

Arkansas Methodist



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NO. 14

Unchanged By Triumph Or Tragedy

PASSION week, which is just ahead of us, is filled with lessons that have blessed humanity across these two thousand years.

The triumphal entry into Jerusalem by the Master on Palm Sunday was but a few days removed from the mock trial in Pilate's court and the tragedy of the cross on Calvary. Nevertheless, whether He faced triumph or tragedy, Christ was unchanged in character of purpose. Whether the shouting crowds were acclaiming Him as king or the courts condemning Him as a criminal, Jesus held steadily to His mission to redeem humanity and to do the will of His Father.

To be Christian is to be Christlike. We as Christians should strive to be like Him whether the way be easy or hard. We too should hold steadily to our Christian purposes regardless of the reaction of the world about us. Like Jesus, whether it be Palm Sunday or Black Friday, we should be able to see beyond to the triumph of the resurrection.

Judsonia's Methodism Needs Help

WHEN the tornado of March 20 struck White County, Methodism suffered its greatest loss in Judsonia. Among the dozens killed and injured, were several Methodists and among the buildings destroyed or damaged were the Methodist Church and parsonage. Church officials are hopeful that insurance will cover adequately the cost of repairing the damage to the church building, the roof of which was damaged, windows lost and some veneering weakened. The parsonage was more severely damaged, however, than first reports indicated and insurance carried, though adequate for that structure, will not rebuild the pastor's home, which will be necessary.

However, the great need is for a general undergirding of the church's program financially until such time as the church will again be self-supporting. Those familiar with the all but total destruction of Judsonia now that there wasn't a family in that little city that escaped loss. Every business building was either damaged or completely destroyed, and the same can be said about the citizens' homes. The spirit of the Judsonia people is challenging. Already work of rebuilding the city has begun. During this period when Methodists of Judsonia are rebuilding their homes and businesses it is imperative that the work of Methodism continue. Judsonia Methodists will need assistance financially to make this program continuation possible.

We are confident there are many in-

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Needed--A Revival Of A Proper View Of Sin

A N alarming challenge which faces the modern Christian church is THE NEED FOR A REVIVAL OF A PROPER VIEW OF SIN.

We frequently hear of the need for a revival of religion. That is always desirable and, at the present time, sorely needed. It is our feeling, however, that we also need badly, not only in the world about us but also in the church itself, a revival of the con-



sciousness of the nature, the purpose and the power of sin.

The Record tells us that "Sin is the transgression of the law"—God's eternal, unchangeable, inescapable law. The church and the world should see sin again for what it really is. So long as we think of sin as an unfortunate mistake, a mental illness, an "absence of good" or any other watered-down conception of sin that seems to relieve the sinner of personal, moral responsibility for his acts, just so long it will be difficult to lead the sinner to see the necessity for repentance or even the necessity for a change of his way of life. Wherever the church takes that view of sin it loses that imperative urge to save people from sin which should characterize the life of every church.

Whatever may be our changed, modern viewpoint of sin, the fact remains that sin itself has not changed one particle in character or power to destroy. It is just as true today as in the dawn of creation that "The wages of sin is death." Human experience in the past and personal experiences of the present, without question, demonstrate that the poisonous hand of sin, like the blight of death, destroys any or all of the finer qualities of life.

Ark. Methodists Indebted To Raney's

ARKANSAS Methodism is indebted to the Raney family, Little Rock, for the annual "T. J. and Inez Raney Lectureship" which this family established at the Pulaski Heights Methodist Church, Little Rock, in 1951. The 1952 lectures delivered last week by Bishop Martin were attended by church people of several denominations and from many sections of the state, and were greatly appreciated. Bishop Martin did an excellent job in bringing a new understanding of the high calling of the Christian life. This lectureship will, in our opinion, take on added significance with the passing of years, contributing richly to the religious life of the church and state. We are confident that we speak the sentiments of Arkansas Methodism when we express its appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Alton Raney and Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Raney and to Bishop Martin for this year's lectures.

The Raney family has already announced that Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, New York, will be the 1953 lecturer, and Dr. Marshall T. Steel, Dallas the lecturer in 1954.

Post Season Reflections

ANOTHER horse racing season at Hot Springs has been concluded and Arkansas will be through with legalized gambling until the next Oaklawn session. The press reports that during the 1952 season almost a quarter of a million persons attended the meet and more than \$13 million was wagered. On the last day alone over \$700 thousand was handled by the track promoters, one-half the amount Arkansas's governor had asked the Federal Government for tornado relief work and almost to the dollar the amount the President has allowed for this relief work. We haven't seen any figures yet on what the state's "take" is but whatever it is will not be enough to cover the loss of the state's moral integrity that this annual licensed grab occasions. Incidentally, among the benefit performances which have furthered relief work, we don't recall any "benefit" races, which might help to explain just where racing promoters' interest lie.

Legally, two crapshooters can become so entangled with the law that they are months overcoming their penalties. The violation is gambling. Legally, thousands of persons can test their guessing powers as to which order the horses will finish and wager money that their guess is correct. The same principle is involved in crapshooting or wagering on your guess of the results in a horse race, but because we, you and I, (the state) turn our head and accept a sizeable sum for so doing, wagering on horse races is permitted. Gambling

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MRS. JOHNNIE McCLURE, President
North Arkansas Conference W. S. C. S.

"Thy Kingdom Come"

By MRS. JOHNNIE McCLURE
Conference President

The following message was delivered by the North Arkansas Conference W. S. C. S. President at the annual session, March 25-27 at First Methodist Church, North Little Rock.

TODAY in this year of 1952 we find we are in the midst of a world torn apart by greed, selfishness, sin of all kinds, and we are besieged ever with questions. Every paper we read we find them. Every radio commentator is asking them, persons in our town, our social circle of friends, our church people are asking them. Questions! Questions about war, questions about scandals in government, questions about housing projects, about social welfare, about high-cost of living, about "Human Rights", yes, about segregation.

Our program committee has asked a question for us in our theme. A scriptural question, "What must we do, to be doing the work of God?" And they have given us the answer, "CHRIST IS THE ANSWER."

This year, as you know, ends another quadrennium and we are looking forward to the new one.

The theme for the new quadrennium is, "That The Kingdom Of God May Be Realized."

There are six special "EMPHASES"—six steps laid down to help guide us as we seek to go forward in His name.

We know we can ask again the scriptural question contained in our Conference theme, "What must we do, to be doing the work of God?" and we have the answer, "CHRIST IS THE ANSWER."

The first emphasis, as we seek to grow as Christians, our spiritual growth. If we are to grow as Christian women we know, as John Wesley once said, "We must know that God has called us to put Christ at the center of all our relationships." If we are to grow as Christians, let us remember the words of Bishop Costen J. Harrell in his book, "Walking With God," "We are too prone to look at God through our difficulties, instead of looking at our difficulties through God."

We must try to maintain a proper perspective. We must realize the greatest threat to our living a Christian life is within ourselves. We must let "self-seeking" give way to "self-giving." We need to be aroused from our complacency; we need a vision such as only God can give—for, as we know, "Where there is no vision the people perish." Christian service must become the main business of an adequate number of our best brains. "If you would help keep the world from selling its soul, then full-time enlistment in Christian service will bring you satisfaction untold," was said very recently by Dr. Ralph W. Sockman of New York City.

As Christians we must receive power from God. Power is ours if we are near enough to God in our daily lives. Richard Terrill Baker in his book "Let's Act Now," tells us that the Bible proves that man gets himself into all kinds of trouble when he worships the wrong Gods. He says the Bible also tells us that worries and confusion, tyrannies and wars, the whole range of problems that beset our world today, are the result of deflection from God. It doesn't say that it's the lack of political wisdom, or armed power, or education, or even good will that lands us in our oceans of trouble. It tells us straight from the shoulder that our history gets itself in a tangle when we are farthest from God.

What is true of a nation is true for us as individuals. God is asking our hearts, our minds, our souls, and our hands completely given to His work—patterning our lives after the example set for us by His son Christ Jesus. It will be a tremendous but a thrilling task!

If we seek to grow as Christians, what is the answer? Christ, in our hearts, is the answer.

Our second emphasis: Widening Fellowship.

We will seek to bring others into the Christian fellowship. Seek to get others into the fellowship of the church and of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and of the Wesleyan Service Guild. It may be we cannot offer them a perfect organization, but it has a perfect Lord. We, if we do the first emphasis—grow more christian, can show Him to others in our daily living. We can ever be about Our Father's business. We can offer them a fellowship with a family of millions who will be co-believers and co-workers with them in seeking to bring peace and goodwill to our war-torn world today. We can make them realize that the program of the church is the program of God, and it is theirs to have and to take a part in, if they want to do so.

If we are to bring others into Christian Fellowship we must remember Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world." This means, go ye unto every home of every person in your own neighborhood, your community, where you can be of service, to help bring them into the christian fellowship of our church—and into the fellowship of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Wesleyan Service Guild. There is another little two letter word in our language we have to

reckon with—IF. Add "you" to it—then "if you will lend a hand, the church will lead the way."

Our program of visitation, you will recall, was for: Every Methodist Woman taking a part in the visitation; Every Methodist Woman enjoying the fellowship of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Wesleyan Service Guild. Every Methodist Woman challenged by the new opportunities for advance. Every Methodist Woman helping to build a World Christian Community, beginning with the local church. Now our new emphasis goes beyond this. We seek to bring others into the Christian fellowship of the church. We want to reach the unchurched—the uninterested person, seeking to help save them from their sins and get them into a Christian fellowship. What can we do to be doing the work of God? Christ, in our hearts, is the answer.

A World Church is the third emphasis.

It was my privilege last summer, as many of you know, to attend the Ecumenical Meeting of the Methodist Church in Oxford, England. Also to visit the work of the church in seven of the countries of Europe, four of which receive financial aid from the American Church: Denmark, Sweden, Germany, and Austria. We also saw the work in Scotland and England. Through this experience I was made to see the wonderful blessing that is gained through fellowship with people of many nationalities. Though they are of our faith, they are different from us. Their services are different from ours, yet it was a rare, never-to-be-forgotten privilege to worship with them. We received a special blessing at each and every service. This was especially true in Oxford. All branches of The Methodist Church were represented there by peoples of all colors, the red, the black, the yellow, the brown, and the white. Our brothers of the same faith worshipping the same God around the world. This experience was rich for the Methodists that were there. Now we are asked to think in terms of a World Church. Helen Baker of the Evangelical and Reformed Church says of *One World*: "Jesus never saw an airplane, but He, too, knew that the world was 'one world'—God's world. Jesus always spoke in terms. Think, for instance, of some of the things He might have said but did not. He might have said, 'I am the light of Asia,' but He did not. He said, 'I am the light of the world.' He might have said, 'God so loved the Jews,' but He did not. He said, 'God so

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"Come To India And Help Us"

By MRS. ROBERT L. BEARDEN, JR.

"WHEN you grow up come over to India, and help us," was the parting plea of Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Pledger to our children after a week-end in Ft. Smith with our family during March. Dr. Pledger and my husband had been classmates at Duke University, and their paths separated back in the year, 1937, when Ferrell Pledger went on to prepare himself for foreign missionary service. Dr. Pledger and his missionary wife are on furlough this year after having served two terms, almost fourteen years, in India.

Dr. Pledger, who is District Superintendent of the Baroda District of the Gujarat Conference, spoke Sunday, March 9, in Ft. Smith at Goddard Memorial Methodist Church, of which Mr. Bearden is pastor, and First Methodist Church, of which Dr. Fred G. Roebuck is pastor. He challenged deeply those who were lucky enough to be worshipping in those services that day. "To people who have such tremendous physical needs as do the people of India, the Christian faith is the only hope," the Pledgers said. Mrs. Pledger stated that the discouragements in their work would be overwhelming to them were they not constantly experiencing the joy of seeing how much hope the Christian converts gain from their new faith.

The Pledgers spoke with appreciation of Bishop and Mrs. Paul Martin who had visited in their home at Baroda on the Martins' tour of Methodism in India. They praised the Martins for their wonderful spirit of

good sportsmanship in facing the many real hardships of such a journey. Now we realize more than ever why the Martins plead so earnestly for our support of the foreign missionary enterprise.

Of course, the parsonage family, who entertained the Pledgers in the home, received the greatest blessings of such a visit, and the "p.k.'s", Clare and Nelson, had a wonderful time playing dress-up in the clothing which the Pledgers' children customarily wear in India. Also present Saturday evening at the parsonage were Dr. and Mrs. W. Henry Goodloe and Mr. and Mrs. Roger W. Lynch. The men of the party submitted to having their heads entwined with twenty-foot long turbans, and the ladies all donned the beautiful saris of silk and fine cotton, which Mrs. Pledger wears daily. The sari is a six-yard length of material draped and wound about the figure with no stitching of any kind. The Pledgers are traveling over the United States this year via station wagon, and are carrying with them a very interesting display of hand-made articles, which were shown at both services in Ft. Smith. Included are embroidery, wood-carving, silver and copper. A beautiful hand-carved silver tube containing a scroll expressing high praise and appreciation for Dr. Pledger's work was presented to him by the Methodists of the Baroda District.

If every Methodist could know some of our fine missionaries our response to the World Service Program of our church would be immeasurably strengthened. It was really



Dr. and Mrs. Pledger with Nelson and Clare Bearden. Mrs. Pledger and the children are wearing Gujarat dress.

good fun to share the bits of Indian lore and culture that the Pledgers brought with the interesting stories of their work, but how it shames us for not being willing to make some real sacrifices that such wonderful work as theirs could go forward so much faster and more effectively.

The Pledgers' three children, who are residing in Tyler, Texas, this year are anxious to get back home to India, and it is easy to see that their mother and father are enjoying their furlough, but "home is where the heart is", and their hearts are in India.

"THY KINGDOM COME"

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loved the world.' He might have said, 'Ye are the salt of Palestine,' but He did not. He said, 'Ye are the salt of the earth.' There was never the least doubt in His mind about all the people belonging to His Father and belonging together."

If we are to help realize this World Church we must put away our racial pride and national arrogance whereby we mar the harmony of life in His great family. We must cast out our prejudices and the blindness that we harbor in our souls, in our nation, and in our religious fellowship. How are we to find this freedom and be able to help build the World Church? — based on the fundamental principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man? Christ is the answer.

WORLD PEACE is our next emphasis. We are to use all available resources to look for "the things that belong to peace."

We know our world is war-torn today. How real this statement is to me after having seen the scars of France, Germany, and England! But we do not have to see the piles of stone, the jagged ruins of steel bridges, the charred walls standing against the blue sky in Europe to realize the evil

of war. We have only to look about on our continent and see the hatred, the jealousy and the distrust among the low places as well as the high places to know war takes its toll of every man regardless of where the battle is fought.

We see our nation bleeding from wounds of dishonor in high places, for lawlessness, drunkenness, delinquency, and corruption. Someone has said that our laymen are dangerously complacent and many ministers are too conventional in the face of the problems that are ours in today's world. The urgent need is for our pulpit to ring out the challenge to the people to wake from their complacency and swing into action. The Christian gospel is dynamic — this means that it is packed with power. Power for what? Power to upset things, power to change hate into love, power to change a warlike attitude into a peace-loving attitude, power to change a shattered home into a shrine where love reigns, power to change a proud master into an humble servant. "Our first and greatest task of the church of Jesus Christ today is to work toward better relations between men and nations. The war has left a heritage of cosmic disorder, physical, political and spiritual disorder."

If the world is to know the things that belong to peace, it must find them in the

church. What will happen in the next ten years no one would dare to predict, yet we have this promise, "All power is given unto me—Go ye therefore" and again, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the consummation of the age." In this faith and assurance we can go forward ever seeking to know "the things that belong unto peace." for we have the answer. CHRIST is the answer.

We will proclaim the world mission of the church to be God's plan for the redemption of the world. The report of the Division of Foreign Missions this year opened with this paragraph, "The story of Christian Missions is a story of people who need help and of a God eager to give that help. It is a story of sick people made well, of lonely people brought into fellowship, of illiterate people being educated, of evil habits conquered, of villages transformed, of the hungry being fed, the naked clothed—a story of the love of God in conquest over the sin of man." What has been said about Foreign Missions is true of our mission program at home also. Yet, after hearing our missionaries from the fields at home and abroad at both the Division Meeting and the Jurisdiction Meeting in Omaha, tell of their needs and of what they have been able to

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NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

First Methodist Church, North Little Rock, entertained the North Arkansas Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service in a most hospitable way March 25, 26 and 27. Under the able guidance of Mrs. Johnnie McClure, President, officers of all lines of work presented their year's work in a constructive, informative manner.

Mrs. S. H. Williams, local President, announced that two hundred and thirty nine delegates registered for the meeting, and there were many additional guests.

Much was gained by the addresses given by: Mrs. Neill Hart, Mrs. W. B. Landrum, Miss Edith Martin, Mrs. J. R. Henderson, and the annual President's Message which appears on another page of this issue of the paper.

Officers for the next year, pictured above, are as follows: President, Mrs. Johnnie McClure, Springdale; Vice-President, Mrs. E. G. Kaetzell, Batesville; Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. J. Couchman, Morrilton; Treasurer, Mrs. Ben DeVoll, Paragould; Secretary of Promotion, Mrs. Elmus Brown, Jonesboro; Missionary Education and Service,

Miss Mildred Osment, Jonesboro; Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities, Mrs. Walter Jimerson, Augusta; Wesleyan Service Guild Sec'y, Miss Gertie Stiles, Ft. Smith; Associate Secretary of Wesleyan Service Guild, Mrs. Clarence Oakes, Siloam Springs; Literature and Publications, Mrs. Paul Bumpers, Marked Tree; Children's Work, Mrs. W. D. Murphy, Jr., Batesville; Youth Work, Mrs. John Thiel, Paragould; Student Work, Mrs. Raymond Franks, Forrest City; Spiritual Life, Mrs. Monroe Scott, Fort Smith; Supplies, Mrs. P. C. Magness, Newark; Missionary Personnel, Mrs. Vance Thompson, McCrory; Status of Women, Mrs. J. W. Glass, Crawfordville; Historian, Mrs. R. A. Dowdy, Batesville; and Missionary Projects, Mrs. W. Henry Goodloe, Fort Smith.

Delegates to Jurisdiction Conference will be: Mrs. Johnnie McClure, Mrs. Elmus Brown, Mrs. Monroe Scott, Mrs. E. G. Kaetzell and Mrs. W. Henry Goodloe. Alternate delegates are: Miss Mildred Osment and Mrs. Ben DeVoll.

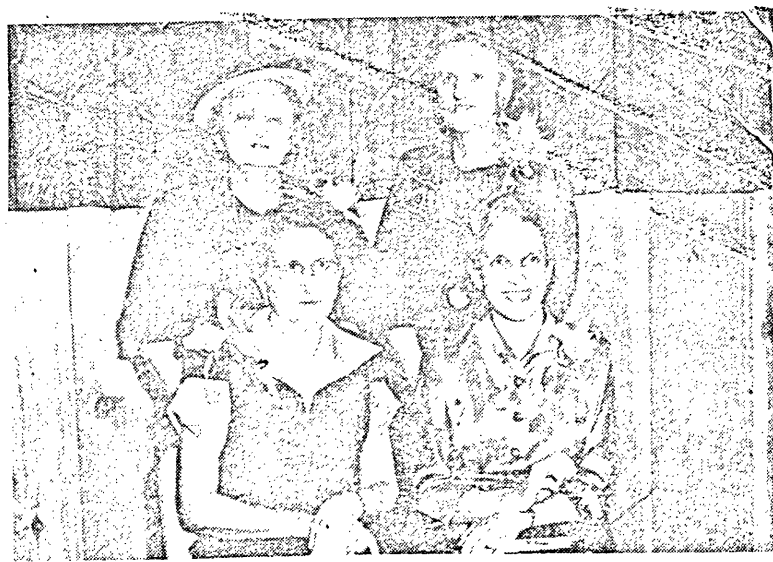
Many people paid honor to hostesses, officers and friends by giving a love gift, which is to go



North Arkansas Conference Officers for 1952-53: Front row: Mrs. Vance Thompson, Missionary Personnel; Mrs. Raymond Franks, Student Work; Mrs. Elmus Brown, Promotion; Mrs. Ben DeVoll, Treasurer; Mrs. Johnnie McClure, President; Mrs. Walter Jimerson, Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities; Mrs. Paul Bumpers, Literature and Publications; Mrs. H. J. Couchman, Recording Secretary; Back Row: Mrs. E. G. Kaetzell, Vice-President; Mrs. John Thiel, Youth Work; Mrs. W. D. Murphy, Jr., Children's Work; Mrs. W. Henry Goodloe, Missionary Projects; Miss Mildred Osment, Missionary Education; Mrs. P. G. Magness, Supplies; and Mrs. Monroe Scott, Spiritual Life.

with Miss Edith Martin to Africa The total offering is more than to purchase supplies for her work. five hundred dollars.

GERTIE STILES HONORED AT GUILD WEEK-END



Pictured above at the North Arkansas Wesleyan Service Guild Week-End at North Little Rock: seated: Miss Gertie Stiles, Conference Secretary; Mrs. Homer Taylor, Conference Associate Secretary. Standing: Mrs. Alma Riley, Jurisdiction Secretary Wesleyan Service Guild and Mrs. George Dismukes, Co-Chairman of the Standing Guild Committee.

The North Arkansas Conference Wesleyan Service Guild, meeting at the First Methodist Church, North Little Rock, March 22 and 23, honored their Secre-

tary, Miss Gertie Stiles, by presenting her with an Honorary Life Membership, and sending a Love Offering of \$260.00 in her name to the Nurses Home at

Seward, Alaska.

One hundred seventy-five attended the meeting and heard the inspirational addresses by Mrs. Alma Riley, Jurisdiction Secretary, and Mrs. George Dismukes, Co-Chairman of the Guild Standing Committee.

Officers elected for the next year are: Miss Gertie Stiles, Fort Smith, Secretary; Mrs. Clarence Oakes, Siloam Springs, Associate Secretary; Mrs. Inez Sanders, Searcy, Recording Secretary; Miss Helen Stephens, Clinton, Chairman of Missionary Education; Mrs. James Moore, Conway, Chairman of Spiritual Life; and Miss Helen Hine, Forrest City, Chairman of Christian Social Relations.

The Guild accepted the invitation of the Blytheville Guild to hold its meeting next year at Blytheville.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Hampton Woman's Society of Christian Service met at the parsonage Wednesday evening March 19, for a business meeting. Mrs. Clem Bounds led a very impressive devotional, after which three chapters of the new Mission Study Course were discussed.

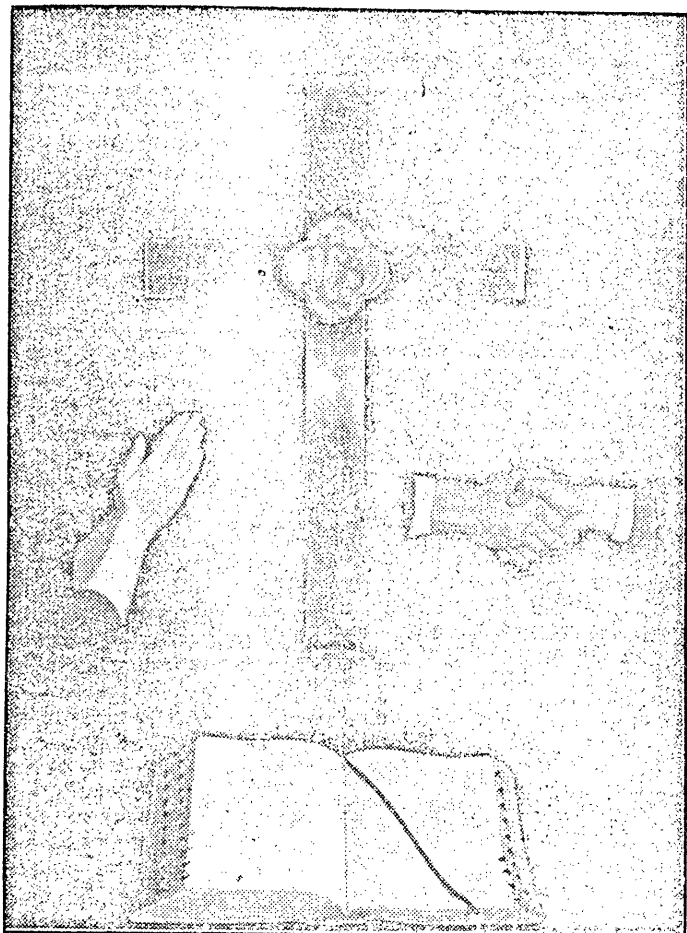
Officers elected for the new conference year are: President, Mrs. Sloan Rainwater; Vice President, Mrs. Wister Adams; Recording Secretary - Treasurer, Mrs. Jack Thomason; Promotion Secretary, Mrs. Victor Nutt; Secretary of Missionary Education and Local Church Work, Mrs. E. C. Johnston; Secretary of Spiritual Life, Mrs. Clem Bounds; Secretary of Youth Work, Mrs. Walter Dunn; Secretary of Literature and Publications, Mrs. George Warren; Secretary of Supply Work, Mrs. "Red" Dunn; Secretary of Status of Women, Mrs. H. O. Splawn. — Reporter

Mrs. T. S. Lovett, Conference W. S. C. S. president, called a meeting at First Church, Arkadelphia, on Friday, March 14, to discuss plans for World Friendship workshops to be held this summer. The Arkadelphia, Camden and Hope Districts will meet at Camp Tanako, July 21-25 with Miss Margaret Marshall as the director. The Little Rock, Pine Bluff and Monticello Districts will meet at Aldersgate July 28 — August 1 with Mrs. Ed McLean as the director. It is the hope of the committee that each W. S. C. S. will make it possible

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ARKANSAS METHODIST

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING



Theme for the Louisiana Conference:
The Things That Make For Peace

NEWS IN BRIEF

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for one missionary minded boy or girl, 15 years of age or over, and one missionary minded adult, man or woman, from each church to participate in one of these workshops. The cost will be \$12.50 per person.

The committee in addition to Mrs. Lovett included Mrs. John Hefley, Mrs. John L. Tucker, Miss Emogene Dunlap, Mrs. Ed McLean, Miss Margaret Marshall and Miss Grace Thatcher.

A delightful lunch was served by the members of the W. S. C. S. of First Church, Arkadelphia.

The Standing committee of the Louisiana Conference Wesleyan Service Guild, met in Alexandria. The principal business discussed was the planning and changing of the date of the annual Guild weekend at Camp Brewer, Forest Hill. Announcement was made by Miss Mary Gladys Page, Amite, Conference Secretary of the Wesleyan Service Guild that the Guild weekend will be held July 26-27 instead of the date previously announced. The principal speakers for this summer meeting will be the Guild missionaries, Miss Mildred Anne Paine, recently returned on furlough from Japan and Miss Elizabeth Thompson, Louisiana Rural Worker.

Attending the committee meeting were the Conference Secre-

tary, Miss Page, District Secretaries, Mrs. F. G. Philips, Shreveport District, Mrs. Minza Rabun, Monroe District, Miss Vera Winfree, Ruston, Miss Dorothy Dunbar, Alexandria District, Miss Fannie Burch, Baton Rouge District, Miss Emma Kuntz, New Orleans District, Miss Helen Adams, Lake Charles District, and Miss Elizabeth Thompson Houma.

Mrs. Rife Hughey, President of the Conway District, announces that the Annual District meeting of the Conway District will be held April 17 at Atkins. Miss Edith Martin, Missionary to Africa, will be the guest speaker.

At the March meeting of the W. S. C. S. of the Cabot Methodist Church, held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Whitely with Mrs. Jack Wood assisting hostess, Mrs. J. W. Griffin, president, presided. Mrs. L. E. Smith, chairman of the parsonage committee, announced that: a duncan phyfe dining room suit had been purchased; 14 new excelsior oil fabric shades had been put on the windows and that there was enough cash on hand to redecorate the bathroom and make some repairs. Plans were made to hold a silver tea in the educational building of the church on April 8th. Mrs. W. H. Laws and Mrs. Elbert Bruner were chosen delegates to the

The Louisiana Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service held a short but full annual meeting at Lafayette, March 18 and 19 at the First Methodist Church. Mrs. Glenn Laskey, President, set the theme of the conference "The Things That Make For Peace", in her Annual Message, "With Her Face, Set Forward."

Mrs. Sam Dunbar gave "Passports to Peace" and passed out miniature passports in the name of Jesus Christ to be used in the world. Mrs. D. M. Campbell told of the gain in societies of 37, making a total of 295 in the conference, and a gain of 20 Guild

North Arkansas conference of the W. S. C. S. to be held in the First Methodist Church, North Little Rock, March 25-27.

W. S. C. S. officers elected to serve during the coming conference year are: Mrs. W. H. Laws, president; Mrs. Chas. Ross, vice president; Mrs. J. C. Alexander, recording secretary; Mrs. H. M. Dodson, treasurer; Mrs. L. E. Smith, promotion secretary; Mrs. J. W. Griffin, chairman of the Alice Burrell Circle and Mrs. Elbert Bruner, chairman of the Edith Martin Circle. Secretaries included: Mrs. C. W. Good, missionary education; Mrs. W. T. Barnwell, Christian social relations and church activities; Mrs. J. I. Owen, student work; Mrs. Floyd Finney, youth work; Miss Emma Frances McKee, children's work; Mrs. O. C. Kinley and Mrs. Aubrey Pate, spiritual life; Mrs. B. A. Baker, supplies; Mrs. L. E. Johnson, status of women and Mrs. Jack Wood, literature and publication.

Pictured below at the Youth Banquet are: Miss Shirley Hervey, President M.Y.F., First Methodist Church, Lafayette (Life Service Volunteer); Mrs. W. E. Trice, Conference Secretary of

units, making 85 units in the conference. There are eleven full time workers from Louisiana.

Dr. George Ivey, Vice-President of Centenary College, gave the quiet hour talks. The Banquet Tuesday night, "Seeking After Peace" featured an original skit written and directed by Tommy Pears; Mrs. W. E. Trice presided at the banquet, and music was furnished by the Lafayette High School A capella Choir.

Mrs. F. C. Haley, Homer, presided at the "World Federation of Methodist Women luncheon on Tuesday night with a skit "The Tree of Peace" presented by Mrs. B. L. Stokely, Mrs. George Powell, Mrs. E. S. Middleton, Mrs. Stewart Deas, Mrs. J. A. Nolan, Mrs. Betty Newton, Mrs. Harold Elgin, Mrs. Jack Slaughter, Mrs. H. M. Moak, and Mrs. T. M. Ellis.

"The Beauty of Thy Peace" was the title given the breakfast on Wednesday, which was a Silent Meal, with the Worship Center in the table arrangement in the form of a cross, with women in white vestments around.

Mrs. George Sexton conducted the installation service for the new officers which were elected as follows: Mrs. L. B. Kilpatrick, Vice-president; Mrs. S. E. Stewart, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Lee Tidwell, Promotion Secretary; Mrs. Warren Constant, Missionary Education; Mrs. C. F. Coldthwait, Christian Social Relations; Mrs. P. D. Lambert, Literature and Publications; Mrs. Sam Dunbar, Supplies; Mrs. Thomas Folk, Youth Work; and Mrs. W. W. Pacton, Spiritual Life.

Student Work; Rev. Charles Rather, Director of Wesley Foundation, L.L.I.; Mrs. G. R. Weaver, Conference Secretary of Youth Work; Mrs. Glenn Laskey, Conference President.



CHILDREN'S WORK IN NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

By Mrs. Ira A. Brumley

Did you ever realize, as you faced your problems in your local church, that many children's workers all over our conference are facing problems similar to yours? It will do you much good to get together and share your situations.

You will have such an opportunity at our Children's Workers' Conference, June 17, 18, 19. Watch for detailed information about this conference soon.

Mrs. Thomas R. Whiddon, who will be the chairman of the committee on "Dramatics in the Children's Division," at the conference, and who is Director of Children's Work in the Fayetteville District, introduces you to the following workers in her district. Do you know any of them?

Mrs. Edwin Huenefeld, Mrs. L. McClain, Mrs. L. J. White, Mrs. Alta Watson, Mrs. Oma Scott, Mrs. Alonzo Miller, Mrs. A. W. Anderson, Mrs. Hugh King, Mrs. W. Glenn, Mrs. E. Mackey, Mrs. Chas. Hall, Mrs. Forrest Ward, and Mrs. Esther Long, all of Rogers;

Mrs. G. C. Harvey, Mrs. Tom Stahl, Mrs. Russell Smith, Mrs. H. M. Fleckenger, Austin Feemster, Fred McKinney, Mrs. Dick Hodges, Miss Sara Marie Dodgen, Mrs. C. A. Phillips, Mrs. Barton Groom, Mrs. Titus Chinn, Mrs. Tom Whiteside, Mrs. Joe Beckner, Mrs. Joe Slaven, and Mrs. Allen D. Stewart, all of Siloam Springs; Mrs. Ed O'Neal and Mrs. Ed Holland of Gentry (Springtown-Highfill);

Mrs. Emma Fountain, Mrs. Esther Crom, Mrs. L. R. Crom, and Mrs. Clark Hendrixon, of Sulphur Springs;

Mrs. Viola Shipley, Mrs. Wentworth, of Viney Grove;

Mrs. H. L. Stewart, Mrs. Wade Fincher, Mrs. Helen King, Mrs. Helen Bell, Miss Muriel Carter, Mrs. Perry Sherman, and Mrs. Ed Parks (Wiggins Memorial) Fayetteville;

Mrs. Kut Gravette, Mrs. Ray Jefferson, of Bentonville;

Mrs. Crawford Palmer of Centerton;

Mrs. Raymond Huffaker, J. J. Langston, Jr., Mrs. Ed Blanchfil, Mrs. John Conkle, and Mrs. Beulah Carter of Lincoln;

Mrs. L. V. Beck, Miss Mabel Bellany, Mrs. Alva Everett, and Mrs. Ralph Scroggins of Alpena;

Mrs. Gladys Skait, Mrs. Murl J. Omp of Avoca;

Miss Margaret Spencer, Mrs. Russell Fields, Mrs. Frances MacLennan, Mrs. J. E. Edwards, Mrs.

Dora Settle, Miss Sada Inch, Mrs. Vaughn Pickard, Mrs. Ted Ealey, Mrs. Herbert Russell, Mrs. Glenn Phillips, Mrs. Royce Nolen, and Mrs. Earl McCormack, all of Bentonville;

Mrs. C. W. Butch, Mrs. Mary Phillips, Mrs. Kenneth Allum, Mrs. W. A. Fisher, Mrs. Clifford Vance, Mrs. Luther Baughn, Mrs. H. W. Jinske, and Miss Ruth Weaver, all of Gravette;

Mrs. C. C. Mowery, A. C. Mowery, Mrs. Velma Vaughn, Mrs. Floyd Robberts and Miss Ruby Light, of Huntsville;

Miss Virginia Edgett, Mrs. Grace Palmer, Mrs. Bettie Jean Ownby, and Mrs. H. O. Magruder of Gentry;

Mrs. Irene Lewis, Miss Ruth Dees, A. L. Clement, Mrs. Troy Toney, Mrs. Ruth Dees Weddington of Farmington;

Mrs. Verona Brown of Clyde and Mrs. Eddie Morris of Cane Hill (Morrow-Evansville);

Mrs. Elbert Beaty, Mrs. S. O. Patty, Mrs. D. E. Rieff, Mrs. C. H. Miller, Mrs. Clyde Delap and Mrs. Layton McCoy of Prairie Grove;

Mrs. Tommy Haseloff, Tom Bain, Mrs. Max Cox, Mrs. Kenneth Morris, Mrs. Sorraire Moore, Mrs. Jane Loops, Mrs. Tom Warren, Mrs. Wilson R. Harris, Mrs. Russell Self, Mrs. Irving Kitls, Mrs. W. H. Sturdivant, and Mrs. Joe Kay, all of Springdale.

ADULT COUNCIL PLANS

Important plans were outlined for Adult Work in the Louisiana Conference when the Adult Council met, February 20.

Rev. Robert Clemmons of the General Board staff gave guidance to the planning. Miss Elizabeth Thompson, Conference Director of Adult Work, Rev. Bentley Sloane, and Rev. Jolly Harper helped in the planning.

All districts were represented and entered the planning of the following projects:

1. District Directors of Adult Work to secure accurate lists of local church superintendents.

2. Young Adult District Directors to form district councils and promote sub-district institutes and leadership classes.

3. Young Adult Assembly planned for Camp Brewer, August 2 and 3. Mrs. Eva Denham, president of the Conference Council of Young Adult Work, is dean of the Assembly. Quotas will be given to each district.

4. Three Older Adult Camps were planned as follows:

a. Shreveport, Ruston, Monroe Districts—Cane Lake—June 4, 5, and 6. The Rev. A. W. Townsend, Jr., and Mrs.

REGIONAL TRAINING CAMP TO BE HELD AT FERNCLIFF

Nashville, Tenn. — Requests from annual conferences for help in training camp leaders would warrant the services of several staff persons full time, according to a recent statement of the Committee on Camping of the Division of the Local Church, General Board of Education.

With Miss Elizabeth Brown, camp consultant for the Division, as chairman, the committee is composed of Miss LaDonna Bogardus, Children's Department, Mr. A. Argyle Knight, Youth Department, the Rev. Robert S. Clemmons, Adult Department, and Dr. Edward D. Staples, director of the Christian Family.

For the purpose of meeting in some measure the demand for camp leaders, the Special Committee on Camps and Conferences, of the National Council of Churches, is sponsoring a series of regional training camps for some 500 church camp leaders.

Among the nine camp locations is Camp Ferncliff, Little Rock, Arkansas, May 5-9.

Outstanding authorities who will serve as leaders in these camps, along with 19 national staff leaders with camping responsibility of several denominations, include Dr. William Gould Vinal, professor of Nature Recreation, University of Massachusetts; Dr. Reynold E. Carlson, assistant professor of Recreation, Indiana University; Dr. L. B. Sharp, director of National Camp, Port Jervis, New York; and Herbert Montgomery, director of school camping, New Castle, Indiana.

A Methodist quota has been set for each camp. Registrations for the camps are being handled by the conference executive secretaries of Christian education.

Other fine opportunities for

Claude Cochran, deans.

b. Alexandria, Lake Charles Districts—Camp Brewer—June 4, 5, and 6. The Rev. A. B. Cavanaugh, the Rev. J. W. Ailor, deans. The Rev. Robert Clemmons, leader.

c. Baton Rouge, New Orleans Districts—Seashore Camp Grounds—June 4, 5, and 6. Miss Elizabeth Thompson, Mrs. James J. Kennedy, and the Rev. Merlin Merrill, deans.

A new District Director of Young Adult Work, Horace Allen of Lake Charles, was presented to the Adult Council.

SULPHUR CHURCH HAS DOUBLE PROGRAM

By James C. Whitaker, Pastor

This is the story of a church which is attempting to have two complete church school sessions on Sunday morning. It is complete with this exception: the Senior Department, where we have a first year senior class meeting in the second session and an older senior class meeting in the first session.

Church worship begins at 7:15 A. M., Church School (the first session) begins at 8:30 A. M. The second session begins at 9:45 A. M. and Church Worship again at 11:00 A. M. We have two separate staffs for these schools. This means separate department superintendents, teachers and substitutes. In two cases we have teachers working in both sessions. The division superintendents work in both sessions. Mr. Mayo Foreman, Superintendent, is in charge of the total program.

Pupils have been permitted to choose the session they wish to attend. The request was made that they stay in one session and not alternate between the two. This was started the first Sunday of October. Enrollment in both sessions is now definitely established. Last Sunday 138 attended the first session and 205 attended the second. Attendance has increased. In January the average was over 20 per cent better than that for last year.

The program was started because of crowded conditions and also with the feeling that more persons could be reached with Christian education.

church camp leaders are: National Convention of the American Camping Association, Conrad-Hilton Hotel, Chicago, April 16-19; Workshop for Camp Leaders, Scarritt College, Nashville, June 9-July 4; Special Session for Church Camp Leaders, National Camp, Port Jervis, New York, August 15-September 11.

In addition to the well-established camping program for intermediate boys and girls, the Division of the Local Church through its several departments, sponsors camps for junior boys and girls, day camps, camps for youth, camps for young adults, adults, older adults, camps for the handicapped, family camps.

By means of taking advantage of the opportunities listed above, annual conference leaders will be able to meet to some extent the need for trained camp leaders, it was said.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

BUTTRICK SEES TRIPLE THREAT TO CHRISTIAN WORLD

NATIONALISM, regionalism and Communism constitute "a formidable trinity of foes" threatening "the hard-beset Christian faith," Dr. George A. Buttrick told the spring meeting in New York of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. Dr. Buttrick, pastor of the Madison Presbyterian church there, returned recently from a tour abroad sponsored by the board. As Joseph Cook Lecturer to the Far East, he left last September to speak in Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Pakistan and the Near East. Nationalism is often identified with religion, he said. "In many lands such as Pakistan," Dr. Buttrick said, "religion is the State and the State is religion. That is to say, a man becoming a Christian is in that act an outright traitor both to home and country." Japan's wartime slogan of "Asia for the Asians" is winning a following throughout the East, despite Japan's defeat in the war, and is creating a growing regionalism there, Dr. Buttrick said. "It should be clear," he said, "that we can return to Asia only as equals, not as rulers, and perhaps we must be penitents before we can return as friends." "manifestly gaining in Asia" at the moment, the clergyman said: "It could be stayed. But not if we put all our eggs into the military basket."

Pastors Disapprove Church Suppers To Raise Funds

Pastors generally disapprove of church suppers as a means of raising money, according to a survey conducted by the Rural Church Department of Drew Seminary in Madison, N. J. A total of 341 churches were surveyed. "Long hours for the women and small returns," reported a Massachusetts clergyman. "I detest the idea of a church being turned into a clothing store or a restaurant," said a Michigan pastor with an apparent reference to rummage sales as well as church suppers. The survey showed that the money return on such suppers was very low although the fellowship value was high. Church suppers in a single year netted \$49,933 to the churches polled and 7,840 women cooked, waited on tables and washed dishes.

Japan Permits Private School Religious Teaching

A ruling by the Japanese government makes possible the teaching of religion as a credit course in private schools beginning with the new school year in April. Previously, religion could

be taught on a voluntary basis only and outside regular school hours. Representations by the educational and legal departments of the National Catholic Committee there are said to have been largely responsible for the new ruling.

Northwest Methodists Hold Evangelistic Mission

More than 5,000 new members of The Methodist Church were won during the first phase of an intensive evangelistic mission sponsored by the Pacific Northwest, Oregon and Idaho Methodist Conferences. The campaign was under the direction of the Rev. Harry L. Williams of Nashville, Tenn., director of the denomination's Department of United Evangelistic Missions. The mission's first phase covered the big-population centers of Portland, Seattle and Spokane. The second phase was expected to win between 2,000 and 3,000 new members. Hundreds of churches and thousands of visitors cooperated in the campaign. As part of the drive full-page advertisements headed "To Save The Present Age," were placed in Portland newspapers.

Navy Chaplain Recruits To Get Higher Ranks

Clergymen between the ages of 34 and 39 who are eligible for initial appointment to the Chaplains Reserve Corps of the Navy will be appointed in the rank of lieutenant senior grade. Ordinarily, the entering grade for chaplains who have had no previous experience in the service is lieutenant junior grade. However, the older men will be eligible for the higher rank, the Navy announced. A special effort is being made by the Navy to fill vacancies in its chaplains corps, with the age limit being raised to 39, and lowered to 19 (for seminary students) in an attempt to recruit a sufficient number of reserve chaplains for its needs.

Army Church Attendance Sets Record

Attendance at religious services conducted at U. S. Army installations and bases set a new record of 1,783,131 in the month of December, 1951, a report by the Chief of Chaplains revealed. The record was established in spite of the fact that thousands of servicemen were absent from their posts in this country with holiday leave during the Christmas season.

Report New Campaign Against Clergy In Czechoslovakia

A new campaign against Prot-

A CROSS TO REMEMBER

Chas. A. Wells



estant and Roman Catholic clergy has begun in Czechoslovakia, particularly in Moravia, Czech refugee sources reported in Berlin. The sources said that Czechoslovakia security police had arrested 320 pastors and transported them to Brno prison. Those arrested were charged with criticizing the Communist government and its policy toward the Church.

Scriptures Published In 1,049 Languages

Some part of the Bible has been published in 1,049 languages and dialects, as of Dec. 31, 1951, according to a report issued in New York by the American Bible Society. Fifteen new

languages were added to the list last year. The whole Bible, the report stated, has been published in 195 languages, a complete Testament in 252 languages and at least "a gospel or other whole book" in 602 languages.

EVANGELISTS



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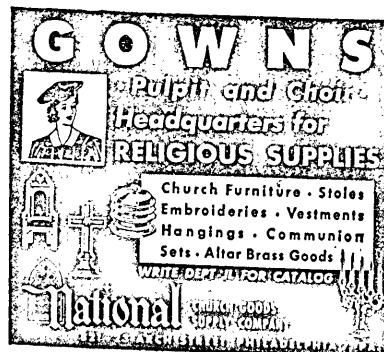
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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



IN STORYLAND

THE EASTER BULBS

There were plenty of glad things to do on Easter morning, but Joyce didn't forget the Easter bulbs. She ran quickly to see the bright blossoms.

"Look, mother, a pink tulip came open during the night," said Joyce happily. "Now we have four bulbs in bloom."

Mother and she had planted six bulbs, three tulips and three hyacinths. But one hyacinth had forgotten to bud and one tulip wasn't quite ready yet. Joyce was delighted with the four that were blooming.

Mother and Joyce had planted the bulbs weeks ago in small pots filled with soft, rich earth. They had been round, tight little brown things then that looked something like onions.

But when the pots were set away in the cool basement the little brown bulbs had begun to grow roots. Then, a short time before Easter, mother and Joyce had carried them upstairs and placed them on a sunny window sill.

"Our bulbs need the bright sunshine now," mother had said.

Little sprigs of green had quickly shot up in the pots. From day to day Joyce had watched each one grow into a pretty plant and then grow a bud.

"My, but watching bulbs grow is such fun, mother," Joyce said.

She had been more eager about the blossoms than anything. As the sunshine called out the bright colors, Joyce grew more and more pleased. That was why she didn't forget the bulbs on Easter morning.

She ran out in the garden, too, to see the first snowdrops.

"Even if Easter is early we have plenty of flowers, and everything is beginning to grow," said Joyce as she came back. "I saw a robin, too."

"It's spring, Joyce," smiled daddy. He had come to look at the bulbs on the window-sill, and Joyce showed him how nicely they had grown.

"Daddy, you wouldn't think you'd get such lovely blossoms from hard little brown bulbs, would you?" said Joyce, "It's the same way with the seeds we plant. They're so tiny, and yet such fine, big plants come from them!"

"Yes, Joyce, that's the way it



SPRING DAYS

*Springtime is a lovely time
With birds and leaves and flowers,
And bright and cheering sunshine
Then gentle pleasant showers.*

*We're planning many happy times,
My Mother and I,
She says the pretty spring days
Just seem to fly!—A.E.W.*

IN THE WORLD OF BOYS AND GIRLS

A MYSTERY

A butterfly came out of our cocoon today. When we found the cocoon last fall, Mother said:

"Something wonderful is happening in this caterpillar's house. We may see a beautiful butterfly come out in the spring."

Today a brown and yellow butterfly slowly crawled out of one end. It was all wet and sticky and its wings were drooping.

We put the box in the sunlight for a while. Then we took it outdoors and put the butterfly on a branch of a bush. It kept opening and closing its wings as they dried in the sun. Suddenly it spread them and flew away.

"How can a caterpillar change into a butterfly?" I asked as we watched it go.

"I don't know," Mother answered softly.

"Doesn't anybody know?" I asked.

"God knows, for He planned it that way," Mother said. "No one but God could have thought of sending beauty into the world like that."—Story World

LITTLE BLESSINGS

By Maud R. Lemley

*Thank you, God, for little things
For sunshine and for rain,
For trees and flowers and starlight,
For grass and golden grain.*

*For little white clouds floating,
And ripple of the stream,
For summer's blooming splendor
And autumn's golden dream.*

*For daisies in the meadows,
For sun and moonbeams bright,
For bird-song in the tree-tops,
And for the silent night.*

*For days of joyous gladness,
And friends along the way,
For strength and hope and courage,
To meet each coming day.*

*For all the whispering breezes,
For health and joy and love,
For lovely sights and fragrance,
And for a heaven above.*

—Junior Girl

*"Weel dinna forget I take nines
and Maggie size three."*

Wife (in back seat): "George, don't drive so fast!"

Husband: "Why not?"

Wife: "That policeman on a motorcycle behind us can't get by!"

ARKANSAS METHODIST

JUST FOR FUN

Friend: "Did you get any replies to your advertisement that a lonely maiden sought light and warmth in her life?"

Spinster: "Yes, two from electric light companies and one from a gas company."

A little girl had a birthday party. From all accounts it was highly successful — at least, one would gather so from the report she gave a friend. "It was swell—19 out of 12 came."—Cominco Magazine, Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co.

A teacher explaining the rule of subtraction to a pupil. The pupil does not seem to understand, so at last the teacher asks: "When you have four chops on your plate, and eat four, what will then remain?"

The pupil: "The potatoes."

An Aberdonian was getting married. "No doubt you will be giving us a sendoff?" he said to the best man.

"Oh, yes," was the reply. "Ribbons, rice, balloons, old boots, and shoes, I expect."

BEGIN PRINTING OF REVISED BIBLE VERSION

By RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK—Printing of the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible was begun here with brief ceremonies in which officials of the National Council of Church participated. The ceremonies took place in the plant of the American Book-Stratford Press, Inc.

A prayer was offered by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, general secretary of the National Council, after which Dr. Roy G. Ross, associate general secretary, pressed an electric switch which started the presses rolling.

Simultaneously, the Revised Version also went on the presses in two other plants—the H. Wolff Book Manufacturing Co., Inc., Teterboro, N. J., and the Riverside Press, Cambridge, Mass. Plates were sent to Edinburgh, Scotland, where Bibles for the rest of the English speaking world will be published.

Dr. Luther A. Weigle, dean emeritus of Yale Divinity School, who headed the committee of 32 scholars responsible for the revision begun in 1937, was not present at the ceremonies here because of illness.

In a statement prepared for the occasion, he said there are three vital reasons why the Bible of the 17th century must be revised for people today.

"First," he said, "manuscripts much older than those used by translators of the King James version are available to modern scholars. Many interpolations and hand-

copying errors made by medieval monks must be eliminated.

"Second, the archeological discoveries of the past 75 years have afforded incomparably richer resources for understanding the vocabulary, grammar and idioms of the Biblical languages.

"Third, many words in the King James version which meant one thing 350 years ago, mean something else now and they must be corrected to give the true meaning of the word for our time."

Publication date of the Revised Version is September 30, by which time nearly one million copies will be available. The printing begun here includes both the Old and the New Testaments. Publishers of the Revised Version is Thomas Nelson and Sons, New York.

of peacetime shipping.

Language barriers offered no insurmountable hurdle to the energetic and ingenious churchman. He quickly developed a series of gestures and a sign language to get over his message. Now the groups he takes to church generally include one or more seamen distinguished by the fair skin, flaxen hair and blue eyes of Scandinavian lands or wearing the distinctive red pom-pom of France.

Frequently, Mr. Werner finds that he must provide meals and carfares for those he has shepherded to church. At first he was seriously embarrassed financially on Mondays. However, other members of the congregation soon found out what he was doing. Since then they have worked out an informal arrangement to help defray the expenses.

LAYMAN SHEPHERDS SERVICEMEN TO CHURCH

By Religious News Service

PHILADELPHIA—Some 5,000 servicemen during the last ten years have attended Sunday church services in Philadelphia, although not one of them had planned to go to church an hour before the service started.

They went because 75-year-old Fred Werner, a layman at Holy Trinity Episcopal church told them to go.

Mr. Werner's technique is a simple one. Each Sunday he leaves home about an hour ahead of time and patrols the principal streets and parks of downtown Philadelphia. Whenever he sees service folk, singly or in groups, he approaches them with a friendly smile.

"Come on, boys," he says, "and go to church with me. It won't hurt and it won't cost you anything."

Usually, from half a dozen to forty servicemen respond to his invitation and accompany the kindly white-haired man to church.

It all started on Easter Sunday in 1942. Standing on the church steps before the service, Mr. Werner saw two sailors sitting idly on a bench in Rittenhouse Square across the street. On an impulse, he went over and invited them to come to the service.

"I'm not a sheep-stealer," he says. "I don't talk religion to the boys either before or after the service. I just figure if a boy is lonely and in a strange town and hasn't anything else to do, he might as well be in church."

Most of the servicemen Mr. Werner takes to church are strangers in the town, so he usually throws a sightseeing trip after the service.

Decrease in the numbers of servicemen after the war hasn't lessened his activities. He found new fields in the droves of foreign sailors who came to the port with the return

"THY KINGDOM COME"

(Continued from page 3)

do—so much with so little—one is made to feel a real sense of shame. Ashamed of just how little we give to missions in comparison to what we spend at home.

Our Methodist church has not met all its opportunities there. Money and workers are needed. Who will go? Who will give that others may go? Europe, Latin America, Southeastern Asia—all places where our missionaries are carrying on in His name—with TOO FEW—and TOO LITTLE. What is the answer? Christ in the heart of our church. Christ in my heart and yours. Christ is the answer.

And now, undergirding it all, being placed at the foot of the cross on the emblem for our quadrennial emphases, is Discipleship. We Will Accept The Price Of Christian Discipleship.

We want to try to apply to ourselves what this means in terms of all of life including: time, service, money, study, prayer, thought, and conviction, which may result in suffering and sacrifice.

We as Christian women need to consider whether the deeds of our daily lives are contributing to God's purpose for us. Our time, when used for worthy ends, will please the Great Giver of Time and make for us a most satisfactory life.

If we are to accept the price of Christian Discipleship we not only must be mindful of the time that is ours but of our talents. It is not a question of how many talents we have but rather, what we are doing with what talent we have.

What can we do this next year, these next four years, that the Kingdom of God may be realized. What can we do to be doing the work of God. We can have the answer, Christ, in our hearts, is the answer.

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IN the annual Lay Witness Number of The Upper Room (May-June), engineers and housewives, merchants and educators, lawyers and labor leaders, doctors and farmers lead millions of people in daily Bible reading, meditation, and prayer. Join the ever-growing circle of Christians who at their family altars or in private devotions find inspiration for daily living through The Upper Room.

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ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA

- Methodist

Youth

Fellowship

NEWS

SEBASCOTT SUB-DISTRICT MID-WINTER INSTITUTE

On February 29 - March 2 our Sub-District held a Mid-Winter Institute at Jones Memorial Methodist Church, Hartford.

We had planned for the institute for sometime. We had as leaders a Fellowship Team from Hendrix College composed of Bobby Watson, Wayne Hill, Richard Hudson, Sarah Workman, Joan Jacoway and Rev. James S. Upton of the college faculty.

The institute began on Friday with a banquet with about fifty attending. Brother Upton was the guest speaker. We were happy to have with us Rev. Bob Sessions, Fort Smith District Youth Director, and Dr. W. Henry Goodloe, our district superintendent. Several of the member churches in the Sub-District had a part on the banquet program which closed with the group standing in a friendship circle as Dr. Goodloe gave the benediction.

Saturday was a day of inspiration, study, fun and fellowship. The theme for the institute was "What is the M. Y. F.?" Each members of the fellowship had a part in leading one of the four discussion sessions. There were periods of singing, recreation, worship, and study period. After

the evening meal the program was closed with devotions in the sanctuary.

The delegates visited the church school and morning worship of the host church and Sarah Workman and Richard Hudson had a part in the morning worship. Brother Upton was guest speaker, bringing a message on "The Methodist Church: Its Heritage and Challenge."

Richard Hudson led the group in the closing worship service in the sanctuary.

We appreciated the fine leadership of the fellowship team and we express our gratitude for the program of Hendrix College which makes this team possible.

This is the first institute that our Sub-District has had. We see many immediate results, and are expecting many greater results in the future. Each of our member churches, Greenwood, Hunnington, Mansfield, Waldron, Waldron Circuit and Hartford, had one or more delegates who attended the entire institute. Each one present was encouraged, inspired, and instructed. We all feel that we can have a better Methodist Youth Fellowship organization in our area in the future. — Aaron Barling, Counselor.

Rev. James S. Upton, professor Hendrix College, guest speaker at the banquet during the beginning session of the Sebascoott Sub-District Mid-Winter Institute, Jones Memorial Methodist Church, Hartford.



WITH THE SUB-DISTRICTS

The Mississippi County Sub-District met at the Wilson Methodist Church for its March meeting. The president, Jane McLendon, presided. A membership drive will be held in the local M. Y. F. groups and reports will be made at the Sub-District meeting. A quiz program was held with Whitton taking honors. A worship program was presented by the Wilson group.

The Sebascoott Sub-District meeting was held at Hartford on March 13. The following officers were elected: President, Ruth Riddling, Waldron; Vice-president, John Tollarson, Greenwood; Secretary, Frances Thomas, Mansfield; Treasurer, Tom Wier, Hartford and Reporter, Joy Edgington, Huntington. Joe Bill Roberts, president, presided. Sixty-four were in attendance. Reports were given on the Institute held at Hartford, February 29 - March 2. Hartford was in charge of the program.

The Paul E. Martin Sub-District met at the First Methodist Church, Fort Smith, on March 18. Mrs. Fru Ella Carolan led group singing. Dr. Fred G. Roebuck and Rev. D. J. Hindman led an open forum on "The Church Beliefs and Religious Problems of Today's Youth." There were 94 in attendance and Midland Heights took the plaque with 25 present. The worship program was led by Carolyn Dooley and Nancy Secest.

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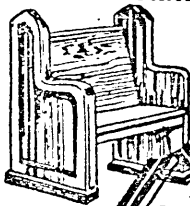
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M. Y. F. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 3, is the big day for Methodist Youth in Louisiana. The place is First Methodist Church, Alexandria.

The speaker of the hour will be the Rev. George F. Ivey, Vice-President of Centenary College.

Each district will send a quota of youth by bus, car, and train. Officers will be elected and other exciting business will be handled.

Contact your District Director of Youth Work for further information.

A NEW METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

L'Eau Frais Methodist Church had organized a Methodist Youth Fellowship and the following officers have been elected: Velma Tankersly, President; Gerald Davis, Vice-president; Helen Givens, Secretary; Ann Ledbetter, Treasurer and Elizabeth Ledbetter, Reporter. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Quinn are counselors.

The group has raised \$27.11 to be used for M. Y. F. pins and a M. Y. F. pennant for the church. — Reporter.

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ARKANSAS METHODIST

COMMISSION TO STUDY MINISTRY ISSUES PREVIEW OF ITS REPORT

IN a report prepared for submission to the 1952 General Conference of the Methodist Church, the denomination's Commission to Study the Ministry recommends that:

1. The present rule prohibiting unordained supply pastors from administering the communion shall remain unchanged.
2. The "no smoking" pledge shall no longer be required of a ministerial candidate but that he shall be asked "to make a complete dedication of himself to the highest ideals of the Christian ministry."
3. Standards for conference membership shall not be lowered for supply pastors but that "supplies" shall be given every possible encouragement to complete the prescribed course of study to make them eligible for conference membership.

The document, which also outlines the philosophy and history of the Methodist ministry, was prepared by a commission headed by Bishop Gerald Kennedy of the Portland (Ore.) Area. Dr. Kenneth Pope of First Church, Houston, Tex., served as secretary.

The report praises the Methodist pulpit as "the freest platform in the world," but warns that "it may be that the ease with which ministers may be moved has become a weakness in our policy."

"There are times," the report declares, "when a minister ought to deal with his problems instead of running away from them, and there are times when a congregation needs the word of a prophet even though it makes them uncomfortable. Bishops and district superintendents need to be aware of this danger and be on their guard lest their chief aim be peace rather than Christian growth."

Commenting on the freedom of the pulpit, the commission says: "It is free because of our heritage and tradition. It is free because Methodists think and let think. It is free because congregations, on the whole, demand that the preacher shall speak according to his conscience. It is free because our appointive system gives every Methodist preacher protection against the small, vocal, narrow, intolerant minorities which are certain to appear from time to time."

On the matter of unordained men being allowed to administer the communion, the report states that the whole weight of Christian tradition and the historic policy of Methodism are opposed to this practice. The M. E. Church, South, at its 1926 General Conference adopted legisla-

tion permitting unordained supply pastors to administer the sacrament within the bounds of their parishes. This practice was carried over by the Uniting Conference in 1939, but the 1948 General Conference repealed the rule and reaffirmed the historic Methodist position that it is unlawful for unordained ministers to administer the sacrament.

"It is hard for us to see how ordination can retain any real meaning," the commission reports, "if unordained men, without putting forth any effort or following any discipline, have all the rights and privileges of ordination, even if they should promise to fulfill the requirements for ordination at a later date."

The commission states that it believes the difficulty of this problem has been exaggerated: that where the matter has been faced carefully, the sacrament has been provided for every congregation a proper number of times each year; and that the actual proportion of approved supplies who are unordained is relatively small.

In order to ease the problem for the supply pastors, the commission recommends that, after receiving deacon's ordination, the candidate may receive elder's orders upon the satisfactory completion of one further year of study — thus taking one year off the ordination study period.

At the present time candidates for the Methodist ministry are required to file with the Conference board of ministerial training and qualifications, satisfactory answers to several questions, among them this: "Will you abstain from the use of tobacco and other indulgences which may injure your influence?"

"This seems to single out one indulgence," the report says, "and leaves unmentioned any number of weightier matters. It raises to central importance an indulgence which does not merit such a place of honor."

"There are many Methodists who feel strongly about this matter and believe that smoking among our ministers ought never to be encouraged," the commission continues. "They feel that, at best, the use of tobacco is a habit that tends to enslave its victim until, strictly speaking, he is no longer a free man. They feel that, in a time when there is general moral laxness abroad, it would be unwise to lower our standards of personal cleanliness and health, especially as they affect the ministry. Without exception, the members of the commission agree with this point of view."

"Therefore, we are recommending that we hold our standards of personal discipline as high as always, but that we place this matter on a higher level than the legal. We recommend that no man be required to sign a promise that he will not smoke. But in the Discipline (ar. 321) we would insert before the part dealing with the written question: 'Before a license to preach is granted to any applicant, the committee shall call upon him to make a complete dedication of himself to the highest ideals of the Christian ministry. The committee shall insist that the applicant recognize the great importance of living an exemplary life free from all harmful practices which would discount his ministry such as the use of intoxicants, narcotics and tobacco, and urge that he consecrate himself to purity of life in body, mind and spirit.'"

The commission commends annual conferences which have

taken steps to provide more adequately for supply pastors by minimum salary scales and retirement funds, but feels that suggestions calling for lowering standards to permit supply pastors to become conference members are "misguided."

"It will not serve the church to lower the standards of conference membership any more than to lower the standards for ordination or administration of Holy Communion," the report declares.

Supply pastors should be given every encouragement and assistance to study and pass the course of study prescribed for admission to the annual conference, the commission recommends.

Other members of the commission besides those named are: Bishop W. C. Martin, Dallas-Fort Worth Area; Bishop Clare Purcell, Birmingham Area; Dr. W. T. Jones, Bloomington, Ind., district superintendent; Dr. Lester Rumble, St. John's Church, Augusta, Ga.; Dr. Julius S. Scott, president of Wiley College, Marshall, Tex.; Dr. Adrian B. Foote, Central Church, Endicott, N. Y.; Dr. George Roseberry, Salem, Ore., district superintendent. Representatives from the Commission on Ministerial Training who worked with the commission are: Dr. Oscar Thomas Olson, Epworth-Euclid Church, Cleveland; Dr. Gerald O. McCulloh, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill.; and Dr. J. Richard Spann, educational director, Nashville, Tenn.

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The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

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WHAT DOES EASTER MEAN TO THE CHURCH?

LESSON FOR APRIL 13, 1952

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:

John 11:14-16; John 14:1-6; John 20:24-29.

GOLDEN TEXT: Jesus said to him, Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." (John 20:29)

AIM OF UNIT: To lead men and women to be better churchmen through the inspiration of early New Testament churchmen.

A Look At The Scriptures

All the events of this lesson took place in A. D. 30. They took place during the last weeks of the Lord's visible sojourn on this earth. It will be remembered that Christ lived to be some 35 years old, but because of an error in the calendar he died in A. D. 30 rather than 33.

Christ raised Lazarus from the dead in January. He gave the beautiful discourse that begins with the fourteenth chapter of John on Thursday evening April 6, A. D. 30. He was crucified the next day. This discourse was given in Jerusalem in the upper room where Christ established the Communion of the Lord's Supper.

The Lord arose on April 9, A. D. 30. On the evening of that day in the upper room in Jerusalem he appeared to 10 of his Apostles. Judas had already destroyed himself and Thomas was not present. One week later, Sunday April 16, the Lord appeared again and this time Thomas was present. This appearance also took place in the upper room.

The Death Of Lazarus

The first passage of the lesson (John 11:14-16) tells of the death of Lazarus. This event is brought into the lesson because Lazarus' death foreshadows that of Christ. It thus has a place in an Easter lesson. It will be remembered that Lazarus was the brother of Martha and Mary. They lived at Bethany a little village on the Mount of Olives about a mile and a half east of Jerusalem.

When Christ first spoke of the death of Lazarus he termed it sleep. He often used this figure in speaking of death. The disciples reminded him that if it were thus with Lazarus all was well. Then he told them plainly that Lazarus was dead. The Lord suggested that they go to the home of Lazarus. The disciples feared for the Lord's life. They called his attention to the fact that the Jews about Jerusalem had of late tried to stone him.

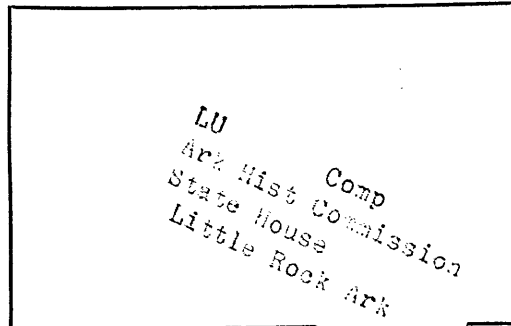
It is at this point that Thomas one of the Twelve Apostles enters the picture. We often think of Thomas as a doubter, but that was not the outstanding characteristic of his life. It is true that he was a natural-born pessimist and always looking on the dark side. He felt sure that the Lord would be killed if he returned to Judea, but in spite of this fact he insisted that the disciples go along that they might die with him. His chief qualities were love and courage.

Cure Of A Troubled Heart

The next passage (John 14:1-6) is a portion of one of the greatest discourses ever given by Christ. The Lord had just told his disciples that he was about to go away

and they were heartbroken. They had been his constant companions for about three years. They had eaten with him. They had slept with him. He had talked with them by the way. When would-be enemies came with hard questions Christ was the spokesman for the group. Now he is about to go away. They were simply overwhelmed with grief. He spoke these words to console them.

By common consent this is the most popular passage in the whole Bible. Some say that the reason for this is the fact that there are so many heart-broken people in the world. In this passage Christ sets forth



the only cure for a troubled heart ever discovered — faith; "Believe in God, believe also in me."

This passage fits into our Easter lesson because it tells why Christ was going away — "I go to prepare a place for you." Physical death was not to mark the end of his existence. It was simply a door through which he was to pass into a bigger, fuller life with greater privileges and responsibilities. It was after conquering death that he said to his disciples: "All power both in heaven and earth is given unto me."

Christ is the way. He is God's way to man and man's way to God. He is the Jacob's Ladder that connects heaven and earth. He is the door through which man enters in his search for God. He is the truth; the truth about God; the truth about man; the truth about life; and the truth about relationships. He is the life. Note that he puts that statement in the present and not the future tense. He is the life now and will continue so to be forever. Eternal life is not merely a matter of duration, it is also a quality of life. He who lives a Christ-like life now need have no fear either for the present or the future.

Christ Appears To His Apostles

Christ conquered death and came from the tomb on that first great Easter morning, Sunday, April 9, A. D. 30. He appeared to ten of the Apostles in the upper room at

Jerusalem on the evening of that day. Thomas was not present. His pessimism and doubts had gotten the best of him. With the death of Jesus, he felt that the Christian movement had come to an end. Think of what Thomas missed by not being at church that night!

The other Apostles told Thomas what had happened but he refused to believe. He demanded proof of the strictest type before he would believe. Eight days rolled around and Sunday came again and this time Thomas was at church. The service was being held in the upper room. The Lord came again. He invited Thomas to examine the wounds in his hands, feet, and side. Thomas fell at his feet with this great confession on his lips — "My Lord and my God!" Jesus blessed him because he had seen and believed but he pronounced a greater blessing on all those who will believe without seeing. Thomas had a chance to believe without seeing but he turned it down.

Proofs Of The Resurrection

The resurrection of Christ is one of the best proven facts of all history. Space will permit us to note briefly some of these proofs.

First, there was the empty tomb. There can be no question of this fact, even the enemies of the Lord admitted it. They hired the watchers to say that the disciples came and stole the body while they slept. This is ridiculous. It is a known fact that most of these disciples later died for preaching that Christ had arisen from the dead. Had they stole his body, they, above all others would have known they were preaching a lie and would not have died for it.

Second, there is the church. If Christ had not risen from the dead the Christian movement would have died in its infancy. The disciples did not expect him to rise. It was hard for them to believe it after they saw him alive. They were completely dejected, discouraged, and ready to quit. They were already talking about going back to their old trades. Then, they saw Christ alive and their attitude was completely changed. They went out to die for the cause.

Third, millions of people claim that they now have contact with the living Lord. In this number are the greatest thinkers and best educated people of our modern world. In speaking of his belief in the resurrection of Christ and the immortality of the soul England's greatest statesman, William E. Gladstone said, "I make the faith of the human race by faith." He simply couldn't feel that so many people and of such caliber could be wrong about this matter.

People who put their lives into the hands of the living Christ receive great power in the experience. They face the problems of life with courage. They even walk down through the valley and shadow of death without fear. It is said that human nature remains the same down through the years — selfish, greedy, full of hate, etc. Aside from contact with the living Christ this is true, but the nature of millions have been changed by his help. The hope of the world today lies in this change.

To the church in general and to the individual Christian, Easter means the worship of a living Christ and not a dead Jesus. It means victory through him. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." This faith is trust in a living Person who lives with his followers and gives them power over the forces of evil.

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