

Arkansas Methodist

Serving One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Methodists in Arkansas

"The World is My Parish" — John Wesley

world — Mark 16:15

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DECEMBER 29, 1951

NO. 46

General Church Survey Commission Reports

CONSIDERABLE space has been given in this week's issue to the publication in full text of the Summary of the General Conference Church Survey Commission's report to the General Conference which meets next year. This Commission was set up by the 1948 General Conference to "Study The Program and Policies of The General Boards, Commissions, and Service Agencies of The Methodist Church." We believe that the report of this Commission is of extreme significance and it will undoubtedly be the source of much discussion among laymen and ministers between now and the General Conference sessions next spring. We want to emphasize that this particular text is only the Summary of the proposed plan of reorganization. We are withholding judgment until we have had time to study thoroughly the unabridged plan. We understand that copies of the full text of the plan will be available for distribution at an early date.

We are publishing in one issue the full text of the Summary in order that our readers may have in hand its text. We want to urge that a study be made of the Summary so that intelligent recommendations can be made to General Conference delegates for action.

Must Arkansas Be A Gambling Center?

ACCORDING to members of the Senate committee which made the investigation of big-time gambling the past summer, there are gambling syndicates in America now so strong that they could become a threat to national safety. The heat is on these gambling organizations in many of our big centers and it is perfectly natural that they seek other fields where the pressure is not so strong.

Is Arkansas to stand with open arms inviting these dangerous gambling syndicates to make Arkansas a center for their operations? Legalized gambling attracts such tripe by swarms. Having set up shop in centers where legalized gambling is permitted, they proceed to ply their trade as promoters of all kinds of illegal gambling. This crowd is often so strong that local authorities do not or cannot enforce the law. Arkansas has had enough experience with that sort of thing to know something of what it means.

There is a proposal now, while the gambling racket is a national disgrace, to set up another gambling center in Arkansas at West Memphis. If, at this time of crisis in gambling prosecution in other parts of the nation, Arkansas throws out a welcome mat to the gambling business, we could easily attract to our midst a gang of high-powered gamblers, with their gun-men, who could produce problems of law-enforcement with which Arkansas is not prepared to cope. These organizations have been strong enough to all but defy law-enforcement agencies in some of the strongest centers of America. If these gambling syndicates are strong enough to defy or defile law-enforcement agencies in such centers as Chicago and New York, what could West Memphis do in the face of such a crowd.

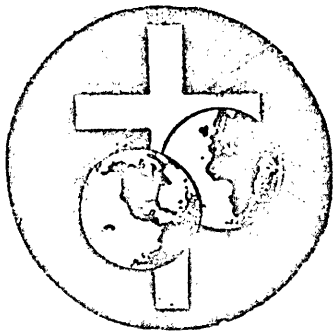
A much better suggestion comes from our Baptist friends in the proposal that we amend our laws to make gambling illegal everywhere in Arkansas. It is our feeling that The Methodist Church and many other churches in Arkansas would be glad to join in such a movement. The better citizenship of Arkansas should be

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Our Supreme Mission In Community Is To Evangelize

IN this last article on "Our Mission in the Community" we want to say, **OUR SUPREME MISSION IN THE COMMUNITY IS TO EVANGELIZE.** The final command Jesus gave His followers is called "The Great Commission." This commission is great because it calls on the followers of Christ to continue "unto the end of the world" the supreme mission of the life and ministry of Jesus—"to seek and to save that which was lost." It was to that goal that Jesus completely gave Himself.

The church today has a great cultural, educational, spiritual program. We should remember, however, that this program, great as it has become, is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end. The ultimate objective of our great educa-



tional system in America is not simply that intellects may be trained, but that they may be trained FOR SOMETHING. That is increasingly evident when we pass on from general education to special, technical training in specific fields.

The cultural training, the religious instruction and the spiritual refinement of our lives which comes through the church is not given us simply that our lives may be enriched. We receive these blessings from Christ and the church as stewards and our Lord expects us to use them in His service. We are not just being prepared for endless life in the world to come; we are being prepared for active service in the world that now is. If we miss the meaning of religion here, we may also miss the blessings religion offers hereafter.

Methodism should ever be mindful of its evangelistic responsibilities. Also, ever and anon, every power of the church should be turned to the primary purpose for which the church exists—the evangelization of the world. It is this inner urge to follow the call of the Great Commission that is the moving motive and spirit of The United Evangelistic Mission planned for Louisiana and Arkansas in the weeks that are before us.

These two great evangelistic movements will offer our Methodist people the greatest opportunity for fruitful service in our generation. Never before have we taken the matter of evangelism as seriously as is implied in this Area-wide evangelistic mission. "The fields are white unto the harvest." Our mass of trained workers should join hands to make this a bountiful reaping.

Arkansas District Conferences Being Held

AT this mid-year season of the Annual Conference year the various Districts are having their Conferences to hear reports of the local churches, to consider the many phases of the Methodist program, and transact such business reserved for District Conferences. An unusually fine spirit seems to pervade the District Conference sessions we have been privileged to attend and we unhesitatingly attribute this to the current evangelistic endeavor in the Arkansas-Louisiana Area. It is our opinion that this warm evangelistic fervor is stimulating in a wonderful fashion the life of the Church throughout the Area.

These District Conferences serve in a marvelous way to get before a substantial portion of the lay and ministerial membership of a District the great program of Methodism. In perhaps no other way or so short a period of time could the major aspects of Methodism be called to the attention of those in attendance. Delegates to the District Conference are obligated in a rather unique way to share their information and inspiration with the other leadership of the local church in order that Methodism's program for the Conference year can be brought to a successful fulfillment. Any District Conference will have served its true purpose if its sessions strengthen the local churches within its bounds.

We would like here to pay tribute to the District Superintendents who administer the affairs of The Methodist Church within their respective Districts. There is no harder working, more devoted group of laborers in God's Kingdom than these ministers. All too often not fully appreciated, yet without these administrators the connective aspect of Methodism would be seriously handicapped, and many, many churches would find their problems forever unsolved and their progress stymied.

The President Has Made A Mistake

THE decision of the President to appoint an ambassador to the Vatican has caused a furor across the nation. Some have approved the appointment but many friends of the President feel that he has made a grave mistake. It would not be appropriate, especially in a church paper, to repeat what some who are not so friendly to the President say about it.

Whatever may be the opinion regarding the President's action in deciding to appoint an official representative to the Vatican, this we believe is true: the President has made a serious mistake in his conclusions about public reactions to the Vatican appointment. The President has never been so badly mistaken about public opinion as in thinking he could play down as unimportant Protestant reaction to this unprecedented move.

The opposition to this appointment by Protestantism was immediate although the President was not immediately made to feel the full force of that opposition. Nevertheless, before the issue is decided, the President and the Congress will be made to feel the full cumulative effect of that opposition. It will not be possible for either the President or Congress to mistake the mind of Protestant America regarding such an appointment, when everything is in.

It is very unfortunate that the issue was raised at this time—or any time. Let it be under-

(Continued on page 5)

A DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY OF . . .

The Methodist Church Survey Commission Report

After more than three years of work the Church Survey Commission is pleased to present its Survey Report, placing copies "in the hands of members of the Council of Bishops, all general officers of the church, and those persons elected as delegates to the General Conference of 1952."

The Survey report as a whole may seem long, and for that reason this descriptive summary has been prepared. However, the commission is desirous that the purpose of this brief presentation be understood.

The full Survey report is a coherent whole and can be understood

only as a complete unit. It is the hope of the commission, therefore, that judgment will be withheld until the full report is read and the interrelationships, coherence and unity of the various recommendations become apparent.

This descriptive summary is not the report but only a digest of the total presentation. Consequently, the commission trusts that the Survey report as a whole, or any part of it, will not be judged on the basis of this summary. Let this descriptive summary serve as an introduction to the full report.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the history of American Methodism the year 1939 will always be one to be remembered. After years of longing, study, planning and prayer three great Methodist Churches could say together, "We are one." In the Uniting Conference were culminated the plans which made three individual churches—each with its own organization, agencies, leadership personnel, membership and programs—into one vast church. A great heritage united them and they joined together in order to serve more effectively their living Lord.

The imminence of future problems — of organization, personnel, program, promotion, publications—was obvious to many, if not all. These men and women of vision wisely deferred to a future time the resolving of these problems until the leaders and members had worked together for a period. They accomplished their major task—a plan under which a great new church could effectively function.

A Survey is Ordered by the General Conference

During the course of the first two quadrenniums after unification, these problems were generally recognized, and individuals, groups, agencies and Annual Conferences began to study ways to make the Church more effective. To the General Conference of 1948, meeting nine years after unification, came memorials from all over the Church requesting certain changes. After careful study, a committee brought a report to the floor of the Conference. In this it was proposed that a survey be conducted during the quadrennium, 1948-52.

The Survey's Purpose and Goal

The primary purpose of the Survey, as stated in the report, was:

" . . . to make an impartial and objective study of all general boards, commissions and service agencies of The Methodist Church—the study to be a complete survey of their administrative and promotional programs, including investment policies, relationships of departments and divisions of each board, commission or other agency and their relationship to other boards

and agencies, and any other matters that the committee may consider pertinent to the study"

The goal was also indicated:

" . . . with a view of finding ways and means to reduce duplication and overlapping and to increase the efficiency and economy of the operations of our general boards, commissions and service organizations."

After adequate discussion the report was adopted.

The Commission Begins its Work

The Survey Commission charged with this responsibility began soon after the adjournment of the General Conference and employed professional consultants, as suggested.

At an early meeting the Commission formulated principles to serve as guides in its work. They are as follows (in a summarized form):

1. The objectives of the survey should be accomplished in those ways which will best serve to build a church that Christ can use.
2. All essential activities are to be preserved and strengthened. Recommendations shall look toward the attainment of greater integration and closer co-operation in a more unified total program for the Church.
3. The educational and spiritual values represented in printed materials are to be retained in a co-ordinated program.
4. The spiritual values of the Church are to be maintained and enhanced. Economy and efficiency in the work of the church, though not primary goals, are to be achieved to the fullest extent feasible and practicable.
5. Proposals of the Commission—in regard to changes in the organizational structure and methods of the agencies—shall have as their goal the maximum effectiveness of the total program of The Methodist Church. Criticism of existing practices shall be only for the attainment of constructive change.
6. The survey should propose the least changes which will accomplish the purposes of the survey, leaving to the new agencies the working out of details and further organizational streamlining.

To accomplish its given task the Commission, members and officers, and consultants have used a variety of methods.

Meetings of the entire Commission (one in 1948, two in 1949, two in 1950 and four in 1951) have been supplemented by ten meetings of the executive committee.

Church-wide Search for Facts and Opinions

Into the sessions of the Commission were funnelled the results of a thorough church-wide fact-finding survey, as well as the digested expressions of literally hundreds of the leaders of the church. The former material, presented to the Commission in 35 reports, now forms a mine of information concerning The Methodist Church as it functioned in the year 1949. (This source material now comprises ten good sized volumes of 2,593 pages).

Valuable information was obtained by: visits to all agencies and their annual meetings; conferences with all key agency officials; returned questionnaires (over 4,500 in all) from Bishops, General Conference delegates (1948), pastors, workers with youth, youth, Woman's Society officers, District Superintendents, agencies' staffs, certain Annual Conference committee chairmen; and innumerable interviews and consultations with laymen, officials and other important personnel relating to the work of The Methodist Church.

The Commission can justly claim that it has sought for information, facts and opinions from all sources and has been eager for an open to guidance from individual Methodists as well as officials.

The Commission Takes the Middle Way

In dealing with the organizational structure of the Church, after its thorough study, the Commission was faced with three courses of action. It might recommend: (1) no change at all and thereby please some sincere leaders of the church; (2) a complete and radical re-organization which might bring the maximum efficiency and economy; (3) the necessary revision of the existing structure. As will be seen in the following pages, the Commission chose the third course, or the middle way.

II. ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

PRESENT ORGANIZATION—PROPOSED GENERAL STRUCTURE

Present Organization Structure

The Methodist Church is a vast organization. In order to serve the needs of a total membership of nearly nine million, with a church-school membership of nearly six million and a Woman's Society of one and a half million, a complex system has been developed.

As noted earlier, at the time of unification a complete integration was impossible or unwise. All three uniting churches had grown rapidly, accepted the challenge of new opportunities and added organizational structures to meet the needs. Further expansion continued after unification and new agencies were created.

Number of Organizations at Present:

The Survey Commission found therefore a multiplicity of general agencies which included a total of 63 organizations: 9 general boards with 7 divisions; 21 commissions; 19 committees; and

7 other entities (not including the American Bible Society). These are shown on Charts I and II.

Weaknesses of Present

Organization — Overlapping:

Functional areas are not adequately defined or circumscribed; therefore, there is duplication and overlapping in activities of the autonomous agencies as they endeavor to reach the local church. Organizational overlapping which the Commission found may be summarized as follows:

1. A lack of co-ordination among the general boards and agencies is evident in the issuance of printed materials.
2. Seven boards or divisions, in addition to the Board of Publication, are engaged in publishing activities.
3. In addition to The Methodist Publishing

House, six agencies maintain service facilities for the distribution of literature.

4. Audio-visual materials—their editing, production, distribution and sale—involve nine agencies.

5. There is overlapping in news service and public relations.

6. Practically all general boards and agencies as independent organizational units, are interested in promoting their respective activities in local churches. Duplication of promotional efforts is a natural result.

7. Two organizations are concerned with the educational aspects of evangelism.

8. Four agencies have separate training program for lay leadership in the local church.

9. Wasteful and unnecessary separate field contacts on various levels—regional, state,

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THE METHODIST CHURCH SURVEY COMMISSION REPORT

(Continued from page 2)

Annual Conference, district or local—are maintained by many agencies. Consequently, the multiplicity of approaches is obvious.

10. The promotional unit set up for The Advance for Christ and His Church duplicates functions of existing organizations.

11. Ten general boards and agencies employ 14 staff personnel for work with the Central Jurisdiction.

12. Three agencies are involved in educational institutions.

13. Pastors' schools are sponsored by three organizations.

14. Eleven general boards and agencies employ 31 staff personnel for work with youth or students.

15. In foreign mission fields there is duplication of administration although there is consultation.

16. In home mission fields duplication is also apparent.

17. Two agencies deal with institutions for children and the aged and with hospitals.

18. Some duplication is evident in the fields of pensions and church extension.

19. Some interdenominational organizations receive support from several Methodist agencies; often the contribution of one agency is unknown to the others.

Basic Premises — New Organization

In working out the new proposals the Commission continually kept in mind these basic premises:

1. The organization should be economical and efficient without sacrificing effectiveness.

2. The bishops are responsible for the spiritual and temporal leadership of the total program. Within an area the bishop of the general agency is to assist in the total program.

3. The functions of each unit should be more clearly defined and limited.

4. Flexibility to permit change is essential.

5. Activities common to a field of service should be grouped together.

6. Essential functions should be continued and strengthened.

7. The number of agencies should be sufficient to perform all functions but few enough to permit effective co-ordination and administration.

8. A co-ordinating and long-range planning unit is needed between General Conferences.

9. The issuance of printed materials must be co-ordinated into a total unified process.

10. A centralized method for the determination of budgets of World Service agencies should be used.

11. The continuation of co-operation with other denominations is desired.

In the proposed plan it is believed these needs are met.

Proposed Organization Structure

As the chart (see Chart III) clearly shows there will be two types of organization: (1) the Councils and; (2) the Departments and Other Agencies.

Councils

Of the same type as the Council of Bishops and the Judicial Council (neither of which are included in the Survey) are the two following Councils:

1. Co-ordinating Council

The Co-ordinating Council, composed of 32 members*—bishops, 10 ministers, 16 lay persons—shall act within prescribed limits of authority and responsibility, by order of and under power granted by the General Conference.

A method for resolving any differences which may arise among and within general agencies is provided herein. Quadrennial and

*Based on 1950 church membership.

long-range emphases are formulated for General Conference consideration and approval. Consideration and correction of any overlapping and duplication in the activities of general agencies is to be handled by the Co-ordinating Council.

This Council should recommend, in consultation with the Council of Bishops and the Council on World Service and Finance, the number and timing of Special Days. Those Special Days involving general financial appeals should be authorized also by the Council on World Service and Finance.

2. Council on World Service and Finance

The name of the General Commission on World Service and Finance is changed to Council on World Service and Finance. The present functions are continued with emphasis on review of and recommendation to the General Conference regarding the budgets for administration, service and promotion expenses proposed by general agencies. The Council is authorized to require World Service agencies to follow uniform accounting classifications and procedures, to observe consistent policies and practices in the employment of personnel and to require that sound investment practices be followed. The Central Treasury will perform the accounting and bookkeeping function for those general agencies which are not large enough to have a full-time treasurer. The Council will conduct research studies and surveys, maintain a Personnel Registration Bureau (clearing center for persons seeking employment with general agencies), supervise the Statistical Bureau and operate the Transportation Bureau.

Departments

The following departments will be treated in separate sections of the summary:

1. Department of the Local Church
2. Department of Missions
3. Department of Christian Social Relations
4. Department of Cultivation and Publication

Non-Department Agencies

In addition to the departments, and outlined in this summary after the departments, are the following agencies:

1. Board of Educational Institutions
2. Board of Hospitals and Homes
3. Board of Pensions
4. Board of Trustees
5. Commission on Chaplains
6. Commission on Camp Activities
7. American Bible Society
8. National Council of the Churches of Christ in America
9. World Council of Churches

Proposals Applicable to all Departments and Boards

Each function within a Department is designated as a Board. In turn, where a Board function has natural subfunctions, the latter are identified, for organizational purposes, as Divisions within the Board.

Election of Members of Agencies

Lay and ministerial members of some agencies are elected by the Jurisdictional Conference; members of other agencies are elected by the General Conference. In general, members should be elected to a Division of a Board or to a Board (if the Board has no divisions). The Division members elect from among themselves those to serve as Board members. Likewise, Board members elect Department members from among themselves.

Limitation of Membership to One General Agency

Each minister, layman, laywoman, and youth member should be limited to membership in one Council or one Department (a person may have membership in one Division and one Board within one Department).

Correlation of Functions and Activities

This provision for Division, Board and Department membership, each as supervisory groups, continues the supervision by the membership in a relationship which is similar to that now present in the general agencies. Such Board and Department supervisory groups provide cor-

relation of related functions and activities within a Board and within a Department.

Staff Co-ordination

From the standpoint of staff, co-ordination is attained at both the Department and Board level by a Department or Board secretarial council—meeting from time to time and counseling together in the interest of correlation of activities. On a rotating basis, the members of the council elect a chairman each year.

Officers of Agencies

Officers of general agencies should be nominated and elected by the members as at present. The chairman should continue to function as the presiding officer and not in an administrative capacity. Although, quite properly, it has been the general practice to elect a bishop as chairman, this should not be a requirement. Some agencies may consider it advantageous to have as chairman a lay person or a minister with experience in a specialized field.

Annual Meeting and Assembly

The annual meetings of all general agencies should be held at the same time and at the same place. Separate business sessions of these general agencies should follow or precede an assembly or members of all agencies.

The assembly of members of all general agencies should provide each agency opportunity to present its program to all members. In this way the total program will become known to all members. This assembly should become a great inspirational, spiritual event in the life of the Church.

Consideration should also be given to holding a district superintendents' conference in conjunction with the mid-quadrannium assembly of agency members.

Reduction of Total Membership

The current total of 738 voting members of the general agencies is reduced by 151 persons or a 20.5 per cent decrease. (For recommended number of members for each agency, see table in Chapter III of Survey Report.)

Location of General Agencies

At present the principal locations of general agencies include five cities. Four other cities have at least one agency.

The Methodist Church should look forward to the eventual location of major general agencies within the central area bounded roughly by Chicago, St. Louis, Nashville and Cincinnati. In this area, each agency is accessible to the others by overnight travel.

DEPARTMENT OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

The Department of the Local Church, under the leadership of a Department Secretarial Council, should include all work relating to the aid of local churches in carrying on their programs. Its printed matter should be edited by the Board of Cultivation. The Department should have the following Boards:

- Board of Education
- Board of Evangelism
- Board of Lay Activities.

The Department and its boards should place great emphasis on developing program aids which are suitable for use by small churches as well as aids which are adapted to large churches. Over 11,000 (27½ per cent) of the 40,000 churches in Methodism in this country have a membership of 150 or less, and over 24,000 (60 per cent) churches have a membership of 300 or less. The program aids for such churches (which are both city and rural) vary widely from the needs of the 272 Methodist churches with a membership in excess of 2,000 (less than 1 per cent).

The Department should co-ordinate the activities of the three boards.

Board of Christian Education

The Board of Christian Education, with an Executive Secretary in charge, should, in general, carry on the present work of the Division of the Local Church. It should have a staff composed of specialists. The function of the present Inter-board Committee on Christian Vocations should be carried on by this Board.

This recommendation contemplates the discontinuance of the present Board of Education
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the opinions of the editors of the Arkansas Methodist.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE DATES

December 11, Forrest City District, Helena
December 12, Ft. Smith District, Clarksville
December 13, Jonesboro District, Tyrnza

Little Rock Conference

December 12, Arkadelphia, Arkadelphia First
Church
December 10, Monticello District, Warren
December 13, Hope District, De Queen

MRS. JESSIE JETT has been elected president of the Adult Class at Nettleton. Jewell Robbs will serve as secretary-treasurer.

MR. AND MRS. CARL LAMBERSON will be sponsors for the Methodist Youth Fellowship at Bay this year.

REV. J. E. COOPER, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Warren, was the speaker on Thanksgiving at the First Presbyterian Church, Warren.

REV. WILLIAM HIGHTOWER, pastor of the Pottsville Methodist Church, was the guest preacher at the evening service of the Atkins Methodist Church on Sunday, November 18.

REV. B. L. McSPADDEN, pastor of the Methodist Church of Trumann, was elected chairman of the newly-organized Ministerial Alliance of Trumann at a recent meeting.

REV. OTTO W. TEAGUE, pastor of the Lakeside Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, was the speaker at the meeting of the Pine Bluff Kiwanis Club on Wednesday, November 21.

DR. JAMES W. WORKMAN, chaplain at Ft. Roots, was the principal speaker at the annual Thanksgiving dinner of the Methodist Men's Club in Russellville on Wednesday evening, November 14. Edwin Dean is president of the club.

DR. C. M. REVES, district superintendent of the Conway District, was the guest speaker, Sunday evening, November 17, at Highland Methodist Church, Little Rock. Rev. W. L. Arnold is pastor.

REV. JOE H. ROBINSON, pastor at Strong, his daughter, Miss Billie Jo Robinson, and Miss Linda Nunnally attended the Crossett-Hamburg Sub-District meeting at Huttig on Monday night, November 19.

THE churches of Hazen held a joint Thanksgiving service at the First Methodist Church on Thanksgiving morning at 8:00 o'clock. Rev. E. O. Martindale, pastor of the First Baptist Church, preached the sermon.

REV. ROBERT B. MOORE, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Camden, was the guest speaker at the annual banquet of the Robert Moore Bible Class at Asbury Methodist Church in Little Rock Friday night, November 16. There were more than one hundred twenty present.

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

THE BOARD OF STEWARDS of the Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville, has a brief devotional talk at each meeting of the Board. The first talk was given at the October meeting by L. L. Baxter. Jasper Pyeatt was the speaker at the November meeting.

REV. RICHARD T. PERRY, pastor at Mabelvale, was the speaker at the vesper service at the First Methodist Church, Warren, on Sunday, November 25. Rev. J. E. Cooper, pastor, is having a series of vesper services on the "Christian Home and Family."

UNION THANKSGIVING services for all the churches of Strong were held at the First Methodist Church at Strong on Thursday, November 22. Rev. R. O. Ekurt, pastor of the First Baptist Church, brought the message for the morning.

REV. E. D. GALLOWAY, district superintendent of the Hope District, was the speaker at the Friday luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of DeQueen. Brother Galloway, a former pastor at DeQueen, spoke on his trip to Europe the past summer.

JAMES M. SEWELL, ministerial student at Hendrix College, and son of Rev. and Mrs. James R. Sewell, was the speaker at the seventh annual Thanksgiving service of the United Christian Youth Council of Greater Little Rock at Christ Episcopal Church, Little Rock.

VICTORY SUNDAY was observed at the Methodist Church of Forrest City on Sunday morning, November 18, which marked the climax of the \$25,000 drive for the building fund. Rev. Ethan Dodgen, district superintendent of the Forrest City District, preached at the 11:00 o'clock hour. Rev. Raymond L. Franks is pastor.

REV. AND MRS. CURTIS WILLIAMS of Carlisle were honored on Sunday, November 18, in a special Anniversary Day observance, the day being the first anniversary of Brother Williams' work as pastor of the Carlisle Methodist Church. The church has made splendid progress under his leadership.

MRS. T. H. TUCKER entertained members of the Board of Stewards and their wives on Friday, November 9, at the Lakeside Club with a turkey dinner. Twenty-six guests were present. Following the dinner, a business meeting of the Board was held presided over by the pastor, Rev. H. D. Womack.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE of The Methodist Church, Berryville, gave a chili supper to the membership of the church following the 5:00 o'clock vesper service on Sunday, November 18. This was done as an expression of gratitude for the support given by the congregation in the recent building project.

METHODIST IN TOWN AND COUNTRY, a report of the National Methodist Town and Country Conference at Sioux City, July 21-24, 1951, is off the press. The book is edited by Myron Merrill and is published by the Cornell College Press, Mount Vernon, Iowa. The price is \$1.25.

THE WESLEYAN BIBLE CLASS of the Marianna Methodist Church voted to clothe one of the children in the Methodist Children's Home in Little Rock for a year. Teacher of the class is Mrs. C. E. Yancey, Sr. Officers are Mrs. W. V. Hickerson, president; Mrs. Golda Shamo, vice-president, and Mrs. J. O. Payne, Sr., secretary.

MRS. O. E. JONES has been elected president of the Batesville Council of Church Women. Other officers are: Mrs. Hadley Jones, first vice-president; Mrs. Frank Wiggs, second vice-president; Mrs. McKinley Huddleston, third vice-president; Mrs. J. S. Sleeper, fourth vice-president; Mrs. George M. Evans, fifth vice-president, and Mrs. Orville Carter, secretary-treasurer.

UNION Thanksgiving services were held at the First Methodist Church, Corning, on Wednesday, November 21. Rev. A. W. Harris, pastor of

the First Methodist Church, presided, and the sermon was preached by Dr. L. B. Golden, pastor of the First Baptist Church. The choir of the First Methodist Church, assisted by members of the First Baptist choir brought the music for the service.

DRESLEY'S CHAPEL observed its annual harvest festival and Thanksgiving service on Wednesday evening, November 21. Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, secretary of the North Arkansas Conference Town and Country Commission, preached at the 11:00 o'clock hour. A basket dinner was served at noon, followed by a sale of the Lord's Acre products. The proceeds will go into the church building fund.

GEORGE KELL, third baseman for the Detroit Tigers of the American League, and native Arkansan, spoke to a meeting of the Faulkner County Sub-District of the Methodist Youth Fellowship at Vilonia on Monday evening, November 2. Mr. and Mrs. Kell were dinner guests of Rev. and Mrs. Maurice C. Webb in Conway before the meeting. Brother Webb is pastor of the Methodist Church of Vilonia.

DR. JOHN H. BUCHANAN of Birmingham, Alabama, was the guest speaker at the Methodist Men's meeting of the First Methodist Church, El Dorado, on Wednesday, November 21. Dr. Buchanan, a former pastor of the First Baptist Church of El Dorado, is now pastor of the Southside Baptist Church of El Dorado. E. R. Vansickle, president of Methodist Men, presided at the meeting.

MRS. A. B. HALTOM writes that she and her husband are moving to 127 North Cason Street, Henderson, Tennessee. She says: "Mr. Haltom has been ill for nearly two years and is in bed most of the time. He cannot walk at all now and has very little use of his hands. He would be so glad to hear from friends in Arkansas." Brother Haltom, retired minister, formerly served in the North Arkansas Conference.

SEVERAL HUNDRED members and friends of the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, attended Open House at the church Sunday afternoon, November 25, from 2 until 5:30, to inspect the recently completed New Educational Building and the renovated main church plant. An article regarding this building program was published in last week's issue. Dr. Aubrey G. Walton and Rev. J. Edwin Keith are pastors. The completion of this building program gives this church one of the most complete church plants in Methodism.

OAK GROVE SUNDAY SCHOOL, in the Batesville District, observed Thanksgiving and Harvest Home, Sunday, November 18, with a splendid program. The order of service, put out by the Town and Country Commission, was used in the worship service. In addition were suitable readings and recitations by the children and young people. The altar and pulpit were beautifully decorated with wild berries from the woods, nuts, large ears of yellow corn, pumpkins, potatoes and other products of the forest, field and garden. Rev. J. B. Stewart is pastor at Oak Grove.

DR. A. W. MARTIN of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, spoke on the Job of the Conference Town and Country Commission at the meeting of the Rural Fellowship which met previous to the National Town and Country Conference. Officers for the Fellowship were elected as follows: President, Dr. Herbert Stotts, Denver, Colorado; Vice-president, Alexander Nunn, Loachopoka, Alabama; Treasurer, Rev. Howard Dalton, Clarksburg, California; Recording Secretary, Rev. Charles Golden, Nashville, Tennessee; Membership Secretary, Rev. Marvin Judy, Gainsville, Missouri; Promotional Secretary, Rev. Clyde Rogers, Columbus, Ohio.

BISHOP MARTIN led in Dedicatory Services at the Methodist Church, Beebe, Sunday morn-

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ELECTED PRESIDENT OF METHODIST STUDENT WORKERS ASSOCIATION

The Rev. Sam Laird, religious life director at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., was elected president of the Methodist Student Workers Association at the group's biennial meeting October 30-November 2 in Dallas, Texas.

The meeting was held at Southern Methodist University in conjunction with a seminar on Christian Education sponsored jointly by the association and the Department of College and University Religious Life, Methodist Board of Education. The 150 delegates represented the board and 112 local student centers in 39 states.

Eight directors of Wesley Foundations were elected to other offices in the association. They are: the Rev. Wilbur Grose, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, vice president; the Rev. Jewell Posey, Southwest Texas State College, San Marcos, secretary; the Rev. Douglas Cook, Yale University, New Haven, Conn., treasurer, and members-at-large of the executive committee—the Rev. C. A. Davis, Bluefield State College, Bluefield, Va.; the Rev. Edward Price, University of Kansas, Lawrence; the Rev. Darold Hackler, Ohio State University, Columbus; the Rev. Earl Riddle, Oregon State College, Corvallis, and the Rev. Thaxton Springfield, University of Florida, Gainesville.

Principal seminar speakers were Bishop James C. Baker, Los Angeles; Dr. Arnold Nash, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Dr. Albert C. Outler of the SMU Perkins School of Theology; Dr. John O. Gross, executive secretary of the Division of Educational Institutions, Methodist Board of Education, Nashville, Tenn., and Dr. H. D. Bollinger and Dr. Harvey C. Brown, both of the board's Department of College and University Religious Life.

You wouldn't take a hammer to a television set that doesn't work, so why beat up a child that is much more delicately adjusted? — Dr. Hudson Jost, of Memphis, Quick.

INDIAN BANKER BUILDS HOSPITAL UNIT

A banker in India has donated the money for a new dental unit at the Clara Swain Hospital, Methodist medical institution in Bareilly, India. The building is now under construction. To be equipped with "nothing but the best," it will provide space for three dentists and three oral hygienists. Mr. Girish Kumar Kapoor gave approximately \$5,000 for the project as a memorial to his father, the founder of the Bareilly City Corporation Bank.

A dispensary was built last year with funds from another Indian, Mr. Kunwar Murli Manohar, in appreciation of services rendered members of his family.

Clara Swain Hospital was the first hospital in India for women and children. Since 1940 it has been a general hospital, and American Methodists are assisting financially through their program of *Advance for Christ and His Church*. Dr. Robert Petersen, the first Methodist dentist to go to India, is stationed at the Hospital. An additional missionary dentist is needed there.

CENTRAL CHURCH, MANILA, GOES MISSIONARY

Central Methodist Church in Manila, which was badly devastated by bombs and fire in World War II, and was rebuilt and its congregation reestablished in the new church only two years ago, has now undertaken the support of a new church in one of the housing developments on the outer edge of Manila. The church will be near the new \$10,000,000 veterans' hospital.

A property lot has been contributed by a member of Central Church for the development of the new project and a metal building is being purchased. This will provide temporary quarters for the new congregation. A student in the Union Theological Seminary (Manila), who is also a part-time member of the staff of Central Church, has now been appointed minister to the new congregation.

In addition to supporting this home missionary project, Central Church is contributing each month

GENESEE CONFERENCE BUILDS IN PAKISTAN

With a gift of over \$52,000, the Genesee Conference of the Methodist Church, in western New York, has oversubscribed by more than \$2,000 the amount promised for a new building at Raiwind Christian Institute in West Pakistan. The money, sent through the Board of Missions and Church Extension, goes toward construction costs of a new high school building as part of the "Advance for Christ and His Church" program.

Raiwind is a rural-bias school and reconstruction center, the only one of its kind for a Methodist community of 60,000 people. Every boy works two hours a day to help support the school. They study carpentry, bookbinding, gardening, weaving, poultry raising, religious education, mathematics, Urdu, and general subjects. There are special projects in building construction, irrigation, agriculture, animal husbandry, village improvement, and health.

The new building will house a chapel, science laboratory, library office, and twelve classrooms. Principal of the school is the Rev. Earle M. Rugg, D.D., of Farmington, N. Y., a missionary of the Methodist Church.

SECRET OF BIBLE STUDY IN FIVE SENTENCES

1. Study it through. Never begin a day without mastering a verse.
2. Pray it in. Never leave your Bible until the passage you have studied is a part of your very being.
3. Put it down. The thought God gives you, put it in the margin of your Bible or your notebook.
4. Work it out. Live the truth you get through all the hours of the day.
5. Pass it out. Seek to tell somebody what you have learned.—J. Wilbur Chapman

for the work of the Manila District, and contributing likewise to the support of Union Seminary, and of Mary Johnston Hospital in Manila.

Work is a condition of long life and happiness. — Christian Union Herald.

WORLD SERVICE DECLINE REDUCED BY OCTOBER GAINS

Increased giving to Methodism's World Service program in October reduced the over-all decrease for the first five months of the fiscal year to only \$18,135.39. Receipts for June through October this year came to \$2,123,168, a decrease of only .85% over the same period in 1950.

By comparison with receipts a year ago the monthly reports earlier this year have shown a marked decline, accumulating to nearly a ten per cent decrease by the end of September. October receipts amounted to \$721,117.06, an increase of \$137,425.56 over the October, 1950, income. This cut down the percentage of decrease from nearly ten per cent of September to less than one per cent at the end of October.

Dr. Thomas B. Lugg of Chicago, executive secretary and treasurer of the General Commission on World Service and Finance, issued the report. He pointed out that the decrease of .85% poses a real problem for the church's missionary and benevolence program because of an increase of 6.8% in the cost of living for personnel. The current decrease, though small, means that some work may need to be discontinued and no new work can be started, his report points out.

October receipts for the Advance for Christ and His Church came to \$355,151, bringing Advance receipts from June 1, 1948, to date up to \$10,149,298.68. Receipts for the 1951 Week of Dedication rose to \$878,529.20. Offerings for Food Relief through Oct. 31 came to \$132,335.72, and Fellowship of Suffering receipts for the past five months totalled \$126,849.04.

INDIA GENERAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Delegates to the General Conference of 1952 have been elected as follows by three annual conferences of India: Bombay Conference—the Rev. James K. Mathews, ministerial; Miss I. B. Childs, lay. Bengal Conference—the Rev. P. N. Das, and Mr. A. B. Singh. Delhi Conference—the Rev. P. C. Balaram, and Mrs. J. V. Walters.

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

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ing, November 25, when the new church plant at Beebe was dedicated. This building program, begun in 1949, was completed this year and the final payments on the debt were made recently. Rev. Coy E. Whitten, Searcy District Superintendent, Rev. Virgil Hanks, former pastor, now living in Dallas, Texas, and Rev. W. J. LeRoy, former pastor, now living in Fort Smith, and Dr. Hugh Garrett, Beebe layman, were present and participated in the services. Rev. Floyd G. Villines, Jr., is the pastor. A more complete account of the building program will be given in an early issue.

BISHOP MARTIN delivered the dedicatory sermon and led in services of dedication of the new Educational Building of The Methodist Church, Cabot, Rev. C. W. Good, pastor, on Sunday evening, November 25. He was assisted in the service by Marvin Parks, Cabot Methodist layman who presented the building in behalf of the church trustees, Rev. Coy E. Whitten, Searcy District Superintendent, and the pastor, Brother Good. The building was constructed in 1948 and the balance of the small debt was recently paid. Preceding the service the membership of the church enjoyed a fellowship dinner in the new Educational Building. A fuller account of the service will be published in the future.

THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE A MISTAKE

(Continued from page 1)

stood that it was not raised by the Protestant church. The President has made this an issue to be decided by the next Congress. The supporters of the idea will find a united and alarmed Protestantism standing with a determined and practically a unanimous opposition to the proposal. It may convince even the President that he made a mistake in judging general public opinion on the question.

Let no one brand this action on the part of Protestantism as religious intolerance. It is not a fight of Protestantism against Catholicism. It is a fight to preserve the rights of all religions. It would be just as vigorously opposed by the rest of Protestantism if the President had appointed an ambassador to some great Protestant denomination. In that event it is quite probable that the Catholic church, also, would join in the protest. Our national government must be impartial in its relations with all churches.

MUST ARKANSAS BE A GAMBLING CENTER?

(Continued from page 1)

thankful for the positive stand Governor McMath has taken in the matter and should give him the unstinted, wholehearted support he deserves in his determination to prevent another gambling center in Arkansas.

PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES

A Commentary on "The International Sunday School Lessons", published annually. Edited by Dr. Wilbur M. Smith; price, \$2.75.

"Peloubet's" is one of the best helps that one can secure for the study and teaching of "The International Sunday School Lessons" for the following reasons:

1. In brief form, at the beginning of each lesson, it gives an outline of the entire lesson and not merely of the text printed in the Sunday school quarterlies. This enables a teacher to keep in mind the general trend of a whole unit of lessons.

2. The maps and the pictures contained in "Peloubet's" enables one to get a better mental vision of the places mentioned in the lessons and the conditions under which people lived at that time.

3. The scholarship of the commentators quoted in "Peloubet's" is of the highest order. They accept at face value the miraculous and the supernatural. They explain the Bible and do not try to reason it out of existence. They avoid the extremes in both directions. They are neither rabid fundamentalists nor modernists.

4. "Peloubet's" is so arranged that teachers in various age groups, who are using "The International Bible Lessons", can get help from it.—H. O. Bolin

In 1945, a total of 11,877 newspapers and 5,880 periodicals were being published in the United States.

THE METHODIST CHURCH SURVEY COMMISSION REPORT

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as an active organizational unit. The Editorial Division becomes the Church School Publications function in the Board of Publications (Department of Cultivation and Publication). The Division of the Local Church becomes the Board of Christian Education in the Department of the Local Church. The Division of Educational Institutions becomes the Board of Educational Institutions.

Board of Evangelism

The Board of Evangelism, under the leadership of an Executive Secretary, should continue the activities of the Board of Evangelism relating to the development and promotion of the spirit of evangelism and to carrying on evangelistic missions.

Board of Lay Activities

Under the leadership of an Executive Secretary, the Board of Lay Activities should continue to be concerned with all forms of lay work in the local church. This will include training for leadership, stewardship, fellowship, speaking and lay preaching as well as finances, benevolences and boys' work. There should be co-operative integration of men's work and women's work in the total program of lay activities in the local church.

The three Boards, after consultation with the executive secretaries, should jointly nominate for election by the Board of Cultivation, an Associate Secretary for Promotion who would serve the three boards. This Associate should be located with the Department of the Local Church and should have such staff as the budget of the Division of Promotion provides.

DEPARTMENT OF MISSIONS

The name of the Board of Missions and Church Extension should be changed to Department of Missions. The present corporate entity should be continued.

The function of this general agency should be primarily co-ordination of missionary activities. Responsibility for its present function of education and cultivation should be transferred to the proposed Department of Cultivation and Publication under a co-operative relationship which is defined below.

The Department of Missions should have three Boards:

- Board of World Missions
- Board of National Missions
- Woman's Board of Christian Service.

Each Board within its assigned functions and responsibilities should carry on its administrative activities. The Department should be an overall co-ordinator of the policies and the activities of its Boards. The Department should not ratify in business sessions the decisions of its respective Boards. Within its area of responsibility, each Board should make its own decisions. The Department should consider and decide on matters involving co-ordination of activities of its Boards, and differences between Boards, if any should arise.

A Department Secretarial Council, composed of the Secretaries of the two Boards and the President of the Woman's Board of Christian Service (or a designated substitute), with the chairmanship rotating annually, should assist in co-ordinating the activities of the Department.

Associate Secretary of Promotion

The Board of World Missions and the Board of National Missions, after consultation with their executive secretaries, should jointly nominate for election by the Board of Cultivation, an Associate Secretary for Promotion. This Associate Secretary should be located with the Department of Missions and have such staff as the budget of the Division for Promotion provides.

The Associate Secretary for Promotion and his staff should have the following functions:

1. To serve the Division of Promotion of the Board of Cultivation as a liaison editorial staff with the Board of World Missions and the Board of National Missions. From the two agencies this staff should provide program material for the proposed monthly program journal and for pamphlets, leaflets and booklets to be distributed as part of

John Wesley

Speaking in "A Plain Account of The People Called Methodists"—1748

Some objected, "There were no such meetings when I came into the society first: and why should there now?" I do not understand these things, and this changing one thing after another continually." It was easily answered: It is a pity but they had been at first. But we knew not then either the need or the benefit of them. Why we use them, you will readily understand, if you read over the rules of the society.

That with regards to these little prudential helps we are continually changing one thing after another, is not a weakness or fault, as you imagine, but a peculiar advantage which we enjoy. By this means we declare them all to be merely prudential not essential, not of divine institution. We prevent, so far as in us lies, their growing formal or dead. We are always open to instruction: willing to be wiser every day than we were before, and to change whatever we can change for the better.

the total promotional program.

2. To perform a promotional function, in relation to summer missions conferences and district institutes, and annual conference visitation; and carrying on other co-operative relationships in the promotion of missions.

3. To co-operate with the Woman's Board of Christian Service in arranging summer missions conferences and district institutes and in the preparation of promotional literature.

Recruitment of Missionaries

It is expected that the Joint Committee on Missionary Personnel will continue to co-ordinate the recruitment of missionaries for the Boards of the Department receiving the co-operation of general agencies, particularly the Department of the Local Church.

Board of World Missions

(Department of Missions)

The name of the Division of Foreign Missions should be changed to the Board of World Missions.

The function of the Board, under the direction of an Executive Secretary, should be the administration of overseas mission activities. (Territories of the United States are not included in overseas mission fields.)

Responsibility for education and cultivation

The Board of World Missions should not have the primary responsibility for education and cultivation in the promotion of overseas missions. Its printed matter should be edited by the Board of Cultivation. Through the Associate Secretary for Promotion as outlined above, the Board should provide resource material.

Board of National Missions

(Department of Missions)

The function of the Board of National Missions, under the leadership of an Executive Secretary, should be the administration of home mission and church extension activities.

Responsibility for education and cultivation

The Board of National Missions should not have the primary responsibility for education and cultivation in the promotion of home missions. Its printed matter should be edited by the Board of Cultivation. Through the Associate Secretary for Promotion, the Board should provide resource material.

Changes

To avoid conflict the present department designations within the Board of National Missions should become staff functions.

Town and Country Work

During the quadrennium, 1952-1956, a Staff for Town and Country Work should continue to function under the Board of National Missions. During the quadrennium, however, the Depart-

ment of the Local Church and the Board of National Missions should work out ways and means of integrating the present Town and Country Work with the activities of the Department of the Local Church.

Church Extension

Two separate offices of the Section of Church Extension should be merged into one office in the interest of maximum economy and co-ordination.

The work of the present Department of Finance and Field Service should be continued under a Bureau of Finance and Field Service. Similarly the Office of Church Architecture should be continued as a Bureau.

Woman's Board of Christian Service

(Department of Missions)

The name of the Woman's Division of Christian Service should be changed to Woman's Board of Christian Service. It should continue to be a Board of the Department of Missions.

Methods for better integration

The Woman's Board is urged to study methods for better integration with other organizational units of the Church at all levels. The Church should work toward eventual integration in the administration of world missions; there should be a similar integration in the field of home missions.

Co-operation with other general agencies

1. The Woman's Board will continue to edit and distribute its literature. It should have a liaison representative located with the Division of Promotion of the Board of Cultivation to maintain regular two-way communications as plans and program and to attain co-ordination and co-operation.

2. **With the Methodist Publishing House.** The Woman's Board and The Methodist Publishing House should work toward merging their separate service facilities for the shipment of literature.

3. **With the Department of the Local Church** as follows:

- a. With the Board of Christian Education in youth work and Christian vocations
- b. With the Board of Evangelism
- c. With the Board of Lay Activities—so that the work of lay men and women in the local church will be correlated and integrated.
- d. In study courses for men and women.

4. **With the Department of Christian Social Relations** and especially with the proposed Board of Social and Economic Relations.

5. **With the Board of Educational Institutions** in youth and student work and in connection with the educational institutions related to the Woman's Board.

6. **With the Board of Hospitals and Homes** in connection with such institutions related to the Woman's Board.

7. **In the local church,** the Woman's Society of Christian Service should occupy the same co-operative relationship to the official board and the quarterly conference as that of other organizational units.

8. **With the Co-ordinating Council.**

8. **With the Council on World Service and Finance**—in reporting its support of interdenominational agencies.

Overseas Relief

To the extent that the work of overseas relief is continued, its administration should be supervised by the Board of World Missions and the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief should be discontinued.

This proposal contemplates that the present activities in overseas relief will be carried on, that the Board of Cultivation will promote the raising of funds for overseas relief purposes, that the function of overseas relief will be supported by the same funds as at present, and that such funds shall not be chargeable against the budget or ratio of the Board of World Missions.

The Council of Bishops and the Council on World Service Finance would be authorized during the quadrennium 1952-1956 to decide whether the specific work of the present Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief is still needed, to

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terminate the activity and to transfer its assets to such agency as they may decide.

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL RELATIONS

There should be a Department of Christian Social Relations with special concern for temperance, world peace and other social and economic issues, under the leadership of a Department Secretarial Council. The printed matter of the three boards should be edited by the Board of Cultivation. It should have the following three Boards, each with an Executive Secretary in charge:

- Board of Temperance
- Board of World Peace
- Board of Social and Economic Relations.

Board of Temperance

It should carry on the duties and responsibilities of the present Board of Temperance.

Board of World Peace

It should carry on the duties and responsibilities of the present Commission on World Peace.

Board of Social and Economic Relations

It should be the function of this board:

1. To make available to the Church membership resource material concerning social and economic relations and to respond to requests for information and guidance.
2. To lead in and encourage the implementation of the Social Creed of the Church.
3. To co-operate with other general agencies in conducting service projects where Methodist youth may render Christian service and express their Christian convictions in pioneering and other endeavors.
4. To work with other general agencies in stimulating Christian social thinking and action within the Church. This should include but not be limited to the work of this field now being carried on by the present Director of Social and Industrial Relations of the Division of Home Missions and Church Extension. The present Department of Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities of the Woman's Board of Christian Service should work co-operatively with this board.

Associate Secretary of Promotion

The Department boards, after consultation with their executive secretaries, should jointly nominate to the Board of Cultivation an Associate Secretary for Promotion who would serve as liaison editor between the Board of the Department and the Division of Promotion. This person would supply material relating to such agencies for the monthly program journal and for pamphlets, leaflets and booklets to be distributed as a part of the total promotional program.

Co-ordination

A Department Secretarial Council, composed of the Executive Secretaries of the three Boards, with the chairmanship rotating annually, should co-ordinate the activities of the department.

DEPARTMENT OF CULTIVATION AND PUBLICATION

A Review of the Inadequacies of the Present Organization

Noted earlier were the weaknesses and the overlapping of the total organization. Those pertaining to Cultivation and Promotion should again be summarized:

1. Practically all the general boards and agencies, as independent and autonomous units, are interested in promoting their respective activities in the local churches. Wasteful duplication of promotional efforts is a natural result.
2. A lack of co-ordination in the issuance of printed materials.
3. Seven boards or divisions, in addition to the Board of Publications, are engaged in publishing activities.

4. In addition to The Methodist Publishing House, six agencies maintain service facilities for the distribution of literature.

5. There is overlapping in news service and public relations.

6. Audio-visual materials involve nine agencies.

The Proposed Plan

In order to co-ordinate the cultivation, promotion, information, public relations and publication activities now carried on separately in the present general agencies, there should be established a Department of Cultivation and Publication with a threefold responsibility: (1) administering the total cultivation, promotion, and publicity program of the Church; and (2) editing books, publications, and periodicals; and (3) printing, publishing and distribution activities.

The Department of Cultivation and Publication should include three Boards:

1. Board of Cultivation
2. Board of Publications
3. Board of The Methodist Publishing House.

Department Council

The Chairman of the Council of the Board of Cultivation, the Chairman of the Editorial Council of the Board of Publications, and the General Manager of The Methodist Publishing House should form a Department Secretarial Council for co-operation in the work and activities of the Department.

I. Board of Cultivation

(Department of Cultivation and Publication)

The work of this Board is indicated by its divisions:

a. *Division of Devotional Literature*, with an Editor in charge, should have responsibility for "The Upper Room" and other devotional literature. The present editorial, printing and distribution policies of "The Upper Room" should be continued. The Editor of "The Upper Room" should be nominated by the Board of Evangelism.

b. *Division of Promotion*—(literature and activities), under the leadership of a Director, should have the responsibility for editing all printed materials to be used for promotion and cultivation by all agencies and for general promotion; the latter has to do primarily with world service programs, special days and any special program of quadrennial emphasis.

To provide adequate editorial service for general agencies not located in the same city as the Board of Cultivation, enough editors of the Board should be located in those cities to maintain liaison with agencies situated there and to provide editorial service. These editors should be nominated by the agencies and should serve as an editorial and promotion staff for the agencies as Associate Secretaries for Promotion. (See "Section III, Printed Materials and General Promotion" in this Summary for further information.)

c. *Division of films, Radio and Television*, with a Director in charge, should have responsibility for the editorial preparation and the production of audio-visual materials. The division should determine the acceptability of all audio-visual materials before being used by any agency.

d. *Division of Methodist Information and Public Relations*, under the leadership of a Director, should gather news of public interest concerning Methodist activities and opinion and disseminate it through the secular press, the religious press, radio and television.

2. Board of Publications

(Department of Cultivation and Publication)

The work of this Board is indicated in the following functions all under the direction of the Board:

a. *The Book Editor*, under the supervision of an advisory committee, should have the primary responsibility of editing or arranging for the editing of books for publication.

b. *Church School Literature*, as outlined by the Curriculum Committee, should be edited by the Editor of Church School Publications, under the supervision of an advisory committee. The Editor should be nominated by the Board of Christian Education of the Department of the Local Church.

The Curriculum Committee should be com-

posed of an equal number of members from the Board of Publications and the Board of Christian Education, three bishops, the Book Editor, the Editor of Church School Publications and the General Manager of The Methodist Publishing House.

c. *A Periodical for Pastors* to serve the professional needs of pastors. (For further description, see Section III of Summary.)

d. *A Monthly Church Magazine* with timely appeal. (For further description, see Section III of Summary.)

3. Board of The Methodist Publishing House

This Board, under the direction of a General Manager, should supervise printing, publishing and distributing activities.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL AGENCIES

Board of Educational Institutions

There should be a Board of Educational Institutions which combines, in a Division of General Education and a Division of Ministerial Education, the work and activities of the present Division of Educational Institutions and Commissions on Ministerial Training as well as concern for theological schools. Its printed material should be edited by the Board of Cultivation.

The Division of General Education, under the leadership of the Executive Secretary of the Board, should have a staff qualified to carry on its activities with colleges and universities and work with students in colleges and universities and Wesley Foundations.

An advisory relationship to all school-owned, supervised or affiliated with The Methodist Church should be maintained.

The Division of General Education should have a co-operative relationship with the Board of Christian Education in several activities.

The Division of Ministerial Education, under the leadership of a Director and an Associate Director, should be concerned with the interests of theological schools and have the responsibility for the program of in-service training, the Conference Course of Study and Pastors' Schools (present functions of the Commission on Ministerial Training).

The University Senate should be closely allied with this Board.

The Association of Methodist Historical Societies should be related to the Board of Educational Institutions.

Board of Hospitals and Homes

There should be a Board of Hospitals and Homes, under the direction of an Executive Secretary, serving as an advisory and correlating agency for such Methodist institutions—hospitals, homes for the aged, homes for children, and homes for youth—located in the United States and its territories. Printed matter of this Board should be edited by the Board of Cultivation.

Board of Pensions

The Board of Pensions should have a single headquarters office under the leadership of an Executive Secretary, which should have the responsibility to perform the functions of the present Illinois Corporation and Missouri Corporation. The three corporations should be continued. Pension fund obligations to Annual Conferences should be recognized. Printed matter of this Board should be edited by the Board of Cultivation.

Commission on Chaplains

The Commission on Chaplains should continue to function under the guidance and general supervision of the Council of Bishops, continuing its duties and responsibilities with respect to chaplains in military service and federal institutions.

Commission on Camp Activities

The Council of Bishops should continue to plan for the service to military camps under the leadership of the Commission on Camp Activities.

Other Agencies to Be Noted

- Board of Trustees
- American Bible Society
- National Council of Churches of Christ in America
- World Council of Churches

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THE METHODIST CHURCH SURVEY COMMISSION REPORT
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III. PRINTED MATERIALS AND GENERAL PROMOTION

PROMOTIONAL LITERATURE

Periodicals, Bulletins, Pamphlets and Leaflets of the General Boards and Agencies.

The lack of adequate co-ordination in the issuance of printed materials directed to pastors and church members by the various agencies is an outstanding weakness in The Methodist Church. As previously pointed out, it was one of the principal reasons for the authorization of this survey.

Present Situation

Periodicals of the General Boards and Agencies include:

- The Christian Advocate
- The Central Christian Advocate
- The Pastor
- The Circuit Rider
- Religion in Life
- World Outlook
- The Pastor's Journal
- The Methodist Woman
- motive
- Christian Education Magazine
- The Upper Room
- The Upper Room Pulpit
- Shepherds
- The Methodist Layman
- The Voice
- Power } (National Conference of

Concern } Methodist Youth)

For the fiscal year 1948-1949 the general boards and agencies spent for periodicals, not including church-school literature, the sum of \$1,946,682. Expenses relating directly to these periodicals exceeded receipts by \$205,136.

Bulletins of various kinds, numbering 34 in all, issued by the general boards and agencies in 1948-1949 cost \$87,595.

Pamphlets, booklets and leaflets issued by

the general boards and agencies (not including The Advance) for the year 1948-1949 numbered 421. Pieces printed totaled 43,051,816. In addition to these total figures, The Advance for Christ and His Church program issued 24 pieces with the quantity totaling 11,597,631.

For these pamphlets, booklets and leaflets, the net costs after crediting receipts from sales were \$585,679 for 1948-1949. In addition, the Crusade for Christ program paid \$58,595 in the same year for this class of printed materials. Similarly The Advance for Christ and His Church program spent \$320,577.

Combined total net cost figures for printed materials of all three classes in 1948-1949, after crediting receipts from sales, for the boards and agencies and the two special programs mentioned were \$1,258,441.

Recommendations

(For a picture of the co-ordination of printed materials by Department of Cultivation and Publication, see Chart IV.)

1. Monthly Promotion Journal

There should be a monthly periodical for pastors and church leaders designed to serve as a program and promotion journal covering the varied interests represented by the general agencies.

Instead of each general board and agency issuing separate materials, this periodical should contain in a co-ordinated way the combined program and the promotional literature of the general agencies.

Because of its promotional nature this periodical should be distributed without charge. The cost should be met from World Service funds.

This periodical should replace "The Pastor's Journal", "Christian Education Magazine", "Shepherds", "The Methodist Layman", "The

Voice", and "The Church School". Practically all bulletins and leaflets now being issued by the general boards and agencies separately should be incorporated into this periodical.

It should completely eliminate separate general mailings of promotional letters, bulletins, pamphlets and reports to all pastors and other church leaders.

For the most part, annual reports of general agencies should appear in this journal.

This monthly should contain informational material from "The Methodist Woman" for pastors and church leaders generally.

The periodical should include information, feature articles, inspirational material, promotional aids, and selected news items of interest to church leaders regarding the programs of the general agencies.

Savings would exceed \$300,000 annually.

The net cost figure for the year 1948-1949 (fiscal year for publications of the nature considered for inclusion within the pages of the program journal) totaled \$665,574.

Deducting \$100,000 for World Service promotion through leaflets, and \$50,000 for free pamphlets, leaflets, and booklets, and \$175,000 for printing, postage, mailing, editorial, and office expenses for the program journal, an estimated total of \$319,855 would be saved annually by the general agencies in eliminating their separate promotional mailings and combining their material within the pages of the monthly promotion journal.

2. Periodical for Pastors

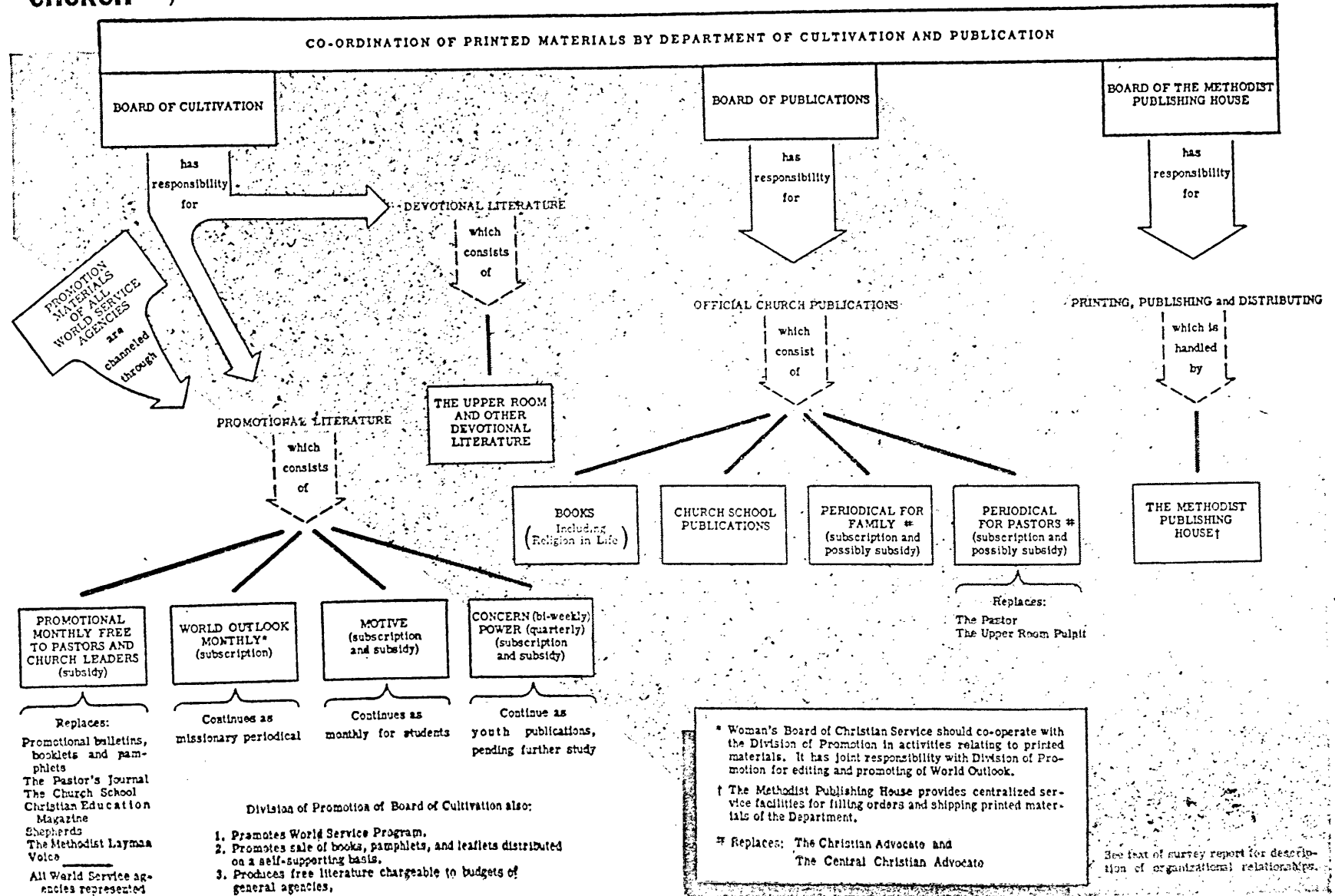
There should be one monthly periodical designed to serve the professional needs of pastors.

This periodical, or trade journal, should incorporate the devotional and technical aids to pastors currently contained in "The Pastor", "The Pastor's Journal" and "The Upper Room Pulpit".

(Continued on page 9)

THE METHODIST CHURCH } PROPOSED CO-ORDINATION OF PRINTED MATERIALS

CHART IV.



THE METHODIST CHURCH SURVEY COMMISSION REPORT

(Continued from page 8)

This publication should be distributed on a subscription basis. The features of "The Christian Advocate" and "The Central Christian Advocate" of interest to pastors should be incorporated in this monthly publication.

3. Monthly Church Magazine for Family

There should be one monthly general church publication containing news and sufficient variety of articles to interest all members of the family—children, youth, young adults and older people—and offered at a modest subscription price.

This publication should have broad distribution sufficiently attractive in appearance and total content to build up a circulation of around 1,000,000 subscribers. With this circulation, which would reach approximately one-half of the Methodist families in this country, it should be possible to make the publication self-supporting through advertising and subscription income.

4. Religion in Life

"Religion in Life" should be continued as a subsidized quarterly publication because of its cultural, religious character and because it fills a place not covered by any other publication. The Book Editor should continue to be the editor of the quarterly.

The four publications indicated above, except for the monthly promotion journal of the Division of Promotion, should be edited by the Board of Publications and published by The Methodist Publishing House.

5. World Outlook

Responsibility for editing and promoting "World Outlook" should be placed jointly in the Division of Promotion and the Woman's Board of Christian Service

It should be continued as a missionary journal. The time might come when the functions and features of "World Outlook" should be transferred with parts going into each of the three

proposed monthly periodicals but for a period, it appears wise to continue it as separate publication.

6. The Christian Home

Should be continued as a separate publication.

7. Christian Action and Highroad

Consideration should be given to the feasibility of combining these two into one publication for youth.

8. Workshop and Workers for Youth

Consideration should be given to combining these two into one publication for youth workers.

9. Youth and Student Publications

"Power" and "Concern", the publications of the National Conference of Methodist Youth, and "motive", the publication for students, should be planned and produced in co-operation with the Division of Promotion.

10. Other Publications

In addition, the Division of Promotion should edit the following:

a. Leaflets promoting World Service giving, paid for by World Service funds.

b. Pamphlets offered for sale on a self-supporting basis or subsidized by the Division.

c. Pamphlets and booklets issued free on behalf of the general agencies and subsidized from the limited budgets of the general agencies for free literature. This literature should be distributed through the centralized shipping facilities.

There are 41 special Sundays or weeks (not including World Service Sunday each month). In connection with seven of these special emphasis, a church-wide financial appeal is recommended on specific dates; there are also six appeals for which there is no fixed date—or 13 during the year. With a World Service appeal monthly, the yearly total is 25.

Recommendations

The proposed Co-ordinating Council, in consultation with the Council of Bishops and the Council of World Service and Finance, should recommend to the General Conference the number and the timing of special days to be observed on a church-wide basis. Likewise, special days involving general financial appeals should be authorized by the Council on World Service and Finance. Provision is also made for emergency situations.

Combining and Incorporation of Special Days and Weeks

Insofar as practicable the emphasis, which special days signify, should be incorporated into the regular on-going program of the Church. Consideration should be given to combining Commitment day and Student Day with Student Recognition Day. In addition, such emphasis as National Week of Visitation Evangelism, National Week of Finding Prospects, National Non-Resident Transfer Week, and United Week of Visitation Evangelism could be integrated into the regular evangelistic work in local churches without trying to attain national observance at the same time.

Reduction of National Financial Appeals

Special national financial appeals, beyond World Service giving, should be reduced to a minimum. In actual practice what appear to be mandatory special financial appeals are disregarded by many churches.

By increasing the emphasis upon the regular World Service program of benevolent giving and by cultivating support in proportion to personal

(Continued on page 10)

GENERAL PROMOTION

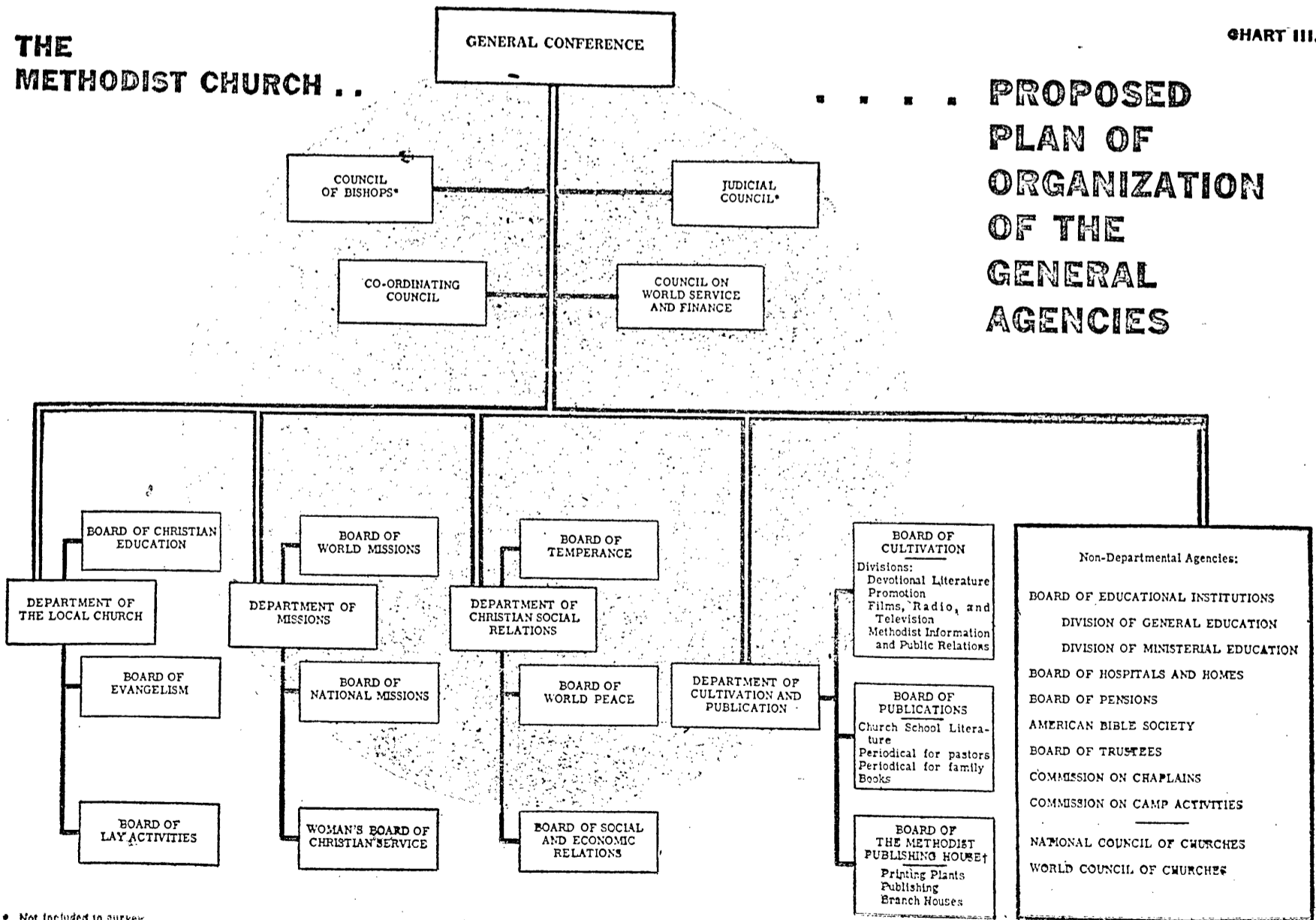
Special Days and Financial Appeals

As a part of the program of promotion and cultivation, certain Sundays or weeks in the year are designated for special emphasis. Most of them are on the church-wide basis. Some are fixed by each Annual Conference. These special Sundays or weeks are promoted by the general board or agency concerned.

THE METHODIST CHURCH . . .

PROPOSED PLAN OF ORGANIZATION OF THE GENERAL AGENCIES

CHART III.



* Not included in survey
 † Provides centralized service facilities for filling and shipping orders for printed materials.

THE METHODIST CHURCH SURVEY COMMISSION REPORT

(Continued from page 9)
income and value of the dollar, without the competition of multiple financial appeals, it is

reasonable to expect the level of total giving to The Methodist Church on the part of its constituency will rise significantly.

Manuals

There should be separate manuals for pas-

tors, for district superintendents, and for bishops. These should contain information helpful to them in planning and carrying on their activities and in understanding the scope of their responsibilities.

IV. PERSONNEL

Personnel Policies and Practices

At present, in regard to personnel policies and practices, each general board and agency may act without reference to others, whether located in the same city or not. There is a complete lack of uniformity.

The general recommendation is that agencies of The Methodist Church should adopt and observe uniform personnel policies as rapidly as feasible. Other recommendations cover: job descriptions and specifications; employment of specialists for certain positions; employment of retired personnel; and placing responsibility on the Council on World Service and Finance for coordination of the attainment of these recommendations.

Staff Personnel Requirements

Present Staff—General Boards and Agencies

As of July, 1949, the general boards and agencies employed 893 people, excluding some maintenance personnel for buildings, 1,586 employees of The Methodist Publishing House, and the eight employees of the National Conference of Methodist Youth.

Choices for General Conference Decision

Under the recommended plan of organization of the general agencies of The Methodist Church there are two possible points of view of courses

of action (the second of these has alternatives) with respect to the staff personnel requirements of the proposed general agencies.

The two possible courses of action are:

1. Maintain the present level of employed personnel, as of the 1948-1952 quadrennium. This would mean that the present personnel should be regrouped according to the proposed agencies.

2. Reduce the total number of employees on one of two basis:

a. A moderate reduction could be made under the recommended plan of organization and at the same time the present activities of the general boards could be carried on.

b. A maximum reduction would result in the minimum number of personnel which could carry on the activities of the general agencies.

Estimates of the approximate number of personnel, of salary costs (based on 1949 salary levels), and savings which would result from the possible levels of personnel outlined in the preceding paragraphs are:

	Number of Personnel	Salary Expense	Savings
Present level	979	\$2,800,000	
Moderate reduction	812	2,300,000	\$500,000
Maximum reduction	678	1,800,000	920,000

Working papers showing the details related to these groupings are in the hands of the Gen-

eral Commission on World Service and Finance.

Advantages of each course of action

1. Maintain present level of employed personnel.

This should provide under the recommended plan of organization a greatly expanded program of Christian activity by the general agencies with no relative increase in costs over the 1948-1952 quadrennium.

2. Reduce total number of employees.

Moderate reduction in number of personnel would make available for other World Service causes the sum of \$500,000.

Maximum reduction in number of personnel would make available for other World Service causes the sum of \$920,000.

General Conference Choice to be Guide

One of these points of view or courses of action should be approved by the General Conference and serve as the guide to general agencies and the Council on World Service and Finance in arranging the reorganization which is adopted by the General Conference. The 1952-1956 quadrennium would be the period of gradual transition under either choice.

The Commission believes that whichever choice is made by the General Conference will mean greater benefits from the use of World Service funds.

V. CONCLUSION

Other Important Recommendations

Finances

The recommendations in this field include: Uniform accounting procedure. Standard provisions and rates applicable to annuity contracts.

Management of investments.

Defined authority of the Council on World Service and Finance in relation to the finances of the various agencies. This was done in the interest of efficiency and economy as well as effectiveness.

The long range objective suggested—a consolidated treasury function for all general agencies.

Interdenominational Co-operation

Thirty-three interdenominational agencies are at present supported by 25 agencies of The Methodist Church.

The recommendations call for: (1) a consolidation of financial support; (2) a limitation in Methodist agency staff member participation; and (3) the setting up of an Interdenominational Co-operation Fund, separate from World Service, for the support of interdenominational agencies, not including the American Bible Society, which remains a World Service agency.

Continuing Predecessor Corporations

There are 38 predecessor corporations of three types which are continuing largely for legal reasons.

In the interest of economy, simplification of administration, and co-ordination, five steps which predecessor corporations should take are outlined. Many of these continuing corporations have already taken these steps. Others should take them. Also indicated are the agencies to which responsibility should be given for bringing about compliance with the requirements.

Installation of Survey Recommendations

Legislation which would be required to make

the survey recommendations effective is a part of the Survey Report to the 1952 General Conference for its consideration and action.

The 1952-1956 quadrennium would be a period of transition in which changes approved by the 1952 General Conference are made. During this transition period both the Council on World Service and Finance and the Co-ordinating Council should have special powers of determination in keeping with the actions of the 1952 General Conference to facilitate compliance with such actions.

The 1952-53 year would be the time of adjustment in which general agencies implement the recommendations regarding organization, location, accounting classifications, investment policies, personnel policies, printed materials and the regrouping of personnel.

A reserve of World Service funds should be established. This would result from a proposed limitation of budgets of World Service agencies for 1952-1953 in regard to expenditures for printed materials. From this reserve necessary expenses of adjustment would be paid.

New Plan to Function in 1953-1954

Budgets and allocations of the World Service general agencies, for the year 1953-1954 and following, are to be determined by the Council on World Service and Finance in accordance with the plan of organization and other recommendations adopted by the 1952 General Conference.

General Oversight over Installation

The Council on World Service and Finance should have general oversight over matters relating to installation of the changes recommended by the survey and approved by the 1952 General Conference. Appeals may be made to the Co-ordinating Council.

Final Word—Further Study

The recommendations in the report do not in any sense exhaust all of the opportunities for

improvements and economies in organization structure, and in relationships and functioning of general agencies of The Methodist Church.

The 1952-1956 quadrennium allows a period of time for the general agencies to make the adjustments, to work out co-operative relationships and to introduce refinements in functioning. The 1952 General Conference should ask the general agencies to study their respective fields of activity during the 1952-1956 quadrennium and to recommend to the 1956 General Conference further economies and improvements in their total work.

"A Peculiar Advantage Which We Enjoy"

As early as 1748 John Wesley began to set forth his basic idea that Methodist organizations should be thought of as an instrument. He wrote that change is "not a weakness or fault but a peculiar advantage which we enjoy . . . We are always open to instruction; willing to be wiser every day than we were before, and to change whatever we can change for the better."

It is singular that exactly two hundred years after John Wesley in 1748 included this idea in "A Plain Account of the People Called Methodists," the General Conference of The Methodist Church, in 1948, ordered a study and survey of the agencies of the Church. Methodists in 1948 as in 1748 were interested in profiting from our "peculiar advantage."

The primary goal of the Survey Commission has been a more effective church. Along with this the Commission believes that its recommendations will bring greater efficiency and significant economies. These are obvious in several places in the Report.

The Commission is confident that the changes proposed will maintain and enhance the spiritual values of The Methodist Church and we pray that our Church may be an instrument worthy to be used by our Living Lord.

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. EWING T. WAYLAND, Editor

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

By Mary Fowler

Mrs. William N. Brewster, "89 years young," the "Shepherdess Mother of Hingwa," has returned from China after sixty-six and one half years of service there as a missionary of the Methodist Church. Although her term of official service ended in 1934, Mrs. Brewster continued until this year, when communist restriction on travel led her to leave out of consideration for Chinese Christians. When Mrs. Brewster went to China in 1884 from London, Ohio, she was Miss Elizabeth Fisher. She was stationed at Fochow until her marriage in 1890 to Dr. Brewster. They moved to Hingwa as the first missionaries in that province. When her husband died in 1916, she took over his duties as district superintendent. She saw that each of her seven children received a college education, and to the Chinese became "Bo Seo Bau," or "Shepherdess Mother," for her work in churches, schools, leprosy colonies, and orphanage and hospital. She is now with a son, William, in Oroville, Calif., confident that Christianity will survive in China.

The Young Woman's Christian Association has now three schools of social work in overseas countries. The oldest is the YW School of Social Work in Delhi, India, recently recognized by the new government and affiliated with the University of Delhi. Miss Dorothy Moses, principal of the School, was educated and trained in the United States. The School graduated 28 students with bachelor of science degrees this year. The YW School of Social Work in Athens, Greece, had 50 applications for enrollment this year but could take only 20 as students. Miss Clara Boyd Wheeler, American secretary, heads the School. The third school is in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Headquarters for printing and distributing literature of the Woman's Division of Christian Service of the Methodist Church are now in a new \$225,000 building in Cincinnati. The new headquarters is directed by Mrs. E. LeRoy Stiffler, publication manager, and Mrs. C. C. Long, circulation manager. Literature is supplied for a membership of 1,644,493 in the Woman's Society of Christian Service, the largest woman's organization in the world.

Women of more than eighty Protestant communions, organized in some 1800 state and local councils under the United Church Women of the National Council of Churches, will observe Friday, November 2, as "World Community Day." They will gather in community-wide services in several thousand centers across the nation. Two projects are under way in the women's groups of the churches and these will culminate at the Day's observance: the raising of an "Ecumenical Scholarship Fund" to bring to America young people from overseas for training in Christian leadership; and the making, collecting, and shipping of thousands of blankets and warm clothing to the needy overseas through Church World Service.

EACH COUNTS FOR MUCH

Richard Hudson

... The humblest heart that serves — God needeth such ...

Say not, "I count for naught" . . . each counts for much.
The kindly word you speak—the Christly touch—
The simple love you give—earth needeth such.

Say not, "There is so little I can do."
Your prayer that goeth forth unselfed and true,
Helps this weary world to vision new.

Say not, "It counts for naught—my gift so small."
If borne in answer to the Father's call,
Your gift has its own place in Love's great all.

Each one is needed in God's vineyard here,
The good each does, God maketh clear—
God gives the increase, and it shall appear.

Say not, "I count for naught"—you count for much,
The humblest heart that serves—God needeth such.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mrs. J. L. Jacobs entertained the Dyess Woman's Society at her home November 13 for their regular meeting. Mrs. Leo Allen had charge of the program; Mrs. Ray D. Johnston gave the devotional, and others taking part were: Mrs. Leonard Williams, Mrs. Russell Clifton, Mrs. M. J. Pollard and Mrs. Howard Ingie. The Circle met at the church on November 27, with Mrs. J. M. Snell in charge of the meeting.

Wesleyan Service Guild No. 1 of Winfield Church, Little Rock, will have a Silver Tea on December 2 at the home of Helen Dillahunt, 1406 McGowan, from two to five.

The Ella K. Hooper Circle presented the Week of Prayer at the DeRider Methodist Church on October 30, with Mrs. O. V. Hooker leading. Mrs. R. A. Bennett, Jr., Mrs. P. E. Ballard, Mrs. Ingalls, Mr. Henry Cagle and Mrs. Carl Hendrix assisted in the presentation. Mr. James Jones sang "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied by Mrs. T. R. Sartor, Sr.

Mrs. W. B. Landrum, Field Worker for the Woman's Division of Christian Service, will be the guest speaker for the annual Christmas luncheon meeting of the First Methodist Church Society, Little Rock, December 3.

Capitol View Society, Little Rock, entertained the Guild on Tuesday, November 6. Miss Grace Thatcher, Director of the Little Rock Methodist Council, shared some of her experiences from her year in England as a religious worker. Mrs. J. W. Saffell, president, welcomed the Guild, and Miss Jerry Patton gave the response from the Guild. Mrs. Roy Jordan gave the devotional, and a girls' trio composed of Betty Dodd, Mary Red and Carol Dodd, sang several beautiful numbers.

This society has also completed a most interesting study on Latin America under the direction of Mrs. B. F. Red and Mrs. D. T. Rowe. 28 members qualified for Jurisdictional Recognition. Very clever displays depicting the countries were used each evening. On the last evening a dinner carrying out the Latin America motif was held, with the tables decorated and place cards being colorful sombreros.

A check of \$700 was presented to the First Methodist Church, Eunice, La., by Mrs. Wesley Cottrell, representing the Woman's Society of Christian Service. This amount was the profit made on a booth at the Southwest Louisiana Fair held recently in Eunice. Mr. W. F. Quint received the check for the church. This money is to be used for the Building Fund.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE W. S. C. S.—SECOND QUARTER, 1951-52

Balance brought forward	\$ 2,351.11	Total Credit	15,437.86
RECEIPTS:		Youth Fund	350.67
Undirected Pledge to Missions—		Children's Service Fund	13.97
W. S. C. S.	\$12,273.27	Total on Appropriations	15,807.50
W. S. G.	1,106.35	Week of Prayer	1,624.00
Projects W. S. C. S.	239.39	Foreign Supplies	263.56
Projects W. S. G.	541.05	Home Supplies	809.22
Wanda Stahley	384.25	D.v. Cultivation Fund	29.51
Gene McKimney	605.79	Supplementary Gifts	6.60
State Sanatorium	172.10	Total to Division	18,544.80
Special Memberships—		Other Disbursements:	
Hon. Baby (3)	15.00	Administrative Expense	197.95
Iron, Youth (1)	15.00	Printing and Mimeographing	152.74
Adult Life W. S. C. S. (12)	300.00	E. T. W. Fund (Sept.-Oct.)	150.00
Adult Life W. S. G. (4)	100.00	Rural Work (Miss Marshall)	180.00
In Remembrance Gift	15.50	Alcohol Education	219.90
Little Rock Meth. Coun.	341.70	Student Loan	126.95
Conference Rural Work	233.00	L.R.M.C. (Office exp.)	25.00
World Fed. Methodist Women	2.65	Bonding of treasurers	33.39
Credit on Pledge—		Cultivation Fund—	
W. S. C. S.	14,602.55	W. S. C. S.	515.80
W. S. G.	1,747.40	W. S. G.	102.75
Total Credit on Pledge	16,350.05	Julia Vissotto—Honorarium	50.00
Youth Fund	350.67	Ark. Legislative League	26.00
Children's Service Fund	13.97	Recording of Visitation Day Speech	18.74
Total on Appropriations	16,719.59	Jurisdiction Cultivation Fund	354.15
Cash for Supplies—		Delegate to Convocation at Perdue	40.00
W. S. C. S.	996.12	Executive Board Luncheon	22.50
W. S. G.	84.17	Repair on Conf. Car	13.50
Supplementary Gifts—		K.G.H.I. Broadcast	10.00
W. S. G.	6.00	Other expense	12.18
Cultivation Fund—		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	20,301.43
W. S. C. S.	515.80		
W. S. G.	102.75		
Week of Prayer—			
W. S. C. S.	1,508.38		
W. S. G.	115.62		
Student Loan	106.95		
Alcohol Education	219.90		
E. T. W. Fund	134.85		
Other Receipts	12.53		
Total Receipts W. S. C. S.	18,470.62		
Total Receipts W. S. G.	2,053.94		
Total Receipts from Districts	20,524.56		
Other Receipts:			
Ark. Dist. for Goal Charis	1.00		
Rebaid from Mrs. Joe Rogers (School Missions)	26.50		
Taylor Endowment (Sup. Salary, Margaret Marshall)	450.00		
GRAND TOTAL RECEIPTS	21,004.26		
Add balance—Total cash to account for	23,358.37		
C.S.R. and L.C.A. reported—\$12,162.18			
DISBURSEMENTS:			
To Division:			
Undirected Pledge to Missions—			
W. S. C. S.	10,340.55		
W. S. G.	995.72		
Projects W. S. C. S.	2,833.39		
Projects W. S. G.	541.05		
Special Memberships—			
W. S. C. S.	405.00		
W. S. G.	125.00		
In Remembrance Gifts	15.50		
Conference Work (State Sanatorium)	150.00		
World Federation of Methodist Women	2.65		
Total Credit on Pledge—			
W. S. C. S.	13,776.09		
W. S. G.	1,667.77		

Total Credit	15,437.86
Youth Fund	350.67
Children's Service Fund	13.97
Total on Appropriations	15,807.50
Week of Prayer	1,624.00
Foreign Supplies	263.56
Home Supplies	809.22
D.v. Cultivation Fund	29.51
Supplementary Gifts	6.60
Total to Division	18,544.80
Other Disbursements:	
Administrative Expense	197.95
Printing and Mimeographing	152.74
E. T. W. Fund (Sept.-Oct.)	150.00
Rural Work (Miss Marshall)	180.00
Alcohol Education	219.90
Student Loan	126.95
L.R.M.C. (Office exp.)	25.00
Bonding of treasurers	33.39
Cultivation Fund—	
W. S. C. S.	515.80
W. S. G.	102.75
Julia Vissotto—Honorarium	50.00
Ark. Legislative League	26.00
Recording of Visitation Day Speech	18.74
Jurisdiction Cultivation Fund	354.15
Delegate to Convocation at Perdue	40.00
Executive Board Luncheon	22.50
Repair on Conf. Car	13.50
K.G.H.I. Broadcast	10.00
Other expense	12.18
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	20,301.43

Balance November 14th, 1951 \$ 2,558.94
MRS. C. I. PARSONS, Conference Treasurer

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Second Quarter 1951-52
ARCADELPHIA DISTRICT: Adult Life: Pauline Goodman Jones, Malvern W. S. G.
CAMDEN DISTRICT: Hon. Youth: Mrs. Ruth Hazel Davis Andrews, Jackson St. Adult Life: Mrs. Harvey Crumpler, Jackson St.
HOPE DISTRICT: Adult Life: Miss Annette Wood, Fairview W. S. G.; Mrs. Curt Shields, Mena; Mrs. Schley W. Manning, DeQueen; Mrs. Grace Williams, College Hill; Mrs. Thelma Smith, College Hill; Mrs. W. H. Peety, Mena.
LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT: Hon. Baby: Susan Lynn Meuwly, Winfield. Adult Life: Mrs. Joe Blakley, Sr., Benton; Mrs. Ray Payne, 28th St.; Mrs. Dave Hutchinson, Lonoke.
MONTICELLO DISTRICT: Hon. Baby: David Richard Carson, Lake Village; Clinton Parham Edwin Atchley, Dermott. Adult Life: Mrs. J. H. Hutchinson, Mrs. R. C. Schafer, Mrs. E. P. Kimbrough, Monticello.
PINE BLUFF DISTRICT: Adult Life: Mrs. Jo Hart Madding, Miss Gussie Carmicel, Lakeside W. S. G.; Mrs. J. B. Bassett, 1st Church, Pine Bluff W. S. G.
GIVEN BY CONFERENCE: Adult Life: Mrs. J. R. Meaders, Mrs. Dan Bynum, Mrs. Wilmer A. Lewis.
 \$25.00 PLACED in the Wanda Stahley Fund in honor of each: Mrs. Edward Harris, Mrs. J. H. Monday, Miss Virginia Guffey.

Church Furniture

FOR EVERY NEED AND BUDGET

Pulpit and communion sets, fonts and lecterns for early delivery. Chancel furniture, carvings, Bodiform Pews, folding chairs, tables and Sunday School furniture available.

Write Department 114
AMERICAN SEATING COMPANY
 2930 Canton St., Dallas 1, Texas

CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

Office Of The Student Senate Hendrix College Conway, Arkansas

Open letter to all Arkansas Methodists from the Student body of Hendrix College:

Dear Arkansas Methodists,

We would like to express our sincerest appreciation and thanks for your contributions and efforts which made it possible for us to have our beautiful new Chapel and Auditorium building.

This magnificent building not only adds greatly to the assets of Hendrix, and is of service to us, but will also benefit this community and all Arkansas Methodists. The chapel adds a deeper spiritual meaning to our campus by giving us a place which we truly feel is meant for worship. The auditorium is a place which we have long needed where we can all gather in comfortable and beautiful surroundings.

We would like to thank all those who made special gifts for the building such as furnishings and the lovely stained glass windows. We would also like to express our appreciation to Dr. C. M. Reeves for the wonderful job which he did in spearheading the campaign for contributions. And our thanks go out to every one of you who made a contribution, no matter how small. You have given immortality to your money, for only through such a cause as this can you give a gift which truly "keeps on giving."

We feel that by making such a great gift to us you have shown that you have faith in us and the new generation, as tomorrow's leaders. We will do our utmost to live up to this faith, and we believe that we will not let you down.

We were extremely happy that so many of you came to visit us for the dedication of our building and for our Homecoming Day. You certainly helped us to have one of the best Homecomings in many years. We only wish that every one of you could have been here for the celebration, and we extend to you a cordial invitation to visit us at any time and see for yourself what your gifts have made possible for us.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Sincerely,

The Hendrix Student Body
Dick Farr
President, Student Senate

THANKSGIVING PRAYER SERVICE

A Thanksgiving prayer service was held at the Hardy Methodist Church, Wednesday night, November 21. Mrs. Yount led the meeting, with the theme, "Being Thankful For Friends." Her text was Philipians 1:3. Scripture was also read by Miss Norma Jean Viner, Psalms 103.

A playlet, "The Dreamer", by six young children, brought the thought that we may consider unfortunate until we find others far less fortunate than we.

Group participation was urged, to express thankfulness for other people who have influenced our lives.

A lovely Thanksgiving basket was

week's meeting, most of them on profession of faith.

Rheas Chapel got a new vision of duty and opportunity. Brother Reaves is a Methodist, pure and simple, but makes no noise about it. He knows the Truth, and it is the Truth that makes people free.—William D. Gray.

On Sunday, November 11, Bishop Martin led in Cornerstone Laying Services for a new Educational Building at the Fairview Methodist Church, Texarkana, Rev. C. H. Farmer, pastor. Rev. E. D. Galloway,

EDITH MARTIN HONORED AT HARRISON

Sunday, November 13, was an unusually happy day in the Harrison Methodist Church. It was Edith Martin Day, proclaimed by the class that bears the name of our own missionary to Africa.

Edith Martin is a native of the Ozarks, having been born near Harrison and educated in our local schools. Following high school graduation she attended State Teachers College at Conway, and Galloway College, then a Methodist school for girls at Searcy. From Galloway she went to Scarritt, completing her work there in June 1931. It was July 17, 1931 that she sailed for the Belgian Congo, and so it was for twenty years of service in the heart of Africa, that we tried in small way to honor Edith Martin on this day.

Activities started with the Church School hour, when members of the Edith Martin Class presented a program. Mrs. Rex Poynor gave a beautiful Thanksgiving devotional meditation, followed by a review of Edith's life by Mrs. Floyd Rogers. A gift of appreciation from the class was presented to the honoree by Mrs. J. F. Backstrom, president.

At the morning church hour a dedicatory service was held when the Edith Martin Class presented their newly decorated room to the church. It was accepted by Mrs. E. R. Tims, president of the Board of Trustees and dedicated by Rev. Earle Cravens.

The evening service was attended by a large group of people who heard Edith tell about her work in the Belgian Congo. It was concluded with the showing of pictures taken on the mission field and the playing of a recording of hymns by students there.

The Edith Martin Class held open house for their lovely room, and a reception followed in Fellowship Hall. Mrs. Walter Crum, teacher of the class, had charge of the guest book. Special music was in charge of Mrs. L. S. Reid and was presented by young people of the church. Floral pieces decorated the sanctu-

NEWS FROM DANVILLE

On Tuesday night, November 6, we had a meeting of the official board of the church at Danville, with 22 of the 25 members present. The wives and children met with us for covered dish luncheon, followed by a business meeting. Progress was made on the matter of an educational building which we hope to be able to start in the near future.

Our M. Y. F. group has taken a boy from the Methodist Children's Home in Little Rock to clothe as their project, so we are looking forward to having a great time at Christmas. Rev. T. T. McNeal has given us permission to have the boy with us through the Christmas holidays and we expect joy in giving him the finest Christmas he has ever had.

The Danville Sub-District M. Y. F. has as their December project the buying of a good substantial toy by each local M. Y. F. for the Crippled Children's Home at Jacksonville. They plan to have their next Sub-District meeting at Danville on December 10 at which time they will have communion together. Each person will bring an amount equal to the ordinary exchange of presents and will place on the chancel rail as our Sub-District offering for the Methodist Children's Home in Little Rock.—H. C. Minnis, Pastor

ary, the Edith Martin room, and the reception table, and were furnished and arranged by Mrs. Winiford Gonc.

Mrs. Paul Bennett presided at the coffee service and Mrs. Floyd Rogers at the tea service at a beautifully appointed table. Assisting were Mrs. E. R. Tims, Mrs. Coy Jones, Mrs. Walter Collins, Mrs. Don Holiday, Mrs. Bruce Martin and Mrs. Len Jones. More than two hundred guests attended to make it a happy day in our church.—Mrs. Floyd Rogers

Friendship improves happiness and abates misery by dividing our grief.—Reformatory Pillar.

FAIRVIEW BUILDING PROGRAM BEGUN

District Superintendent of the Hope District, and the pastor, Mr. Farmer, participated in the service. Bun Gantz is chairman of the Building Committee. Pictured below is the Building Committee and the min-

isters. Left to right, Bun Gantz, Charles Dillard, Laverne Smiley, L. J. Thompson, Luther Miller, Rev. C. H. Farmer, Bishop Martin, Rev. E. D. Galloway, Clyde Cutts and Charles McMellon.

**VAN BUREN COUNTY
METHODIST MEN
MEET**

Over fifty Van Buren County men, with their pastor, met at the Damascus Church November 14th with their president, Lester Hutchins, in charge. The Hendrix College quartet supplied the music for the meeting which was greatly enjoyed by every one present.

District Superintendent C. E. Whitten spoke in appreciation of the fine work done by this group of men.

Jim Wiseman, District Director of Adult Education, addressed the group. This address was very inspiring and gave us some of the privileges and opportunities the church holds for laymen.

He was followed by the writer who is District Lay Leader, in a talk on the joy that is ours as we do these things for our church.

The main business of the meeting was the organization of a Lay Speaking program for all the churches.

The ladies of the Damascus church served a delicious meal in a way that only Van Buren County ladies can serve.—Joe S. Pierce, District Lay Leader.

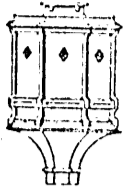
the speaker at the Union Thanksgiving Service held in the Hughes Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening, November 18. His subject was, "Thanksgiving, 1951—An Ordinary Day, or, a Great Day".

The Young Adult Group of the Hughes Methodist Church met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wise for a supper meeting and social get-together with members of the young adults from the Marion Church on Tuesday evening, November 20. Rev. Alf Eason and several of his church were present as guests.

The wages of sin have never been reduced.—War Cry.

Progress waits on the growth of people.—NEA Journal

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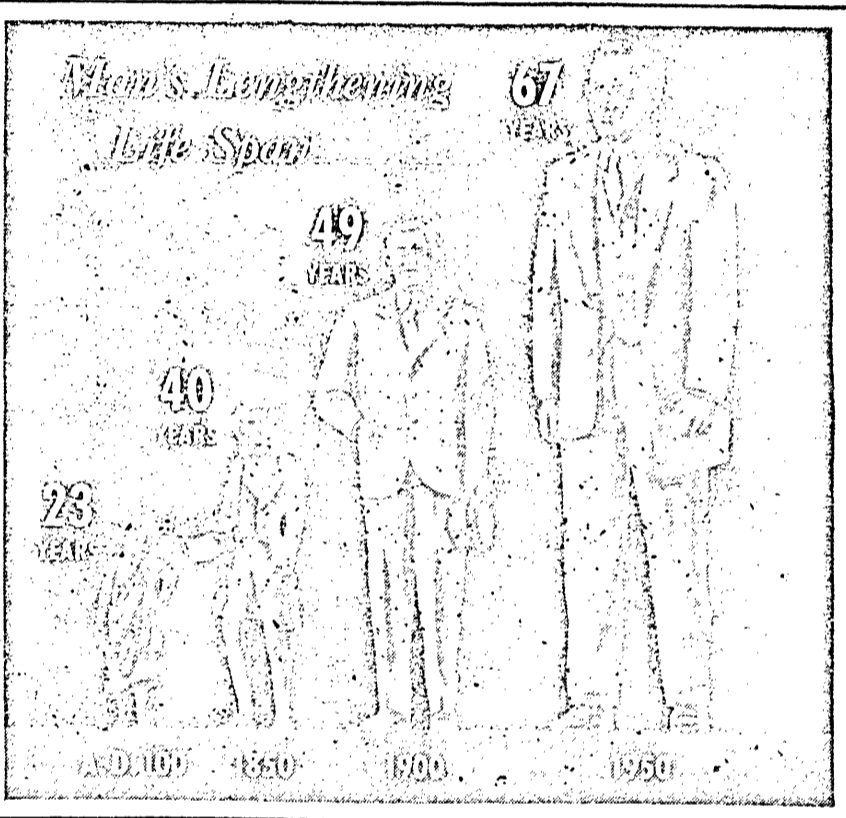
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All contributions to the Fay McRae Library Fund will be acknowledged through pages of the *Arkansas Methodist*. We sincerely appreciate these first churches who have sent in their contributions to this fund. They are as follows:

Winchester	\$ 3.07
Stephens	2.25
Asbury	4.50
Hamburg	12.00
Wilmot	2.25
Tucker	1.00
Scott St.	15.00
Geyer Springs	2.80

This fund will be used to build a library building at the Conference Camp, Camp Tanako, on Lake Catherine. The building will be named in honor of Miss Fay McRae, who served so faithfully for twenty years as Director of Children's Work in the Little Rock Conference. All money for this purpose should be sent either to your District Director of Children's Work or to Mrs. W. F. Bates, 326 Exchange Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.—Mrs. W. F. Bates.



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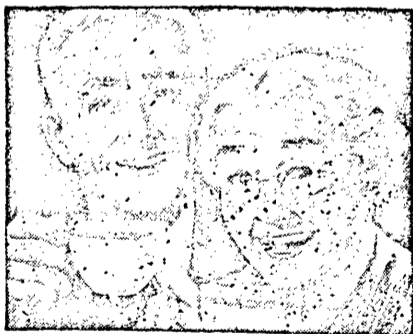
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PERSONALS

Mrs. T. H. Tucker entertained all the members of the Hughes Board of Stewards and their wives with a dinner at the Lakeside Club on Friday night, November 9th. With the exception of a few who were ill at the time, there was a perfect attendance. After the dinner the Board held a brief business session and raised an additional \$250 toward the Bear Creek Camp Project.

Rev. Harold D. Womack, pastor of the Hughes Methodist Church, was

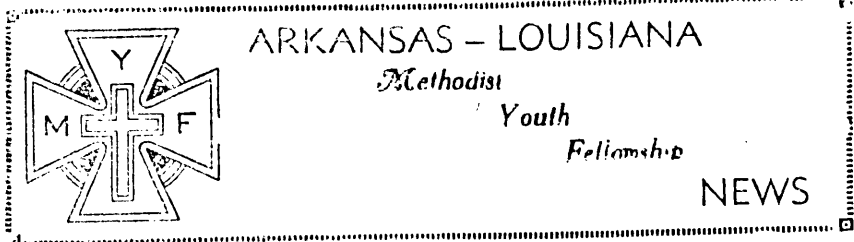


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YOUTH BANQUET AT HARRISON

A youth banquet was held on Tuesday night, November 13, in the Harrison Methodist Church by the Ozark Sub-District.

James Holt was toastmaster, and the following program was given: A vocal solo by Ann Akers, readings by Gail Turner, group singing, and an inspirational talk by Rev. D. L. Dykes, Jr., pastor of the Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville. Pat Taylor gave the invocation and Roy Boyd gave the benediction.

Women of the local church served the meal and the Thanksgiving theme was carried out in table decorations.

The M. Y. F. groups from the churches at Bergman, Valley Springs and Bellefonte attended the banquet and a large number from the Harrison Church were present.—Patricia Taylor, Publicity Chairwoman.

JUNIOR METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Junior Methodist Youth Fellowship of the Massard Methodist Church, Fort Smith, has completed a year's work since their organization last November. This has been a very busy year for the Juniors and their counselors, Mrs. Vann Hooker and Miss Hetty Burnett.

The climax of the year's work was the presentation to the church of a set of flags on the night of November 11. The Juniors had planned a beautiful service of worship. The service began with the call to worship by the pastor, Rev. Vann Hooker. Mrs. Hooker gave a brief talk on the work that had been done by the Juniors. The National flag was presented by the president, Dottie Ruth. The Juniors sang the hymn, "God Bless America." The Christian flag was presented by the secretary, Harvey Hooker. The dedication sentences and the dedicatory prayer were given by the pastor.

On November 13 the Juniors invited the Senior Methodist Youth Fellowship to their rooms for refreshments of cake and cold drinks. Miss Burnett and Bro. Hooker made short talks.

The Massard Church is proud of the Juniors and the work they are doing.—Reporter.

GEORGE KELL SPEAKS TO METHODIST YOUTH MEETING

George Kell, third baseman for the Detroit Tigers of the American League, and one of Jackson's county's baseball greats, spoke to a meeting of the Faulkner County Sub-District of the Methodist Youth Fellowship at Vilonia last Monday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Kell were supper guests of Rev. and Mrs. Maurice C. Webb in Conway Monday evening before the meeting. Rev. Mr. Webb is pastor of the Vilonia Methodist Church where the meeting was held.

PAUL E. MARTIN SUB-DISTRICT

The Paul E. Martin Sub-District met at Goddard Memorial Church on November 20 for its regular monthly meeting. Betty Johnson, Margaret McAlister, and Sally Wernette led the program, and Rev. R. E. L. Bearden described interestingly and inspiringly his visit in Great Britain for the Methodist World Conference.

The business meeting was conducted by Vice-President Margaret McAlister. There were 78 present, and Midland Heights received the attendance plaque. Various churches reported on their progress in the recently adopted project of "Meals for Millions."

The host church provided recreation and refreshments in the basement of the church at the close of the meeting.—Reporter.

METHODIST YOUTH MEET AT COTTON PLANT

The young people of the Galloway-Tolleson M. Y. F. Sub-District met Monday evening, November 12 in Cotton Plant. Some 75 young people and adult counselors were present from Clarendon, Brinkley, Holly Grove, Hunter, and Cotton Plant. Clarendon had the largest group present with 26.

A beautiful worship service was presented by the Cotton Plant M. Y. F., centered around the theme of: "CHRIST KNOCKING AT THE DOOR OF HUMAN LIFE." The lovely painting of Sallman's "Christ At The Door" was used in the background with a spotlight thrown on it while the lights in the sanctuary were dimmed, as the service proceeded.

The group voted in the business session to meet next time in Brinkley in January.

BUFFALO ISLAND M. Y. F.

The Buffalo Island M. Y. F. met Monday night, November 19, 1951. The meeting was held at the Macey Church. There were 105 members present. The Manila Church won the M. Y. F. banner.

The group enjoyed a very inspiring program which was presented by the Macey group.

The group decided to help support "Meals for Millions" for one of the year's projects.

A recreation period was held. The group adjourned to meet December 17 at Monette.—Reporter.

Smile until 10 a. m. and the rest of the day will take care of itself.—Papyrus, hm, Midwest Paper. Ltd.

Religion costs—but irreligion costs more.—Baptist New Mexican.

NEW CHURCH DEDICATED IN CHILE

A new edifice for historic First Methodist Church in Concepcion, Chile, was recently dedicated by Bishop Henry C. Balloch of Santiago. More than one thousand persons attended the ceremonies, including government officials and leading business men of the city. Music for the occasion was furnished by the city's United Evangelical Choir of eighty voices. The new edifice replaces the former church building, only a block away, which was badly damaged in the earthquake of 1939. It was later repaired and has served a growing congregation since that time. The new building which should be completed in 1952, will have modern equipment and rooms for religious education, social ministries, and for educational groups during the week. The Rev. Raymond VaVlencuela, son of pioneer evangelicals in the Methodist ministry of Chile, an educated at Drew Theological Seminary, is pastor of the church.

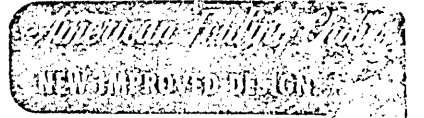
METHODIST FUND DRIVE OVER TOP

The Methodist Church Building Fund of the First Methodist Church, Houma, started last week, has passed the original \$21,000 goal. Rev. Sam Nader is pastor.

\$21,557.52 has been collected so far. The drive will continue till January 2. All funds in excess of the original goal would be used for savings installations.

An option on the Berger property located on Bayou Black Drive has been obtained. Although they have till January 2 to make the purchase, it is expected the property would be bought before that date.

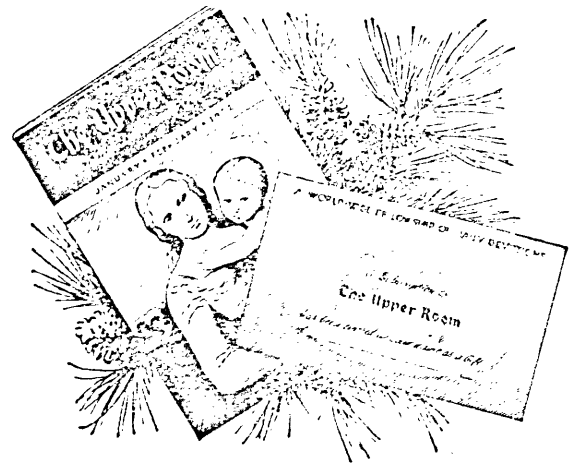
After the new property has been purchased the old building and lot will be sold. The new site has a 244 foot front and extends 255 feet at its deepest point.



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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

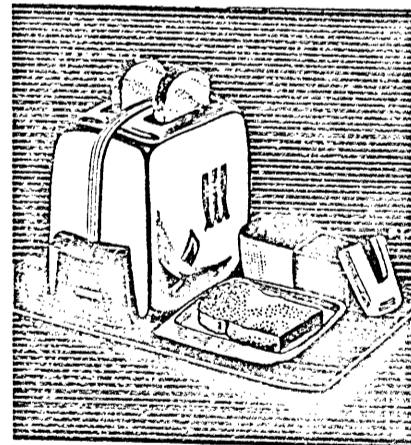
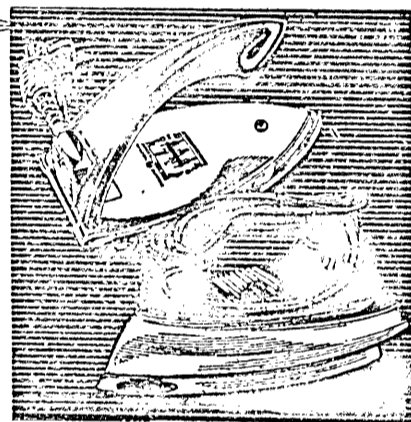
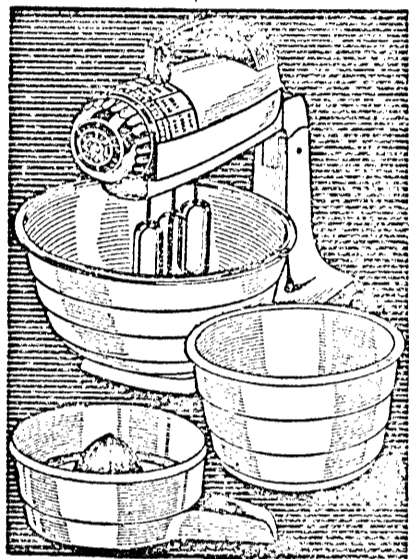
(Continued from page 16)

acter all at once. She simply caters to the lower side of her nature. She is led on step by step and by choice until finally character is gone. This is equally true whether the party be man or woman. There is no double standard in the sight of God. Here is another person. He is honest. He realizes, that even apart from religion, honesty is the best policy. He is not likely to become a crook overnight. He simply begins to waver in his choices concerning small matters until finally, step by step and choice by choice he becomes a crook.

Some Big Choices

There are some overall, general choices that affect all the lesser choices in life. These are inescapable choices. For example, one must choose what he is going to put first in life. Will the highest good for him be material or spiritual values? That is a question that all sooner or later have to settle. If one puts the spiritual values such as truthfulness, honesty, purity, unselfish service, kindness, and love to all mankind first in life this will color his whole personality. On the other hand if he is an out and out materialist his life will more or less be filled with vice. He will have the opposite of the above mentioned virtues in his personality. As an illustration of what we mean, the Communists are professed materialists. Note what liars they are. They have no care for honesty. Purity counts but little in their sight. They have no desire to serve others. They rather want the whole world to serve them. If they had it in their power they would enslave the world. They are also filled with prejudice, cruelty, and hatred. They are materialists.

We can see the sin in the Communists but can we see it in ourselves as a nation? All the citizens of this country who are putting money above the highest welfare of our people are just as materialistic as the Communists. Think of the tens of thousands who are engaged in the narcotic and liquor traffics. Think of the gamblers and the corrupt politicians who are selling this nation down the river for a mess of pottage. They are enemies to this country and more dangerous to its peace and safety than those on the outside. All of these people were once innocent babies on the bosoms of doting mothers, but step by step and choice by choice they have made themselves into creatures who are a detriment to this country. That is the power that wrong choices have over the building of bad characters.



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HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

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.



OUR INESCAPABLE CHOICES LESSON FOR DECEMBER 9, 1951

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:
Deuteronomy chapters 29 through 34. Printed Text: Deuteronomy 30:15 through 31:3.

GOLDEN TEXT: *The eternal God is thy dwelling-place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.*—(Deuteronomy 33:27)

A Look At The Scriptures

This is the seventh and last lesson of Unit II. The aim of the entire unit was to lead pupils through a study of the ancient Hebrews to see that life demands certain disciplines in various situations in order to make it conform to the purpose of God. The unit began on Oct. 28. The subjects of the seven lessons are as follows: "Of What Use Is Trouble?", "What Are the Disciplines of Leadership?" "How Does God Help Us?", "Why Do We Need Rules?", "What Does Worship Require of Us?", "How Can We Learn From Our Doubts?" and "Our Inescapable Choices."

Moses Finishes His Work

Moses was one of the greatest leaders of all time. Many scholars place him second only to Christ. The lesson today brings us to the end of his life's work. Moses died but his influence continued to live. It is still alive in the world today. God buries his workmen but his work goes on. Moses was greatly missed, but there are no indispensable men. God alone is indispensable.

In Duet. 29:1-9 Moses exhorted Israel to obedience on the ground that God had done many wonderful things for them. The remainder of the chapter calls attention to the covenant that Israel had made with God. This covenant was to be binding not only on the present but also on future generations. Obedience to the covenant will bring great blessing upon the nation but disobedience will bring a blighting curse.

As a prophet, Moses sees that the Israelites will fall away from God and that they will be punished by being scattered to the four winds of the earth. He also sees that they will repent and he promises great mercies to the remnant who will return to God. The Lord will gather them from the nations of the earth and they shall return with great joy to their own land. Moses further assures the people that the commandments given by the Lord through him are not too hard to keep. They are not some mysterious rules hidden in heaven and far above their power to attain. They are simple rules and regulations that deal with the relationships of life.

The Power of Choice

We now come to the printed portion of the text. We have here one of the most dramatic scenes in the whole Bible. The people are assembled in the plains of Moab. Moses is making his last speech to them. It was on his birthday. He informs them that he is 120 years old. God had greatly preserved Moses' strength. We are told that his eye was undimmed and his strength un-

dimmed. He has come to the end of the way. God has informed him that he was not to set foot on the Promised Land. Thus the greatest dream of his life had been shattered. But he was not in the least bitter. He was thinking of their good rather than his own. In the course of his years of service he had committed one great sin. God had told him to speak to a certain rock in order that water might flow from it. The people had greatly provoked him, and in his anger and impatience he struck the rock. He himself took credit for the miracle rather than ascribing it to God. Then, too, we are told in the New Testament that this rock represented Christ and Moses had struck it in his anger. He had sinned and was willing to take his medicine. Be it said to his everlasting credit, his thought and concern were of the people and not of himself.

In our imagination we see the old man as he stands that day before the people. His beard is blowing in the wind. His long white hair hangs in a mass about his shoulders. His eyes are blazing with zeal and his voice rings with earnestness. He is bringing his people face to face with the greatest choice of life. Listen to his words: "See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil; in that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his ordinances, that thou mayest live and multiply, and that the Lord thy God may bless thee in the land whither thou goest in to possess it."

There was never a greater appeal made than this. Moses led the people to see that they were playing for high stakes—it was life and good, or death and evil. They might later rebel against God but they could not do it in ignorance. He had put the matter squarely before them. With much feeling Moses went on to say, "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse."

Moses loved these people better than he loved his own life. More than once he put his life in the balance for their good. Once in pleading their cause before God he said, "I know that this people have a great sin, and if thou forgive them well—but if not, blot my name I pray thee out of the book which thou hast written." The old leader was here not only putting his life but his very soul up for their good. No one but Christ has ever reached such heights of passion for others.

Moses was about to surrender his leadership. The call of death was ringing in his ears. He feared what might happen to the people when he was gone. He knew if they fol-

He informed them, "The Lord hath said to me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan. The Lord thy God, he will go over before thee." Moses knew that the security of this people lay in their close contact with God. He simply could not die happy unless they promised him that they would be obedient to the Lord. He would gladly have made their decision for them but he could not do it. There are great choices in life that each one has to make for himself. Even this early in the history of religion the force of free moral agency was recognized.

God Is The Home of The Soul

Our Golden Text clinches this idea of choosing the right and following God. This is the source of all real security. God is bigger than all of our problems. The way may be rough, the path steep, and the going hard, but if in it all one has fellowship with God, there is a sweet, settled peace in his soul. Augustine was right, when in prayer he said to God, "Thou has made us for thyself and we cannot rest until we rest in thee."

It is said that there are 16,000 promises in the Bible. We thank God for them, but none is greater than our memory selection for today: "The eternal God is thy dwelling-place, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Little wonder the great Apostle Paul would say, "In him we live and move and have our being." He is our home. We live in him and he lives in us. Two men were discussing this subject. They were sitting by an open fire. An iron poker was leaning against the wall. One man expressed doubt as to how at the same time God could be in us and we in him. In answer the other man simply placed the poker in the fire. Soon it was red hot. He then lifted it and called attention to the fact that it was red because the fire was in it. He then placed it back in the fire and remarked, "You see, it isn't an impossibility. The fire is in the poker and the poker is in the fire. God is in us and at the same time we are in

God. He is our dwelling-place. He is the home of the soul."

The Lesson Applied

Like Israel of old, we have our choices to make. One of the greatest prerogatives of life is that of the power to choose. It is this, as much as anything else, that places man above the lower animals. They are guided by instinct, and within certain limits man is guided by choice. The power of choice carries with it a great responsibility. Man is responsible for his acts. If he chooses the good he deserves credit for it, for he had it within his power to choose the bad. There is one thing certain, however, man must always face the consequences of his choices. They follow as the day follows night. Man always reaps what he sows. God cannot be mocked, treated lightly, or set aside.

Little Choices Also Count

Some feel that if they are careful about the big choices in life they need not bother themselves about the little ones. Such, however, is not the case. Little choices on the wrong side of life usually lead to the big ones. No person at one leap jumps into the middle of hell. At his first move Lot did not go all the way to Sodom. He only pitched his tent toward Sodom. The chances are if some one had met Lot that day and called attention to the fact that he was heading in the wrong direction and warned him that he was in danger of losing himself and his family, he would have ridiculed the idea. He would have insisted that he never intended to go all the way to Sodom. He merely pitched his tent in that general direction. Here is a young person. He knows something of the danger of alcohol. He would not be silly enough to choose to become an alcoholic. He merely chooses to take the first drink and from this small beginning he drifts on until his life is ruined. Here is a virtuous young person. She knows the value of purity. She is not foolish enough to become a fallen char-

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