

"Passing The Plate"

THESE are those who have attempted to ridicule and discredit the church because of the traditional custom of "passing the plate" for an offering in its services. Such criticism, to be charitable, is based on a very shallow, superficial understanding of what is taking place when the plate is passed in a church for an offering.

If those inclined to think lightly of this age-old custom of the church would take the time to know what is involved, they would realize that the act of "passing the plate" is based on a more profound faith in the membership and constituency of the church than any other group would dare exercise in the financing of its activities. In Protestantism especially, the financial support of the church across the centuries has been altogether a voluntary matter. We do pass the plate and also give our people other opportunities to support the church financially. Let it be remembered, however, that in America a distinctive feature of all methods to raise money for the support of the church is that all payments are VOLUNTARY. From its beginning, the only financial support the church in America has had has been the voluntary contributions of the people who love it.

Think what they may of that method of financing the church, we dare any other major institution in America to attempt to finance its activities by "passing the plate." Experience has taught us that this method is a justifiable act of faith IN THE CHURCH. It would be a futile act of folly for government, education, business, industry, science, sports and amusements or any other major interest in America to attempt to finance its activities by "passing the plate" or by any other method in which financial support is altogether voluntary.

When ushers "pass the plate" in our church services, let them do it with a sense of dignity and pride. Let them know that they represent the only organization or institution on earth, of size, that dares to depend on the voluntary contributions of its constituency for its support.

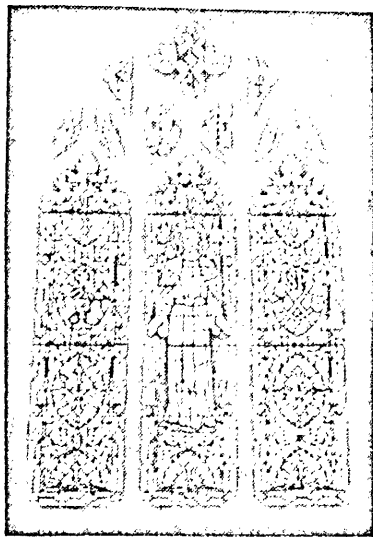
Developing Air Of Expectancy

ONE of the most helpful signs that the Arkansas-Louisiana Area United Evangelistic Mission will have the desired results is the air of expectancy that seems to prevail among the lay membership in the local churches of Mission A. The people "have it on their minds." We have had opportunity during the several months leading up to the period of operation of Mission A to witness this growing air of expectancy on the local church level. We believe that this eagerness by lay persons will go a long way in bringing to pass a great spiritual harvest, for genuine expectancy is founded on a concern for the spiritual welfare of others, is nurtured in a continuing experience of prayer, and expresses itself in a willingness to do what one can. All this is necessary for a real revival.

Ministers from both Mission A and B are cooperating in a splendid fashion in bringing into focus in the life of the local churches the United Evangelistic Mission. In two weeks now ministers of Mission B will be traveling south to take assignments in Mission A. As evangelistic leaders complete final plans for the period of operation of Mission A, let not a day pass without a prayer that God's blessing will richly attend every effort by ministers and laymen who preach and visit for Christ and His Church.

Continue A Successful Program

ON next Sunday, and the week following, Arkansas Methodism will observe a week of emphasis on Hendrix College and Ministerial Education. Local churches will have this matter brought to their membership's attention in a number of ways but it seems to us that nothing more applicable can be said about Hendrix College and Arkansas Methodism's program of ministerial training than that these are indeed successful programs, entirely worthy of continued support by the Methodists of Arkansas.



Hendrix College has gained through the years an enviable reputation for the scholastic and cultural standards which are maintained and fostered in its program. Those who are acquainted with the real life of the college also know that Hendrix has also developed an atmosphere both friendly and encouraging for a spiritually creative interpretation of life which is, after all, its justification for existence. Perhaps at no other time in recent generations has the glow of spirituality on the Hendrix campus been as bright as at the present. The November Special offering will help in a wonderful way to continue the successful work of Hendrix, an institution that perhaps has been affected more seriously by inflationary worries than most others.

On the other hand the financial assistance which this annual offering has given to the program of the two Boards of Ministerial Training has paid off wonderfully. Never before in the history of the state has there been as many young Methodist men in training for the Christian ministry as today. At a time when many denominations are desperately in need of ministers and many sections of Methodism greatly needing men in training, Arkansas Methodism has the greatest number in its history. This large number can be explained in part by the financial assistance which this annual offering makes possible. But here again the program needs the continued support of The Methodist Church in Arkansas if it is to continue successfully.

The Wrong Time To "Fight It Out"

REGARDING the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican the press reported that President Truman stated, in a press conference, that this is the time to "fight it out" regarding such an appointment.

Regardless of what may be the final decision on the matter, and regardless of whether this is an issue which must eventually be "fought out," it is our feeling that this, of all times, is the WRONG time to "fight it out." America today faces problems that require the united, combined strength of all its people and resources, if we are to preserve freedom for ourselves and help make freedom possible for our allies.

The appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican, however, is an unnecessary, unprovoked challenge to Protestantism which it cannot and will not evade. In every District Conference recently held in Louisiana a resolution condemning such an appointment was unanimously passed. This is indicative of what is happening in practically every Protestant group of size across America. This is no temporary movement. It will continue with increasing momentum so long as this danger threatens a basic principle in our American life. This divisive issue could hardly have been raised at a worse time.

"Our Mission" In Community Is A Spiritual Mission

IN other days the church was not only the center of its activities but it was too often the place where those activities centered. That day is past for the growing church. The progressive church is still the center from which its activities radiate, but its activities and interests today reach far beyond the walls of the church building and touch the total life of the community.

The church must be interested in government on all levels. The cries, "politics and religion do not mix" and "the church should stay out of politics" are not very impressive today. Politics determines the character of our government and church must be interested in good government. It certainly is true that the church should not engage in partisan politics. It should not attempt to elect some particular person simply because he happens to be a member of some group, or church or party. The determining factor in the support Christian people give candidates for office should be the character of the candidates and the principles for which they stand. "Our Mission" in politics is to raise the moral and spiritual level of government wherever possible.

All about us are people in need. Some lack even the bare necessities of life. The church, as an institution, and the individual members of the church should help to meet those needs. However, if the church stops with simply meeting the physical or material emergency it finds, it has done no more than other benevolent and charitable institutions can do and are doing. It is of little value to talk to a person, who is hungry or cold, about religion so long as he is hungry or cold. However, when his physical needs have been supplied, we do have not only an opportunity but an obligation to try to help the individual to know the comfort, courage and inspiration that comes to the life fully surrendered to Christ and the Christian way of living. The welfare ministry of the church should

(Continued on page 2)

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Articles other than editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors of the Arkansas Methodist.

BISHOP MARTIN is attending this week in Chicago the annual meeting of the Commission on World Peace.

REV. FLOYD G. VILLINES, JR., pastor of The Methodist Church, Beebe, was recently elected vice-president of the Kiwanis Club at Beebe.

REV. H. C. MINNIS, pastor of The Methodist Church, Danville, has been elected secretary-reporter of the newly organized Ministerial Alliance at Danville.

THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK HIGH SCHOOL, directed by C. E. McMeans, sang at the evening service of the First Methodist Church, North Little Rock, on Sunday, November 11.

THE UNITED NATIONS FAIR, sponsored by the Little Rock Methodist Sub-District Methodist Youth Fellowship, will be held at Winfield Church on November 19, at 7:30 p. m.

THE annual Thanksgiving service of the United Christian Youth Council of Little Rock will be held at Christ Episcopal Church on Sunday, November 18, at 4:00 p. m.

REV. W. F. COOLEY, district superintendent of the Fayetteville District, announces that Rev. Sam. M. Yancey is supplying the Goshen Church on the Farmington Charge.

THE Methodist Churches of Hayes and Bell City are holding a joint series of meetings at the Hayes Church. Guest evangelist is Rev. Raymond Pierson of the Indian Bayou Methodist Church.

MR. AND MRS. LEE HUMMELSTEIN of Jonesboro, announce the birth of a son, Sam Wiggins, on November 5. Mrs. Hummelstein is the daughter of the late Rev. Sam Wiggins and Mrs. Wiggins.

REV. AND MRS. LOUIS W. AVERITT of Fordyce, announce the birth of a daughter, Dottie Jane, on November 2, at the hospital in Warren. Brother Averitt is our pastor at Fordyce.

THE METHODIST MEN of the Gordon Avenue Methodist Church, Monroe, met on Monday, November 5 with the Methodist Men of Claiborne as guests. The film, "No Greater Power" was shown. Rev. M. D. Felder is pastor.

THE PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE CHOIR, Little Rock, sang at the evening hour at Winfield Church, Little Rock, on Sunday, November 11. The choir is under the direction of Stanley Tate.

REV. KENNETH L. SPORE, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, who has been ill for several weeks, continues to improve. Brother Spore has been removed from the hospital to the parsonage.

FREDERICK C. HOLLER, director of music at the First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, will speak on "Church Music" at the Sixth

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

Region meeting of the Louisiana Federation of Music Clubs at its luncheon meeting on November 7.

DR. WALTER SCOTT CHINN, former district superintendent of the Baton Rouge District, was the speaker at morning service of the Wesley Methodist Church, Baton Rouge District, on November 4. At 7:00 o'clock Dr. Chinn will speak at the Port Allen Church.

THE Louisiana Chapter of American Guild of Organists will sponsor a Thanksgiving candlelight service on November 22 at the First Methodist Church, Lake Charles. Combined choirs of the various churches of Lake Charles will sing.

ELMO KNOCH, member of the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, and a freshman at Hendrix College, Conway, has been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the First Methodist Church to the Little Rock District Conference for license to preach.

UNION Thanksgiving services for all churches in the city of Jonesboro, Arkansas, will be held in the First Methodist Church on Thursday, November 22. Rev. O. L. Hargis, pastor of the First Christian Church, will bring the message for the morning.

JOHAN B. WILSON, dean of Centenary College, Shreveport, was the speaker on Friday, November 9, at the luncheon meeting of the Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce in the Hotel Marion. His subject was "Advertising Versus Propaganda".

DR. W. HARRISON BAKER, district superintendent of the Dallas District, North Texas Conference, was the principal speaker at the first meeting of the First Methodist Church Men's Club of Baton Rouge on Tuesday, October 30.

THE combined motet and chancel choirs of the First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, presented the cantata "Hear My Prayer" by Mendelssohn on Sunday, November 4. It was presented at the 8:30 and 10:50 a. m. service. G. Frederick Holler conducted with Mrs. Lucy Hudson at the organ.

THE MEN'S CLUB of the Covington Methodist Church was in charge of the regular evening services at Waldheim on Sunday, November 4. Henry Mayfield was the speaker and music was provided by a quartet, composed of W. S. Bickham, Joseph Howes, W. S. Howson and C. Milton Blue. Rev. R. C. Carter is pastor of the Covington Church.

A MEMORIAL to Mrs. Helen Midyett, wife of Rev. Jack H. Midyett, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Bastrop, will be placed in the church by members and all others who might wish to share in such a memorial. A committee in the church will select the memorial, and anyone sending contributions should address them to W. L. Mattison, treasurer.

REV. T. T. McNEAL, director of the Methodist Children's Home in Little Rock, spoke at the evening service at the Manila Methodist Church, Rev. N. Lee Cate, pastor, on Sunday, November 4. The Woman's Society of Christian Service voted to clothe one of the children in the home for a year, and Mrs. Olive Mike, a member of the W. S. C. S., also will provide clothing for one child for a year.

SILAS C. BARR, of Plain Dealing, passed away on Tuesday, October 30, in Shreveport. Mr. Barr had resided in Plain Dealing for about a quarter century. He was a member of the Methodist Church and the Barron Memorial Bible Class. Funeral services were held on Wednesday at the First Methodist Church in Plain Dealing with Rev. F. C. Collins of Plain Dealing and Rev. T. E. Davis in charge.

MISS PEARLY MAE KELLY of Louisiana Tech, attended the meeting of the Methodist workers with college students at Southern Meth-

DISTRICT CONFERENCE DATES

North Arkansas Conference
November 26, Fayetteville District, Fayetteville
November 26, Conway District, No. Little Rock
November 27, Batesville District, Cave City
November 27, Searcy District, Beebe
November 28, Paragould District, Rector
December 11, Forrest City District, Helena
December 12, Ft. Smith District, Clarksville
December 13, Jonesboro District, Tyrone

Little Rock Conference
November 20, Little Rock District, Highland Church, Little Rock
November 21, Camden District, Jackson Street, Magnolia
November 27, Pine Bluff District, Altheimer
December 12, Arkadelphia, Arkadelphia First Church
December 10, Monticello District, Warren
December 13, Hope District, De Queen

TO ALL PASTORS AND CHURCH TREASURERS, NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

I expect to publish a statement of receipts, by Churches, in the December 13 issue of The Arkansas Methodist. I will include all remittances reaching me by Sunday, December 2. At least half of all amounts due for the Conference year should be paid by that time.—P. E. Cooley, Conference Treasurer

"OUR MISSION" IN COMMUNITY IS A SPIRITUAL MISSION

(Continued from page 1)

have a spiritual as well as a humanitarian objective.

The church should be interested in the recreational life of the community it serves. This interest does not end with helping people to have a good time in their leisure hours but in promoting forms of recreation that are physically healthful, morally clean and ultimately spiritually uplifting. The above examples are given simply to emphasize the fact that the mission of the church is basically moral and spiritual wherever it is at work.

odist University, Dallas, October 30 through November 2. Headline speakers were Dr. Albert C. Outler of Perkins School of Theology, S. M. U.; Dr. Arnold Nash of the University of North Carolina and Dr. John O. Gross executive secretary of the Board of Education. Bishop James C. Baker of Los Angeles led the worship periods.

THE MEMORIAL METHODIST MEN'S CLUB of Monroe met on Thursday, November 1, in its second fall meeting. Rev. Virgil Morris, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Alexandria, was the guest speaker. Brother Morris told of his trip to Europe this past summer when he attended the Ecumenical Conference in Oxford, England, to which he was a delegate. Scenes and events were shown in pictures which he made on the trip.

MR. JACK MIDYETT, wife of Rev. Jack Midyett, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Bastrop, passed away on Tuesday, November 6, in a Bastrop hospital after a prolonged illness. Mrs. Midyett is survived by her husband, one son, Charles Midyett, Bastrop; her mother, Mrs. Lane B. Nelson, Stonewall, La.; four sisters and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held on Wednesday by Rev. W. H. Giles, district superintendent of the Monroe District.

PLANS for the annual Arkansas Methodist Student Movement Conference to be held in the spring will be made December 1 in a one-day state MSM Retreat in the home of the Rev. James S. Upton, MSM director, in Conway. Methodist groups at most Arkansas colleges are expected to send representatives. The five MSM officers will represent their colleges. Bill Henderson, state MSM president, and John Rosso, MSM publicist, will represent the University of Arkansas Wesley Foundation.

THE DEVOTIONAL PAGE

REV. ROY I. BAGLEY, Editor

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

The crowd always loves a fight and Jesus provided one . . .

No man of merely soft, patient, tranquil spirit did the crowds in Galilee come out to hear. He was exciting, uncompromising, stormy, formidable . . .

There is power in Jesus, force and drive of personality, daring ideas, strong language . . .

As for denunciation, when Jesus faced selfish greed or cruelty or shame his indignation was explosive . . .

He (Jesus) did not think that a spiritual message could be authenticated a wonderwork or that men and women, unconvinced by truth's appeal, could be savingly persuaded by a miracle . . .

He (Jesus) did do "mighty works", rejoicing in the succor brought to the afflicted, but he was apprehensive about their effect upon his ministry . . .

Religion makes sacred whatever it thinks important . . .

Nothing more enrages the orthodox in any religion than this appeal to their own sacred writings against their orthodoxy . . .

From the day he (Jesus) first defied the sabbath laws to the day he cleansed the temple in Jerusalem he was a doer, not a speaker only . . .

Self-complacency always dogs the footsteps of legalism . . .

To live up to a perfect ideal is impossible, but a rule can be observed . . .

—From *THE MAN FROM NAZARETH*, by Harry Emerson Fosdick

JUDGE NOT

Verse for Today: *Let us not therefore judge one another any more.* (Rom. 14:13)

Scripture: Romans 14:3-13

Have you ever watched the monkeys at the zoo, and have you noticed that they seem to have a mania for picking things to pieces? How like ourselves! Most of us enjoy picking things to pieces. But sometimes we use the phrase figuratively to describe a less innocent pastime, when we speak of "picking people to pieces."

God has given us many privileges. He has given us intelligence to comprehend and skill to invent marvelous things. He has given us the capacity to enjoy our human relationships and to enter into fellowship with himself. But he has not given us the right to judge our fellow men.

Surely he is wise to deny us this right. For we can see the sins of men, but not their hearts. We can see the effects, but not the causes of their frailty. Our limited vision does not cover all the circumstances of their lives, and therefore we cannot know the whole truth and have not the capacity for judgment. When

JESUS SERVED

*Not for himself did Christ our Master live:
To those in need he never failed to give
A helping hand. He healed the sick and blind;
His ministry reached out to all mankind:
The ignorant and wise, the young and old,
The rich and poor; he brought into his fold
Hated Publicans and lowly fishermen;
He befriended the Roman Centurion;
The Pharisee who came to him by night
Received a kindly welcome and new light;
To the Samaritan woman at the well
He offered Living Water; his mercy fell
Upon the weak and penitent of heart—
Transforming strength to such he did impart;
Ofttimes the multitudes so thronged around
To seek his service that he scarcely found
A cherished moment he might steal away
Into a quiet place to think and pray.
Unselfishly he served those by his side,
And on the Cross for all mankind he died.*

—Selma Johnson Baker, In
"The Church School"

CURE FOR CRITICISM

TEXT: *I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot! So because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth . . . Behold I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me.* (Revelation 3:15, 16 and 20)

HAVE you ever stopped to think of the amount of criticism of the Church? Have you ever asked yourself the question, "To whom is this criticism directed?" Immediately the answer comes back to us that it is of you and me, preacher and layman.

The writer is not talking about a church building being lukewarm; for there were no church buildings for Christians at the time of this writing. He was speaking to the Christians and raising a protest because of their lukewarm life. The warmth and beauty of a church is only enhanced by the loyalty and devotion of its members—not some other member, but you and me.

It is foolish to talk about remedying criticism of the church from the standpoint of an entire congregation. The congregation is made up of individuals. The soul of the crowd is determined by the soul of the individuals who constitute that crowd.

It is not to be denied that greater strength is found in a total congregation. But that strength is built up by the life of each individual. Insofar as you fail to be the strongest Christian that it is at all possible

for you to be, you weaken the Church just to that extent. Every Christian, no matter how humble, adds the weight of his influence for Christian devotion.

We cannot close our eyes to criticism of the Church. Some of it is justified. We have wandered into strange paths, but much of the criticism leveled at the Church today touches the periphery of the problem and never comes to the heart of it. These are the people who stand on the sidelines but never enter the game. True Christians are more painfully conscious of the real sin in the Church than those who merely live with a speaking acquaintance.

Too often the critics outside the Church and we who are within talk of the shortcomings without feeling any personal responsibility. We have seen "others" but have failed to see our position reflected in the glory of Christ. "We have seen the forest but not the trees which constitute that forest." We need to realize that our criticism of the Church carries with it the responsibility of correcting that which is wrong. We must realize further, that some of the criticism is due to the slackness in our heart.

Let us ask ourselves honestly and sincerely, "Is the state of my church due to the attitude which I have developed?" In other words, if there is a lukewarmness in my Church, have I through prayer and devotion tried to light again the flame of a passionate love for Christ and His Church that would warm the hearts of those with whom I associate?

Is the spirit of fellowship marred because I do not take advantage of the opportunities that are mine to welcome new people into the community and the Church? The hospitality of the Church is affected by the genuine spirit of concern on the

—Trudy James Sundberg,
From "The Secret Place

PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING

Almighty God and heavenly Father, we glorify thee that we are once more permitted to enjoy the fulfillment of thy gracious promise, that while the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest shall not fail. Blessed be thou, who hast given us the fruits of the earth in their season. Teach us to remember that it is not by bread alone that man doth live; but grant that we may feed on him who is the true bread which cometh down from heaven, even Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour; to whom, with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.— from "The Book of Worship"

part of each one. People coming into a strange community need that word of welcome that will make them feel at home.

A question that comes uncomfortably close is, have I become so engrossed in the material that spiritual life has been crowded out? The criticism of the Laodicean Church was their mistaken evaluation of things. Note the attitude that we often take in justifying our negligence of spiritual responsibility. Do not notice the excuses others may give, but your own.

Criticism is easy. It is not difficult in any meeting that you go into to list a long string of problems which we face. We can talk of problems all day but the great person is one who can offer some solution. These solutions may not be worked out in mathematical formula, but, it is like a sign pointing out a definite road that we may follow.

John points to the fact that reproof and discipline come from a heart of love. That is the only kind of reproof that will do any good. We only question the motives of a person when they criticize from the sidelines. "Be zealous and repent" is the admonition of a loving Lord to the Church in Asia. It was a timely message for them and it is a timeless message for each succeeding generation as they fight their way upward to the realization of "God's Kingdom on earth".

Out of this reproof and chastisement come a solution. It is a picture that artists have sought to portray. Jesus stands at the door and knocks seeking admittance that strength may come through fellowship with Him and through feasting upon the eternal riches of God. When you have an opportunity sit down, read this particular passage and then look at the artist's conception of this scene. Let your mind wander back over your relationship to the Church and ask the question, "Lord, is it I" that has caused lukewarmness in my Church?

Too much of our criticism comes to naught simply because we offer no alternative. The divine message offers the alternative in the seeking Christ who stands patiently gently knocking on our heart, seeking to enter and bless us. Let us not pass this picture on to another but clasp as a precious jewel to our own heart. Christ knocks; we must open the door.—R.I.B.

CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

DERMOTT-LAKE VILLAGE SUB-DISTRICT MEETING

The Methodist people of the Monticello District are becoming more and more appreciative of the Sub-District, or Zone grouping which Dr. W. E. Brown, district superintendent, was worked out for the district. This was shown by the enthusiastic meeting held at Lake Village on Monday, November 5.

Representatives from Lake Village, Eudora, Dermott, Portland, Parkdale, and Wilmot met about the dining tables of the Lakeside church at 7:00 p. m. for a profitable and happy season of fellowship and planning together. The menu called for sandwiches but the ladies of the congregation, and guest churches like to do more than is expected, so they brought salads, pies, cakes, meats, as well as good coffee. It is inspiring to be among such a royal and enthusiastic group of laymen and preachers.

Portland, with twenty-two persons present, won applause for having the largest representation. A total of sixty persons was reported.

While we tarried about the tables, Dr. Clem Baker, chairman of the Sub-district, stated the purpose of these meetings and outlined future plans. It was decided to omit the December meeting on account of the full calendar of activities coming in December and plan for a great evangelistic rally in January in cooperation with the United Evangelistic program.

Our entire District and Conference program was outlined in an enthusiastic manner by Dr. Brown. He forcefully stressed the offering for the Children's Home to be taken in December; the **Arkansas Methodist** campaign; the **United Evangelistic Drive** and the move to pay all **Benevolent Claims** during November.

It was announced that Mrs. Gladys O'Neal, of Lake Village, would be the leader of Children's Work in this Sub-district.

After dinner group meetings were held for children's workers youth workers and adult workers. Adjournment was called for at 9:00 p. m.

The sub-district meetings afford the workers an opportunity to get better acquainted with each other, and thus bring about a greater spirit of co-operation. They are a stimulating influence upon the local churches, and enable the district superintendent and other district leaders to better present the program of the church.—C. D. Cade, Reporter.

CLASS HAS WEINER ROAST

The Willing Workers Sunday School Class, Mrs. Bryan Holland, teacher, of the Centerton Methodist Church, enjoyed a weiner roast in the basement of the church on Monday night, November 5. There were thirty present.

The devotional service was led by Earl Cooper. The business meeting was presided over by the president, Mrs. Earl Cooper. It was decided to build more tables and benches for the basement.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Rev. Chas. Wages, pastor.—Reporter.

JONESBORO DISTRICT METHODIST MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP

The Jonesboro District Methodist Ministers' Fellowship met at Whitten on Monday, November 5. A delicious breakfast was served at 8:00 in the dining hall of the church by the women of the Whitten Church.

Following the meal, Rev. E. B. Williams, district superintendent, met the 25 ministers present in the sanctuary for a business session. Rev. N. Lee Cate, pastor at Manila, led in prayer.

The theme of the meeting was the Area-wide United Evangelistic Mission. The pastors of the district, along with the other ministers of the North Arkansas Conference, will go to South Arkansas and Louisiana, November 30-December 9, to assist in that phase of the mission. The district superintendent announced that Rev. George Pierce, Jr., would be the spiritual life speaker during the Jonesboro District Evangelistic Mission, January 18-29. Rev. R. B. Moore, pastor at Camden, will be the inspirational speaker.

The group voted to authorize the placing of a marker at the grave of Rev. Isaac Brookfield, a pioneer Methodist minister who was buried near Harrisburg. A committee composed of Rev. J. T. Byrd, Rev. Porter Weaver and Rev. Paul M. Bumpers, was appointed to work with the district superintendent in the placing of the marker.

Brother Williams read a letter from Bishop Paul E. Martin, urging ministers, laymen and church groups to write to their senators and representatives, protesting the appointment of General Mark Clark as ambassador to the Vatican.

A motion was adopted to ask the churches of the Jonesboro District to pay \$1000.00 toward the building of a swimming pool at Camp Wayland Springs.

The invitation to hold the next meeting at Nettleton, extended by Rev. Clyde Crozier, pastor, was accepted.

The meeting adjourned with benediction pronounced by Rev. E. E. Stevenson, pastor at Joiner.—J. W. Moore and J. T. Byrd, Reporters.

SIoux CITY CONFERENCE REPORTS AVAILABLE

Rev. J. E. Dunlap, Mena, chairman of the Town and Country Commission of the Little Rock Conference, has a limited number of copies of *Methodists in Town and Country*, the 140-page report of the Sioux City Conference. These books are available at \$1.25 as long as the supply lasts.

BISHOP MARTIN AT MENA AND TEXARKANA

Bishop Martin led in dedicatory services Sunday morning, November 11, of the Educational Building of the First Methodist Church, Mena, where Rev. J. Edward Dunlap is pastor. Bishop Martin preached at the worship service at Mena Sunday morning. On Sunday afternoon Bishop Martin led in the Cornerstone Laying service at the Fairview Methodist Church, Texarkana, for the new Educational Building there, and later preached at the evening service of that church. Rev. C. H. Farmer is the Fairview pastor.

FAMILY NIGHTS AT CONWAY FIRST CHURCH

Conway First Methodist Church has done something about the common complaint that present-day families never do anything any more as a family group.

The church completed on November 7 a four-week series of Family Nights which attracted an average attendance of more than 300, according to Rev. Joel Cooper, pastor. Long-time members of the church say they cannot recall any previous series for the entire family which attracted as many as the one just concluded.

The Family Night series was part of the church's participation in the "Mission to the Home" emphasis of the Advance for Christ and His Church. Conway's experience may offer worthwhile suggestions to other churches wanting a stimulating program for family groups.

Meetings were held on consecutive Wednesday nights, beginning with a pot luck supper served promptly at 6:15.

Following the supper were three periods, devoted to recreation, worship and study. Much of the success of the meetings, according to Rev. Mr. Cooper, was due to detailed advance planning and careful provision for the wide variation in age groups. The recreation period, which followed the supper, incorporated the entire group from youngest to oldest. Group singing of spirituals and other appropriate songs was so enthusiastically welcomed by the group on the first night that it was made a feature of all four recreational programs.

Worship programs were also held for the entire group. One was led by one of the church families, Rev. M. C. Webb, Hendrix ministerial student, Mrs. Webb and their three children all had parts. Other worship was led by Intermediates and Seniors.

After the worship programs, adults and children separated. Adults held study sessions on problems of the family and of the community. Children had recreation consisting of games, singing and movies.

All parts of the program were carefully kept on their time schedule and the entire program of the evening ended by 8:30 o'clock.

Those attending the final adult session showed that they could act in community affairs as well as talk about them. They voted that the church should have a regular monthly Family Night, voted to aid poor families at Thanksgiving and Christmas through a unified agency of the church, and made up a free will offering of \$27.50 for support of the Conway Teen Town.

Films that were especially successful included the following from the Arkansas State Teachers College film library at Conway: "Let's Play Fair" (11 minutes, for juniors; deals with principles of fair play); "Are You Popular?" (11 minutes, for Intermediates, Seniors and college students, basic principles of social success); "The Cunningham Story" (12 minutes, for older children and adults; depiction of racial antagonism and its cure in an Eastern village); "The Sampan Family" (11 minutes, for children; life of a

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rev. and Mrs. B. W. Stallcup of Blytheville announce the birth of a daughter, Sarah Lynn, on November 6. Brother Stallcup is pastor of the West Blytheville Parish.

Rev. Roy E. Fawcett, executive secretary of the Board of Education of the North Arkansas Conference, was the guest preacher at the First Methodist Church, Magnolia, on Sunday evening, November 11. Rev. Elmer L. Thomas is pastor.

Rev. J. William Watson, pastor of the First Methodist Church, North Little Rock, will preach at the united Thanksgiving service for the churches of North Little Rock, at the First Christian Church, on November 21 at 7:30 p. m.

Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock, Rev. Irl Bridenthal, pastor, had an enrollment of seventy-one in the Little Rock Training School which was held at Winfield Church, October 21-25. Sixty-one of those enrolled earned credits.

Dr. Matt Ellis, North Arkansas Conference Lay Leader, presented the charter to the Methodist Men of Gardner Memorial Church, North Little Rock, at a dinner meeting on Tuesday evening, November 6.

The union Thanksgiving service for the Methodist Churches of Little Rock will be held at Pulaski Heights Methodist Church on Thursday morning, November 22, at 10:00 with Rev. Charles Richards, pastor of Forest Park-Kavanaugh, preaching the sermon. V. Earl Copes, director of music at Pulaski Heights Church, will be in charge of the music.

Japanese family); "That They Might Have Life" (22 minutes, for adults and children from juniors up; the work of a church in a city community to counteract juvenile delinquency); "Children of Ireland" (11 minutes, for children; typical scenes and incidents); "Children of Holland" (22 minutes, same as "Children of Ireland"). All were 16 millimeter and rented for from \$1 to \$2.50.

Two films from Religious Films Association, 3012 Maple Avenue, Dallas, Texas, were "Birthday Party" (about 20 minutes for children 5 to 12; teaches kindness by showing how a child failed until the last minute to be invited to a party); "A Job for Bob" (about 20 minutes, for older children and adults; a vocational guidance film. These rented at \$8 each.

In charge of the Family Night series was the church W. S. C. S., with Mrs. Paul Faris as program chairman. Among those accepting major responsibilities in the programs were Dr. Matt L. Ellis, Hendrix president, Prof. Joe Shaw of Arkansas State Teachers College, and the following Hendrix students: David Dickens of Nashville, Tenn., Alicia Bell of Lepanto, Joe Fleming of Conway, Walter Hodges of Conway, and Frank Jones of Flat River, Mo.—Paul Faris

Along A Country Road

AT PLEASANT GROVE ON THE BROOKLAND CHARGE

A pleasant week of work was enjoyed by the writer on the Brookland Charge at Pleasant Grove the week of October 28 through November 2. We had a very fine response to the services in spite of what might be called "unfavorable weather". The church, a recent structure, is still new in appearance and well cared for. A good lighting system and butane gas made for comfort, convenience and attractiveness.

These are a fine people and they are cooperating with Brother Layman Bounds, pastor, in a fine way. There is a very great need for a new parsonage which should be forthcoming in the near future.

While in this area I had the privilege of having lunch with some of the ministerial students. Also I was allowed the privilege of leading a class session in the Rural Sociology course. This was an enjoyable experience. Class room instructors have a wonderful opportunity to lead in the moulding of life patterns among our youth.

It was good to be back in Brookland Circuit and among the friendly people of that section of the Jonesboro District.—J. Albert Gatlin

HENDRIX COLLEGE NEWS

Red Letter Day Coming

Hendrix College's impressive new Chapel and Auditorium will be formally opened Saturday morning, November 17.

An unusually large group of alumni, friends and Methodist ministers and laymen are expected to attend the program, which will be held in the Auditorium. The exercises will begin at 11:00 a. m.

Throughout the day, the college will be celebrating its 68th annual Homecoming, with Homecoming Queen Margaret Rich of Forrest City ruling over festivities.

Bishop Paul E. Martin, head of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area of the Methodist Church, will deliver the address at the opening ceremonies for the new buildings. The faculty of the college will march in procession in full academic regalia headed by Hendrix President Matt L. Ellis. Music will be provided by Miss Bettye Rae Thomas, mezzo-soprano and member of the music faculty, and by one of the college's choral groups, the Choristers, under the direction of V. Earle Copes of the faculty.

Homecoming Queen Margaret, a stately brunette junior from Forrest City, will be crowned by Dean W. C. Buthman in Young Memorial Stadium at 1:45 p. m. At 2 o'clock the Hendrix Warriors will meet their rival for the day, Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., in the annual football classic.

Following the game, Kay Ritter of Springdale and Jo Lee Fleming of Conway, Hendrix music students, will be soloists in an organ vesper service in the new Chapel.

The college Board of Trustees will hold its fall meeting prior to the morning exercises. President of the group is Alton B. Raney, prominent Little Rock bond broker.

Thanksgiving Service Planned

A special Thanksgiving service is planned for the first formal use of Hendrix's new Auditorium, according to Clint Burleson of Gurdon,

BUFFALO ISLAND SUB-DISTRICT

The Buffalo Island Sub-District met October 15 at Leachville for its regular meeting. A very interesting and inspiring program was given by the Leachville M. Y. F.

Caraway won the banner by having the largest number of points. Following adjournment refreshments were served.

The next meeting will be held on November 19 at Macey.—Sue Thacker

NETTLETON METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Nettleton M. Y. F. would like to share the news of plans they have for the project they have taken for the year. We are buying a bulletin board for the church to be placed on the church lawn.

Mrs. Crozier has made an apron and on this apron a patch is placed with a contribution placed under it. The apron is passed from family to family until the apron is covered with patches. We hope this will take care of a large part of the finances for the project.—Robbie Joy Gilliam, Reporter

YOUTH NEWS FROM FIRST CHURCH, LITTLE ROCK

Girls' World Friendship Group

The Girls' World Friendship Group of the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, met for their first meeting this year on Halloween night at the home of Mrs. C. S. Bobo, Secretary of Youth Work of the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Officers for the new year were elected as follows: Martha McOsker, Youth Chairman; Sandra Owen, Hostess Chairman; and Betsy Benson and Alice Miller, Program Chairmen. The meeting date was set for the third Thursday afternoon in every month. For their first project the girls decided to have a silver tea for the purpose of raising money for the Methodist Youth Fund. The tea will be at the home of Louella Hoffman, a member of the group, at 5510 Edgewood on Sunday, December 2.

The Girls' World Friendship Group is composed of all girls in the Senior Department. It is sponsored by the Woman's Society of Christian Service in order to bring the interesting work of the Society before the younger girls of the church and to guide them in choosing their life vocation.

Elmo Knoch Hears Call To Preach

Elmo Knoch, a member of the youth group at First Methodist Church, Little Rock, and a freshman at Hendrix College, has been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the First Methodist Church to the Little Rock District Conference for license to preach. Elmo has been an outstanding member of our church for many years and we are more than proud to give him this recommendation.—Martha Faulkner.

president of the Hendrix Christian Association, which will sponsor the program. The service will be held Tuesday morning, November 20, at 10:00 a. m., the college's weekly assembly hour.

Classes will dismiss at noon the following day for the fall recess. School will resume Monday, November 26.—Guy Shannon



REPORT FOR OCTOBER

We want to express our sincere thanks to the groups and participants listed below who have rendered a service or presented gifts to the Home during the month of October, 1951.

W. A. S. Woodward, Magnolia—Circus tickets for Shrine Circus
Steele Kennedy, Little Rock—Fruit
Friendly Couples Class, Winfield Church, Little Rock—Birthday gifts
Susanna Wesley Circle, First Methodist Church, Hot Springs—Cookies (twice)
Optimist Club, Little Rock—Transportation to football games
Jack Gill, Democrat Printing and Lithographing Co., Little Rock—2 rockers
H. G. Bell of Sears, Roebuck and Co., Little Rock—Tickets for Shrine Circus
D. E. Adams, Rt. 1, Box 54, Little Rock—eggs—24 dozens
Children's Division, Scott Street Methodist Church, Little Rock—Cookies
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis McKinney, Jonesboro—apples
Mr. C. B. Crook, Little Rock—Tickets for Shrine Circus
Mrs. Clyde Laessig and Mrs. Pierce, Little Rock—glasses
Miss Joan Thompson for Hi-Jinks Club, Little Rock—weiners, rolls & apples
Mr. Chas. R. Baber, North Little Rock—Candy
Krogger's, 14th & Main, Little Rock—Sweets (twice)
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Baxter, Texarkana, Arkansas—tooth paste, tooth powder and cologne
Mrs. W. C. Davis, Paris, Arkansas—clothing

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF—

Mr. James R. Hart, by Miss Marjorie Hart
Thomas Jackson Dillon, by Mr. and Mrs. John Dial and Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Dial
Mrs. Terrel F. Spancer, by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rose, Mrs. J. C. Herron, Mr. Tanner, Mrs. Betty Reutehuber, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Brown and Mrs. Cora Wilson
Mr. Chester A. Coltharp, Jr., by Willie B. Holland
Mr. Buford Barron, by Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Knox and Miss Fay Kirkland
Mrs. C. R. Prewitt, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Bowles
Mr. E. N. McElhanon, by Mrs. Mary Bell and Lockie Golden
Ernest Powladge, by The Hilliards
Mr. Frank Standard, by Mrs. A. C. Birch
Mrs. E. P. Steele, by Mrs. Fred Stewart
Mr. Joe Watson, by Mrs. J. C. Rogers
Mr. Irvin Lay, by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Collard

FORREST CITY METHODISTS COMPLETING BUILDING PROGRAM

A large group of Forrest City Methodist men met Thursday night, November 1, to make plans for a \$25,000 building fund campaign to pay for the new education building to be completed in December.

Brice Fletcher was named chairman of the campaign drive. John Jacobs will be first vice chairman and Tommy Stout, second vice chairman.

At the dinner meeting enthusiasm ran high and plans were made for a kickoff dinner which was held the following Wednesday night.

Committees organized to conduct the drive included R. E. Carroll as chairman of the special pledge committee and E. J. Butler, chairman, and John Russell, vice chairman of

Mrs. Aleta Williford, by Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Fish
Infant Fletcher, by The Gould Methodist Church
Mr. C. H. Triplett, by Mr. and Mrs. Galbraith Gould
Mr. J. C. Gray, by Children's Dept. Scott Memorial Methodist Church, Eudora
Mr. J. C. Gray, by Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Derrick and Miss Edith Derrick
Mr. D. P. Holmes, by Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Teague
Mr. John Mann, by Mrs. G. P. Newbern
Mrs. Mamie Triplett, by The Johnson Circle, Marianna Methodist Church
Mr. John Mann, by Mrs. Elizabeth Sweet
Mr. John Mann, by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Word, Mrs. George S. Word, and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Word, Jr.
Mrs. J. S. Moose, by Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Lewis
Mrs. Sallie Cargile, by Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Lewis
Mrs. Henry Pettus, by W. S. C. S. Circle 4, of Forrest City Methodist Church
Mrs. Henry Pettus, by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carter
Mr. H. B. Wilson, by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Conner
Mrs. Henry Pettus, by W. S. C. S. of Forrest City Methodist Church, sent in by Mrs. B. Frank King
Mr. Guy D. Eldridge, by W. S. C. S. of Forrest City Methodist Church, sent in by Mrs. Jack Carter
Mr. Joe Watson, by Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Tucker.

TOTAL MEMORIALS\$148.50

OTHER GIFTS

J. K. Carr\$ 23.00
Tomberlin W. S. C. S. 10.00
First Methodist Church, Russellville 12.50
North Arkansas Conference 386.82
Little Rock Conference 277.69
The Men of Good Faith Class 25.00
Tomberlin Church Vacation Bible School 3.00
Paragould First Church Vacation Bible School 4.00
Methodist Men's Bible Class, Marlon 25.00
O. G. Robinson 1.00
W. S. C. S. Pocahontas 5.00
Intermediate Dept. Miss Ruth Evans' Class 5.00
Susanna Wesley Class 5.00
Mrs. Esther Crain 6.00
Mrs. George Walker 60.00
Mrs. D. B. Hambleton 120.00
Miscellaneous 77.72
TOTAL\$1048.73

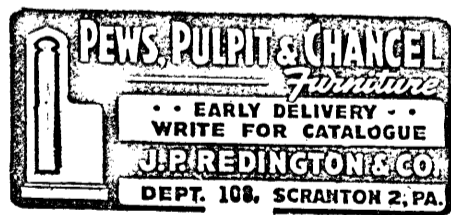
GRAND TOTAL\$1197.23

T. T. McNEAL, Director

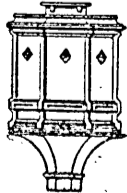
the general pledge committee. The drive is expected to be completed by November 19 when the Church is planning "Victory Sunday."

The education building is located on the South side of the Church. Work on the building was begun last February, following ground breaking ceremonies Feb. 21.

Date of completion of the building is scheduled to be December 1. Rev. Raymond R. Franks is pastor.



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WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. EWING T. WAYLAND, Editor

MINUTES OF LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING

The Fall meeting of the Executive Board of the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service was held at the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, October 18th and 19th, 1951.

The first session was held at 7:30 p. m. with Mrs. T. S. Lovett, Conference President, presiding. To open the meeting, Mrs. J. Gordon Wilson, Conference Secretary of Spiritual Life Cultivation, directed our worship using Isaiah 40 as the basis of her theme with, "Make straight in the desert a highway for our God" as a text.

The president welcomed all members of the Board, and introduced new members and workers: Mrs. M. E. Scott, Secretary of Missionary Education; Mrs. Charles Primm, Secretary of Student Work; Mrs. John Hefley, Secretary of Missionary Personnel; Miss Grace Thatcher, Deaconess with Little Rock Methodist Council; and Miss Rebecca Busch, worker with Council and Southwest Conference.

Those present were: Mrs. T. S. Lovett, Mrs. Erik Jensen, Mrs. T. W. McCoy, Mrs. C. I. Parsons, Mrs. Ewing T. Wayland, Mrs. M. E. Scott, Mrs. Earl Cotton, Mrs. J. G. Wilson, Mrs. Ashley Ross, Mrs. Edward McLean, Mrs. Chas. Primm, Miss Hanna Kelly, Mrs. John Hefley, Mrs. Roland Shelton, Mrs. J. S. Holt, Mrs. J. P. Carpenter, Mrs. E. D. Galloway, Mrs. J. R. Henderson, Mrs. R. H. Cole, Mrs. W. G. Harrington, Mrs. L. B. Tooley, Mrs. Leslie Jeffress, Mrs. O. C. Landers, Miss Grace Thatcher, Miss Alice Rogers, Miss Rebecca Busch, Mrs. H. King Wade, Miss Margaret Marshall, Mr. Mike Willis, Mrs. Herbert Stephens.

The Committee appointed to honor retiring officers and workers reported that Adult Life Memberships were given Mrs. J. R. Meadors, Miss Sunshine Mann, and Mrs. Wilmar Lewis; a gift to Student Loan Fund for Myal Greene, and Miss Martha Greene; a gift to salary of Miss Wanda Stahley from each of the following: Mrs. Edward Harris, Miss Virginia Guffey, and Mrs. J. H. Monday. Also a gift to Student Loan Fund in memory of Mrs. Rowan Prewitt, killed recently in an automobile accident.

Mrs. Cotton was requested by the president to present Mrs. Leslie Jeffress who was the Little Rock Conference representative who attended the National Seminar on World Order held at Scarritt in Nashville, Tenn., this summer. Mrs. Jeffress gave an enthusiastic and concise report of the Seminar giving the findings that came out of each discussion group.

Friday, October 19th, at 9 a. m. the Board met for fifteen minutes of quiet meditation and prayer, with a "Call to Methodist Women" to direct our thoughts prepared by Mrs. Wilson.

Mrs. Lovett, president, called the meeting to order, and introduced Mrs. Herbert Stephens, new Secretary of Literature and Publications; and then gave a report on Conference activities through the summer.

Mrs. E. T. Wayland was introduced, and she announced that Mrs.

A THANKFUL SPIRIT

*Our God, we thank Thee, who has made the earth so bright;
So full of splendor and of joy, beauty and light;
So many glorious things are here, noble and right.*

*We thank Thee, too, that Thou hast made joy to abound;
So many gentle thoughts and deeds circling us round;
That in the darkest spot of earth some love is found.*

*We thank Thee more that all our joy is touched with pain;
That shadows fall on brightest hours, that thorns remain;
So that earth's bliss may be our guide, and not our chain.*

*We thank Thee, Lord, that Thou hast kept the best in store;
We have enough, yet not too much, to long for more;
A yearning for a deeper peace not known before.*

*We thank Thee, Lord, that here our souls, though amply blest,
Can never find, although they seek, a perfect rest;
Nor ever shall, until they lean on Jesus' breast.*

—Selected

Ewing Wayland was now the new editor for the Woman's Page in the *Arkansas Methodist*.

Mrs. Galloway moved that a rising vote of thanks be given Mrs. Wayland for her fine work through the years as editor for the Little Rock and North Arkansas Conferences in their page of W. S. C. S. news.

Mrs. Ewing Wayland, Promotion Secretary, reported 11,683 members as of September 1st, an increase of 125 over September 1950, but a loss over first quarter of this year. Conference Link Visitation Day, October 8th, was a thrilling day for all who participated. She announced that Mrs. Landrum's recorded address belongs to the Conference and is available to any Society who wishes to use it. Three Districts have completed organization of their sub-district units.

Mrs. Parsons, Conference Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report.

Recommendations from the Finance Committee were read by Mrs. Parsons:

I. That local Societies be urged to accept the following project for their directed Christmas offerings: to Brazil (where our own Miss Mary McSwain is located).

II. That the L. R. Conference W. S. C. S. sponsor and assist with the finances of a missionary tour for youth, especially Life Service volunteers.

Beautiful posters representing all phases of the work of the Woman's Division were shown by Mrs. Parsons who said she would be glad to go anywhere anytime to any Society or other meeting and show same, explaining them; provided group meeting bear her travel expenses.

The report of the Co-operative Committee was given by Mrs. Galloway, Chairman, by presenting the workers.

The morning session closed at twelve with unison prayer for peace. A delightful luncheon was served in the small dining room.

Mrs. Scott, Secretary of Missionary Education, reported that first quarter's reports were encouraging. Institute of Missions at Aldersgate great success, with total of 135 registered. 82 received credit. Consensus of opinion that the three day school is better than five day school. Thirteen Seminars held in September, and three District Guild Seminars.

132 Societies represented, 992 attending, with 222 in Guild Seminars.

The president announced Mrs. Ewing Wayland will be Dean of Institute for 1952, with Mrs. Scott, Chairman of the School of Missions Committee.

Mrs. Cole said she was so grateful for our new Secretary of Literature and Publications. The new Literature Headquarters Building was most appropriately situated on Reading Road in Cincinnati, and the Department was concentrating their efforts on getting the Methodist Woman into the hands of all Society members.

Mrs. Henderson announced that Jurisdiction reports were encouraging and showed more work being done in Leadership training. She pointed up the need for using Exchange students in local churches to help promote world friendship.

Mrs. Cotton stressed more thought, planning and working for World Peace.

Mrs. McLean brought recommendations from summer workshop on World Friendship.

Mrs. Primm said she was trying to get Societies to use Student cards and the cards for Service men. Stressed sending Pocket sized copies of Upper Room to Service men and women. She announced that she had written six state schools and L. P. I. asking for names of foreign students registered, and that Mrs. Scott will compile list and information for local Societies.

Mrs. Hefley announced that there were 117 names on file in her list of Students who had indicated a desire for full time Christian service, but that some were being lost because of lack of interest in home churches. She urged Society women to show personal interest and give these young people encouragement.

Mrs. Wilson said the Department of Spiritual Life Cultivation seeks to undergird the activities of all phases of our work with prayer, and urged more prayer groups, prayer chains, and prayer partners in every church, including the shut-ins in prayer programs. For "Prayer is the most vital force in the world."

Mrs. Ross said the Children's work was progressing and urged that in Societies where there is no Secretary of Children's work, the Secre-

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sulphur Rock Society met at the church October 25 for their Week of Prayer observance. Mrs. B. B. Owens, President, and Mrs. Clarence Vaughan conducted the program. Eight members and 3 guests were present.

Tomberlin Society observed the Week of Prayer with two services. First, on October 24, with an all-day meeting at the church, with 11 members and 2 visitors present. Mrs. Clarence Buffalo, assisted by Mrs. Francis Walls, conducted the program. Mrs. Clarence Capps was the pianist.

On November 1, the Society met in the home of Mrs. Henry Hallum with 15 members and 2 visitors present. Mrs. Clyde Lyons, President, presided, and was assisted in presenting the program by: Mrs. Ruben Compton, Mrs. Annie Hallum, Mrs. Edd Walls, Mrs. Francis Walls, Mrs. Henry Hallum, and Mrs. Bernie Bowie. Mrs. Henry Hallum and Mrs. Eugene Neal sang "Beautiful Garden of Prayer." The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer by the group.

Mena Society observed the Week of Prayer, October 29, the service being directed by Mrs. W. J. Bailey. Mrs. A. H. Robertson, Mrs. R. R. Hicks, Mrs. J. W. Witherspoon, had a part in the devotional messages, and Mrs. J. E. Dunlap, Mrs. Vernon Rodgers, Mrs. Ralph Johnson, Sr., and Mrs. E. M. Dover assisted with the music. Mrs. W. A. Finks and Mrs. Rodgers were in charge of the sacrificial meal at noon.

Mrs. J. B. Jouett, guest speaker, was inspiring with her message on John 6, "When My Ship Comes In."

tary of Missionary Education promote the Children's work.

Miss Kelley reported that the three guild Seminars were the finest thing they had ever had and hoped to arrange a Conference Guild Weekend Institute following the W. S. C. S. Institute next year.

Mrs. Holt reported one loan from Student Loan Fund to a young girl who is in her Junior year in Hendrix College, and urged all Societies to put in their Budgets the amount of ten cents per capita for the Fund.

The program committee for the Annual Meeting next Spring was appointed by the President as follows: Mrs. Erik Jensen, Chairman, Mrs. Ewing Wayland, Mrs. Earl Cotton, Mrs. Charles Primm, and Mrs. L. B. Tooley.

Upon completion of work from each officer and worker, Mrs. Lovett presented Mrs. Galloway who gave a deeply moving meditation on "He giveth strength for the task", telling of a personal experience in a Methodist Church in Germany, and closed the meeting with a prayer of commitment.—Mrs. T. W. McCoy, Secretary

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FELTON MILLER**

By his aunt, Mrs. M. W. Miller

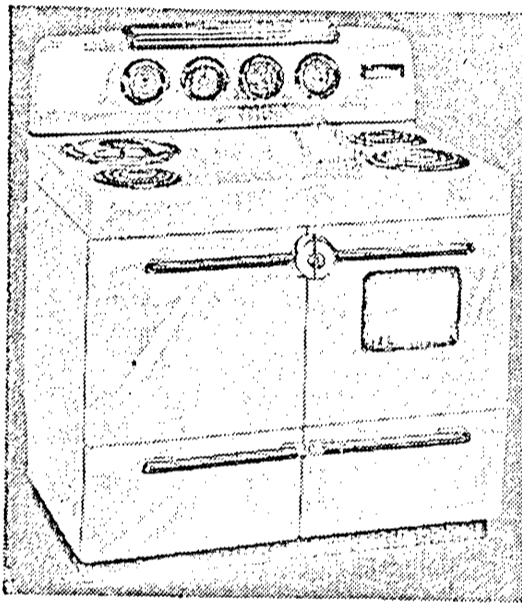
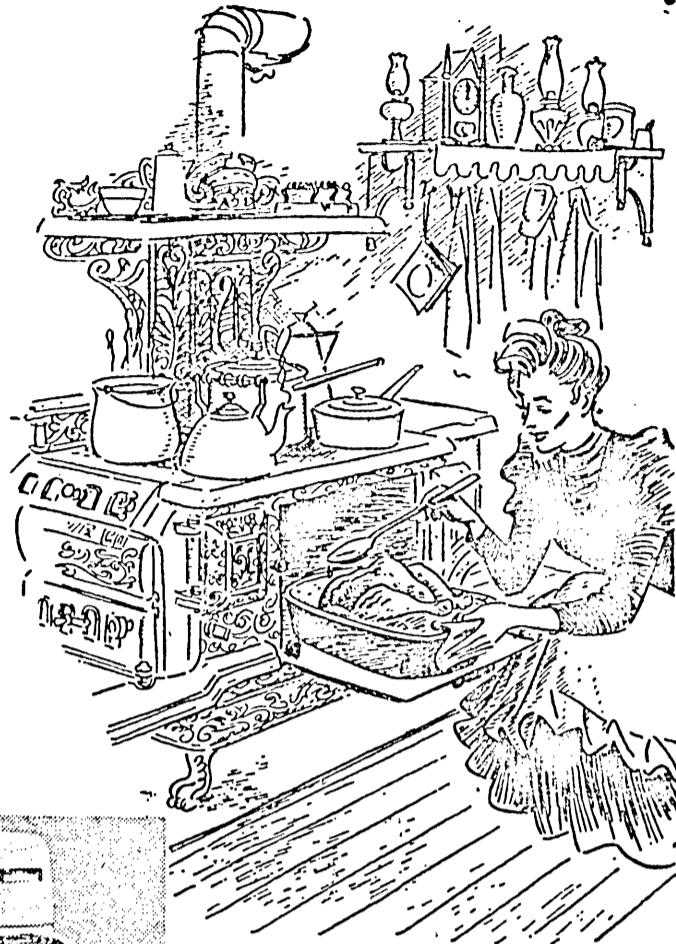
On Nov. 3, 1950 Felton Miller, of Sardis, was killed in an automobile accident near the David O. Dodd school, Hot Springs Highway. He was a student in Arkansas State Teachers College, Conway. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Miller, RFD 2, Alexander, Arkansas, the youngest of their eight children.

Felton joined Sardis Methodist Church when he was in the Junior class in Sunday school. He was a faithful member of the church, and was active in the work of the Young People's Department of the church. His friends said of him, "He was one of the best boys we ever knew. He would just say NO to things that he thought were wrong." He was an obedient son. It can be truthfully said of him that he demonstrated "In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." He was a quiet boy, thought noble thoughts and performed deeds accordingly.

Through the influence of his Sunday school teacher, Mr. Joe Courtney, the Rand Wholesale Gro. Co., and Darrough Feed Co., placed in his memory, in Sardis church the picture "Inspiration" the head of Christ, by McDonnell. This was appreciated so very much by his loved ones.

Love never dies, it is an attribute of the soul and imperishable. Felton still loves us. Therefore, may he not now be whispering to his loved ones, "Peace, be still," "Lo, I am with you always." "Do not think that the spirit world is far away." We cannot see him but he is still with us in spiritual existence. Let his loving presence be to us a perpetual inspiration, calling us to higher moral and spiritual life.

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WITH HER
TURKEY--**



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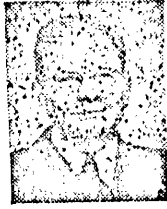
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The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

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WHAT DOES WORSHIP REQUIRE OF US? LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 25, 1951

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:
Exodus 24:1-8; 25:1-22; 29:1-9; 29:38-42. Printed Text:
Exodus 29:43-46; 35:21-29.

GOLDEN TEXT: Take ye from among you an offering for the Lord; whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, the Lord's offering." (Exodus 35:5)

A Look At The Scriptures

The first passage (Ex. 24:1-8) tells of Moses being called by the Lord to come to ascend Mount Sinai. Moses constructed an altar consisting of twelve stones representing the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. He then read the book of the covenant to the people. They promised to faithfully obey the Lord. The covenant between the people and God was sealed by the sprinkling of blood.

In the next passage (Ex. 25:1-22) God gives instruction concerning an offering that was to be taken. The object of the offering was to secure material for building the tabernacle. The Lord also gave instruction for building an ark. This was to be a small chest made of shittim or acacia wood and was to be covered over with gold. The tables on which the law was written was to be placed in this ark.

The tabernacle was to be divided into two sections. The larger section, which was 30 feet long and 15 feet wide, was called the sanctuary. The smaller section was in the form of a cube that is the length, breadth, and height measured 15 feet each. This section was known as the holy of holies. The ark, which contained the tables of law, was placed in this section. Later a pot of manna was also placed here together with Aaron's rod, that budded.

This passage closes with the beautiful thought that God was to meet with Moses in this holy holies. There Moses could commune daily with the Lord and receive instructions on how best to lead the nation. It will be remembered that down through the years this ark symbolized the presence of God among the people. Many times it was carried into battle by the Israelites who felt that so long as God was present with them the victory would be theirs.

In Exodus 29:1-9, we find the instructions given by the Lord concerning the consecration of men to the priesthood. These men were Aaron and his sons. It will be remembered that Aaron was the older brother of Moses. He was the first high priest of Israel. He served in this office for 40 years.

Tent and Priests Sanctified

We now come to the printed portion of the lesson text. The first portion (Ex. 29:43-46) tells of the sanctification both of the tent and of the priests. Sanctification here means to be set apart for holy use. The tent or tabernacle was to be used as a place of worship. God promised that his presence would abide there. He would be with his people and be their God and they would realize that he had brought them out of the land of Egypt. It is said that this provision for God's presence among his people was even more important

than the giving of the law.

Moses was greatly frightened when God first called him to lead the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage. He said to the Lord, "I will go, if you will go with me." The Lord replied, "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee peace." The presence of God in the pillar of fire by night and of cloud by day and also in the tabernacle was the verification of this promise.

Worship Through Offering

The next passage (Ex. 35:21-29) tells of a great offering. This offering consisted of materials for the construction of the tabernacle. It consisted of jewels, precious stones, and various kinds of cloth and skins. The people were so liberal in their contributions that Moses had to restrain them from giving. This was a free will offering. There was no coercion whatever. We are told that their souls were stirred and their hearts made willing in making this sacrifice.

Not only did these people give gladly and willingly of their material possessions but they gave their time and talent also. Both men and women labored in the construction of this place of worship. We are told that certain wise-hearted women rendered much service in weaving the cloth for the tabernacle. Down through the years the good women, as well as the men, have played an important part in serving the Lord.

The memory selection or golden text also expresses the idea of worship through giving. Love is the very foundation of religion, and giving is the acid test of love. Love must be more than a thing of word, it must be in deed and in truth. A widow had lost her home by fire and all of her belongings. There was no insurance. One man eloquently expressed his sorrow for the poor woman. Another standing there, "I am sorry fifty dollars worth, just how sorry are you for this widow?" Two men had long been without work. Their families were in need. Finally they secured jobs. When the pay checks came in one kissed his check and thanked God that he had it. The other laid by ten per cent of his check as a contribution to his church. Which of the men expressed most gratitude? Which one had the privilege of really communing with God in worship? It is what we do that counts. We must never forget that our deeds always speak louder than our words.

The Value of Worship

There is nothing of greater value than worship. Stop for a moment to consider just what it does for the individual and for society.

Through worship man comes to realize the presence of God. The Lord is always with us. The Psalmist tells us that we could not flee

from his presence even if we desired to do so. We might take the wings of the morning and dwell upon the face of the deep but God would be there. I never shall forget a prayer once offered at an altar in Fort Smith by Dr. George McGlumphy. In this prayer he went on to say, "O God, we do not ask for thee to come for we know that thou art already here. Thou art present everywhere. But we do pray that we may become conscious of thy presence with us." The dying words of John Wesley were "The best of all is, God is with us." That is the best of all provided we are conscious of his presence, but otherwise his presence will not be of the greatest help to us. Worship helps us to realize his presence. It was true in the case of Isaiah. He went into the Temple to worship and while there, with the eye of faith, he saw the Lord.

Not only does worship help us to become conscious of God's presence, but it also helps us to ascertain our own standing before God. There can be no spiritual progress without this knowledge. The Pharisees went through the mechanics of worship in the Temple but they did not really worship. As a result they had no vision of God or a true estimate of their standing before him. Little wonder that they could stand and thank God that they were better than other folks. When Isaiah, through true worship came to realize the presence of God, he saw his own shortcomings. He cried out, "I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips." The account, however, does not stop there. This worship of Isaiah led to his cleansing. When the fire of God's cleansing power touched his lips, his sins were purged.

True worship culminates in acceptable service. One cannot clean up his neighbor's home until he sweeps around his own door. He realize that he dwells in the midst of a people of unclean lips, but his lips must first be made clean before he can help them. There must be power for acceptable service, and this comes only to the individual who through worship consecrates his heart to God.

Let it be remembered that what true worship does for the individual it will also do for society and the church. So long as the Israelites truly worshiped they made great strides in spiritual progress. In the latter part of their history as a nation, however, they came to have the form of godliness but had lost its power. For a period of 200 years (800 B. C. to 600 B. C.) the great prophets warned the people of their danger. They insisted that they had become mechanical in their worship. They had lost all the moral qualities out of their religion. Christ himself accused them of being careful to carry out the outward forms of worship — especially with regards to tithing and the sabbath—but they neglected the weightier matters such as judgment, mercy, and love. Before the time of Christ, the great prophets had insisted that God was not interested in the multiplicity of their sacrifices or even in rivers of oil if at the same time their lives were not made good by their practices. Israel failed as a nation because she failed in her worship.

Helps To Worship

Since worship is so important it might be well to note some of the things that will help us in worship. Meditation is a wonderful help along this line. One of the Bible writers went on to say, "When I mused the

fire burned." Through meditation we kindle the fire of God upon the altars of our souls. In speaking of the blessed or happy man the Psalmist went on to say, "In God's law doth he meditate day and night."

Another help which is closely akin to meditation is prayer. Prayer may consist only in meditation or, on the other hand, thoughts may be expressed in words. The Bible speaks more of Christ praying than it does of his teaching and preaching. The fact that he was a person of prayer is mentioned 25 times over. Some times he would spend all night in prayer. He seemed to have had the habit of getting up a great while before day and engaging in prayer. The disciples saw the good that Christ derived from his prayers and said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray."

Music is a great help in worship. This is true whether the music be instrumental or vocal. The gospel can be expressed in song as well as sermon. Probably the most beautiful way of expressing the gospel is through the great anthems and hymns that are sung by choirs and congregations all over the world in public worship. It is well enough to worship God in private or in secret. It is the only way that some have the privilege of worshipping him, but away with the idea that one can get as close to God in private as he can in public worship. The Israelites knew the power of public worship back in their day as a nation, and made every possible provision for practicing it.

The sacraments are also helps in worship. One feels very close to God when baptizing some adult and thus consecrating him to God, or when he is dedicating some infant in holy baptism before the sacred chancel of the church. Personally, I have never felt closer to God and been more aware of his presence than when I was receiving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the altar of the church or was administering it to others.

The study of the Bible and the reading of other good literature are also helps to worship. The Bible is God's word. "Man cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," said Jesus. The study of the Bible is to the soul what the partaking of food is to the body.

All who attend public services should add their bit to the worship. They should be very reverent in the house of God. All whispering should cease when people enter the sanctuary. If one arrives early he should spend that time in quiet meditation and prayer. We should remember that "The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him."

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