. He hides away in a cave. There were great upheavals in nature, but finally God spoke to him in the quietness. God will speak to us in the quietness when we listen to His voice. He speaks to us in the crowd, but unless we have trained our ear to hear we will miss His voice.

When we were living in Oakland, California, there was a skyline drive that looked down on the Bay area. We used to love to drive along that winding road and see the bright lights away off in the distance. We knew that there was the sound of auto, trolley, ships, and the voices of people. But we did not hear them for we were apart from them. There is a poem that expresses this thought:

*"I have an understanding with the hills,  
At evening when the slanted radiance fills  
Their hollows, and the great winds let them be  
And they are quiet and look down on me."*

There is a greater understanding when we have quietness so that we can think and turn our thoughts toward God. Jesus has left not only His instructions for us to go alone into a quiet place, but also He has given us an example. Sidney Lanier has caught this spirit when he wrote:

*"Into the woods my Master went,  
Clean forspent, forspent;  
Into the woods my Master came,  
Forspent with love and shame.  
But the olives they were not blind to Him,  
The little gray leaves were kind to Him,  
The thorn-tree had a mind to Him,  
When into the woods He came."*

*Out of the woods my Master went,  
And He was well content;  
Out of the woods my Master came,  
Content with death and shame.  
When death and shame would woo*

(Continued on page 10)



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## A WEEKLY MESSAGE

By FORNEY HUTCHINSON

### WHAT CAN AN OLD PREACHER DO?

During the years of my active ministry I often found myself too busy to do the general reading I wanted to do, but I would comfort myself by saying, "That's all right. When I get old and have retired, I will have far more time." With that in mind, I preserved many good books and other wholesome reading matter.

In 1938 I had cataracts removed from both eyes. Since then my impaired vision, as well as my lack of time, has limited my reading ability. While my wife has done much to help at this point, her time and strength are limited, and it was not just like *doing it myself*, anyway.

Finally, I retired, had much time on my hands and thought I would greatly enjoy catching upon my reading. But I found that my eyes were so greatly impaired that they interfered with any concentrated and protracted effort. So, I have not realized on the dreams of my earlier and busier years. In my retirement I find myself very much handicapped, so far as any extensive reading is concerned. But I am thankful to say that I can still read, and I still have my wife, who is my secretary, as well as my companion.

Yes, an old preacher can spend much of his spare time reading good books and other helpful literature. It has been his business for a life time, but now it is his pleasure, as well. However, he still has limitations which he is compelled to recognize. His problem is still unsolved.

What can an old preacher do?

(To be continued)

### HENDRIX CLOSING YEAR

(Continued from page 1)

pride in Hendrix. Its graduates have become leaders in practically every worthwhile endeavor of life. The quality of work done on the campus by students and faculty has brought much deserved recognition to the school. From what we have learned from students there is a fine spiritual atmosphere in the college life. The very physical surroundings of the campus itself bespeak care and orderliness. In these days when private schools will be having more and more difficulty with shrinking enrollment and increasing costs, may this pride issue forth in increased support for an institution that is contributing so richly to our church, state, nation, and world.

## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

JIM G. FERGUSON, former Arkansan now of Evanston, Illinois, was granted an honorary doctor of laws by Wayland College, Plainview, Texas, on Wednesday, May 30.

THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, Little Rock, will hold the Sunday morning worship service at the Temple B'Nai Israel, 5th and Broadway, during the summer months while the sanctuary at First Church is being remodeled.

JOANNA EDINGTON, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. M. L. Hackett of Hackett, upon her graduation on Friday evening, May 25, from the Ft. Smith High School was awarded the Class Room Teachers \$200.00 Scholarship to the Ft. Smith Junior College.

WORD comes of the death of Mrs. J. P. Womack, age 69, at her home in Jonesboro. Mrs. Womack was the wife of J. P. Womack, prominent educator and church worker and former president of Henderson State College at Jonesboro.

THE JOINT RADIO COMMITTEE of The Methodist Church is again presenting "The Methodist Hour" which is being heard over KLRA at 10:30 p. m. each Sunday during the months of June, July and the first two weeks of August. The general theme for the eleven broadcasts is "When You Need God's Help."

CHOSEN to serve as chairmen of Pre-conference Study Groups in preparation for the National Conference on Family Life which meets in Chicago on October 12-14 are Dr. Neill Hart of Camden, representing the Little Rock Conference and Mrs. James S. Upton of Conway, representing the North Arkansas Conference.

REV. JAMES R. SEWELL, pastor of Forest Park Methodist Church, preached the commencement sermon for the Little Rock High School on May 20. Two members of the graduating class are also members of Forest Park Church and were both licensed to preach on Monday, May 28, by the Little Rock District ad interim committee. They are James H. Sewell, son of Rev. and Mrs. James R. Sewell, and Eugene Efird, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Efird.

MRS. E. W. MASTERS, Little Rock District Secretary, Wesleyan Service Guild, is calling a meeting of the District Guild Committee to meet at her home, 1404 Welch Street, Little Rock, on Sunday afternoon, June 10, at 2:30 p. m. Training classes will also be held for Guild presidents, promotion secretaries and treasurers. Mrs. Masters is also announcing that the regular District meeting will be held at Henderson Church, Little Rock, on Friday, June 22, at 7:30 p. m.

REV. RUDOLPH WOODRUFF, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Woodruff of Fayetteville, was the guest preacher at the morning service of the Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville, on Sunday morning, June 3. For the past year Mr. Woodruff has been on the faculty of McMurray College in Abilene, Texas. He, with Mrs. Woodruff and children, are in Fayetteville on vacation before he returns to the Army as chaplain. He served as chaplain during World War II.

REV. E. W. HARRIS, pastor of the First Methodist Church, El Dorado, has been transferred to the Louisiana Conference and at its recent annual session was assigned to the Baton Rouge District as district superintendent. Rev. W. E. Brown was transferred from the Louisiana Conference to the Little Rock Conference and will be assigned at the Conference now in session. Brother Brown was formerly a member of the Little Rock Conference.

FORTY young women have been recruited to serve as missionaries in the United States for two years under the Board of Missions and Church Extension, Methodist Church. They will train at Scarritt College, Nashville, Tenn., from June 11 to July 15. In the group are twins who are members of the Episcopal Church. Although

### SCHEDULE OF BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

Tuesday, June 12

Board of Education, 2:00 p. m.  
Conference Advisory Board for Rural Work, 4:00 p. m.  
Board of Missions and Church Extension, 7:30 p. m.  
Board of Conference Claimants, 7:30 p. m.

Wednesday, June 13

Board of Temperance, 9:00 a. m.  
Board of Ministerial Training, 9:00 a. m.  
Commission on World Service and Finance 9:00 a. m.  
Board of Evangelism, 10:00 a. m.  
Committee on Group Insurance, 10:00 a. m.  
Board of Hospitals and Homes, 10:30 a. m.  
Board of Christian Literature, 10:30 a. m.  
Committee on Conference Relations, 10:30 a. m.  
Town and Country Commission, 4:30 p. m.  
All board and committee meetings will be held at the First Methodist Church, Paragould.

recruits are primarily Methodist, there are also Congregationalists and Presbyterians. Under the new program sponsored by the Department of Work in Home Fields of the Woman's Division of Christian Service, these young women are assigned to mission posts within the states and in outpost territories, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii. At the end of two years they may become life-time missionaries.

EVANGELISTIC meetings, with the attendance up into the thousands, are attracting wide attention throughout Japan, according to reports reaching the United States. The meetings are under the auspices of the National Christian Council of Japan, and the principal speaker is the Rev. Dr. E. Stanley Jones, famous Methodist missionary to India, author, and evangelist. The campaign is over a period of two months. In Himeji City for example, 258 persons stood and asked for prayers—these out of a mass meeting of over two thousand. "In the pre-war days we could never get 250 out to any meeting," says a missionary in Himeji City. A Tokyo newspaper reported recently that at a meeting held in Shizuoka Public Hall, 1500 attended. The prefectural governor attended and signed a decision card.

A nation-wide drive to enlist thousands of Protestant church women in an active "crusade for peace" is being launched by the Department of United Church Women, National Council of the Churches. In every community and in every church women are to be recruited as "interpreters of peace" and will be dedicated to "give time and accept disciplines comparable to the time given and disciplines accepted by the youth preparing for war." According to Mrs. James Wyker, department chairman who will head the crusade, the objectives include: support for and active interest in the United Nations as "Today's best instrument of peace;" use of America's "spiritual and material abundance" for the forging of world peace; pledges by women in every church and town "to live democracy in our hometown every day;" active spread of ideas leading toward peace through discussions in the topic with family, friends, neighbors, church and other associates; sharing with the needy people of the world the material resources of America.

### HENDRIX DINNER AT NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

Dinner for Hendrix Alumni, former students and friends will be at the Hotel Vandervoort in Paragould during Annual Conference. Time is 5:30 p. m., Friday, June 15th. Tickets are on sale at the sessions of Annual Conference.—Charles A. Stuck, Chairman

## Schedule For The North Arkansas Annual Conference

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

- 9:00 a. m. Board, Commission and Committee Meetings As Announced
- 12:00 noon Board of Conference Claimants Luncheon
- 1:30 p. m. Annual Conference convenes for organization and roll call
- 1:45 p. m. Report of Planning Committee
- 1:50 p. m. Nominations by Cabinet
- 2:00 p. m. Greetings from Host Church
- 2:15 p. m. Report of Board of Ministerial Training and Committee on Conference Relations
- 3:15 p. m. The Annual Service of Commemoration and The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper. Sermon by Rev. Boone L. Wilford
- 4:15 p. m. Adjournment
- 4:30 p. m. Meeting of Town and Country Commission
- 5:45 p. m. Training Council Dinner
- 7:30 p. m. The Ordination Service and Receiving of Class Into Full Connection, Sermon by Dr. Warren Johnston, Conference Preacher, Pastor, First Methodist Church, Fort Worth, Texas

### THURSDAY, JUNE 14

- 8:30 a. m. Devotional Service, Bishop Martin
- 9:00 a. m. First Ballot, General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates
- 9:15 a. m. Report of the District Superintendents
- 9:35 a. m. Report of the Board of Conference Claimants
- 10:00 a. m. Report of Town and Country Commission
- 10:45 a. m. Report of the Committee on Courtesies
- 10:50 a. m. Report of the Board of Education
- 12:00 noon Report of the Board of Christian Literature and the ARKANSAS METHODIST
- 12:20 p. m. Report of the Joint Commission to Study Methodist Retail in Arkansas
- 12:30 p. m. Adjournment
- 12:45 p. m. University Luncheon
- 2:00 p. m. Ballot
- 2:10 p. m. National Convocation, Town and Country Church
- 2:20 p. m. Report of Mt. Sequoyah
- 2:35 p. m. Report of the Board of Temperance
- 3:05 p. m. Report of the Arkansas Historical Commission
- 3:20 p. m. Report of the Joint Commission for Booneville Sanitorium
- 3:30 p. m. Report of the Committee on Accepted Supplies
- 3:40 p. m. Adjournment
- 4:00 p. m. Worship Service, Dr. Warren Johnston, Conference Preacher
- 5:30 p. m. Town and Country Commission and Methodist Rural Fellowship Dinner
- 7:30 p. m. Worship Service, Sermon by Dr. Warren Johnston, Conference Preacher

### FRIDAY, JUNE 15

- 8:30 a. m. Devotional Service, Bishop Martin
- 9:00 a. m. Report of Committee on Journal
- 9:05 a. m. Report of Board of Ministerial Training, Report No. 2
- 9:25 a. m. Report of the Board of Hospitals and Homes
- 10:00 a. m. Report of the Board of Lay Activities
- 10:35 a. m. Report of the Committee on Courtesies
- 10:40 a. m. Report of the Committee on Conference Relations, Report No. 2
- 10:50 a. m. Report of the Board of Missions and Church Extension and the Woman's Society of Christian Service
- 11:35 a. m. The Advance Hour  
Report of the Board of Evangelism and the Commission on Christian Vocations
- 12:30 p. m. Adjournment
- 12:45 p. m. Board of Lay Activities Luncheon

## NEWTON'S CHAPEL COMPLETES BUILDING PROGRAM

Newton's Chapel, of the Tillar-Winchester Charge, has recently completed a building program which has made possible one of the most complete church plants for a congregation of its size to be found anywhere. The program has included a complete renovation of the present two story building and the addition

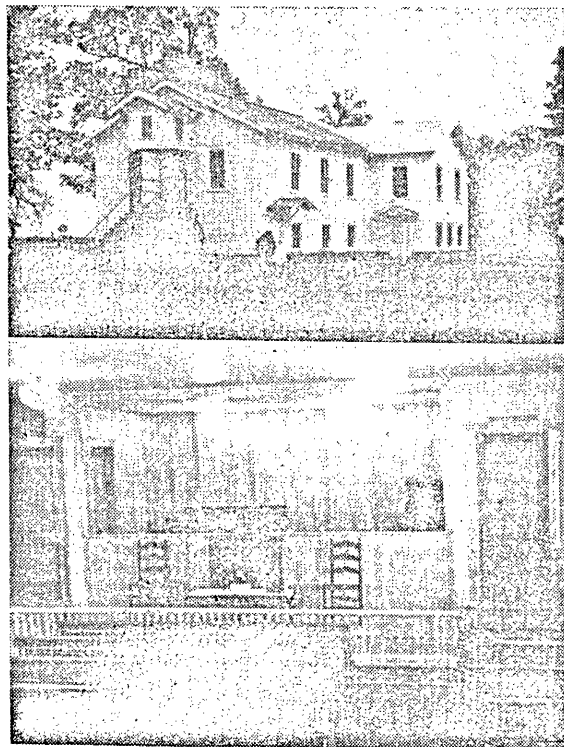
of an educational wing which provides needed space for the growing church school.

The original building for the church was destroyed by fire in 1939 and was replaced in 1942 with the present structure. Portions of the rebuilt plant have remained unfurnished until the present building program was undertaken, during which time the entire structure was finished. Including the newly added wing  
(Continued on page 7)

View of completed  
Newton's Chapel Church  
with Educational Annex.



Sanctuary of Newton's  
Chapel Church. New  
choir space has been  
added.



- 4:00 p. m. Worship Service, Sermon by Dr. Warren Johnston, Conference Preacher
- 5:30 p. m. Hendrix Dinner
- 7:30 p. m. Preaching Service, Youth Night, Sermon by Dr. Warren Johnston

### SATURDAY, JUNE 16

- 8:30 a. m. Devotional Service, Bishop Martin
- 9:00 a. m. Report of Committee on Journal
- 9:05 a. m. Report of the Conference Statistician
- 9:15 a. m. Report of the Conference Treasurer
- 9:25 a. m. Report of the Commission on World Service and Finance
- 10:00 a. m. Report of the Committee on Group Insurance
- 10:15 a. m. Report of the Committee to Study Educational Program for Accepted Supplies
- 10:45 a. m. Report of the Committee on Memorials to General Conference
- 11:45 a. m. Report of the Committee on World Peace
- 12:00 noon Report of the Committee on American Bible Society
- 12:10 p. m. Report of the Committee on District Conference Journals
- 12:15 p. m. Selection of the meeting place for the 1952 Annual Conference session
- 12:30 p. m. Adjournment
- 7:30 p. m. Town and Country Church Night

### SUNDAY, JUNE 17

- 10:45 a. m. Morning Worship Service, Sermon by Bishop Paul E. Martin
- 12:00 noon Concluding business of Conference and Reading of Appointments

## WELCOME

Ministers And Families of North  
Arkansas Conference

To

Paragould

Mitchell Funeral Home

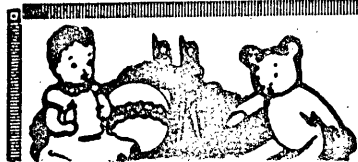
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# THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



## IN STORYLAND

### THE KING'S EMERALD

Rupert stood by the side of the road, watching an unusual number of people hurry past. At length he saw someone he knew—little Giovanni, who came to play with him sometimes.

"Where are you going in such a hurry?" Rupert asked.

Giovanni paused and gazed at him in surprise. "Haven't you heard?" he asked.

"I have heard nothing," Rupert answered eagerly. "What is the news?"

"Why, the king has lost his royal emerald! Yesterday he attended a wedding of the nobility and wore the emerald on the slender golden chain around his throat. In some way the gem became loosened from the ring that holds it to the chain, and it must have dropped in the road."

"All the countryside is searching, for the king has offered a reward of ten pieces of gold to the one who finds it. Come, we must hurry."

"But I cannot go without asking Grandmother," Rupert faltered.

"Then I cannot wait. Join us later. Who knows but that you or I might be the one to find the emerald!"

Rupert's eyes sparkled as he hurried back to the cottage at the edge of the woods. How splendid it would be to find that precious gem and earn not only the reward of ten pieces of gold, but the gratitude of the king as well! His feet fairly flew over the ground.

But at the cottage disappointment awaited him. From within came the sound of soft moaning.

"It is misery in my bones," his grandmother groaned as Rupert opened the door. "Once again it has come upon me. I must stay in the house today."

Rupert almost groaned with her. "The king has lost his emerald, Grandmother," he said. "He offers a reward to the one who finds it."

"If I could go and help in the search perhaps I might find it, and then we could leave this hut with its dampness and buy a piece of high land up on the hillside."

His grandmother shook her head. "What would the sheep do?" she asked. "Already they are restless in the pen. You must take them into the fields to feed on the green grass. And do not forget to take them to water when the sun shines high in the heavens."

Very slowly Rupert drove the sheep from the pen and into the woods, and very listlessly he walked after them. If only he could have helped in the search for the emerald!

"Other boys have their chances, but I never do," he said sadly. "There is always something that I must do—the sheep to herd or the sticks to gather for the fires or the weeds to pull from the garden patch."

But sad and disappointed as he felt, he was gentle with the stupid



## FRIENDS

When Mother feeds the chickens  
I always go along,  
They are so nice and friendly  
They sing a happy song.

I give to each of them a name,  
They're really friends, you see,  
So I look forward every day  
To their visit there with me.

—A.E.W.

sheep, when the sun was high in the heavens, he drove them toward the brook that flowed through the woods.

Rupert sat down on a large stone by the stream. "If I only could have a chance to look for the king's emerald!" Turning his head he gazed down upon the sandy bottom of the brook.

Suddenly he started and stared into the water. What was it—it couldn't be! He leaped suddenly into the stream.

His dripping fingers held something. Something that was green, with delicate threads of yellow—slender strands of gold—woven into a royal crest!

"The king's emerald!" shouted Rupert. "It must have been flung from the chain when the king was crossing the bridge on the highway, and the water washed it here."

"I have found the king's emerald! I should never have had a chance to find the emerald if I had not been doing my duty."

With shining eyes, the king's emerald clutched in his hand, he drove his sheep homeward.—Selected

## HOW CREATURES MOVE

The lion walks on padded paws,  
The squirrels leap from limb to limb,  
While flies can crawl straight up a

wall,  
And seals can dive and swim.  
The worm he wiggles all around,  
The monkey swings by means of his tail,  
And birds may hop upon the ground  
Or spread their wings and sail.

But boys and girls have much more fun,  
They leap and dance and walk and run.

—Author Unknown

## PUPPY'S TRICK

I've got the cutest puppy dog,  
He's full of funny tricks;  
Of course he's apt to chew things up  
And even mother kicks  
When shoes and magazines are chewed,  
Or curtains furnish puppy food.  
But Susie's maddest of 'em all!  
It happened yesterday;  
She planted lots of flower seeds  
And when she went away  
He got to work and dug 'em up!  
My funny, frisky little pup.  
She won't forgive him yet, although  
He thought she'd buried bones, I know.—Daisy D. Stephenson in Ex.

## JUST FOR FUN

"Oh, it's awful!" wailed the new car owner. "My car runs into it

## IN THE WORLD OF BOYS AND GIRLS

### BEDTIME

Sing "Jesus Loves Me," the little one said,  
Clothed in her nightie, ready for bed.  
So lovable sweet, dainty and fair,  
This tiny girl with black curly hair.

Then Mother sang in tones soft and low,  
Of how "Jesus Loves Me This I Know."  
Her little girl had been busy all day,  
A doll to love and with brother to play.

She made mud pies, shaping them right,  
Pulled puppy's tail with impish delight,  
Her eyelids are closing, Sandman is here,  
And it seems that angels are hovering near.  
—Helen K. Smith, Imboden, Ark.

### LITTLE SUNSHINE

By James Henry Darlington  
He was only a wee little boy  
Who did not know much it is true,  
But though bashful and coy,  
He'd the secret of joy,  
Not everyone knows it. Do you?

He'd laugh and he'd sing all the day  
Yes, and smile in his sleep in the night.  
Just to see him at play  
Some went out of their way,  
His looks and his words were so bright.

From this little wee lad we learn  
To consider our lot always best,  
To banish concern  
And to happiness turn,  
And in loving and serving find rest.  
—Selected from Verses by the Way

### AIRING THE DOLL BED

I never make the dolly's bed  
Till it's had sun and air,  
Because I always give my doll  
The very best of care.

Each morning when my dolly's up  
I raise the sash and shade  
And let the room air for an hour  
Before the bed is made.

And so I keep my dolly well.  
She's happy at her play.  
It's all because I air her bed  
On every single day.—In Ex.

over and over again."

"Into what?" asked a worried friend.

"Into money!"—Rochester Abendpost. (Quote translation)

Teacher—"Johnnie, if you had four dollars and I took two dollars, what would you have?"

Johnnie—"A grudge against you."  
—Tid Bits



Another Church Which Has Found Through  
The Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship That

## Sunday Night Belongs To The Church

By EWING T. WAYLAND

SEVERAL Methodist churches in Arkansas have been developing new Sunday evening programs. One of these programs which is noteworthy is that of the First Methodist Church, Fordyce, where Rev. Ransom A. Teeter is the pastor. We had the privilege several weeks ago of visiting in this church on Sunday evening, to observe the program in operation. We found there all age groups of the church busily engaged in worship, training and fellowship, working at the task of extending the facilities of the church beyond the usual Sunday morning Sunday school hour.

The Fordyce schedule varies somewhat from the schedule followed in most other churches where this kind of program is projected on Sunday evening. Since this program is more or less in an experimental state it involves little more than a meeting of the various age groups to worship and study materials provided for meetings of this nature.

The divisional lines of the church school are preserved in the evening program. We were impressed that especially good work is being done

in the Beginner, Primary and Junior age groups of the Children's Division. Meeting as it does by age groups on Sunday morning, these evening sessions are unusually well attended, sometimes equalling or surpassing in numbers the morning sessions. Qualified teachers and leaders guide these youngsters in creative work and play, and most especially in learning to be at home in the church. Helpful materials and good equipment helps here in making for a successful piece of work.

The Intermediate group and the Senior High group of the Youth Division meet in the regular M. Y. F. separately for their evening programs, each with their own counselor, and promoting for the most part for themselves their own program. We are told that the attendance at the evening meetings rarely reached the attendance registered for these groups on Sunday morning. However, plans were being discussed for making improvements at that point.

The adult group meets as one unit. This evening session of the adults is given over to a short period of worship which is followed by a dis-

cussion led by one of the local leaders on a current topic of interest, or to hear a specially invited guest speaker perhaps from another community, or devoted to some timely program designed to acquaint the adults more fully with the work of the church. The attendance at this adult session is gratifying, and indicates a real interest in the type of work done for the adults on Sunday evening.

There is no general meeting of the three divisions. Each division begins and concludes its meetings independently of the others except that the youth gather in the basement for a period of fellowship and recreation following its two separate sessions the preceding hour. No meals are served. There is an interval of an hour between the adjournments of the program and the evening worship service in the church sanctuary.

According to the pastor a much larger number of people are reached in the evening's program under this arrangement than in the plan of simply having a regular evening worship service. Since there are those members of the congregation who desire the continuation of the evening service of worship, the service is held at the regular hour with several who attended the first program returning to the church for this service with others who were not in the earlier service.

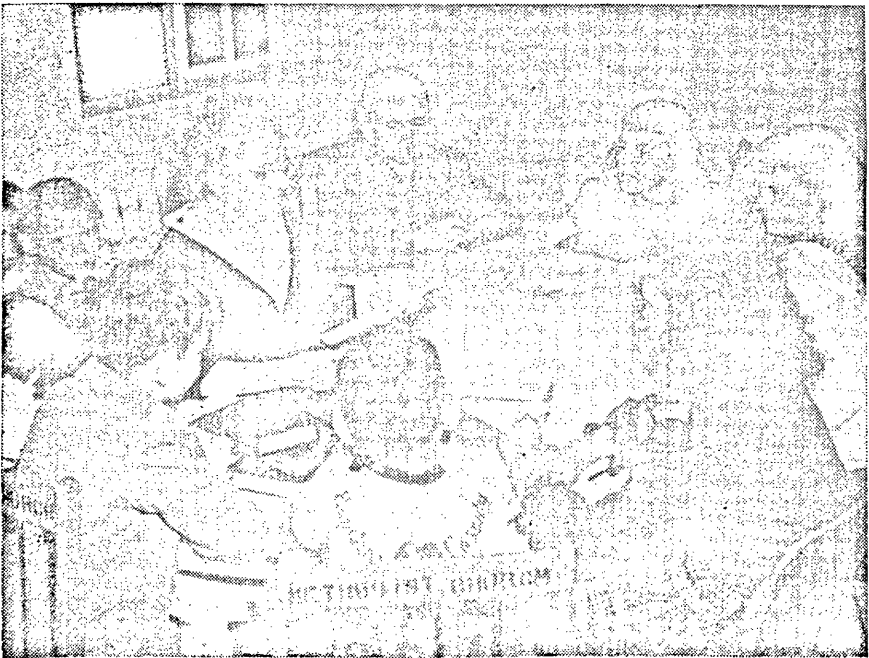
More and more churches are beginning to appreciate the opportunity which a well rounded program of this nature affords on Sunday evening. Pastors who are sensitive to the needs of their people are finding in the Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship another opportunity of meeting these needs through wor-

ship, study and Christian fellowship. Indeed, Sunday night does belong to the church but in too many instances people who make up the church have allowed themselves to be drawn away into other activities many of which do anything but build Christian character. In other instances, church leaders have not set up a program which will hold or attract people who need what the church has to offer.

It seems to us that one of the finest blessings of such a program as found at Fordyce is the bringing of practically all of the age groups within the family. The Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship is another session of the Church School, and except for the very small children and the adult home members of the church school, provision is made for everyone to have opportunity for stimulating worship and creative study. There are even those instances where for some reason persons are unable to attend the Sunday School hour on Sunday morning, and those persons will certainly find in such a Sunday evening program that which they have to miss on Sunday morning.

The measure of the worth of any program is what it does for the individual lives of those it reaches. It has been our experience as we have had opportunity to question people where such Sunday evening programs are in progress that Methodist people are pleased with this new turn in Methodist program. Many Methodists sense the need for just the very thing that a program of this nature affords, and in most instances will respond generously of their time, support, and enthusiasm to follow their pastor who takes the trouble to work out such program for his people.

Children Are Active In Fordyce Methodist  
Sunday Evening Fellowship Program



### NEWTON'S CHAPEL COMPLETES BUILDING PROGRAM

(Continued from page 5)

the building now has a sanctuary with adequate space for worshippers, eight class rooms, a kitchen, spacious social room, and rest rooms. The social room and the sanctuary are also used for other class space. The walls throughout are of sheet-rock with stipple finish and the woodwork has been finished and re-finished in its natural color.

The exterior of the building has been finished with asbestos siding. There are entrances to the building from the front, back and west side.

The total cost of the project was \$6,500, with \$2,500 of this amount having been paid and a \$4,000 debt remaining at the time of this writing.

The building committee has been J. O. Beckham, chairman, Mrs. Paul Teeter, secretary, and J. P. Herrington, treasurer. Other members include Paul Teeter, Mrs. J. O. Beckham, Mataz Beckham, Jim Tillery, H. G. Leek, H. G. Leek, Jr., Howard Newton, J. A. Newton, and Mrs. J. P. Herrington. Work was largely completed on the program in May.

The heart of education is the education of the heart.—Baraca-Philatheia News.

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# Paragould Entertains The North Arkansas Annual Conference

## FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Methodism had its birth in Paragould, in 1883 when Rev. F. E. Taylor, pastor of the Greensboro Circuit, Jonesboro District, and of the White River Conference, preached the first sermon on record at 7:00 p. m. in an unfinished store building. It was after he had preached for some time that he organized the Methodist Church with thirteen members. The first church building was a frame structure and stood on the corner of Second and West Emerson.

The town grew rapidly, and also the church, the only one in the town at the time. Rev. Mr. Taylor, founder of the church, continued as pastor, and in 1887 the Paragould Methodist Church became a

station charge. Rev. Mr. Taylor and his congregation entertained the White River Annual Conference in December, 1888. Bishop Joseph S. Key presided. The bishop was entertained in the home of the late R. W. Meriweather.

The congregation continued to grow to the extent that the original frame structure became inadequate. A new location was secured and an elegant brick structure was

I. Maynard was the first presiding elder to serve the new district. In December, 1902, Paragould for the third time entertained the annual conference. Bishop E. E. Hoss presided.

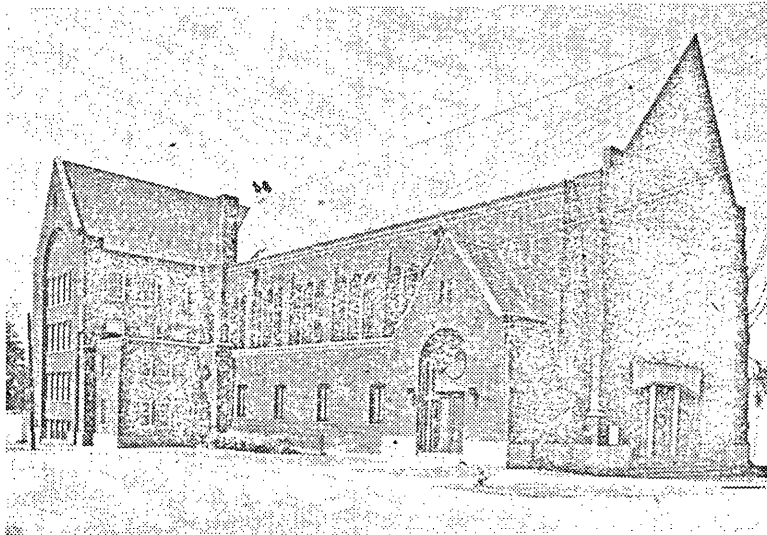
During the next two decades the little city continued to grow and the church went forward. Under the ministry of Rev. J. B. Evans, 1923-26, a modern church, embodying more fully the ideals of this



BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN  
Presiding Bishop

Following Wednesday the North Arkansas Annual Conference, under the presidency of Bishop H. A. Braz, met in Paragould and held its session in the new church.

The membership of the First Methodist Church has grown from thirteen members to over 1300. It has a well organized Church School with a membership of over 700. In the woman's work, it has four active circles and a Wesleyan Service Guild. A total membership of 160. There are two very fine choirs; the senior choir, under the direction of Mrs. E. E. Castleberry; the youth choir, which furnishes music for the evening service and the antiphonal choir. Miss Wirta Potter is the very efficient organist. Miss Potter has served 21 years as organist with the absence of only



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, PARAGOULD  
Seat of Conference Sessions

begun at the corner of Third and Emerson. Rev. Z. T. Bennett carried forward the completion. In 1895 the "Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society" was organized.

In December, 1896, the White River Conference again met in Paragould and held its session in the new church. In 1900 the church was transferred from the Jonesboro District and the Paragould District was formed. Rev. J.

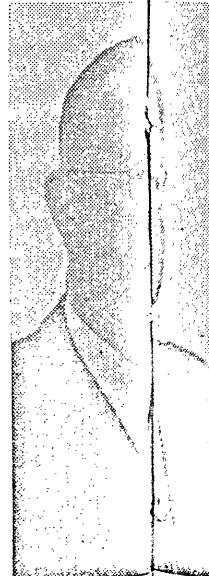
splendid and enterprising congregation, was erected at Fourth and Main streets. The lot was contributed by Mrs. Sarah Wyse Cook. The new church, built of dark red brick, is a noble structure of rare beauty. One of the largest and most outstanding organs in the state was installed. The new church was occupied by the congregation for the first time Sunday, November 21, 1926. The fol-



REV. R. E. CONNELL  
Pastor First Methodist

one Sunday than various vacation periods. The church organization is a large group. The Church is a place for boys and girls, Scouts and other civic organizations. It is its Youth group with Hettie Wilson, Springs, and a student of H. drix College. Youth rector during the summer months.

In December, 1950, a very extensive program was held with the church on a "look." The interior is a sermon combination of accents of and shades of green and streaming light.



REV. A. STOREY  
District Superintendent

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DR. WARREN JOHNSTON  
Pastor First Methodist, Ft. Worth,  
Conference Preacher

dows, cast soft glows from the rich red velvet carpets. Towering above and behind the platform is the organ with its new dress of grill work and gold cloth background. The lighting fixtures were made more lovely by refinishing and lowering. The pews were made like new with their satin finish in both the main sanctuary and balcony. The Church office was repainted; the pastor's study was redecorated throughout and luxuriously finished. The sub-basement was sealed and repainted and portions of the educational plant redone. The work on the exterior of the building included reworking the roof and tuck-pointing the walls which consisted of a water proofing job. The church

membership now looks forward to the revamping of the entire educational plant in the near future.

With the accomplishments that have been brought to past, and have anticipated for the future, First Methodist Church of Paragould is looking forward to even a greater future. The expenditures for the year have reached nearly the \$54,000 mark.

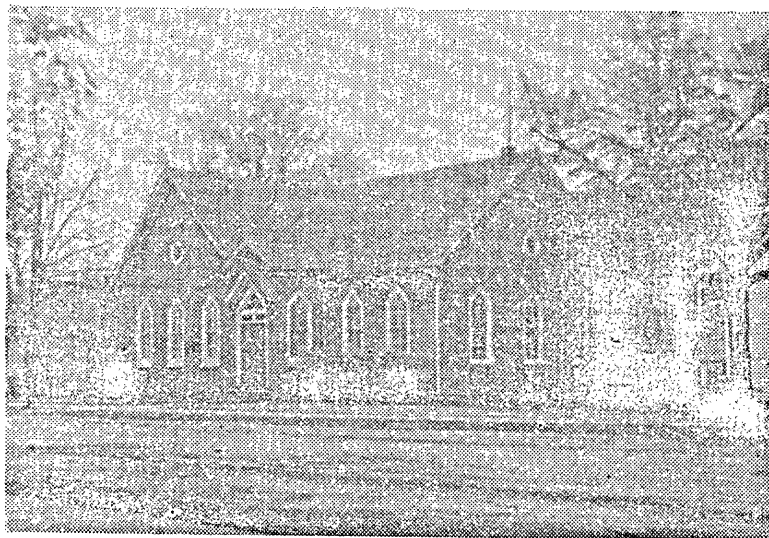
Paragould Methodism now

into a city. Not only did it extend westward, but soon covered a large territory east of the two railroads—the Cotton Belt and the Missouri Pacific. This community was called East Side.

It was evident to many, that if this section of the city was to be evangelized and saved to Methodism a new church must be established. Therefore, in 1903, Rev. A. C. Griffin, after a series of cottage

Richard Jackson gave the church one acre of land, where the church now stands on East Court Street, and the church was built as soon as the material could be placed on the ground. A few years later, a wing was added, to take care of the rapidly growing congregation. Later, on the rear of the lot an annex was built, to take care of the growing Sunday School. In the year 1914, during the pastorate of Rev. A. C. Cloyce, a splendid parsonage was erected on the lot beside the church. The parsonage was built in one day. A large force of men put up the house while the ladies prepared dinner and supper. It has since been improved and now is fitted with all modern conveniences.

The following pastors after A. C. Griffin as listed: J. W.  
(Continued on page 15)



GRIFFIN MEMORIAL

welcomes the Methodism of the North Arkansas Conference to its 116th Annual session which we are sure will be a blessing to Paragould, and not only to Paragould but to the Conference of which it is a part.

## GRIFFIN MEMORIAL

Methodism in Paragould began with the organization of the First Church in 1883. At this time Paragould was a small town rapidly growing

prayer meetings, organized East Side Methodist Church. There were about a dozen charter members—A. P. Mack, Thomas Spillman, (father of Mrs. Garrison, a member) J. W. Brewer, A. C. Griffin, (Uncle of B. F. McAden) A. C. Astrap and wife, (father of Mrs. Macklemore), R. L. Mitchell, (father of Randell Mitchell and Cecil R. Mitchell) and Mrs. Eliza Earl (mother of Ernest Earl) are among those listed.



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# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Contributing Editors:  
Ira A. Brumley  
Mrs. Ira A. Brumley

## VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL AT GRAVETTE

The Vacation Church School in the Gravette Methodist Church was conducted from May 14 to 25. Sixty-four children between the ages of four and fourteen took part in activities which centered around Worship, Art and Craft Work, and Recreation. Mrs. Haskel Jackson was the chairman of the faculty which was composed of Mrs. Charles Ferrel, Miss Vera Jones, Mrs. Clarence Teeter, and Mrs. Glenn Phipps. Miss Ruth Weaver was enrollment chairman.

Mrs. F. H. Milburn, Miss Rebecca Milburn, and Robert Jackson had charge of the Art activities. Mrs. H. W. Jinske, Miss Marilyn Teeter, Miss Yvonne Galyean, and Miss Betty Jinske had charge of recreation.

Mrs. Kenneth Allum, Mrs. P. J. Jorgensen, Mrs. Clay Jenkins, and Mrs. Luther Baughn conducted devotional exercises.

Mrs. Bodie McAllister, Mrs. Clay Jenkins, Mrs. J. L. Oswalt, Mrs. R. L. Motley, Mrs. W. Wilson, Mrs. Charles Burtch, Mrs. Stokes Ballard, Mrs. S. N. Douglas, Mrs. A. L. Allum, and Mrs. Luther Baughn furnished refreshments each day.

The high point of the school was reached Friday evening, May 25 when faculty and pupils rendered a program in the auditorium of the church and showed exhibits of art and project work to the public.—H. W. Jinske, Pastor.

## HENDRIX COLLEGE NEWS

Bachelor of arts degrees with honors were awarded to eight seniors at commencement exercises June 3, according to Dr. W. C. Buthman, dean of the college.

Those receiving degrees with honors were Ellen Cynthia Brown of Bastrop, La., English; Milton B. Linzel of Little Rock, chemistry; Martha Riley of Little Rock, mathematics; Cecil Simmons of Conway, business; John Stuckey of Stuttgart, chemistry; Betty Jo Teeter of Fordyce, chemistry; Marion Ware of Little Rock, history and political science, and Embry Wilson of Russellville, education and psychology. The eight candidates from a class

## INSTRUCTOR IN PASTORS' SCHOOL

DR. WESLEY C. DAVIS will offer the course on "The Message of the Book of Revelation" at the Arkansas Pastors' School, July 30-August 3. Being a native Georgian, he received both A. B. and B. D. degrees at Emory University. He later went to Yale where he was awarded both the M. A. and Ph.D. degrees. He served some of the leading churches of the Missouri Conference before coming to Southern Methodist University more than fifteen years ago, where he is now serving as Professor of New Testament in the Perkins School of Theology.

A recognized authority in his field, Dr. Davis is in great demand as a lecturer and instructor throughout the area which the University serves. In a recent letter he has this to say. "I always enjoy being in Arkansas, and am looking forward to my fellowship with you and the brethren this summer." — Roy E. Fawcett.



DR. WESLEY C. DAVIS

of 112 were awarded degrees with honors on the basis of scholastic record and the results of an oral examination before a special faculty committee.

### Soph Council Named

Mary Margaret Bird of Earle was selected before the end of the spring term to head Hendrix's Sophomore Council, according to Miss Marie Williams, dean of women.

Other members of the council for next year are Freda Wilson of Greenbrier, Jackie Bell of Ft. Smith, Virginia Botts of Warren, Beth Henderson of Imboden, Carolyn Wells of Wilmot, Sue Clifford of Paragould, Barbara Logan of Walnut Ridge, Carolyn Colvert of DeWitt, Sue Huffaker of Beebe, and Betty Hurt of Paragould.

Members of the sophomore council are outstanding sophomore women who will advise and assist new freshmen women in getting acquainted with Hendrix during the first months of the school year next fall.

### Summer Term Opens

Hendrix's summer session opened

Tuesday, June 5 and will run until August 11, according to H. I. Lane, professor of mathematics and director of the session.

More than 100 students registered Monday. Classes began yesterday.—Cynthia Brown.

## FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERS

Kansas City, Mo.—A Methodist Laboratory School of Christian Leadership Education is being held on the National College campus June 3-8. The laboratory school is for those who are interested in improving their methods in Christian education. The school offers opportunity for observation of skilled teachers guiding boys and girls in Christian growth.

Our present calendar was brought into use by Pope Gregory XIII 1582.

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## JUNIOR CLOSELY GRADED COURSES TO BE REVISED

Nashville, Tennessee—Editors of children's publications for Methodist church schools called together in Nashville on May 23-24 some of the outstanding children's workers in the country in preparation for the revision and publication of Junior Closely Graded Courses. In charge of the meeting was Miss Mary Edna Lloyd, editor of children's publications for the Methodist Church. Among the persons present for the conference were: Dr. Mary Alice Jones, Miss Freddie Henry, Miss Jessie Eleanor Moore, Miss Emma Jane Kramer, Miss Mildred Magnuson, Mrs. W. M. Hubbard, Miss Merle Easton, and Miss Grace Storms. It is planned to make such revisions as will bring the materials thoroughly up to date. It is expected that the new materials will be available for use in October, 1953.

## THE POWER OF QUIETNESS

(Continued from page 3)

Him last,  
From under the trees they drew Him last,  
'Twas on a tree they slew His last,  
When out of the woods He came."

Jesus did not leave any impression that we must stay secluded from life. We are to go into this quiet place to receive new strength for the daily tasks that are ours. Peter, James, and John wanted to stay on the Mount of Transfiguration, but Jesus led them back into the valley where there was crying human need. The power of quietness then is in the new life that we find to share with Him in the glorious privilege of carrying the burdens of each other.—R. B.

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# WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. SUE M. WAYLAND, Editor

## DeWITT W. S. C. S. HAS RECOGNITION SERVICE

A beautiful service of recognition of new members of the Woman's Society, and those honored with Life Memberships, was held at the First Methodist on the evening of April 16th.

Iris and spirea in tall white standards decorated the altar, before which stood a table holding a centerpiece of red carnations, and tapers, used during the program in a special candlelighting service.

Following a prelude of soft music, with Mrs. H. W. Quertermous at the organ, an effective worship period opened the program in which the pastor, Rev. O. E. Holmes, S. P. Vansickle, the program leader, and Mrs. Martha Adams, president, took part.

Mrs. Vansickle welcomed the district officers and the other visitors. Purpose of the Woman's Society was given by Mrs. John Smith, and her talk was followed by the lighting of the service candles by members of the W. S. C. S. membership committee. Mrs. R. L. Kraft and Mrs. Felix Stephenson. Symbols of the candles were explained by Mrs. Vansickle. The blue was for loyalty, the white for prayer, and the yellow represented gifts.

Following a song the new members were recognized. Fifteen of the society's new members were among those present, and each was presented a red carnation from the centerpiece at the altar. The presentation was made by the president, Mrs. Adams.

Mrs. Vansickle led in the dedication of the Membership Book, which was given in memory of her mother. Mrs. Bill Miller gave two readings, and Mrs. O. E. Holmes gave the pledge of the W. S. C. S.

Life memberships were given to Mrs. Verne Bowers, Mrs. Otto Leibrack, and Mrs. Erva Johnson. The program was concluded by the singing of a duet sung by Mrs. Maxine Ruffin and Mrs. T. H. Bowers, and a prayer led by the pastor, Rev. O. E. Holmes.

Following the service refreshments were served in the church dining room. The serving table was beautiful with a pink centerpiece of pink tulips. Mrs. W. F. Schallborn, Jr., and Mrs. Leonard Morgan presided over the punch and cake service. Hostesses were: Mrs. F. E. Moulton, Mrs. Schoolborn, Mrs. A. Lepine, Mrs. Clyde Worley, Mrs. Robert Whitehead, Jr., Mrs. Leonard Morgan, Mrs. Didney Roussan, and Miss Nellie Lepine.

## FORDYCE SOCIETY INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

The Fordyce Woman's Society of Christian Service met May 21st and the following officers were installed by Rev. R. A. Teeter: President, Mrs. Truman Farrar; Vice President, Mrs. Byron Atkinson; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Horace Everett; Promotion Secretary, Mrs. Harry Nutt; Treasurer, Mrs. Weems Trussell; Secretary of Missionary Education and Service, Mrs. W. B. Hope; Secretary Christian Social Relations, (Continued on page 15)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT, LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE W. S. C. S., FOURTH QUARTER, 1950-51

Balance brought forward .....\$ 2,300.07

### RECEIPTS:

Undirected Pledge

to Missions—

W. S. C. S. ....\$12,865.81

W. S. G. .... 1,595.55

Lenten Offering—

W. S. C. S. .... 738.88

W. S. G. .... 34.00

Projects W. S. C. S. .... 855.76

W. S. G. .... 661.59

Wanda Stahley .... 369.63

Orlene McKimmey—

W. S. C. S. .... 378.97

W. S. G. .... 37.00

State Sanatorium .... 229.67

Special Memberships:

Hon. Baby (57) .... 285.00

Hon. Baby (1) W. S. G. .... 5.00

Junior (1) .... 10.00

Hon. Youth (3) .... 45.00

Adult Life—

(121) W. S. C. S. .... 3,025.00

(10) W. S. G. .... 250.00

Memorial (2) .... 100.00

Honorary Life (3) .... 287.50

Honorary Life W. S. G. .... 12.50

In Remembrance Gifts .... 25.00

Little Rock Meth. Council .... 476.20

Conference Rural Work .... 195.25

Total Credit on Pledge:

W. S. C. S. .... 19,887.67

W. S. G. .... 2,595.64

Total Credit on Pledge.....\$22,483.31

Youth Fund .... 719.86

Children's Service Fund .... 57.80

Total on Appropriations..... 23,260.97

### CASH FOR SUPPLIES:

W. S. C. S. .... 718.98

W. S. G. .... 248.54

Supplementary Gifts .... 36.00

Cultivation Fund—

W. S. C. S. .... 330.64

W. S. G. .... 77.50

Week of Prayer—

W. S. C. S. .... 78.09

W. S. G. .... 14.95

Student Loan Fund—

W. S. C. S. .... 133.62

W. S. G. .... 5.00

Alcohol Education Fund.... 202.98

E. T. W. Fund .... 235.70

Other Receipts .... 24.82

Total Receipts from Districts—

W. S. C. S. .... 22,390.16

W. S. G. .... 2,977.63

Total Receipts .... 25,367.79

### OTHER RECEIPTS:

Refund on Jurisdiction

expense .... 19.78

Offering from Annual

W. S. G. meeting .... 92.00

(for Nurses Home,

Seward, Alaska)

Offering from Annual

meeting W. S. C. S. .... 52.80

(for Wanda Stahley)

Offering from Annual meet-

ing on expenses .... 40.17

Grand Total Receipts .... 25,572.54

Add Balance—Total cash

to account for .....\$27,872.61

Ch. S.R. and L.C.A.

reported—\$17,765.71.

### DISBURSEMENTS:

To Division:

Undirected Pledge to

Missions W. S. C. S. .... 9,757.62

W. S. G. .... 1,483.87

Projects W. S. C. S. .... 3,852.26

Projects W. S. G. .... 661.59

Nurses Home, Alaska,

Conf. W. S. G. .... 92.00

Special Memberships—

W. S. C. S. .... 3,757.50

W. S. G. .... 267.50

In Remembrance Gifts.... 25.00

Total Credit on Pledge—

W. S. C. S. ....\$17,392.38

W. S. G. .... 2,504.96

Total Credit ..... 19,897.34

Youth Fund .... 719.86

Children's Service Fund .... 57.80

Total on Appropriations ..... 20,675.00

Week of Prayer .... 93.04

Foreign Supplies .... 25.50

Home Supplies .... 338.77

Supplementary Gifts .... 36.00

Total to Division ..... 21,168.31

### Other DISBURSEMENTS:

Administrative Expense.. 205.33

Printing &amp; Mimeo-

graphing .... 724.37

Annual Meeting W.S.C.S. .... 268.01

Annual Meeting W. S. G. .... 23.20

Refunds:

L. R. Meth. Council .... 207.20

L. R. Meth. Council

(Negro Worker) .... 75.00

Dist. Cultivation W.S.C.S. .... 330.64

Dist. Cultivation W.S.G. .... 77.50

E.T.W. Fund .... 225.00

Alcohol Education .... 248.12

Student Loan .... 138.62

Student Loan Memorial

by Conference .... 5.00

Jurisdiction Expense .... 100.00

Balance on Car

(Camden Dist.) .... 479.46

World Day of Prayer Of-

fering from Districts .... 6.50

Love gift to Wanda

Stahley .... 50.00

Refund to Camden

District .... 430.00

Other Disbursements ..... 8.50

Total Disbursements .....\$24,790.76

Balance May 19th, 1951—\$3,081.85

MRS. C. I. PARSONS,

Conference Treasurer

### SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS:

ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT: Honorary Baby: Linda Loa Beasley, Margaret Rose Buzby, Norma Jean Patterson, 1st Church, Hot Springs; Sarah C. Payne, Barbara Payne, 1st Church, Malvern; Margaret Ann Arnold, 1st Church W. S. G.; Yvonne Leamons, Sparkman. Adult Life: Mrs. E. B. Williams, Mrs. W. F. Warwick, Grand Ave., Hot Springs; Mrs. John Thomason, Malvern; Mrs. Billy G. Wilson, 1st Church, Hot Springs; Mrs. Rosella Edwards, Mrs. Harvey E. Moore, Arkadelphia; Mrs. Henry Brasell, Mrs. R. W. Griswold, Mrs. U. G. Heath, Mrs. Glenn Teeter, Mrs. O. S. Riley, Malvern; Mrs. O. E. Nichols, Hot Springs, Pullman Heights; Mrs. O. B. Webb, Mrs. George T. Reutz, Mrs. R. F. Tucker, Gurdon; Mrs. Edwin T. Sherman, Hot Springs W. S. G.

CAMDEN DISTRICT: Honorary Baby: Frank Clinton Elcan, Waldo; Peggy Parker, Lane Andrew Womack, Camden; Sheila Ann Word, Berden; Roy Norman Boyle, Joan Frances Gunn, Donald Bruce Brock, Susan Jo Swimm, Smackover; Bunny Sue Cameron, Ann Elizabeth Slater, Angela Ann Morgan, Parkers Chapel. Honorary Youth: Miss Peggy Franks, Miss Polly Franks, Miss Mary Kitchens, Waldo. Adult Life: Miss Blanche Jackson, Mrs. O. G. Burnham, Mrs. W. R. Parker, Mrs. J. J. Tibbitts, Mrs. B. F. Scott, Mrs. M. J. Wozencraft, Mrs. Pattie Bryant, Mrs. J. W. Sanders, Mrs. T. I. Thornton, Mrs. Scott B. Lide, Mrs. Robert C. Burns, Mrs. S. O. Shirey, Mrs. Loomis Newcomb, Mrs. Ralph Reed, Mrs. G. A. Erikson, Mrs. Edwin Sullenberger, Camden; Mrs. Nelson Thornton, Camden District; Mrs. C. L. Mosley, Chidester; Mrs. J. G. Brown, Magnolia; Mrs. Ruth Raton, Norphlet; Mrs. M. A. Dickenson, Bearden; Mrs. J. E. Senter, Mrs. A. C. Cross, Mrs. E. S. Johnson, Stamps; Mrs. J. W. Perdue, Mrs. A. H. Jones, Mrs. A. P. Reynolds, Mrs. Ada Steward, Mrs. Fred C. Mayfield, Mrs. J. C. Craighead, El Dorado; Mrs. Mary Bate-man, Smackover.

HOPE DISTRICT: Honorary Baby: Donna Janice McCommon, College Hill; Sylvia Gray, Susan Ward, Elizabeth Jane McMahon, Prescott; Adult Life: Mrs. E. E. Shell, Prescott; Mrs. Tom Sewell, Mrs. J. C. Oslin, Mrs. Leila Erwin, Fairview; Mrs. O. B. Poland, Mrs. Herbert Stephens, Hope District; Mrs. R. R. Hicks, Mrs. J. W. Witherspoon, Mena; Mrs. Bruce Evers, Miss Roxie Deal, College Hill; Mrs. C. V. Nunn, Hope; Mrs. E. E. Franklin, Mrs. R. S. Thomas, Ashdown; Mrs. L. J. Brown, Blevins. Honorary Junior: Margaret Celeste Bowman, Foreman. Honorary Life: Mrs. W. F. Meissner, Texarkana First Church W. S. C. S. and W. S. G.

LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT: Honorary Baby: Thomas Alfred DeBlack, Mabelvale; Harry Michael Carter, Elizabeth Ann DeVore, Susan Jean DeVore, Linda Sue Jones, Jack Raymond Foster, Jr., John Felton Major, Bruce Kent Margrave, David Moody Moore, Jr., Paula Louise Pendergrass, Ray Harold Weaver, Victor Dixie Wright II, Winfield; Nancy Marie Baker, Carlisle; Robert James Wilson, Mary Eleanor Wilson, James Curtis Rice, Marcia Lynn Laser, David Troy Cheairs, Asbury; Elizabeth Louise Elliott, Highland; Robert Donald Bailey, Don Asbury Aldridge, Harletta Marie Thomas, Scott St.; Charles Lynn Fowler, Becky Ann Mathew, Harry Kenneth Cholend, Elaine Kay Jones, Frederick Crowson Perciful, Jr., 28th Street. Adult Life—W. S. C. S.: Miss Maud Hayes, Mrs. Floyd L. Crouse, Winfield; Mrs. Frank Shanks, Benton; Mrs. Frances James, Primrose; Mrs. Alfred DeBlack, Mabelvale; Mrs. George L. McCroskey, Geyer Springs; Mrs. G. W. Gitchel, Mrs. Leland Krugh, Pulaski Heights; Dr. Francis A. Buddin, L. R. District; Mrs. U. R. Davis, Douglasville; Mrs. A. E. Roemer, Mrs. J. F. Walton, Scott St.; Mrs. Maxine Manning, Asbury; Mrs. A. C. Gannaway, Mrs. J. B. Resaman, Mrs. Aubrey G. Walton, Mrs. J. H. Tole, 1st Church, L. R.; Mrs. J. W. Tate, Mrs. D. F. Bennett, Henderson; Mrs. L. V. Frederick, Mrs. E. M. Lenox, Mrs. Brad Fraser, Highland; Mrs. Gordon Lee, Mrs. W. H. Campbell, Hunter; Mrs. J. R. Sewell, Forest Park. Adult Life—W. S. G.: Mrs. C. R. Benson, Edwina Ratcliff, Lillian Herron, Blanche Self, 1st Church, L. R.; Miss Anna Green, Pulaski Heights; Lillie O'Neal, 1st Church, L. R.; Miss Frances Johnson, Mrs. Lois Corley, Hunter. Honorary Life: Miss Ida Shannon, Asbury. Memorial: Mrs. Verta Shepherd Bush, Benton; Mrs. H. M. Gordon, Hunter.

MONTICELLO DISTRICT: Honorary Baby: Yolande Golden, Janet Dennington, Dermott; Carol Nell Brown, Crossett; Billy Loyd, McGehee; Charles Claud Daniel, Tillar. Adult Life: Mrs. John M. Golden, Monticello Dist.; Mrs. Meek C. Singer, Warren; Mrs. A. C. Erwin, Crossett; Mrs. J. M. Thorp, Mrs. Lee Collard, Dermott; Mrs. Ransom A. Teeter, Mrs. Agnes Wynne Twitty, Fordyce; Mrs. Fay Nolley, Hamburg; Mrs. Alice Stuart, McGehee; Mrs. Yatis Trotter, Monticello; Mrs. M. R. Davidson, Tillar; Mrs. C. W. Meador,

(Continued on page 14)

## COLLEGE HILL W. S. C. S. MEETS IN TEXARKANA

The W. S. C. S. of the College Hill Methodist church met in the church for a dinner meeting, with members of the Wesleyan Service Guild as guests.

Mrs. Ted Miller, W. S. C. S. president, and Mrs. E. C. Black invited members into the dining room. The white tables were decorated with greenery running the length of the tables. A miniature mixed spring flower corsage was placed by each plate. The centerpiece was of all-white spring flowers and giant bows of ribbon.

Sixty-seven guests were present. Mrs. Parlee Tanner of Wichita Falls, Texas, gave the invocation.

A solo was sung by Buddy Coopwood, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Weldon Smith, who later played several accordion selections.

A history of the Guild and the W. S. C. S. was given by Mrs. Raymond Luter.

The following past presidents of the W. S. C. S. were honored: Mrs. Ada Wright, Mrs. Joe Peek, Mrs. Ruth Westerfield, Mrs. Mary Sewell, Mrs. Mable Mills, Mrs. Lorene Duckett, and the present president, Mrs. Miller.

An appreciation was given the past presidents of the Wesleyan Service Guild, including Mrs. Parlee Tanner, Mrs. Robert Dalby, Mrs. Clayton Northcutt, Miss Mary Oats, Mrs. Clyde Volentine, Mrs. Clifford Powell, Mrs. Roy Phillips, and Mrs. Glen Tanner, present president.

A memorial service was conducted by Mrs. Raymond Luter and Mrs. E. C. Black for Mrs. Maggie Roberts, Mrs. Mary Hickman, Mrs. Nettie Hannon, Mrs. L. Swanger, and Mrs. Mittie Adams.

The dinner closed with the Guild benediction.

## HUNTER MEMORIAL INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

Mrs. E. B. Matkin, president of the Little Rock District, installed the new officers for the Hunter Woman's Society and the Wesleyan Guild. The following were installed: President, Mrs. J. C. Monan; Vice president, Mrs. S. L. Galusha; Recording secretary, Mrs. D. L. Morgan; Promotion secretary, Mrs. Milton Wylie; Treasurer, Mrs. Gordon Lee; Christian Social Relations, Mrs. J. P. Stewart; Student Work, Mrs. Orville Miller; Youth Work, Mrs. J. R. Coe; Children's Work, Mrs. T. P. Griffin; Missionary Education, Mrs. H. L. Galusha; Spiritual Life, Mrs. O. L. Holleman; Supply Work, Mrs. E. A. Ashcraft; Literature and Publications; Mrs. James Johnson; Status of Women, Mrs. Fred Arnold.

The new guild officers are: President, Mrs. Mary Freeman; Vice President, Mrs. L. L. Thompson; Treasurer, Mrs. Dickson Thompson; Secretary, Miss Lucile Bailey; Promotion Secretary, Mrs. A. M. Corley. —Reporter

Newspaper printing and publishing ranks as the ninth leading industry in the United States with an annual volume of business of almost a billion dollars.



# CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

## DEDICATION OF MARY LIVINGSTON SAGE LIBRARY

The Mary Livingston Sage Library of the First Methodist Church, Magnolia, was dedicated Sunday evening, May 6, to the late Mrs. J. A. Sage.

The idea and project of a library in First Church is not a new one. There were 450 volumes in the library before the promotion and recent expansion were undertaken by the committee.

In August 1950, the pastor, Rev. J. C. English, and the committee secured the sponsorship of the Church Board of Education for the library and registration was made with the Methodist Publishing House for church library service. Announcement in the bulletin of September 3, 1950, met with ready response in the donation of books. Approximately 100 books have been given to the library since that date.

When Mrs. Sage, widow of a former pastor, was called to her heavenly home on November 7, 1950, the Woman's Society of Christian Service recommended that the library be named to her. The Board of Stewards and Board of Education accepted this recommendation and the name "Mary Livingston Sage Library" was given to the project and to the room in the new church building which had been designed for a library.

Mrs. Sage, a resident of Magnolia for twenty years, was a leader among local and state Methodist women until her death.

Friends of Mrs. Sage remember her hobby of calling attention to good books and articles in church publications. It was her joy to share, and to pass on to others, what had strengthened and stimulated her.

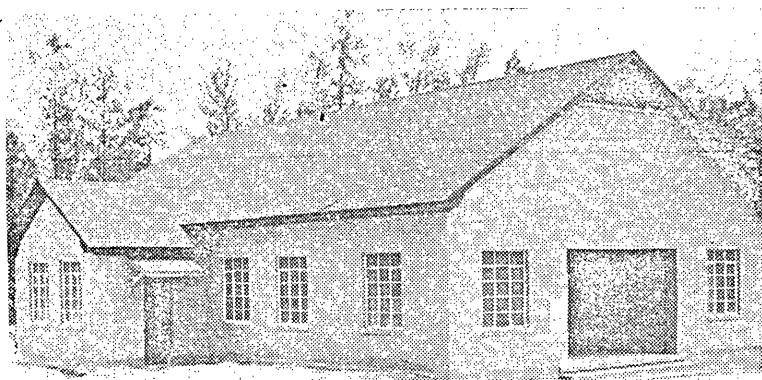
Miss Florence Whiteside, a daughter of Mrs. Sage, arranged the order of the dedication service. She gave a report for the committee on good literature, and gleanings from the library were given by Hamp Dickens, Mrs. Glenn Pinnell and Mrs. R. H. Cole.

Mrs. W. A. Eckert, a former Sunday School pupil of Mrs. Sage, gave the following tribute to Mary Livingston Sage:

"Life in a Methodist parsonage began early for Mary Caroline Livingston when her husband, Rev. W. B. Whiteside, joined the Little Rock Conference.

Through her later marriage to Rev. J. A. Sage, she completed forty-six years as a pastor's wife. A mother of ten children, she gave untiring service to family, church, and community. Wherever she lived, in circuit, town or district parsonage, she made of it a home, a haven of gracious hospitality, a center of

## NEW PHILADELPHIA METHODIST CHURCH



Above is pictured the new Philadelphia Methodist Church, which is a part of the Columbia Charge in the Camden District. The church has a ninety-one years history. The ten-acre tract of land on which the church is located was deeded to the church by a Mr. McGee in 1860. The new building is the fifth to be built on the original site. It is buff brick with a large sanctuary and four Sunday school rooms. It is located on the Burnt Ridge road seven miles west of Magnolia.

Christian influence. Children came there to play and felt the warmth of her welcome.

She was a teacher in church schools and a pioneer and leader in missionary societies.

She and Brother Sage came to live in Magnolia when he was superintendent in 1930. He was transferred to the Church Triumphant in 1938.

To the last, she was alert in mind, thoughtful of others, fun-loving and youthful in spirit, radiant and victorious in Christian faith, hope, and love.

She lives now, a challenge and a benediction."

This tribute, along with a picture of Mrs. Sage, has been framed and now hangs in the library.

Louie Wilson, chairman of the church board of education, opened the formal dedication by the Acts of Presentation. The Rev. E. L. Thomas, pastor, led the words of dedication, with the congregation giving the response.

The W. S. C. S. has bought a bronze name plate for the door of the library.

Since the library project was begun, sixty books have been given as memorials. Twenty of these were given in memory of Mrs. Sage.—Deane Fowler.

Children may tear up a house but they seldom break up a home.

The building committee was made up of Archie Barton, John H. Kirkpatrick and District Superintendent A. N. Storey.

The new building was begun in December 1950 and when completed will cost approximately \$12,000.00. There were many hours of labor donated along with a great quantity of material.

The pastor and members extend thanks to all who contributed to the building fund.—G. B. Pixley, Pastor

## NEW ORGAN AT GENTRY

The current year at the Methodist Church in Gentry, where Rev. Brady Cook is pastor, has been marked by many worthwhile achievements. Perhaps the most outstanding accomplishment has been the installation of a Hammond electric organ. The family of J. R. Bever, a member who died last year, contributed largely to the purchase of this organ. It was decided by the church to make it a memorial to him.

Although the instrument has been in use for several months, it was not formally dedicated until April 15. At that time, Rev. William Cooley, district superintendent of the Fayetteville District, preached the dedicatory sermon, and Dr. Reginald W. Martin of the John Brown University faculty, presided

## NEWS FROM COLUMBUS

The last three years have been wonderful years under the leadership and ministry of Rev. W. C. Lewis. He has buried our dead, performed our wedding ceremonies and has been a blessing to all with whom he has come in contact. It is always a pleasure to have Brother Lewis visit in our homes.

Sunday, May 20, was a wonderful day at Columbus. Brother Lewis preached on "The Significance of the Communion."

The communion service was dedicated and presented in the memory of Phil Hatley. Mr. Hatley's generous donation some years ago made it possible to purchase this lovely communion service.

Our W. S. C. S. has been organized this Conference year. We are small in numbers but under Brother Lewis' leadership we are going forward.—Mrs. J. E. Delaney.

at the organ.

The church felt especially honored in having Dr. Martin as our organist for the occasion. He is the great-great grandson of Charles Wesley, revered song writer of Methodism. He is the great nephew of Samuel Wesley, who wrote the music for the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation." Dr. Martin's ability as an organist is widely recognized. He, himself, has written many anthems for church use and many compositions for the organ. His playing of our organ that night made us realize more than ever how much beauty it will add to our services throughout the years to come.

We, at Gentry, have dedicated this organ to the glory of God. We feel that it will make our worship more effective. We are deeply grateful to everyone who helped in any way to make its purchase possible.—Hazel Johnson, Choir Director.

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### "Along A Country Road" The Town and Country Commission

The Methodist Church

The North Arkansas Conference  
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Paul E. Martin, Bishop  
Rev. Floyd G. Villines,  
President

Mr. Lester Hutchins,  
Vice-President  
Rev. N. Lee Cate,  
Secretary

Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Executive Secretary

### TOWN AND COUNTRY COMMISSION HAS PROMINENT PLACE AT CONFERENCE

ALL who are deeply concerned about the Town and Country Church program will be happy to know that the Town and Country Commission will have an unusual opportunity to present its report and also some extra time for feature items. The report of the commission will be given at an early hour in the Thursday morning session. On Thursday evening the annual Rural Life Fellowship Dinner will be held. Rev. Harold Spence, pastor at Jacksonville, will preside at the dinner. Rev. John Bayliss, pastor at Pocahontas, will direct a song service. Rev. A. N. Storey, district superintendent of the Paragould District, will deliver the address. This will be a fine time of fellowship and inspiration.

A new feature of the Annual Conference this year will be "Town and Country Night" at the Saturday night session. All of the pastors who come from the Paragould District will be special guests. They will furnish the choir for the service under the direction of John Bayliss. Dr. Edward T. Wayland, distinguished as one of the editors of the *Arkansas Methodist*, and who is a product of the Paragould District, will be the preacher for the occasion. This will be one of the outstanding services of the Annual Conference. Rev. Floyd G. Villines, chairman of the Town and Country Commission, will preside. Others on the program will be Rev. Sam G. Watson, of Marianna, Rev. W. T. Watson of Imboden, and Rev. Linley E. Vowell of Blytheville.

There are now more than forty ministers in the North Arkansas Conference who came from the Paragould District. A number of them also have sons who are serving in the conference. The Paragould District has a great body of laymen who are loyal to the church and who give devoted attention to the work of the Master.

Dr. Edward T. Wayland, one of distinguished editors of the *Arkansas Methodist*, has been selected to preach the sermon on the occasion of the Town and Country Church Night to be held during the session of the Annual Conference at Paragould.

**Dr. Edward T. Wayland To Be The Preacher For The Town and Country Church Night At The Annual Conference On Saturday Night, June 16**

Dr. Wayland was born at Powhatan within the bounds of the Paragould District. He is a graduate of Hendrix College and also received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Hendrix. He has served with great success pastorates of every type in the conference, has served as district superintendent on three districts, and is now, with the assistance of his son, Ewing T. Wayland, bringing to our conference one of the best church papers in Meth-



DR. EDWARD T. WAYLAND

odism. He has been a delegate to the General Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, and the Uniting Conference. He is one of the outstanding preachers of the conference and will be heard by his many friends in the Paragould District with great joy.

#### Harold Spence To Preside At The Rural Church Fellowship Dinner

Rev. Harold Spence, pastor at Jacksonville, will preside at the Annual Dinner of the Rural Life Fellowship and the Town and Country Commission.

Brother Harold is a graduate of Hendrix College and of Garrett Biblical Institute. His ministry is effective and fruitful. He has already served in a most successful manner several pastorates in our conference. As one of the prominent young pastors of the conference he will bring splendid efforts to any task that may be assigned to him.—J. Albert Gatlin.



REV. HAROLD SPENCE

### An Educationally Minded Parsonage Family

By DR. C. M. REVES



FRONT ROW: Mrs. Wynona Weatherford, Roy Carter, Rev. Frank Weatherford. BACK ROW: Mary Gale and Wendell Leon.

HERE is a family with the distinction of having had all five of its members in school this year. The father, Rev. Frank Weatherford, who is the popular pastor of Dardanelle Circuit in Conway District, is a student in Arkansas Tech at Russellville and will finish his work for the B. A. degree in two more years. The mother, Mrs. Wynona Weatherford, graduated from Dardanelle High School last month. The oldest child, Wendell, finished sixth grade this year. Mary Gale completed the fifth grade, and the baby boy, Roy, finished the third grade. The Weatherfords live in Dardanelle where the circuit parsonage is located.

After serving in World War II, Bro. Weatherford entered the ministry and was appointed pastor of Dardanelle Circuit, which is made up of Pisgah, Oak Grove and Liberty Hall churches. He and his good people agreed that he should get a degree from college before asking for admission on trial into the North Arkansas Conference, and so pastor and people are working together beautifully for the accomplishment of a very worthy end, and both are profiting by the arrangement. The student pastor is giving fine leadership to his charge, and the three congregations which he is serving are co-operating well, with the result that the circuit is registering substantial progress along all lines.

Mrs. Weatherford is a fine mother and an excellent helper in the work of the circuit, and she is ambitious to keep step with her husband in

his educational progress. So she has found time to do the necessary work to qualify for graduation in high school. In her studies she has had the guidance and help of Mrs. Elmus Brown, wife of the pastor of Dardanelle church, Rev. Elmus, and herself a teacher of unusual ability and long experience. The Board of Education, the superintendent of schools in Dardanelle, and members of the high school faculty have been considerate and co-operative.

Frank Weatherford is one of sixteen pastors in Conway District who serve charges and attend college. Two of these attend Arkansas Tech, where they receive as ministerial students all the courtesies which are extended to our ministerial students in our own church schools. And so we Methodists in Arkansas are made debtors to the state schools for their help in training our ministry for larger service.

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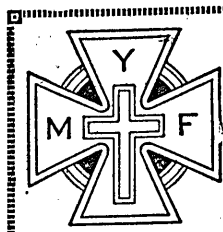
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## ARKANSAS

Methodist

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## NEWS

## JUNIOR METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Junior Methodist Youth Fellowship of the Rice Belt Sub-District meeting was held at Lodges Corner Monday evening, May 28. The Lodges Corner group presented the worship service with Dixie Hillman as leader. Taking part were Linda Hargrove, Tommy Hillman and Muriel Kennedy. Mrs. B. E. Jessup gave a most interesting talk on where the youth fund goes in the United States and Africa.

Phyllis Goetz of Lodges Corner presided over the business meeting at which time officers were elected for the coming year. They are President, Jerry Black, Humphrey; Vice-president, Dixie Hillman, Lodges Corner; Secretary, Sherry Kennedy, Lodges Corner; Treasurer, Jackie Koskyn, Stuttgart; Reporter, Georgene Sorrells, Stuttgart. It was decided to empty the treasury and send 60 per cent to Miss Wanda Stahley, missionary in India, and 40 per cent to the Methodist Camp fund in Hot Springs.

Recreation was directed by Mrs. Jessup and Mrs. Carl Goetz and Mrs. Berryman of the host church served refreshments.

The following churches were represented: First Church, Stuttgart; Grand Avenue, Stuttgart; Bayou Meto; Lodges Corner and DeWitt. Present also were Mrs. Erna Johnson, DeWitt, Sub-District counselor, Rev. Mr. Stone, Rev. A. J. Christie and Rev. Virgil Kelly.—Georgene Sorrells, Reporter.

## RUSSELLVILLE M. Y. F. SUB-DISTRICT

The Russellville M. Y. F. Sub-District elected officers and committee chairmen for the coming year on May 14 at Pottsville. They are: President, Vivian Hilliard of Russellville; Vice-president, George Tillman of London, Secretary, Jean Callan of Pisgah; Treasurer, Betty Lou Wright of Dover and Reporter, Beverly Brown of Dardanelle.

The committee chairmen are: Worship, George Malone of London; Recreation, Wesley Martin of Pottsville; Missions and World Friendship, Betty Ann Lynch of Dover; Community Service, Mary Lee Darr of Atkins. Mr. Oscar Berryman of Russellville was elected Adult Counselor.—Beverly Brown, Reporter

## BATESVILLE SUB-DISTRICT

The Batesville Sub-District met Monday night, May 14, at Moorefield with 69 present. President Bobby Leonard presided over the meeting. It was voted that \$30.00 be paid toward the expenses of three girls to assembly.

Moorefield presented the program on the theme "Worship Hymns."

Rev. S. B. Wilford, district superintendent, installed the following new officers: President, Leah Walbert; Vice-president, Patsy Travis; Secretary, Norman Felts; Treasurer, Juanita Lynch; Reporter, Barbara Lowe; Worship chairman, Dorothy

## REPORT ON METHODIST YOUTH FUND

Through April 30, 1951  
ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT

1951 Pledge	Payment
Amity .....	\$ 12.00
Arkadelphia .....	75.00
Dalark Ct., Manchester .....	24.00
Delight .....	16.40
Gurdon .....	11.50
First Church, H. S. ....	35.00
Grand Avenue, H. S. ....	36.00
Pullman Heights .....	21.00
Tigert-Morning Star .....	67.73
First Church, Malvern .....	100.00
Keith Memorial .....	15.00
Mount Ida .....	30.00
Murfreesboro .....	3.70
Magnet Cove .....	60.00
Butterfield .....	56.30
Shorewood Hills .....	50.00
District Rally .....	12.00
	40.03
	4.03
	20.00
	10.36
	15.57
	\$514.30
	\$491.21

## CAMDEN DISTRICT

1951 Pledge	Payment
Buckner .....	\$ 5.00
Buena Vista .....	6.00
First Church, Camden .....	75.00
Fairview .....	30.00
Timothy .....	15.00
Dumas Memorial .....	24.00
Callion .....	125.00
First Ch., El Dorado .....	125.00
Vantrease .....	53.60
Harmony Grove .....	5.00
West Side .....	6.00
Holly Springs .....	25.00
Junction City .....	40.00
Lewisville .....	6.00
Louann Circuit .....	75.00
First Church, Magnolia .....	24.00
Jackson Street .....	12.00
Marysville Circuit .....	26.00
Norphlet Circuit .....	12.00
Parker's Chapel .....	25.00
Pleasant Grove .....	15.30
Princeton Circuit .....	5.30
Smackover .....	75.00
Stephens .....	25.00
District Rally .....	16.25
	\$578.00
	\$614.96

## HOPE DISTRICT

1951 Pledge	Payment
Ashdown .....	\$ 25.00
Blevins .....	20.00
McCaskill .....	10.00
McQueen .....	30.00
Olive Branch .....	30.00
Emmet .....	12.00
Hope .....	50.00
Prescott .....	56.00
College Hill .....	45.00
Fairview .....	26.00
First Church, Texarkana .....	65.42
Polk County Sub-Dist. ....	15.00
District Rally .....	15.67
	\$233.00
	\$286.09

## LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT

1951 Pledge	Payment
Concord .....	\$ 6.00
Bauxite .....	45.00
Benton .....	50.00
Salem .....	15.00
Carlisle .....	16.35
Des Arc .....	50.00
Geyer Springs .....	20.00
Lonoke .....	20.00
Little Rock Ct. ....	5.00
Walnut Grove .....	5.51
Bethel .....	56.33
Asbury .....	120.00
First Church .....	142.50
Forest Park .....	25.00
Henderson .....	35.00
Highland .....	54.00
Hunter .....	50.00
Oak Forest .....	32.96
Scott Street .....	60.00
Winfield .....	55.00
DeValls Bluff .....	97.17
Mabelvale .....	5.00
Primrose .....	30.00
District Rally .....	21.41
Pulaski Heights .....	60.00
	\$1,051.50
	\$693.10

## MONTICELLO DISTRICT

1951 Pledge	Payment
Crossett .....	\$230.00
Dermott .....	20.00
Hamburg .....	30.00
Lake Village .....	30.00
McGehee .....	4.00
Monticello .....	29.00
Thornton .....	60.00
Newton's Chapel .....	18.00
Warren .....	15.00
District Rally .....	30.00
	16.25
	\$403.00
	\$326.00

McClellan; Recreation leader, Ann Wilford; World Friendship, Ralph Bruce; Community Service, Jean Sullivan.

The next meeting will be held at Bethesda on June 11. — Barbara Lowe, Reporter

## PINE BLUFF DISTRICT

1951 Pledge	Payment
Almyra .....	\$ 40.00
Lodge's Corner .....	68.00
Carthage .....	56.25
DeWitt .....	6.00
England .....	10.00
Gillett .....	15.00
Good Faith .....	25.00
Grady .....	25.00
Humphrey .....	65.55
Leola .....	4.22
La Fargue .....	20.00
Carr Memorial .....	15.00
Hawley Memorial .....	15.00
First Church, P. B. ....	50.00
Lakeside .....	35.00
First Church, Stuttgart .....	50.50
Grand Avenue, Stuttgart .....	87.60
Oak Grove .....	14.89
District Rally .....	21.40
	\$647.75
	\$440.36

## GRAND TOTAL FOR THE CONFERENCE

Through April 30, 1951	Pledge	Payment
District .....	\$ 514.30	\$ 491.21
Arkadelphia .....	578.00	614.96
Camden .....	233.00	236.09
Hope .....	1,051.50	693.10
Little Rock .....	403.00	326.98
Monticello .....	647.75	440.36
Pine Bluff .....		
TOTAL .....	\$3,427.55	\$2,852.70

FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE  
W. S. C. S.

(Continued from page 11)

Dumas; Mrs. Guy Allen Lindsey, Mrs. A. J. Gregory, Portland; Mrs. Anjo Gallo-way, Warren W. S. G.  
PINE BLUFF DISTRICT: Honorary Baby: George Edward Kerr, Rison; Linda Sue Owen, Juanita Gayle Ballew, Edward B. Vinson, Jr., Elizabeth Ann McCarthy, Hawley Mem. Adult Life: Mrs. W. P. Marshall, Mrs. Victor Huselet, Mrs. A. B. Finch, Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, Carr; Mrs. Otto Leibrock, Mrs. Erna Johnson, Mrs. Verne Bowers, DeWitt; Mrs. A. B. Robertson, Rison; Mrs. W. E. Shepherd, Pine Bluff Dist.; Mrs. Gordon Rye, England; Mrs. V. O. Owen, Mrs. Fred Urserv, Hawley Mem.; Miss Ruby Shannon, Stuttgart 1st; Mrs. Gus Grabbe, Jr., Mrs. G. B. Shafer, Mrs. Lucille Snodgrass, Grand Ave; Mrs. J. H. Williams, Sheridan; Mrs. C. E. Hillman, Lodges Corner; Mrs. C. L. Schrantz, Lakeside, Mrs. W. A. Baker, Mrs. W. W. Phillips, Mrs. Paul Clanton, Lakeside, Honorary Life: Miss Bessie Bunn, Pine Bluff.

French is the official diplomatic language of the world.

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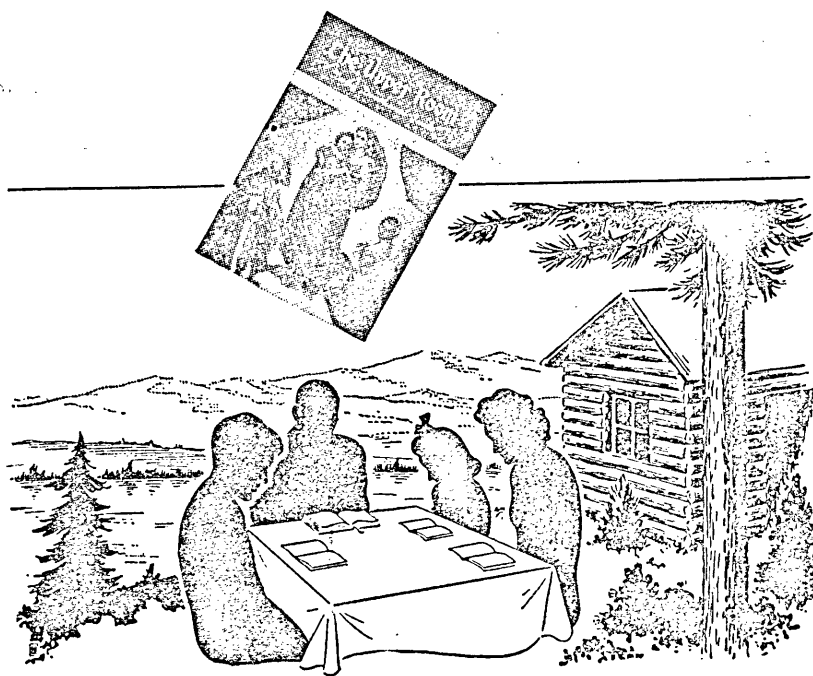
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## GRIFFIN MEMORIAL

(Continued from page 9)

Thomas, C. C. Burton, Fonsie Owens, A. C. Cloyce, J. E. Jones, J. F. Jerningan, A. B. Haltom, J. M. Harrison, J. L. Shelby, J. W. Moore, M. N. Johnson, E. L. Boyles, Sam Watson, A. N. Storey, E. E. Stevenson, J. W. Glover, Harold Harger, Raymond Franks, R. E. Wilson, T. C. Chambliss, and the present pastor, J. Harmon Holt.

This year at Griffin Memorial has been a mountain peak experience for Griffin Memorial as far as can be ascertained by record and for the pastor of Griffin Memorial in all his previous pastorates. The church has gone from one material project to another in material improvements; many times not waiting for one to be completed before another is started.

An enlargement for floor space has been one of the foremost endeavors throughout the year. The basement that was not being used at all at the beginning of the year has been redone with a new concrete floor and celestex ceiling, and in that effort three classes are meeting down there, as an extension of the adult department.

The Primary Department and Beginners have been redone with a beautiful combination color wall plank and ceiling blocks. The windows have new venetian blinds and gay colored curtains.

The Junior Department upstairs has had the old ugly wall partition removed and a modern division of rooms with a large assembly room for devotion. In this effort we gained one more room badly needed for the Juniors.

For the Young People's Department: The old janitor's house that was an eye sore to the city looked like an old tree in an orchard has been

rebuilt with a new roof, white asbestos shingles, new windows, and completely remodeled inside and out. This effort gave us four lovely class rooms, a real large assembly room, and a nice kitchen.

Along with all of the material improvements has come a spiritual revival awakening. At the writing of this report there have been 93 people come before the altar and receive vows, 58 first commitments and 35 transfers, with a class that is composed of 6 first commitments and 6 transfers in our recent Visitation Effort for this area. If they come before the altar would be a total of 105. There appears to be a revival of new spiritual interest in every department of the church. The church school has a wonderful increase with new classes organized, and new members added to every class.

The W. S. C. S. and W. S. G. are both very active. The W. S. C. S. has remodeled the front of the parsonage with a new front porch and redone the dining room and living room, have redone the front bed room and furnished it with a lovely new bed room suite. Both societies have helped to install a new kitchen in the new educational building with new modern equipment.

The church has installed gas in the church and educational building and purchased a new hammond organ.

Dr. Matt Ellis came to us about two months ago and presented to our newly organized Methodist Men's Club a charter with twenty-five charter members, the first Methodist Men's club to be organized in Greene County. There are many other things that space forbids us to mention.

Surely the Lord has been with us and the people have had a mind to work.

## OBITUARIES

**HILL**—Ivan Roy Hill was born in Reading, Michigan. He was the son of Richard H. and Sarah E. Hill. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1903. He married Nina Williams in Atkins, Arkansas in 1915. He moved to Fayetteville, Arkansas in 1920. Was a member of Central Methodist Church, and at one time a steward.

He is survived by his wife, who is the daughter of Rev. J. M. Williams, deceased member of the North Arkansas Conference. One son, Richard William Hill, formerly of Dayton, Ohio, recently moved to California. His oldest daughter, Mrs. Courtney Bridenthal, (Sara Zoe) lives in Dallas, Texas. The younger daughter, Mary Ellen Hill, is director of Religious Education, First Methodist Church, North Little Rock. Four grandchildren survive.

The funeral service was held in Fayetteville, Friday, May 4th at 4 p. m. in Central Methodist Church, by Rev. D. L. Dykes and Rev. William Sherman of Fayetteville, and Dr. James W. Workman of North Little Rock. Music was furnished by the Central Methodist Church choir. Burial was at Fairview Cemetery, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Mr. Hill was gifted by his legal training and sensitive spiritual nature with a love for music and fine arts, which he treasured as a rich inheritance from his mother, which made a part of his keenly sensitive nature. Mr. Hill's devotion as a father, a friend, and fellow lover of beautiful surroundings was illustrated in the 121st Psalm in the eulogy by Dr. James W. Workman.

**POWELL** — Funeral services for George Wade Powell, 60, were held Monday, April 16, at the Methodist Church in Houston. Rev. W. L. Walker, pastor, was in charge of the service, assisted by Rev. I. L. Claud of North Little Rock, a former pastor of the church.

Brother Powell was a lifelong resident of Houston, and was the son of the late Edward Powell, a pioneer Houston merchant, and Mrs. Powell.

He had been a member of the Methodist Church 30 years, and at the time of his death was a member of the Board of Stewards and Trustees of the Houston Church.

In September, 1918, he was appointed postmaster at Houston and had planned to retire this year.

Brother Powell died Saturday night, April 14, at a Morrilton hospital. He had been ill two years with leukemia. Burial was in May cemetery.

Besides his widow he leaves one daughter, Mrs. G. W. Taylor, Little Rock; a granddaughter, Rita Taylor; a grandson, Michael Taylor; two sisters, Callie Powell of Houston and Mrs. J. D. Lovelace of Winchester; three brothers, Talmadge and Loyd of Houston and Eddie Powell of Kansas City.

No man anywhere was more loved by his friends and neighbors than

was Brother Powell. He served long and well in his church and community. His great spirit will always be a guiding force in the place where he lived his life.

**SADLER**—The death angel visited the town of Van Buren on September 27, 1950, and claimed one of my dearest friends, Grace Gray Sadler. She always had a kind word to offer and a sympathy unknown to most people. No one in need ever left her home unadministered to. She had such an abundant faith. Oftimes when I was troubled about some definite thing she would say, "Just pray. That will fix it." It is sad to say goodbye here but we look forward to saying good morning over there.

Mrs. Sadler reared a beautiful family of eight children. She lost two daughters and her husband by death, but it only seemed to sweeten her life and helped her to develop into a tower of strength. She kept an abundant faith in the goodness of God. She was a very unusual person in many respects. Though advanced in years she did not appear to be old. Her mind was alert and she continued active in church activities.—Mrs. Bethe McCarroll.

### FORDYCE SOCIETY INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

(Continued from page 11)

Mrs. Clyde Garner; Secretary of Student Work, Mrs. J. A. Barton; Secretary of Youth Work, Mrs. Hammonds; Secretary of Children's Work, Mrs. Guy T. Patterson; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Leroy Turner; Secretary of Literature and Publicity, Mrs. Booth Hope; Secretary of Status of Women, Mrs. Charles Wright; Spiritual Life, Mrs. John Valentine; Reporter, Mrs. Harry Littrell; Pianist, Mrs. Lewis Taylor and Mrs. O. H. Darling. Circle leaders—Mrs. Ralph Stearns, 1; Mrs. Richard Fulmer, 2; Mrs. E. L. Stafford, 3; Mrs. O. H. Darling, 4.

The retiring president, Mrs. S. R. Twitty, and Mrs. R. A. Teeter were presented Life Membership pins, and Circle number three gave Baby Life memberships to Janet Kay Hopkins and Linda Law.

The Fordyce W. S. C. S. closed a good year having raised twelve hundred dollars for Home and Foreign Missions and they met their thirty-three-and-third percent increase and also fifteen percent increase.

Guest speaker for the program Monday was Mr. Willard Clary, his subject 'Alcohol and Narcotic Drugs, the leader of the program, Mrs. Ralph Stearns.

According to the little boy's definition, a friend is a person who knows all about you and still likes you.—Catholic World

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# The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

Lesson based on "International Sunday School Lessons; 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 DID THE CHURCH BEGIN?

LESSON FOR JUNE 17, 1951

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM THE BIBLE:  
Acts 1:8; 4; 28; Romans 1:1-16.

GOLDEN TEXT: "You shall be witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."  
(Acts 1:8)



### A Look At The Scriptures

All of the above scriptures are given to show how the early Christian movement had its beginning. There are two things to bear in mind: first, Christ did not organize the church. He laid down the great principles from which the Christian Church came, but he did not organize it. The organization of the Christian movement came after his ascension. The second thing we need to keep in mind is the fact that there is a sense in which the church dates far back of the coming of Christ. It dates back to the time of Abraham. Christ himself was a member of the Jewish Church and was loyal to it all of his life. He objected to much of the teaching of the Pharisees, but he did not object to a spiritual interpretation of the Law nor to the teachings of the great prophets. There is a sense, therefore, in which Christianity came up out of true Judaism as a flower comes out of the soil.

### A Promise And A Commission

In Acts 1:8 (the latter part of which is used as our memory verse today) we have Christ making a great promise to his disciples and also giving them a great commission. The promise was that they would receive power. It was not the power of wealth, influence, military potential, education, or physical strength that they were to receive, but rather the power of the Holy Spirit; the power of the presence of God in their lives. These disciples greatly needed this power in order that they might be able to carry out the commission the Lord was about to give them. Christ then goes on to say, "You shall be witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

This is the greatest task ever given to any like number of people. It will be remembered that Christ only had twelve Apostles and one of them failed him and committed suicide. In carrying out this commission this small group of men influenced the world more than any like number who ever lived in it.

### Early Christians Persecuted

The early Christians were greatly persecuted. Literally millions of them died tragic deaths at the hands of their enemies. According to tradition, all the Apostles came to tragic ends except John, and he also was greatly persecuted. In spite of this persecution they went straight ahead with their work. Their willingness to suffer death itself for their cause became a wonderful power for advertising Christianity. In later years some one noted this fact and went on to say, "The blood of martyrs was the seed of the Church." The more the Christians were persecuted the more they multiplied. As they were scattered by persecution they went everywhere preaching the gospel.

During the first two hundred fifty years of the Christian Church there were ten outstanding persecutions. We have the beginning of the first of these persecutions in our lesson today. In the fourth chapter of Acts we read of Peter and John healing a man who had been lame all of his life. This was the first miracle after the resurrection of the Lord. It caused quite a stir. It happened at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple. Many witnessed it and were led to believe on the Lord. The authorities of the Temple saw how the people were turning to Christianity and felt that they must do something about it. They had Peter and John arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin. They questioned them there concerning the miracle. The Apostles insisted that it was by no power of their own but that of Christ that the miracle was performed. Then Peter boldly proclaimed Jesus as the Messiah and accused these men of putting him to death.

Peter and John were kept in prison over-night and brought out again the next day before this same group of men. The High Priest was chairman of the Sanhedrin. At that time it was Caiaphas. It will be remembered that he was the one who condemned Christ about six months before this time. Other members of the High Priest family were Annas, who had formerly been High Priest, and his two sons, John and Alexander. It will be remembered that this group did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. That is why they objected so strenuously to the fact that the disciples preached through Christ the resurrection of the dead.

### The Power of Witnessing

These Sadducees, and other members of the Sanhedrin, realized that if these followers of Christ continued their preaching and witnessing that many people would be led to become Christians. So, we are told that they commanded them to cease teaching in the Lord's name. They threatened them with death if they refused. These enemies of the faith had this to say about the matter: "But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name." In answer to this threat Peter and John replied, "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

These enemies of Christ realized how powerful was this witnessing in spreading the Christian movement. They knew that if they could only stop this witnessing that Christianity would die in its infancy. But the Apostles could not be stopped. They took their lives in their hands and continued the work. They insisted that God had commanded

them to thus speak. It was right to obey God rather than man. They felt an impelling power driving them on. They simply could not remain quiet.

### A Great Prayer Meeting

The chapter closes with a wonderful prayer meeting service. We are told that when the Apostles were set free they went to their own company. This was the natural thing for them to do. "Birds of a feather, flock together."

When the group had assembled the first thing they did was to pray—and what praying it was! God was as real to these people as a parent is to a child. They simply talked to him as one individual talks to another. They realized that they were not fighting their battles alone but that God was with them.

We have here a true picture of the early Church. It was a praying church—"When they had prayed." It was a Spirit-filled Church—"They were all filled with the Holy Ghost." It was a harmonious Church; there was no friction there—"They were of one heart and of one soul." It was a powerful Church—"And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." This Church was filled with the grace of God—"Great grace was upon them all." Last, but not least, this was a liberal Church—"Neither was there among them any that lacked." They realized that the Christian life is a life of sharing.

### Paul In Rome

The next passage of the lesson is taken from Paul's letter to the Romans. This letter was written from Corinth in A. D. 58. Paul sent it to Rome. He arrived there some three years later. It will be remembered that he was sent there as a prisoner. In the preface of this letter (the first sixteen verses) Paul tells the Romans how he longs to see them and preach to them. He insists that he feels himself to be a debtor, not only to them, but to the whole world.

In the twenty-eighth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles we have an account of Paul's journey to Rome and his arrival there. This took place in A. D. 61. Paul was the type of person who never let any grass grow under his feet. Pretty soon he was in the midst of things. He first called the Jews together. An argument ensued. He then turned to the Gentiles. We are told that for two years he lived in his own rented house and received all who wished to visit him. All this time, however, he was a prisoner and was chained to a Roman soldier. It is said that soldiers were changed daily. The authorities feared that Paul might have too much influence over any one soldier if left with him too long. This custom of changing the soldiers each day only gave him an opportunity to reach more of them for Christ. He did reach most of them and led them to the Christian way of life.

### Our Theme Today

Our theme today is in the form of a question—"HOW DID THE CHURCH BEGIN?" It will be noted that the question refers to the Christian Church and not the church that had its origin at the time of Abraham. There is a sense in which these churches are one and the same. One is simply a continuation of the other. When the Jews as a people refused to go along with Christ, whom we Christians believe is their promised Messiah, there naturally came a break between his followers

and Judaism. Had they chosen to go along there might have been a transformation of Judaism, but no definite break. Judaism would simply have flowered into Christianity. This would not have been too big a change anyway, for the great Jewish prophets taught many of the things that Christ later emphasized.

In answering the question, "How Did The Church Begin?" we would say that Christ laid the foundations of the Church with his teachings. He did not, however, organize the church. That came later. Some scholars say that the church had its birth on the Day of Pentecost, at which time the Holy Spirit was poured out on the believers.

### There Is But One Church

The Church is the Body of Christ and Christ has but one body. The church is badly divided. There are hundreds of groups within it. It is said that there are something over two hundred different Christian groups here in our nation. Each group is a part of the Church, but no one group is the whole church to the exclusion of all others. Take an apple, for example, and cut it into a dozen pieces. Each piece is apple, but no one piece is the whole apple. It takes all the pieces to make the whole apple. The fighting forces of the U. S. is another example. Think of the dozens of divisions you have in these forces—the infantry, the air corps, the cavalry, the marines, the tank division, the submarine division, the navy, etc. It takes all of these to make up the fighting forces of the U. S. and when a man joins any one of them he is a part of those forces. So it is with the church. It is divided into various groups and when a person joins any groups he belongs to the church.

In giving these illustrations the writer is not trying to justify the division of the Church. It could accomplish far more in the world if it were united. Christ prayed that we might be one, but thus far that prayer has not been fully answered. The time will come when the Church will be one as it was originally. It may take many years to reach that point, but the conditions of the world will finally drive Christians together. Union will finally come along the lines of allowing freedom in all non-essential matters and yet requiring strict conformity in all things that are essential. A great Bible scholar once insisted that all Protestant groups are now agreed upon ninety-five per cent of the teachings of the Bible. He also contended that in this ninety-five per cent is found all that is necessary to get people saved; to help them build strong Christian character; to enable them to render efficient service to mankind; to help them attain the abundant life on earth—a life filled with joy, security, assurance and love to all mankind; and finally to enable them to have heaven as their eternal home. He further insisted that the reasons these religious groups had remained apart in the past was the fact that more had been said about the five per cent upon which the groups disagreed than the ninety-five on which they agreed.

