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"Coming Events Cast Their Shadows Before"

A BILL has been introduced in the Senate to repeal Arkansas' present racing law which makes the race track and pari-mutuel betting possible in Hot Springs. We do not know just how seriously this bill will be considered at the present time. It is to be hoped that it will receive a "do pass" recommendation by the committee and a handsome majority in both houses.

Be that as it may, it was Thomas Campbell, the poet, who wrote "Coming events cast their shadows before." If this bill does not pass at the present time, it is our feeling that it is a prophecy of what will happen in days to come.

A very significant thing about this bill is the fact that it was introduced by the Senator from Lee County who is the person who introduced the bill which made the present races at Hot Springs possible. It is quite likely that the brazen insistence of race track promoters of eastern Arkansas on having a race track in St. Francis County has led the Senator from Lee, an adjoining county, to reverse his opinion about the whole racing business.

In The Hour Of Trial

THE same newspaper which carried the account of the grave sickness of the late Premier Stalin last week published a picture of a group of East Germany Communist youth marching in a parade in an East German city carrying banners proclaiming that they did not believe in God, indicating that they were being brought up in the true Communist way. The same newspaper also told how the churches in Moscow were crowded with devout persons offering prayers for the stricken Stalin. Nowhere have we seen any indication that persons were prevented from praying for Stalin although Communism seeks to eradicate religion, and particularly Christianity, from the earth.

The striking aspect of this situation is that those very persons who live in Moscow under the dictatorship of atheist Stalin found their ways to the churches to pray for the very man who disclaimed any value in belief in God or religion. We are not suggesting that those who offered intercessory prayers for Stalin were not qualified to do so or even that their petitions were made in vain. It is quite likely that many devoutly religious persons were numbered among those crowding the churches. We are suggesting however that this incident is another striking bit of evidence that Communism does not have all the answers, even for people who live in Moscow. In the hour of trouble the churches were full of people who had gone there for prayer.

We seem to remember other German youth of the last generation who goosestepped on the streets of cities in Germany carrying banners that blatantly proclaimed disbelief in the Christian interpretation of life. The reign of the Nazis came and went but the very interpretation of life which it sought to eradicate is stronger in the experience of man than ever before. Now comes the Communists youth with the same banners dusted off, seeking to impress the world with their devotion to a godless way of life, while at the very fountainhead of Communism, Moscow, the churches are filled with Moscowites praying for their fallen leader.

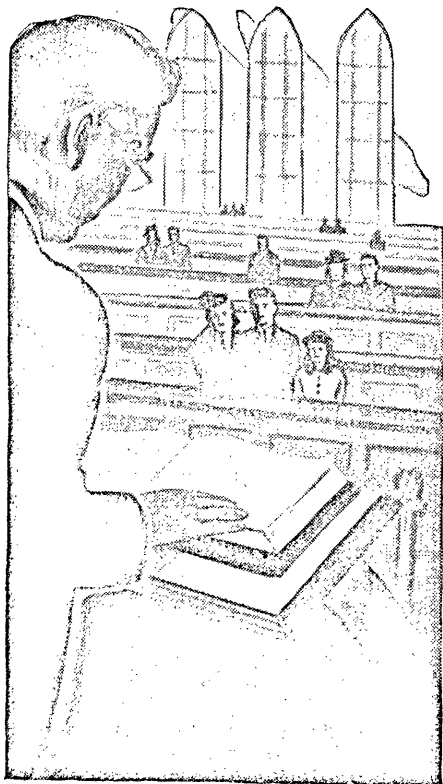
The people of the free world will find reassurance in the fact that there are still numbers

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A Methodist Preacher's Hardest Job

A N orchestra leader was asked, "What instrument in the orchestra is the hardest to play?" His immediate reply was, "The second fiddle." It is true, also, in the orchestra of life, that it is very hard to play "second fiddle."

If you were to ask Methodist preachers, "What is the hardest job in the ministry?"



it is almost certain that the immediate, unanimous reply would be, "To preach to empty pews." It is not only difficult, it is just about impossible for a minister to really preach when the big majority of the pews before him are empty.

One of the most disappointing, discouraging experiences a pastor can have is to find it necessary to preach a well-prepared sermon, when only a few of his people are present to hear it. Any preacher who is worthy of a place in the ministry gives time, study and planning in the preparing of a sermon. If he is confident that he will be preaching it in a sanctuary well filled with people as well as pews, there is an impelling, compelling inspiration in the thought. To feel, however, that only a scattered few will be present to hear the message he is preparing is a discouraging, depressing experience that makes it almost impossible to be prepared for the service, either in spirit or in the sermon.

A large attendance at your church services will do more to improve the spirit and the subject matter of your pastor's sermons than almost anything the congregation can do. No man called of God to preach to people should have to preach to empty pews. It is a Methodist preacher's hardest job.

MCOR Advance Specials

MANY Methodist local church leaders will be interested to know that Advance Specials in the field of overseas relief are available during this quadrennium as was true during 1948-1952, and money contributed either as an Advance Special or as a direct gift to the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief will be credited to the local church where the contribution originated as an Advance Special. There has been some confusion at this point and we want to help clear up that confusion.

Because of the emergency nature of the great work of the Methodist Commission For Overseas Relief needs of the future are not always apparent at the present. However, Advance Specials are available to local churches and individuals ranging from \$10 to \$200 which provide emergency aid such as food, clothing, medicine, fuel, rehabilitation assistance, to those in need in Korea, India, Europe, Palestine, and other centers of need. This work is carried on both in the name of The Methodist Church and on an interdenominational level. Other emergencies arise which call for immediate use of such funds as may be available, and undirected gifts to MCOR can be used. For example, MCOR has given \$50,000 for the relief of recent flood victims in Holland.

We want to encourage such churches as can possibly do so to include in their Advance Special planning a proportionate part for MCOR, and direct these funds either for a specified Advance Special or as an undirected gift to MCOR which this agency can direct where it thinks the funds will do the most good at the right time.

The Follow-Up

A few days ago while on a trip in Arkansas we were leaving a city and passed a highway truck being driven along at a very slow rate of speed keeping pace with two highway employees who were cleaning up the highway right-of-way. Because of traffic conditions it was necessary to follow this truck for a few moments and we had the opportunity to note that the baskets which the employees were carrying were filled for the most part with liquor bottles, beer bottles and beer cans which had been thrown from passing cars. It occurred to us that this is but further evidence of the folly of permitting the sale of alcoholic beverages for the sake of revenue.

The state licenses the alcoholic beverage traffic and then to keep the highways clean must take part of that same revenue and pay to have the mess cleaned up. Or to put it another way, taxpayers who have no part in the buying or selling of alcoholic beverages pay taxes that support the men who must keep the highways clear of cans and bottles which besides making an unsightly mess are sure to ruin a few tires.

While this is the first time that we have seen state employees actually removing bottles and cans from a highway right-of-way we are certain that any working day this incident is repeated in a number of places. That is, of course, as it should be. The highways must be kept free of any matter that is either unsightly or dangerous or both. But this is but another example of the cost that society must pay for having such a leech as the liquor traffic on its back.

Actually the cost of the follow-up work in removing the bottles and cans from highway right-of-ways is a small item in the total cost of the traffic's cost to society. Who can reckon the cost in terms of broken homes, damned souls,

(Continued on page 4)

The Baroda District Superintendent Reports

By REV. LESTER FINLEY, Superintendent
Supported by 1st Methodist Church, Jonesboro



The Four District Superintendents of The Gujarat Annual
Conference In India: (l to r) Rev. Jacob D. Merchant, Rev. Mithalal
Hiralal, Rev. Lester Finley, Rev. R. B. Desai.

Rev. Lester Finley made this report to the Gujarat Annual Conference December 5, 1952. The reader will discover in this report something of the nature and progress of Methodist work in India and the Gujarat Conference to which much Advance money has been directed by the Arkansas annual conferences. Mr. Finley has returned to the United States on furlough and will travel extensively in Arkansas later this year.

THIS report must begin with a Jaya Christ (Victory to Christ). This is my first year as District Superintendent, and if anything worth mentioning was done, it was done through His strength given to me and my co-workers.

BARODA CHURCH

The Baroda Church had a good year. Notable results were noticed in the Vacation Bible School, the Christian Home and Womens' work. The Pastor gave experienced, steady leadership. More attention needs to be given to prayer groups in the compounds, and more non-Mission workers should be enlisted in the Sunday School and Junior Church teaching. The English Church should make more contact with non-Christian University students. It is good that the Church is missionary minded enough to help in the financial support of the Baroda City Church in the Bazaar.

BARODA CITY CHURCH

This Church is making good contacts with non-Christians in the City, especially among mill workers. Youth work (teen age) needs to be done here, and women's work also should be encouraged.

The Church is 20% self-supporting.

VILLAGE CHURCHES

In the Dabhoi Circuit in the village of Morad, there has been good response to the gospel message. Likewise during the year, a nightly worship meeting was started in the village of Aladhpora. More lay leadership is needed in this circuit. Only about 2% self support is maintained.

This is the growing-edge of our work in Baroda District.

In the Dumad Circuit, we had one less worker through the death of Fulji Gababhai. We have raised up no leaders from among the people, except in Sokhada. The work is only 3% self supporting.

In Jambusar Circuit, there is much to be encouraged about at Kavli. Here a layman is without pay leading the Church in worship, evangelism in the surrounding villages, in Sabbath observance, and adult literacy. This group of believers is a good example and witness of what great numbers of our laymen ought to be doing. The circuit is 3% self-supporting.

In Kareli Circuit, there is new life at Jalalpura. In Padra Circuit Dabhasa and Mohvad have had good meetings. The circuit is 7% self-supporting of evangelistic work. In Palej Circuit outstanding work in Adult Literacy was done at Itola. Joseph Parmar, a lay evangelist is doing

good work in villages and with tracts. Palej Circuit is 6% self-supporting.

This year in the Sarol Circuit our building at Sarol was rebuilt, and the people gave sixty days work to that project. Only two percent of the cost of evangelistic work is supported by the people. The Savli Circuit has very active laymen in it. The circuit pastor has done well in touring his district. At Tundav there is a regular women's meeting. The circuit is 20% self-supporting of Evangelistic work. Vasad Circuit had a women's meeting established at Vadod. More encouragement to laymen needs to be given in this circuit. It is 2% self supporting. Vagashi Circuit was saddened recently through the death of Ashabhai Jaya Masihi. At Vagashi Karbharis are very interested in our work. Our work in this circuit (evangelistic is only 10% self-supporting.) The Alarsa Circuit was 2% self-supporting of the educational and evangelistic work. Lay leadership needs to be encouraged throughout the circuit.

THE JATRA

The Camp Meeting at Vasad brought an awakening to many of the leaders of the District. We pray that the conference-wide Jatra this coming year will see a mighty revival amongst us so that the Church will be able to witness with Power from on High.

MONTH OF EVANGELISM

We need to lay more stress on taking more probationers into full membership, training them, and enlisting them in evangelistic work.

DISTRICT PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR

At the meeting of the Circuitdars, the following subjects were decided upon as those to be stressed during the year:

Prayer, Worship, Christian Home, Sabbath Observance, Stewardship and Tithing, and Christian Festivals. Very helpful Bible study and preaching and teaching notes were prepared by the circuitdars. These were mimeographed and sent to layman, workers, teachers. They were used in meetings, two months on each subject.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

Webb Memorial Girls' School and Hostel: Especially fine work was done in the primary school where over eighty percent passed in the annual examination. There are more boys than girls in the school, and more non-Christian students than Christian. The staff, however is eighty percent Christian. A fine innovation this year was the holding of a "parents day" with a program which educated the parents and interested them more in the school. The results in the Matric examination are not satisfactory. The hostel life is well managed.

Methodist Boys' School and Hostel: About 27% of the boys in the School are non-Christian and about half the staff are Christians. A new activity this year is the teaching of students who may learn to play band instruments. Promotions were not so liberal this year, but the matric results were poor. The hostel has experienced strong spiritual emphasis this year, and co-op-

eration and work among the boys has improved. A Drama Club, under the direction of Mrs. Johnson, is doing good work. Several hostel boys went with the District Superintendent for evangelistic work.

Village Education Service: The VES Program and the Evangelistic program were well co-ordinated this year. Several joint meetings or institutes were held for the teachers and circuitdars. The village schools were regularly visited, and well managed.

Hostel Conference: An interdenominational Hostel conference was held this Spring, which proved very instructive and inspiring to those who attended.

Audio-Visual Education: Audio Visual education was carried on in both schools. The life of Christ Film was shown via petromax projector in twenty different villages.

Youth Work: Besides the Christian Endeavour meetings in the schools, and Churches, there was opportunity for a number of our youth to attend the Youth Camp at Umreth. This was for teen age youth, and fine evangelistic work was done there. Some of the youth of the schools helped in adult literacy work during the Summer. The Sunday Schools of our villages are in great need of more attention. The local pastors are urged to take their responsibility for youth work up with greater consecration.

Adult Literacy: Work was done in adult literacy at Tundav, Prathamapura, Morad, Vagashi, Alarsa, Kanoda, Vankaner, Kavli, Jhaveripura, but special work was done at Itola, where a large group of non-Christian Bhil men were taught the rudiments of reading and writing.

(Union Theological Seminary) G. U. S. T. We have three Methodist Students studying the G. U. S. T. The Theological work is going on well. We expect to use these buildings as a Spiritual Life Center for our conference, and perhaps for inter-denominational use when the GUST institution is moved to Ahmedabad, possibly next year, or the year following. It could be used for our short courses for laymen and workers, and for institutes.

Butler Memorial Hospital—Baroda: Dr. Frey formerly of the hospital, has gone to USA as Crusade Scholar, and the work is carried on by Dr. Kamale and Miss Precise, the superintendent and her nursing staff. A notable work in public health was done this year through the efforts of Miss Bhaskare, who visited homes in the compound, and nearby villages, held home nursing courses, and a health exhibition, and a baby and mothers clinic.

CHRISTIAN HOME

May fourth was observed as Christian Home Sunday, and was well celebrated in the Baroda Church and in a number of villages. In the Baroda Church, a family fellowship meal, and Mrs. Finley, the Christian Home Chairman arranged for good literature for use during the months of May and June, when the Christian home emphasis was made. Fine Christian pictures of Christ were

made available for the homes, so that they might replace the non-Christian ones too often seen.

RADIO PROGRAMS

Last Christmas, we were given a half hour program on the Baroda Station of all India Radio, and a special chorus from the Baroda Church sang Christmas Hymns both in English and Gujarati. At Easter, we had the opportunity of presenting the Message of Easter, as Rev. P. K. Dass spoke Good Friday evening. Five thousand tracts were prepared and distributed among non-Christians to them Festival Evening Broadcast. It was an effective means of Christian witness. We have been again asked to give a Christmas message in song and speech.

BUILDING AND REPAIRS

The Hill Memorial High School Building is now completed, and boys classes have been using a part of the building since one month. It is ready for use as a co-educational High School as planned to start next June. At Sarol the church building was completely remodeled. In the training compound, new latrines were built. Minor repairs were done in the rooms there as needed.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMING YEAR

1. More democracy in the local church—more lay leadership opportunities given.
2. Nightly meetings should be held by some layman or paid worker for every group of believers.
3. Village Sunday School materials (suitable) to be printed and used.
4. More women's meetings organized and functioning.
5. More classes for preparing full members.
6. More teaching on the difference between Catholics and Protestant.
7. The Church must begin to help people be saved from the grip of poverty. Rural Extension work from Ankleshvar.
8. Karbharis must be given more responsibility in (Stewards) collecting and accounting for Church offerings.
9. Revitalize the Gayan Tolis (Singing — Evangelistic Bands).
10. Evangelism all year—open street preaching, (not in the Christian Section only.)

CONCLUSION

I firmly believe that though the rainfall may not be reliable, we may never lack for a harvest of souls. I look for a great revival in the Church in Gujarat—and pray for it. I am thankful for the experience I had in evangelistic work in the conference this year, and with the Quartet and J. T. Seamonds in Madras. I thank all my colleagues, Indian and Missionary, for their part in the work of the District, and I praise Christ for letting me have the experience of this year.

YOUTH EVANGELISTS TALK RELIGION IN SODA SHOPS

Wilmington, Del.—(RNS)— Grown-ups who dropped into the soda-shop haunts of Wilmington young people were surprised to hear teen-agers talking about religion.

It was part of a week-long crusade planned by the Rev. Alva I. Cox, Jr., of Chicago, director of youth evangelism for the National Council of Churches, to reach the "unchurched" youngsters of this city and surrounding New Castle County.

Boys and girls now affiliated with church groups were enlisted, under adult sponsorship, as personal evangelists in the crusade. They avoided sermonizing or the carrying of Bibles as devices "too artificial" to youth. What they emphasized in opening up discussions with teen-agers is the wealth of fellowship that can be had in church organizations.

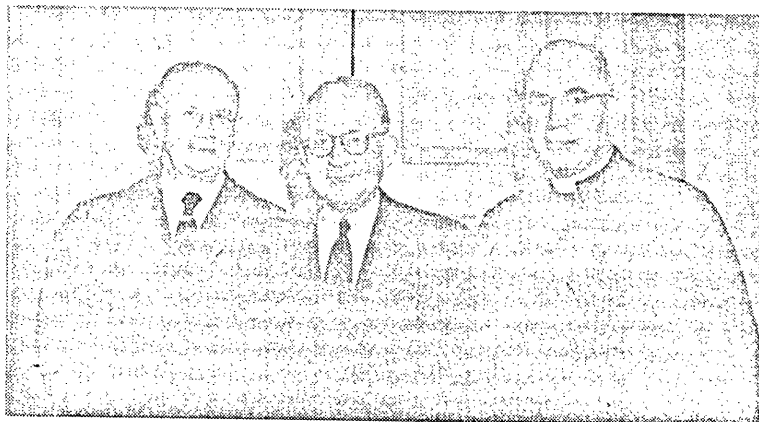
"We want to interest young people in knowing God through fellowship with other young people," Mr. Cox explained. "We don't care which church or which organization they join. We want to appeal to them in whatever place and on whatever basis youth naturally and normally would congregate—schools, clubs, basketball games, corner ice cream stores."

Fifty per cent of Wilmington youth have no church affiliation and do not attend services, Mr. Cox said, pointing out that the figure is approximately the national average.

Convinced that young people of high school

NEW PRESIDENT INSTALLED AT WASHINGTON AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Washington, D. C. — Dr. Hurst R. Anderson, inaugurated as the eighth president of American University here February 24 in ceremonies in the National Cathedral, is photographed with two ardent supporters. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam (right) delivered the address and conducted a service of dedication of the new president to his duties. Dr. John O. Gross (left) is executive secretary of the Division of Educational Institutions of the Methodist Board of Education.



American University, now 60 years old, came into a new and closer relationship to The Methodist Church by action of the 1952 General Conference. Its position as the only Protestant insti-

tution of higher education in our Nation's capital makes the institution of major concern for all of Methodism and Protestantism as well.

WESLEY'S THREE WORDS ON GIVING

By H. H. Smith, Sr.

John Wesley's famous words on giving are these: "Gain all you can; save all you can; give all you can." To the precept, "Gain all you can," he added the qualification: "without injuring yourself or your neighbor, either in soul or in body." Note three admirable traits in this oft-quoted saying: Industry, Thrift, Generosity.

In Wesley's writings we find three other important sayings on the stewardship of possessions. First, Wesley had strong convictions on the subject of tithing: "Unless thou givest a full tenth of thy substance, of thy fixed and occasional income, thou dost undoubtedly set thy heart upon thy gold, and it will eat thy flesh as fire."

Second, Father John said: "If you are not in pressing want, give something, and you will be no poorer for it. Grudge not, fear not; lend unto the Lord, and He will surely repay." Perhaps Wesley noted in his day (as we often note today) that there are a good many people who are prone to postpone giving to worthy causes until they get in better circumstances. To all such Wesley's word is: Do not wait until you have a surplus from which to give, but if you are "not in pressing want," reach forth now and help those who really are "in pressing want."

Third: Perhaps the most searching word Wesley has given us on the subject of the right use of our possessions, in view of the needs of so many, is found in the following incident related by him: "Many years ago, when I was at Oxford, on a cold winter's day, a young maid called upon me. I said: 'You seems to be half starved. Have you nothing to cover you but that thin linen gown?' She said, 'Sir, this is all I have.' I put my hand in my pocket, but found I had scarcely any money left, having just paid away what I had. It immediately struck me: 'Will the Master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant?" Thou hast adorned thy walls with the money which might have screened this poor creature from the cold? O, justice! O, mercy! Are not these pictures the blood of this poor maid?' Everything about thee which cost more than Christian duty required thee to lay out is the blood of the poor."

Are we not living in an age of extravagance? Too many people are spending their money too freely. If all who consider themselves Christians would buy only the things they really need, instead of the things they want, there would be much more money left to help those who are in dire need, or to promote the interests of the Kingdom of God. Wesley's searching words should awaken us.

age are frequently lonely and starved for friendship, Mr. Cox said church groups are in a particularly good position to fill this need. The teen-agers he recruited and briefed for his crusade here stressed this point.

When to Call Your Pastor

According to Dr. Russell L. Dicks, professor of pastoral care at Duke University, Durham, N. C., and editor of the magazine, Religion and Health, these are the occasions when you might call in your pastor for help:

1. When a loved one is seriously ill and facing death.
2. When a relative continues to be despondent following the death of a loved one.
3. When you are facing a surgical operation.
4. When you face adjustment to a physical handicap.
5. When you are going through a long convalescence.
6. Following the birth of a baby (for a prayer of thanksgiving).
7. When you desire to join the church.
8. When you have begun to worry about excessive drinking.
9. When a loved one is drinking excessively.
10. When you are having difficulty in your marriage.
11. When you are choosing a life work and feel uncertain about your choice.
12. When you are choosing a life mate and have doubts about your choice.
13. When as a parent you are concerned about either of the above decisions for your son or daughter.
14. When you are discouraged and life has lost its meaning.
15. When a loved one has become despondent for no obvious reason.
16. When the behavior of a loved one shows marked and rapid change, whether it is toward excessive misbehavior or excessive interest in religion; both are indications of serious personality disturbance.

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

REV. J. L. DEDMAN, Pine Bluff District Superintendent, is recovering from his recent illness. He was confined for a time at the Pine Bluff hospital.

REV. JAMES S. UPTON, Professor of Religion at Hendrix College, Conway, brought the morning message at the First Methodist Church, Fort Smith, on Sunday, March 8.

J. W. HULL, president of Arkansas Tech at Russellville, was guest speaker at the meeting of the Methodist Men of the Sheridan Methodist Church on Wednesday, February 25. The colored movie, "Water Wilderness" was shown.

DR. W. HENRY GOODLOE, Fort Smith District Superintendent, was the speaker at the quarterly Family Fellowship program at the Goddard Memorial Methodist Church, Fort Smith, on Sunday evening, February 15.

DR. JAMES W. WORKMAN of North Little Rock, was the guest speaker at the meeting of the Methodist Men of Gardner Memorial Methodist Church, North Little Rock, on Tuesday evening, March 10.

REV. DAVID HANKINS, JR., pastor of Jackson Street Methodist Church, Magnolia, gave the invocation at the annual banquet of the Magnolia Chamber of Commerce on Thursday evening, March 5.

REV. CHARLES McDONALD, JR., pastor at Ozark, was the speaker for the Fort Smith District Youth Rally which was held on Friday evening, March 6, at Goddard Memorial Methodist Church, Fort Smith. Rev. Robert Sessions of Van Buren is district director of Youth Work.

DR. MATT L. ELLIS, president of Hendrix College, Conway, spoke to the Methodist Men of the Mountain View Church at the breakfast meeting on Sunday, March 8, and was the speaker at the 11:00 o'clock worship hour to the congregation. Rev. H. W. Jinske is pastor.

DR. FINIS A. CRUTCHFIELD, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Mineral Wells, Texas, will be the guest evangelist in a pre-Easter revival at the Gardner Memorial Methodist Church, North Little Rock, March 15-22. Rev. Irl Bridenthal is pastor.

DAVIS BILBERRY, ministerial student at Southern State College, Magnolia, has joined the staff of the Jackson Street Methodist Church, Magnolia, as minister to youth. Mr. Bilberry has been very active in the church, especially in working with young people. His home town is Stephens.

REV. ROY I. BAGLEY, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Blytheville, was the preacher in evangelistic services at the First Methodist Church, Clarksville. The services began on Monday, March 2, and ran through Sunday, March 8. Rev. Paul M. Bumpers is pastor at Clarksville.

THE WEDDING of Miss Mary Lucille Wallace, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Y. Wallace of Buckner, and Jessup V. Andrews, airman 2nd class, son of Rev. and Mrs. C. R. Andrews of Huttig, was solemnized on Saturday, March 7, at the home of the groom's aunt, Mrs. M. O. VanDeveer, in Little Rock, with the father of the groom performing the ceremony.

THE CHOIRS of Lakeside Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, under the direction of Mrs. Walter Theis, gave a program of hymns and hymn stories at the evening worship service on Sunday, February 22. This hymn festival was a part of the Spring Evangelism series of services under the general title of "Festival of Faith" which was begun on the first Sunday of January.

REV. CHARLES WYATT, pastor of the Grand Avenue Methodist Church, Fort Smith, writes: "The Grand Avenue Methodist Church,

Fort Smith, enjoyed a most effective series of services during Dedication Week. Rev. T. C. Chambliss, pastor at Alma, did the preaching. Ten new members were received, eight by baptism. Two infants were dedicated to Christ and His church."

DR. L. L. EVANS, former pastor of the First Methodist Church, Fort Smith, will be the speaker in a series of evangelistic meetings to be held at the First Methodist Church, Warren, April 8 through April 19. Dr. Evans is now a general evangelist for The Methodist Church with headquarters in El Paso, Texas. Rev. Charles L. Cook of Abilene, Texas, will be in charge of the music. Rev. J. Ralph Clayton is pastor of First Church, Warren.

REV. AND MRS. J. T. SELF of Luxora will celebrate their sixty-second wedding anniversary on April 13 at their home in Luxora. Brother Self was a member of the old White River Conference in Arkansas. His first charge was in Blytheville where he served the only Methodist Church there at that time. Later he organized the First Methodist Church in Earle. In 1908 he moved to New Madrid, Mo., and joined the St. Louis Conference of which he is still a member. Brother Self is now 85 years of age.

BOB HALE, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe M. Hale of Little Rock, had charge of a program on "The World Day of Prayer for Students" at the Saturday evening session of the Methodist Student Movement Convention at Mississippi State College which met on February 13-15. Bob was one of thirteen students from the University of Mississippi who attended the convention. He is a third year "Naval Scholarship" student at the University. In Little Rock he was very active in the young people's work at Winfield Church.

MISS MARY SEARCY, who has just recently returned from Japan and is traveling for the Personnel Department of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church, met with the Methodist Youth Fellowship of the First Methodist Church, Jonesboro, on Sunday evening, March 1. In Japan Miss Searcy was head resident of the Social-Evangelistic Community Center in Kure, and was Religious Education Director as well as teacher in Keimei Girls' School in Kobe. In her meetings with young people she is counseling with students who are interested in church-related vocations and answers questions about missionary service at home and abroad.

REV. R. A. TEETER, pastor at Dumas, writes: "A successful eight-day revival was conducted in the Burt Pickens Memorial Church by Rev. Roland Darrow, closing on the first Sunday in March. Brother Darrow's messages were filled with information, with depth and range of thought and spiritual counseling. The membership of the church attended the services consistently and almost in a body. It has been said that the unsaved no longer attend revival services, but it was not true in this case. There was a considerable number of the unchurched in every evening service, and a good class of adults is coming into the fellowship. The spiritual life of the church was greatly stimulated and enriched."

THE FOLLOW-UP

(Continued from page 1)

ruined minds, warped personalities, innocent lives lost in traffic accidents caused by drunken drivers, and other equally tragic happenings which must be laid at the feet of those who argue that "we must have the revenue," and "we must not interfere with personal rights." In any final reckoning, responsibility for allowing the continuing, legally or illegally, of the liquor traffic rests upon each citizen in any state unless that citizen has fully exhausted every opportunity to prohibit the manufacture, sale or transportation of alcoholic beverages in the state.

A WEEKLY MESSAGE

By FORNEY HUTCHINSON

MY FIRST SUNDAY IN ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, OKLAHOMA CITY

It was a beautiful fall day in 1918 when I stood for the first time before my new congregation in St. Luke's Church, Oklahoma City. I had just left First Church, Texarkana, reluctantly, at the urgent request of our bishop. I arrived on Saturday night before I was to preach the following morning to my new congregation. At the opening service the church was filled to capacity and I received a cordial welcome.

After preaching to a very responsive audience, I opened the doors of the church. Eight persons came forward to join: The C. B. Hyde family, consisting of the father and mother and two grown children, Edgar and Alice, a Mr. and Mrs. Michaels and their son, and a Mrs. Ballou, who had been a member of Hunter Memorial Church in Little Rock, when I was pastor there.

It has been interesting to me through the years to keep up with that double quartette. Three of them have been transferred to the Church Triumphant, and the others are somewhat scattered. Mrs. Michaels, whose husband passed away, is now living in Tulsa and is a member of Boston Avenue Church. Very frequently she comes by to greet us at church on Sunday morning before she takes her seat in the auditorium. Mrs. Hyde passed away several years ago. Edgar, the son, is now a prominent member and steward in the First Methodist Church, Fort Worth, Texas. Alice, who is unmarried, keeps house for her father in Oklahoma City, and is actively connected with various interests in St. Luke's Church. Just recently I had a fine letter from Mr. Hyde, giving us news of his family and the church, to which he has meant so much through all these years. Mrs. Ballou joined St. Luke's Church on my first Sunday as she was passing through on her way to Little Rock to adjust her affairs before coming back to Oklahoma City to make it her permanent home. While in Little Rock she was taken ill and passed away. We shall greet these friends who have gone on in the "Land that knows no separation."

After the day was over and we were back at home in the parsonage, I felt that God had given us a gracious and auspicious beginning in our new church and home. The fourteen years that followed were equally gratifying and fruitful. It was my longest and in many ways my best pastorate. God bless St. Luke's Church as a whole, and those in particular, who joined the first day I was the new pastor.

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BEING FREE

A few years ago my plane landed in a certain European city. I could not go directly to my hotel. First I was taken to a government bureau, where I was registered, given an identification card, then sent to a hotel.

That card of identification had to be carried at all times, so that I might show it to the police if asked. What is more, I did not know which persons in the street crowds might be secret police. The land was honeycombed with thousands of secret government agents.



What a relief to return to this North American continent where decent citizens are not spied upon, where we can vote in free elections with secret ballots, where we can send our children to free public schools and worship God in churches of our choice!

Yet, when I came back to America, I found newspaper headlines filled with accounts of gambling syndicates whose scale of operations would indicate that millions of our citizens are in the grip of the gambling fever. I learned that thousands of high school youth here in this city of New York are enslaved by drug addiction. And more people are victims of excessive alcoholism in America than in any other country I know. Greed gripped so many of us that graft is rampant. Police officers are indicted in wholesale lots, and men in high places have sold their honor low. All this makes me wonder how free we Americans are, after all.

At the very time that we are spending billions of dollars to keep Europe free, and pouring out billions of dollars and thousands of our sons to make Korea free, would it not be tragic irony if we should squander our own liberties here at home by the mismanagement of our own lives?

About two years ago at a large church gathering in England, a British speaker twitted the American visitors rather pointedly. He said that America has the most money, the finest cars, the greatest luxuries.

And yet, said he, look what they are reading. He read off a list of our best sellers, books on peace of mind, how to be happy, how to overcome fear and anxiety. "What is wrong?" he asked.

Well, something is wrong. It is quite clear that with all our bank securities we do not feel secure, with all our comforts we are not at ease. We thank God for our free government, but that does not make us free in mind and heart.

What is it to have a free mind? Most of us boast that we have. But have we?

Holman in his work, "The Religion of a Healthy Mind," says that there are three signs of infantilism or childishness. One is the inability to free oneself from the control of elemental impulse.

Are we so childish that we want what we want when we want it, and if we don't get it, we pout or make a scene? When another motorist bumps your car, do you fly into a rage? Can you resist your first impulses long enough to examine them? The Master gives the wisdom and the patience to wait until passion cools and reason regains control.

A second sign of childishness is the tendency to react emotionally against, instead of dealing intelligently with, new and changing situations. When a new condition confronts us, is our first reaction to oppose it? Or do we meet it with open mind, seeking to see opportunity in it?

The other day, as I was riding in a taxicab, I noticed a sign fastened to the partition in front of me, it read: "Avoid accidents; sit back and relax." The taxi driver's way of driving did not give me much encouragement to sit back and relax!

I think the gospel of relaxation is often overworked in religion. Nevertheless, it is a valid principle that, in traveling with God, we should have enough confidence in His guidance to trust Him for what is going to happen when He swings us around the next and unknown corner.

The third sign of being infantile, said Holman, is selfcenteredness. Do we view situations and make judgements from the angle of our own private interest? Do I first think, "How will this effect me?" When calamity comes, do I cry, "Why did this have to happen to ME?" The person who is really grown up has outgrown such littleness of mind. He has become tall enough to see over his own shadow and observe things objectively.

Yet we may be sufficiently free in mind to see our duties clearly and still not do them. True liberty means that we are "in heart and conscience free."

That requires daily discipline of thought and taste until duty is transformed into desire. We are fully free only when we like to do what we ought to do. This is the lesson we should learn in this Lenten Season.

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS BEING PLANNED

Sowing the seeds of stewardship widely throughout the fields of Methodism is a task being systematically tackled by the church's Joint Stewardship Council.

Meeting in Indianapolis February 27, the council took action looking toward intensifying stewardship education on all levels of the church's life under a mandate handed it by the 1952 General Conference (Cf. Discipline, Par. 7753, Sec. 3).

As steps in "a church-wide program of stewardship education, with special emphasis upon the stewardship of possessions," the council recommended that:

—Each annual conference meeting this year include at least an hour's time on the program on the stewardship theme.

—Conference-wide stewardship meetings be arranged, with key leaders attending and carrying out follow-up programs in districts

and sub-districts.

—Each local church devote four Sundays sometime during the year to a consideration of stewardship.

—A study book to be published on the topic, "Christian Tithing: A Means of Grace," and written by Bishop Costen J. Harrell be widely used throughout the church.

—Summer schools for pastors, youth, and young adults include an emphasis on stewardship.

—The conference lay leader be looked upon as the key person to spark the stewardship program in the annual conference.

The Joint Stewardship Council comprises representatives of the Board of Education, the Board of Lay Activities, and the Commission on Promotion and Cultivation. The group will meet again in Indianapolis April 21 under the chairmanship of Robert G. Mayfield, Lay Activities Board executive.

GAIN IN WORLD SERVICE GIVING REPORTED

Swinging into the home stretch of their fiscal year, Methodists sent three-quarters of a million dollars to their World Service treasury during February and brought total World Service receipts for a nine-month period up to 10 per cent above their giving for the same period last year.

Dr. Thomas B. Lugg of Chicago, treasurer of the Council on World Service and Finance, also reported that:

—World Service needs \$4,299,160.33 to complete the \$9,660,000 annual apportionment by May 31.

—General Advance Specials for the past nine months show a 7.61 per cent decrease when compared to the same period last year. He pointed out, however, that these receipts do not include more than \$300,000 raised for Conference Advance Specials during the same time.

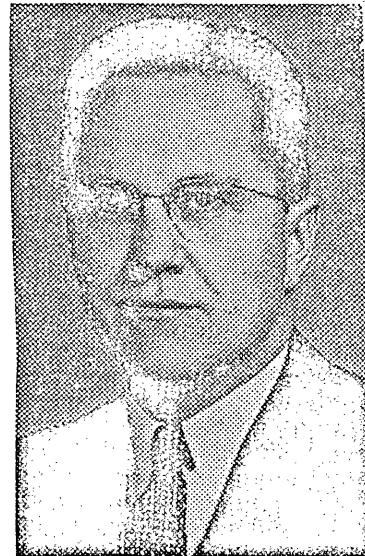
—The Fellowship of Suffering and Service fund has increased 7.58 per cent.

—Less than one-half of the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund (\$136,098.34 out of a budgeted item of \$285,515) has been paid up to February 28.

Early receipts from the Week of Dedication observance during February amounted to \$29,750.70.

The oldest printed book in existence, dated May 11, 868, is the so-called Diamond Sutra, one of the most treasured of the Buddhist scriptures, which now is a possession of the British Museum.

HEADS METHODIST MEN DEPARTMENT IN CHURCH



DON CALAME

Don L. Calame, 38-year-old layman of Springfield, Mo., begins his duties March 16 as associate secretary and senior staff member in the Department of Methodist Men of the General Board of Lay Activities of The Methodist Church at 740 Rush Street, Chicago. In his work he will promote organization of new groups of Methodist Men in local churches throughout the nation. He has been district or associate district lay leader for 13 years and active in other phases of church work. He comes to his new position from the faculty of Southwest Missouri State College.

CHURCHMEN HIT CRIME, LIQUOR EMPHASIS ON TV

Chicago — (RNS) — Television's "continued emphasis on liquor, crime and violence in many broadcasts" was criticized here by ministers attending a radio and television institute sponsored by the Church Federation of Greater Chicago and the National Council of Churches.

The ministers expressed "deep fear and apprehension for the future of radio and TV."

A resolution adopted by the institute said that because of the industry's laxity "a more definite program of controls should be established within the industry in cooperation with the public."

"The airwaves," said the resolution, "are a public trust and, in view of the fact that the number of channels is limited, the public should have a more definite voice in determining pro-

gram content and policies.

"In this new age of mass communication, it is important for the broadcasting industry to remember that freedom of speech for the American people means access by all citizens to the information and cultural images necessary if their decisions are to be intelligent and our civilization healthy."

The ministers also objected to indirect or direct sponsorship by commercial firms of religious television programs which favor a particular faith.

Such sponsorship, they said, "threatens to extend American commercial philosophy and materialism into the field of religious life."

The institute also recommended that:

A "representative voice of Protestantism" on the air be set up.

Stations give 10 per cent of their air time to

IN THE HOUR OF TRIAL

(Continued from page 1)

of people in Moscow who believe in prayer. We must pray for them that their faith will not fail, especially in these days of uncertainty both in their land and in ours. Events may not work out right either for Moscow Christians or for ourselves, but as surely as night follows the day Communism bears within itself the seeds of its own destruction. The day will come when East German and Russian youth will proudly carry banners proclaiming their devotion to the Eternal Christ.

non-commercial agencies, such as educational and religious groups.

Channel 11 include programming of religious as well as cultural and educational emphasis.

THE DEVOTIONAL PAGE

REV. ROY I. BAGLEY, Editor

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

The prodigal who selfishly takes what he regards as his own and goes off to indulge his lusts is not on the road to life but death . . .

Because man is essentially a spiritual being his basic problems, as the Master teaches implicitly, are not economic, political, or social but moral and spiritual . . .

For though force can drive the money-changers out of the temple, it cannot drive avarice and greed out of the money-changers, and until this spiritual task is accomplished they will return again and again . . .

A man who outwardly by his act says one thing while inwardly he intends another, is a man who lacks sincerity. Jesus' word for it was hypocrisy . . .

By His emphasis on the inner life Jesus pointed up that aspect of reality where man most surely meets the God of truth . . .

One who is more concerned that men shall approve his outward acts than that God his inner motives will not know the truth . . .

Man is a spiritual being living in a moral universe, he is free to do anything he likes except escape the moral consequences of his deeds . . .

But only new men can bring a new world. Only as men are made new creatures in Christ Jesus can they become creators of the new age . . .

—from BEARING WITNESS OF THE TRUTH, by Harold Cooke Phillips

THE MASTER'S TOUCH

Scripture: Proverbs 3:1-12

Verse for today: *Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.* Matt. 5:48

I tuned in my radio one evening to a program already in progress. The music of a symphony orchestra came into my room, and I leaned back in my chair to relax under its spell. In a few moments, to my surprise, the conductor interrupted the music to demand that a certain phrase be played more softly, another be given greater emphasis. Again he interrupted, to direct that another passage be played more rapidly. Each time that a passage was repeated after the conductor had made his comments, I noted that what had seemed to me a perfect rendition was much improved.

Later I learned that what I had been hearing was a broadcast of an actual rehearsal by a famous conductor and his orchestra. Under the guidance of a master director, each musician was striving to make the final performance of the group as nearly perfect as possible.

How often we feel that our way of living is "good enough." But each of us knows of inner weaknesses and imperfections that are evident to the Master; we must constantly look to him, for his guidance alone will enable us to do our very best. We cannot be content with "a good performance"; we must strive toward perfection.

PRAYER: Our Father and our God,

A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL FIT IN

*There is a place where you'll fit in
The Master's will and plan;
A place in life where you can win
And be a noble man;
A place where you'll enrich the earth
By what you do and say,
And prove yourself a man of worth
Along your pilgrim way.*

*You may not be as great as some
Who tower up quite high;
But good success will surely come
If honestly you try
To live a godly, righteous life,
And please our Lord above,
By helping rid the earth of strife
And bringing in true love.*

Walter E. Isenhour, Taylorsville, N. C.

HAPPY PEOPLE

By REV. WALTER E. ISENHOUR

IN the 144th Psalm, and the last part of the 15th Verse, we have this text: "Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."

It is human nature to desire happiness. We were so created by the great God of all the universe. Not a single human being was created to eke out a life of misery, sorrow, fear, dread, woe and torment. The devil and sin is to blame for all wretchedness, woe and torment that men and nations go through, both for time and eternity. He robbed our foreparents of their happiness in the garden of Eden by causing them to disobey God, and the human family for all these ages has suffered as a consequence, more or less. Some more and some less. No individual has lived out his life on earth without being attacked by the enemy, tested and tried. More or less physical suffering comes as a consequence of the fall of man, along with disappointments, temptations, mental, moral and spiritual battles.

However, in spite of all this, there should be much happiness for us as we journey through this fall world. Happiness in spite of temptations, tests, trials, persecutions, disappointments, bereavements, sufferings, sorrows and troubles. We believe such is in the will of God.

The great mistake the masses of our fellowman make to satisfy their desire for happiness is that they turn to the wrong source. They pursue the wrong pathway. The devil deceives them, as he did Adam and Eve, by alluring them away from God, away from Christ, away from godliness and holiness, and into disobedience, evils of all kind, sin and wickedness, promising them pleasure and happiness as a consequence. Hence the reason people seek the things of the world instead of God and His righteousness.

Why do men drink intoxicants? It is to gratify their appetite—a depraved appetite—that they may

help us to be humble and to look to thy Son, Jesus Christ, for guidance in all that we do. May we remember that he is ever near, ready to direct us as we strive to improve our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Patricia North, Dawn, Missouri

feel a sense of physical and mental pleasure and happiness, or to drown some tormenting problem, or regret, or trouble. However, this is but adding fuel to the fire after the momentary stimulation and thrill is over. Such "bites like a serpent and stings like an adder." There is always the after effect of doing wrong which brings a lashing conscience, physical, mental, moral and spiritual suffering. Momentary happiness in the wrong brings remorse of conscience, guilt of soul, dread of death and a fear toward God.

Why do the masses of people go the broad way hellward rather than the narrow way heavenward? It is because it is the way of least resistance here on earth, strewn with the promises of the devil to give them pleasure, a gay time, thrills and happiness. But are they truly happy? Not a single one of them. No sinner will tell you that he is truly happy deep down inmost heart, soul, mind and spirit. There may be times when he is bolstered up with a counterfeit happiness, but it is light and chaffy. It doesn't have the right ring and won't stand the test of the tomorrows. False happiness is like the piece of counterfeit gold. It may look good, but won't pass at the bank. There is something wrong on the inside. The cashier says, "Counterfeit," and turns it down. The unreal, but counterfeit happiness the devil gives men won't pass into heaven. Neither will it stand the test of death. Men never die happy that have served the devil through life. What little false happiness he has given them along life's journey all fades away when they are exchanging worlds.

But our heavenly Father has real happiness for His children here as they do His blessed will, and abstain from all sin and wickedness. He gives them sweet peace of conscience and soul, heart and spirit. They are satisfied to be with Him along life's pathway heavenward. They delight in His holy Word, and have joy in His service. To worship at the feet of Jesus, and learn of Him, is uplifting to their souls. To be with the best and most spiritual people brings them joy. They take real pleasure in helping their fellowmen on their pathway heavenward, and find happiness in winning souls unto Christ.

They delight in the preaching of the Gospel, revivals of true religion, prayer services, and in the singing of the great songs and hymns of the church. They had rather get alone with God in the secret place of prayer than visit the theatres, the balls, the race tracks, the liquor stores, road houses and places of worldly amusements and pleasure. Down in their hearts and souls they have a happiness that is real. It comes from God; it is heavenly.

Such happiness leaves no bad after effects. It leaves no lashing, tormenting conscience, no remorse of soul, no physical ills and no mental disability. Such happiness doesn't shorten life, but lengthens it. It doesn't make life a drudgery, but a pleasure. It doesn't make for failure and defeat, but makes for great, grand and final success. When the day is over the child of God can look back and say, "Thank God for His wonderful blessings, both temporally and spiritually." Then can he say that prayer we teach the children, which is likewise good for us all:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to take."
"Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord." Dear soul, is He your God and your Lord? If so, then be true and faithful unto Him until death and you shall have a crown of life. If, however, He isn't your God and Lord, why not seek Him now in the forgiveness of all your sins and in the salvation of your precious soul, that you may be happy for time and eternity? Don't feed on the counterfeit happiness of the devil any longer, nor try to satisfy your soul with his deception, but turn to God.

MARTHA AND MARY

Jesus saith unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.—St. Luke 10: 38-42

The lesson of this story has often been misunderstood. Jesus was not blaming Martha for being active and useful and contrasting her unfavorably with Mary who was passive and contemplative. He is not saying here that the higher type of Christian is like Mary and the inferior type is like Martha. What He condemns Martha for is, first, for being anxious and worried; and second for criticizing Mary. It was only because Martha asked Him to rebuke Mary that He was moved to rebuke Martha.

So the lesson to be learned is not that the true disciple will not engage in household work and hospitable activity but will confine herself to reading her Bible and praying.

The lesson is that people whose duty or inclination leads them to active practical business in home or shop, should not let their activity make them anxious and troubled, nor should it lead them to blame those who believe (with Emerson) that to think is to act, and to whom contemplation and prayer and worship are of supreme importance.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE NOTES

By Ira A. Brumley

Institutes in Batesville District

A series of seven church school institutes are being held in the Batesville District. The following is the schedule for these meetings: Newport Area at First Church, Newport, March 5; Pleasant Plains at 10 a. m., March 12; Salado, afternoon, March 12; Asbury, Batesville, 7:30 p. m., March 12; Bethesda, 10 a. m., March 13; Melbourne, afternoon, March 13; Calico Rock, March 13, 7:30 p. m.

An institute was held at Enders on the Quitman Charge on Friday night, March 5.

The North Little Rock Training School, held at Gardner Memorial Church, February 22-26, had the largest enrollment and the largest number of course cards issued in any North Little Rock Training School. The following churches were represented in the school: Gardner Memorial; First Church, No. Little Rock; Washington Ave.; Levy; Sylvan Hills; Bethel (Bethel Cato Charge); Plainview; and Jacksonville.

Jonesboro Area School

The Jonesboro Area Training School is to be held at First Church, Jonesboro, March 15-19, with four courses to be offered:

Ways of Teaching, Mrs. Elmus Brown and Byron McSpadden
Teaching Children, Miss Mary Shipp Sanders

Home and Church Working Together, Dr. Clark Ellzey

A Preface to Bible Study, Ira A. Brumley

Rev. E. B. Williams is Dean of the school.

The school will begin at 2:30 p. m., Sunday, March 15 and will close on Thursday night.

Springdale Area Training School

The Springdale Area Training School is to be held at Springdale, First Church, March 16-20, beginning at 7 p. m. and closing on Friday night.

The following courses are to be offered:

Guiding Juniors in Christian Growth, Mrs. Waldo Wettengel

The Methodist Youth Fellowship, Rev. Paul O. Cardwell

Preparing for Marriage, Rev. James W. Workman, Jr.

Ways of Teaching, Rev. Alfred A. Knox

The Local Methodist Church, Rev. Joel Cooper

A Preface to Bible Study, Rev. Walter Hearn

Rev. W. F. Cooley is the Dean of the school.

Dr. Maynard in North Arkansas

Dr. Donald M. Maynard, of Boston University is to be in the Arkansas Pastors' School and the Leadership School at Mt. Sequoyah, offering the course on Trends in Christian Education. The time between these two programs he is to be in the North Arkansas Conference program of Christian Education. We are most fortunate in securing him for this special service.

Dr. Maynard is known throughout The Methodist Church for the contribution he has made on the Church

SEEKS HIDDEN LEADERSHIP

Nashville, Tenn.—Dr. Gerald B. Harvey, executive secretary of the Southern California-Arizona Conference Board of Education, is digging for gold—but the gold isn't the kind that was found at Sutter's Mill before the gold rush of 1849.

The gold Dr. Harvey is trying to bring to the surface is the hidden leadership in pastors and laymen of his annual conference. "Three hundred people were turned away from our summer camps last year, primarily due to the lack of leadership," said Dr. Harvey. "In other areas of connectional work throughout our conference there is also a lack of leadership, not so much because the leadership is not there but because we do not know where it is."

In order to take advantage of this latent leadership, Dr. Harvey is planning a master file with a punch card system, of the leadership skills of all the ministers of his conference. In setting up his file, Dr. Harvey has sent out a questionnaire, asking for information under three main headings: (1) Previous experience; (2) areas in which the prospect would be willing to teach classes; and (3) special interests and skills.

The Rev. M. Earl Cunningham, director of the Department of Leadership Education of the General Board of Education, thinks Dr. Harvey's plan is such a fine one that he is calling it to the attention of all the other conference executive secretaries in the church. He is confident that by following such a plan, much gold in the way of leadership will be discovered.

and Home relationships. He will be leading group meetings in a number of areas of our conference on Home and Church Working Together, July 10-19.

Dr. Maynard is to be a resource person in our Young Adult Conference, July 11-12.

Youth Adult Conference

The North Arkansas Conference is to have a conference for young adults, Hendrix College Campus, July 11-12, 1953. The program will begin in the late afternoon of July 11 and close on Sunday afternoon, July 12.

We have not only secured the services of Dr. Maynard, but Dr. J. T. Carlyon of Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, Texas, is to be a resource person for this meeting.

Your church should begin making plans now to have one or more young adults in this conference-wide meeting.

Christian Family Week

It is not too early to begin making plans for Christian Family Week, May 3-10. This is a national emphasis of many of our Protestant churches.

The General Board of Education prepares materials each year to assist churches in making this a meaningful week. You can get these suggestions by writing SERVICE DEPARTMENT, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn., and asking for the suggestions for planning for National Family Week.

Increase in Methodist church school membership in the past five years has been 1,020,000.

EMPHASIS ON STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION

Nashville, Tenn. — In line with the present emphasis on stewardship of possessions, the Division of the Local Church of the Board of Education will give special attention to this aspect of stewardship education during the quadrennium 1952-56, it was said at the division's headquarters here. The emphasis will be a part of all the educational efforts of the division.

Some of the many activities that will feature the stewardship emphasis as it relates to Christian education in the local church are:

1. In the program of leadership education, pastors will be encouraged to hold one-teacher Christian Workers schools in their churches, using the training course on "Christian Stewardship," and a special emphasis on stewardship will be made in the South Central and Southeastern jurisdictional leadership schools next summer.

2. Leaders are being encouraged to hold forums on stewardship in the Sunday Evening Fellowship and in adult classes. Also, stewardship is being emphasized in church school superintendents conferences, meetings with district directors of General Church School Work and in seminars for directors of Christian education in local churches.

3. A brief free leaflet on Christian stewardship, with specific suggestions for adult classes is being prepared by the division's Adult Department, and stewardship is being stressed in the several hundred district meetings of teachers and presidents of adult classes that are held annually.

4. Young people are encouraged to continue and increase their giving to the Methodist Youth Fund, which is the recognized special for Methodist youth, and to World Service and

conference benevolences.

5. Leaders of children in local churches are encouraged to provide specific opportunities for children to share in meeting needs that arise in the church and community. The activity of children in this regard in the church as a whole is tremendous, it was said.

6. The thirty-six staff members of the Local Church Division have many field contacts through the various enterprises which are directed by the executive secretaries of conference boards of education. The stewardship emphasis will be brought into all of these field contacts this year.

Especially are adult classes in the church school being encouraged to cooperate with laymen's groups in the local church in studies on Christian stewardship.

WITH THE CHILDREN'S WORKERS

Report on Fay McRae Library Building Fund

Monticello, Juniors	\$2.50
Humphrey	2.00
Jackson St.	3.00
Lewisville, First year	2.80

Little Rock Vacation School Coaching Conference

The joint Coaching Conference for the Southwest and Little Rock Conferences was held at First Church Little Rock, on February 10-11. A team from each of the six districts in the Little Rock Conference and one team from the Southwest Conference attended the conference. Mrs. W. F. Bates was called away from the conference suddenly because of death in her family, and Mrs. Neill Hart of El Dorado very kindly served as director for most of the conference. The following well known children's and Intermediate workers served as leaders for the four age groups:

Kindergarten, Mrs. Lloyd Beall, Shreveport, La. Primary, Mrs. J. C. Miller, El Dorado. Junior, Mrs. Herbert Monday, Little Rock. Intermediate, Mrs. Milton Teague, Arkadelphia.

Rev. Roy Fawcett led the group in the opening worship service and Mrs. Harvey Couch closed the conference with a service of dedication. Mrs. Bates, the conference director, wishes to take this means of thanking Mrs. Neill Hart and all other members of the Coaching Conference for carrying through with the conference in such a fine spirit, also for an offering of ten dollars which the members of the conference gave in memory of Mrs. Bates' little grandson, Lon Robert Charles. The memorial will be used to buy books for the children's workers library at Camp Tanako.—Mrs. W. F. Bates

When we spend as much on missionaries as we spend on brave Marines; when you and I give as much for brotherhood as for battle-ships; when we spend as much on Bibles as on bombs; when we are as alive to spread the Gospel of Christ as the Communist is to spread his cause; when we put first things first, then God will relieve us of this burden, and we will be on our way.—Louis H. Evans in THE KINGDOM IS YOURS (Revell)

CHILDREN'S DAY OBSERVANCE

Nashville, Tenn.—The 1952 General Conference took the following action regarding the observance in Methodist churches of Children's Day:

"The first Sunday of National Family Week, or some other day selected by the Annual Conference, may be designated as **Children's Day**, for the purpose of emphasizing the responsibilities of the Church for our children, the same to be observed without a church-wide offering. The program for such a day shall be the concern of the Division of the Local Church of the General Board of Education and the Boards of Education of the various Annual Conferences."—Par. 233 (6), Discipline of The Methodist Church, 1952.

Accordingly, the Division of the Local Church has planned a program for this observance, which is now ready. The program is called **That They May Know God**, and was prepared by Dr. Leon M. Adkins, pastor of the University Methodist Church, Syracuse, New York. It is an excellent, simple program which may be used in either large or small churches. Copies may be ordered from the Service Department, General Board of Education, Box 871, Nashville, Tennessee. Price: single copy, 10 cents; three copies, 25 cents, cash to accompany order.



THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



PLAYING THE GAME STRAIGHT

By Mrs. Walter L. Wright, Sr.

LEMMIE had been given a brand new checker board and men but, being only eight years old, he had never played a game. His Granny took it on herself to show him how to play, for she had once been pretty good at the game. "The most important rule about playing, Lemmie, is to be sure and play every game as straight as straight."

Lemmie was doing pretty well with the game for the length of time he had been playing when Ted came over and was invited to play with him. Ted was a bit older and had played a few games, but not very many. Granny showed him also, how to play and to keep the game as straight as straight.

When all went nicely for two or three games and the young players seemed to be pretty well matched, what with first one and then the other winning, Granny went back to her work.

It wasn't very long before she could hear angry voices and she saw that both boys' faces were about as worried looking as a business man's is at the end of a very hard day. "Oh, oh," said Granny to herself, "boys' faces should never look like that when they play, nor their voices sound that way either." She put down her work and moved over where she could closely watch the boys and the checker board too.

After a few moves Ted slipped one of his men into position to easily get into the Kingdom. Lemmie pretended not to see it, but he slipped his King into position to catch two of Ted's men, then Ted protested loudly, "You can't take my men that way; you slipped your king over; it was right there and you slipped it over; I know you did because I saw you. You can't take my men that way." His voice was sounding more and more angry and the wrinkles in his forehead (the frown) were terrible to see.

A MYSTERY

A butterfly came out of our cocoon one day. 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

"Yeah, and you don't think I saw you when you slipped your man over so as to get into the Kingdom; I would have jumped him if you hadn't cheated and slipped him over. You did do it because I was looking right at you." Poor little Lemmie had thought the way to deal with a cheat was to try to out cheat him, and of course that wasn't right at all. And that's when Granny joined in the game again. "Look boys," she said, "you must both play every game fair and square; when you do you will have fun playing. You can laugh then over being smart when you catch each other's men. When you cheat you can't enjoy the game at all. For one thing, you worry all the time for fear of being caught cheating, or else you worry because you are sure the other one is cheating on you. You not only have to watch close to keep from losing your men but also to keep the other from taking them dishonestly. The way you play your games while you are young is the way you will play the game of life and of business when you are grown up. A wise old Proverb of the Bible says that, 'The eyes of the Lord are in every place, seeing the evil and the good.' Anything you win by dishonest methods

is very displeasing to God. The way you may always know if you are playing fairly is by that little feeling deep down in your heart and by asking yourself, 'Now, would I want the other fellow to treat me this way?' I'll help you start the rules of the game all over again and then you must play fair from now on or else not play at all."

Ted and Lemmie started again, with Granny watching very closely for sometime. When she did go back to her work she could hear both boys laughing heartily every time one outsmarted the other and caught or hemmed his men. "Granny," they said after they had played until time to get their lessons, "checkers is real fun when we don't try to cheat on each other."

Granny said, "Yes, and life would be real fun to everybody if no one ever tried to cheat on another."

—Wesleyan Christian Advocate

HIDDEN TREASURES

The hidden treasures I mean are not the kind you read about in fairy tales, not chests of gold or bags of money that were hidden by bold pirates. These treasures may be fine, but the ones I mean are much more wonderful.

Winter is about over and spring is on its way, and these treasures are hidden under the ground. All

VERY ODD!

*I've a little red hen,
Her name is Peg,
And sometimes she lays me
A nice brown egg.*

*But my little red hen
Is rather queer,
She will not lay eggs
When eggs are dear.*

*But when they are cheap,
With plenty to sell,
Then my little hen
She lays quite well!*

—Elizabeth Gould, from
The Children's Newspaper

winter our fields and gardens have been covered with snow or are brown and bare. But underneath, hidden from sight, are hundreds and thousands and millions of tiny, queer looking seeds just waiting. Waiting for what? Waiting for God's warm sunshine, melting the snow, and heavy rains. Waiting to grow into mosses, grasses, weeds, and flowers. Some of the seeds are so tiny we wouldn't be able to see them if we dug up the whole field. They are all mixed in with the mud and dirt. Other seeds are large, like the tulip bulbs, but they are waiting, too.

We can bring the big bulbs indoors and plant them, but we couldn't possibly go in the field now and gather daisy, dandelion, buttercup, or wild aster seeds. We could not find them. They are hidden out of sight. But no seed is too small for God to find. He sends little hidden treasures and they will send out tiny roots and tiny green sprouts will push their way through the ground. And the strangest thing is that two little seeds lying side by side will begin to grow, but when they bloom one may be a teasel and the other a daisy.

No earthly treasure could bring forth such surprises as these little hidden treasures.

Now is the time to watch them. God is watching them. His earth is full of treasures, but unlike the selfish pirate, God shares them with everybody, and many of the most unusual treasures are free to anybody who will just spend a few hours in the open fields or woods. Others are not free because we who live in large cities must plant our seeds. God is the only one who can unfold the hidden treasures.—The United Church Observer

JUST FOR FUN

Small boy: "If I'm noisy, they give me a spanking; and if I'm quiet, they take my temperature!"

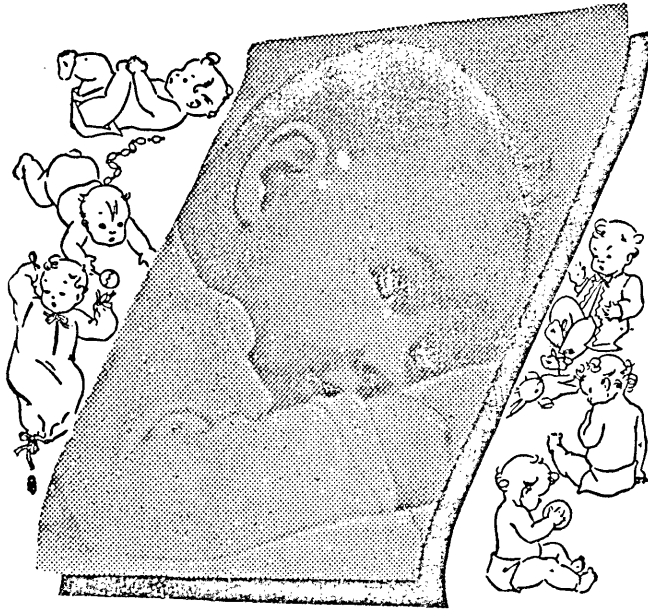
On board ship in the mid-Atlantic:
"Going across?"

"Yes."

"So am I."

Wise-cracking customer—"I want to buy a left-handed monkey wrench."

Hardware salesman—"Sorry, we don't carry them. There are so few left-handed monkeys around here."
—Polywog



THINKING

*Do you wonder what I think
When I am still
Before I drop asleep
As babies will?*

*I think how nice a place
This world must be,
Because the folks that I have met
Seem fine to me.*

*I think the world outside
Is lovely, too,
I've seen not far away
A pretty view.*

*I think of things that grow
And wonder how.
I'll think of them again,
I'm sleepy now.—A.E.W.*

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. EWING T. WAYLAND, Editor

Woman's Society of Christian Service of Louisiana Conference



MRS. GLENN LASKEY

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, Louisiana Conference will be held in Baton Rouge, March 17, 18, and 19 at the William B. Reily Memorial University Church. Registration will begin at the Fellowship Hall of the Wesley Foundation Building at 9:30 Tuesday, March 17.

Hosts to the Conference will be Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Trice, pastor, the Rev. and Mrs. O. A. Jernigan, the Rev. E. W. Harris, District Superintendent of the Baton Rouge District and Mrs. Harris and the local church Woman's Society, of which Mrs. Walter Curtis is president.

Mrs. Dana Dawson, wife of Bishop Dawson, formerly of the First Methodist Church, Shreveport, will bring the Quiet Hour Message each morning throughout the meeting. Her subject will be "Steps to Spiritual Power—the Bible—the Church—Prayer." Mrs. Dawson is well-known in this section, having lived in Louisiana, was a voice student at the Oklahoma University, and at present is a Vice-president of the Disciplined Order of Christ, and is Honorary Vice-President of the Central Kansas Conference.

Miss Lillian Johnson, National Secretary of the Wesleyan Service Guild, will address the meeting

Tuesday afternoon. Other features of that afternoon's session will be the President's Message by Mrs. Glenn Laskey "Exploration unto God", and the Conference Officers' Hour with Mrs. Lee Tidwell, Shreveport, presiding.

Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning, members of the Conference and Visitors will hear the president of the Woman's Division of Christian Service, Mrs. Frank G. Brooks. Mrs. Brooks is a member of the General Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

During the meeting special Conference Work will be presented with Mrs. C. F. Goldthwait, Miss Elizabeth Thompson, Miss Fae Daves, Miss Ann Adams and Mrs. F. C. Kennon, presiding. Sister Nany Sundling, a deaconess and nurse from Stockholm, Sweden, will address the group Wednesday afternoon. She is in this country on a six month leave and will be at Scarritt College until June. Then she expects to travel and visit Methodist hospitals and institutions until July. Miss Sundling is a nurse in the Methodist Hospitals in Stockholm and a member of the International Deaconess Association.

The featured speaker for Wednesday evening is Miss Dorothy McConnell, an editor of "World Outlook" and author of the Methodist church-wide study "Along the African Path." Before taking her present position, Miss McConnell served The Methodist Church as a social worker, as editorial writer for the Board of Home Missions, and as editor of World Service News. She is the author of several volumes of children's stories. During last summer and fall Miss McConnell visited Liberia, Angola, the Belgian Congo, Mozambique, Southern Rhodesia, the Transvaal and South Africa in preparation for writing the study book, as well as articles for "World Outlook."

Miss McConnell is a member of the National Board of the Y.W.C.A., of the Executive Committee of World Alliance for Friendship Through the Churches, a member of the Inter-American Commission for Women, of the Committee on International Justice and Good Will of

the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and the Woman's Division representative on the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief. She is the daughter of Bishop and Mrs. Francis J. McConnell.

The evening program will close with the Communion Service administered by the Rev. W. E. Trice.

"Programmed" Meals are to be the Tuesday Fellowship luncheon with Mrs. Walter Curtis presiding, and the Student Dinner under the direction of Mrs. W. E. Trice, Conference Secretary of Student Worker. The program theme of her dinner is "Thy Kingdom Come Through the Students of the World." Other special meals are the Sacrificial Meal Wednesday, with Mrs. W. W. Paxton, presiding, and the "African" dinner directed by Mrs. Warren Constant. Mrs. Guy Hicks, Shreveport, will write and present the sacrificial meal program, "Looking unto Jesus."

Worship services at the beginning of each meeting will be led by Mrs. T. M. Ellis, Baton Rouge District President; Rev. E. W. Harris, Baton Rouge District Superintendent; Mrs. B. J. Fairchild of Baton Rouge, former Conference Vice-president; Rev. W. E. Trice, host pastor; and Mrs. G. W. Dameron, Pineville, a member of the Woman's Division.

TWO MISSIONARY TOURS PLANNED

Mrs. Louis W. Ederington, Warren, Conference Secretary of Missionary Personnel, announces that the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service is sponsoring two Missionary Tours this spring on March 20-23. One Tour will take Senior High youth to Kansas City to National College and other Methodist projects. The other tour will take college youth to Nashville to Scarritt College and the many projects in that city. This is the third year for the tour.

The group will meet at First Methodist Church, Little Rock, on Thursday evening, March 19, where they will be assigned homes for the evening, then all will meet and leave from the church at 7 a. m. Friday morning.

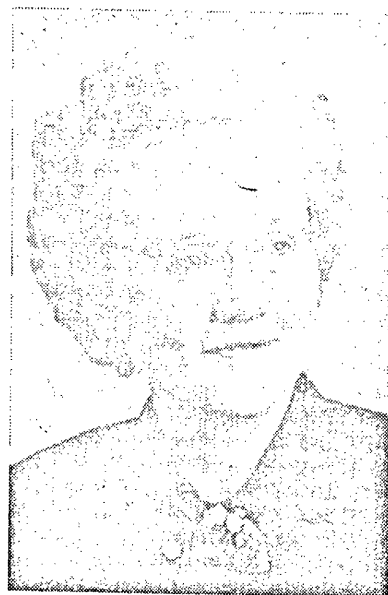
Students going to National College are: George Tanner, Bill Sargo, Bob Reigner, Joy Ramsey, Jean Atkinson, Emily Ann Sanders, Janice Miller, Mansell Baker, Joe Stroud, Janella Caras, Barbara Childs and Buddy Worden.

Included in the tour to Scarritt College are: Martha Meness, Sybil Blankenship, Mary Sue Smith, Billy Jo Hogue, Patsy Teeter, Linda Kirkpatrick, Mary Frances O'Dell, John Shewmate, Lenora Sue Anderson, Martha Linda Fite, Barbara Daniel, Virginia Thompson, Amy Louise Mackey, Pauline Stroupe, and Virginia Bird.

NOTICE

North Arkansas Conference Wesleyan Service Guild Week-End, April 11-12, First Methodist Church, Blytheville. Start making plans to come.

MARY GLADYS PAGE TO PRESIDE



MARY GLADYS PAGE

Baton Rouge will be the meeting place Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15, for the second annual Louisiana Conference of the Wesleyan Service Guild. Conference sessions will be held at the First Methodist Church.

Presiding at the two-day meeting will be Miss Mary Gladys Page of Amite, La., Conference Secretary of the Wesleyan Service Guild.

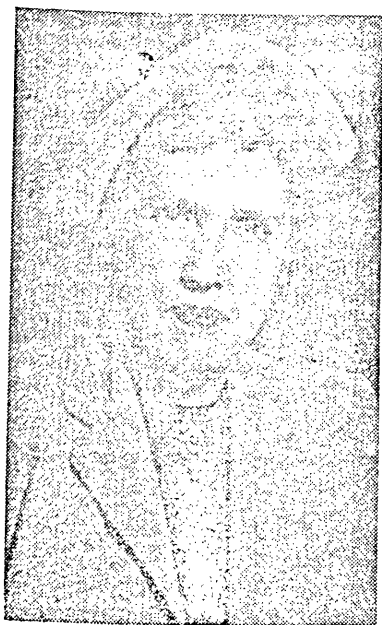
Miss Page, a native of Hazelhurst, Mississippi, was recently elected as one of the six members-at-large on the national Standing Committee of the Guild, when it met in Buck Hill Falls, Pa. She represents the South Central Jurisdiction and will serve as chairman of Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities. Miss Page will resign as Conference Secretary at the meeting. Shortly after Miss Page was elected Conference Secretary while serving as president of the Rayne Memorial Guild, she moved to Amite and has been employed in the law office of Fannie E. Burch. Her successor for the unexpired term of one year will be chosen at the state conference.

Saturday afternoon's program will include the opening worship service by Miss Helean Adams; appointment of committees; reports; the secretary's message, and a tea at the Governor's mansion.

The time for the sacrificial dinner has been moved up one hour. The dinner is planned for 6 P. M. Saturday night honoring the Woman's Society of Christian Service with Miss Lillian Kennedy, presiding. Miss Eleanor Fleming, president of the hostess Guild, will bring greetings; Miss Emma Kuntz will respond; Mrs. Minza Rabun will introduce the guests; and Mrs. Glenn Laskey, Conference President of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, will respond for the guests. The Saturday night worship service will be by Miss Elizabeth Thompson and Miss Lillian Johnson, Executive Secretary, will give the principal address.

A breakfast will open Sunday's session and on the program for addresses are Miss Gertie Stiles; and Miss Dorothy Weber of Lake Charles.

A buffet luncheon at noon will close the conference.



MISS DOROTHY McCONNELL



SISTER NANCY SUNDLING

CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

LAYMEN LEAD IN "WEEK OF DEDICATION" AT HOPE

In the "Week of Dedication" services held in the First Methodist Church at Hope, February 15-22; the laymen and laywomen on the program did a fine job. During the week the services were conducted by layworkers of our own church with the exception of the first Sunday evening, when Mrs. W. B. Landrum of Little Rock brought a message on "Missions."

Monday evening, February 16, Royce Weisenberger, Chairman of the Evangelistic Committee brought the message. On Tuesday evening we had a "Family Night Fellowship Dinner." After dinner the following films were shown: For adults, "Heart of India," "Challenge of Africa." For Children's Division "Sammy." Three hundred adults and children were present.

Speakers for the remainder of the evening services of the week were as follows: Wednesday, John P. Vesey; Thursday, Teddy M. Jones; Friday, Billy Gentry. Sunday evening Mrs. E. D. Galleway, wife of

the District Superintendent was the speaker.

The pastor felt that it was of paramount importance that laymen of the church speak from the pulpit during this special week. Any pastor is greatly blessed to have so many lay members capable of assisting in work of this character. Credit for the success of the services of the week is due to those who so ably helped in the services.

We had a great week. A total of sixteen hundred sixty-two members were in attendance at these services. Between four and five hundred of these made a re-dedication of their lives at the altar. As a result of our evangelistic effort, we received twenty-two new members into the church. We had a freewill offering, and, after necessary expenses were paid, we mailed a check to the Conference Treasurer for \$1,300.00. We believe that the "Week of Dedication" is the finest, most helpful week in the calendar of The Methodist Church. —Reporter.

BEEBE AREA OBSERVES "WEEK OF DEDICATION"

The Churches of the Beebe area observed the Week of Dedication together. In order to present the task the Church is facing most forcibly and to give every responsible person an opportunity to dedicate his life to Christ and to the task, special nights were planned for the major departments of the Church, according to Rev. Floyd G. Villines, Jr., our pastor at Beebe.

Sunday night, February 15, the ministers of the area exchanged pulpits. Monday night was "Youth Night," Tuesday night, "Church School," Thursday night, "Laymen's Night," and Friday night was "Ladies Night." Also a letter was sent to the members of the Beebe Methodist Church announcing the week's program giving the names of the visiting speakers. We carried

out the program as planned. In spite of rain and cold weather the latter part of the week, good crowds attended these activities, and a fine spirit was shown by everyone.

The week closed with a special Worship Service of Dedication in each local Church, Sunday Morning, February 22, and in this Service the Week of Dedication offering was received. A large crowd attended the Worship Service here at Beebe, and our people placed on the Altar the largest Week of Dedication offering ever given by this Church.

The Rev. Mr. Villines states that the testimony of the participating ministers and laymen is that "the week of February 15-22, 1953, will long be remembered by the people in the Beebe Area."

HENDRIX COLLEGE NEWS Blue Key Elects

Blue Key national honorary fraternity recently elected four new members to the Hendrix chapter of the organization for outstanding scholastic ability and leadership. The four chosen were Jim Deer of Wilson, Ed Moore of Dallas, Tex., Phil Dixon of Little Rock and Frank Warden of North Little Rock.

Martin Becomes CPA

E. W. Martin, Hendrix treasurer for the past twenty years, is one of five Arkansans who were announced this month as having passed all requirements for state certification as public accountants. The five were the only ones out of fifty seven who passed the three-day written examination given last November.

Since his graduation from Hendrix in 1919, Mr. Martin has had wide experience in insurance and other business fields. In recent years he has made special studies of investment principles and estate planning.

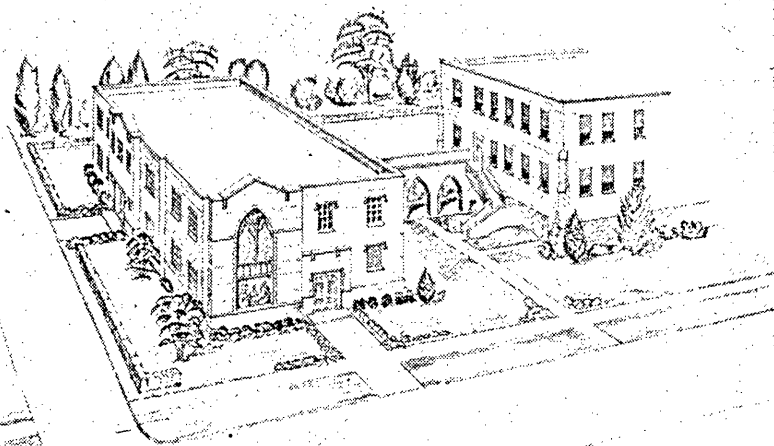
MR. AND MRS. SIMMONS HONORED BY THE RISON METHODIST CHURCH

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Simmons, who are leaving Rison to make their home in North Little Rock, were honored with a shower and reception at the Methodist Church Thursday evening, February 19th.

Mrs. Jack England sang, "Because of You" and "Memories". J. H. Yaney sang "Wish You Were Here" and Tommie Knowles sang, "Dear Hearts and Gentle People." Mrs. Raymond Mays was organist.

Mrs. Calvin Walker, in an original poem, paid tribute to Mrs. Simmons as a W. S. C. S. member and worker in the church, and presented her a life Membership in the W. S. C. S. Mrs. L. F. Williams, President of the W. S. C. S., presented the life Membership pin to Mrs. Simmons who is a past President of the Society, and who has served in other offices and on the Board of Stewards. Mrs. Simmons is now serving as Promotional Secretary of the

ARKADELPHIA METHODISTS BREAK GROUND FOR EDUCATIONAL BUILDING



EDUCATIONAL BUILDING
FOR ARKADELPHIA METHODIST CHURCH
ARCHITECT: [illegible]
ENGINEER: [illegible]

Ground was broken Sunday, March 1, at the First Methodist Church, Arkadelphia, to formally begin construction of an Educational Building to house additional educational facilities. Construction has now begun on the structure. The architect's conception of the building is pictured above. Those partici-

pating in the service included Rev. J. M. Hamilton, District Superintendent of the Arkadelphia District, Rev. W. O. Byrd, Arkadelphia pastor, H. Grady Smith, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and E. H. Murry, Official Board chairman. All of the choirs of the church furnished the music for the service.

COLLEGE STUDENTS AND SERVICE MEN ENTERTAINED AT SMACKOVER

A lovely entertainment for College Students and Service Men during the Christmas holidays was the annual open house and buffet supper held in their honor by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church on December 28th. The event was held in the lovely home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas F. Primm.

Some forty young people including several high school seniors, attended the open house held between the hours of 4:00 and 7:00 o'clock, preceding a student recognition

service at the Methodist church at 7:30 that evening.

The New Year's motif was featured in the house decorations. White bells and candles adorned the mantle in the living room.

In the dining room the table was covered with a wine cloth, with green napkins. Sparkling frosted fruit and holly formed the center piece, flanked by large candles. Copper, brass and wooden appointments completed the table setting. The coffee service and iced Cocolas in a large wooden bowl were placed on the buffet.

Assisting Mr. and Mrs. Primm in the courtesies of the afternoon were the Misses Margaret Berry, Ann Howser, Gloria Hatcher, and John Dodson and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Rue Matthews.

Mrs. John L. Tucker and Mrs. N. R. Price presided in the dining room, assisted by Mrs. N. L. Primm.

The youth conducted the services at the church at 7:30. Students from the University of Arkansas, Hendrix College, Southern States College, Henderson College, Monticello College, L.S.U. at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, took part in the program. A special offering for the Wesley Foundation program at the University of Arkansas was taken during the services.

Mrs. Chas F. Primm is the supervisor of the Wesley Foundation program of the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service and makes this an outstanding event in the lives of the Methodist youth and in the community.—Reporter

Woman's Society.

J. W. Newsam, in presenting Mr. Simmons a Masonic Bible, a gift from the men of the Church, told of the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow townsmen. He has served on the Board of Stewards of the Church for about 25 years and is superintendent of the Church School.

Rev. Barry Bailey, pastor, dismissed the group with prayer.

Following the program, Mrs. L. W. Knowles directed the guests to the lovely gifts which were on display. Approximately 100 were present.

Individual white cakes and punch were served from a table laid with a white linen cutwork cloth. Mrs. L. F. Williams, President of the W. S. C. S., presided, assisted by Mrs. W. K. Hobson, Mrs. Marvin Reed, Mrs. Homer McGowan, Mrs. J. H. Yaney, Mrs. J. W. Newsam, Mrs. Craig Sadler and Mrs. L. W. Knowles.—Mrs. L. W. Knowles

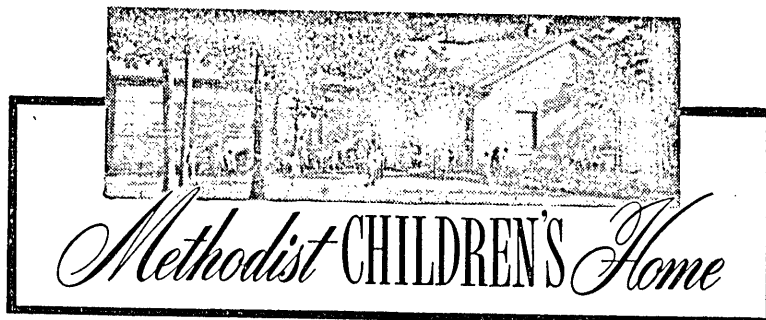


"Along A Country Road"
The North Arkansas Conference
The Town and Country
Commission

The Methodist Church

Hendrix Station, Conway, Arkansas

Paul E. Martin, Bishop
Rev. Floyd G. Villines, President
Mr. Lester Hutchins, Vice-President
Rev. David P. Conyers, Secretary
Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Executive Secretary



THE ARKANSAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

One of the great needs of our state is a definite interest in the development of our community life. A most startling fact was revealed to me just recently when the statement was made that there are more telephones in one of the larger cities in a nearby state than we have throughout the entire state of Arkansas. The city used in the comparison is not the largest one by far in the south. There are many of our communities that are inadequately served not only by telephone service but in many other respects. Those of us who have been closely connected with the great rural areas, know of the wonderful transformation being made through the electric services over the state. Life is being made better in homes and churches and schools because of the opportunities offered for modernizing life. If the telephone service could catch up it would be even better. Then if the road situation can keep on the upswing in progress our state will show marked progress in the days ahead.

The cultural development must be kept in mind. That is the most important work of the church. Material progress is indeed in vain if the spiritual life does not also go forward. Christ centered community is the hope of our nation and the only hope. To say such may be thought to be hackneyed but the more we say it the more perhaps we can get others to see it. The commodity sold by Christian preachers is the dearest one on the human market. It is the one real stabilizing product in all of the realm of human life. It is the foundation of all of the good interests of the land. Knowing this to be true the Gospel preacher has the certain and sure note to sound. One of our finest opportunities as Ministers of Christ is to cooperate with leaders in other fields in order not only to help them but also to allow our influence for Christ to have its way in the affairs of life.

Here and There

On Wednesday night February 25 it was a great privilege to be back at Centerville for a meeting with leaders of the Agricultural Extension service of the State and of Faulkner county along with a fine group of business leaders of Conway. The

community completed its organization for its development program. Much interest was shown. The people in their own right are making plans to go forward to a better day. Good roads and more civic and church interest are their immediate objectives.

On Thursday it was a great joy to be back in the Searcy district for a meeting with Brother Whitten and his preachers. The work of the commissions was interpreted and plans made to organize the churches in line with the General Conference action. The meeting was well attended. The interest was splendid. The women of the church did the usual par-excellence job of serving the noon meal.

On Friday night the writer kept the appointment made earlier in the year for a speaking engagement with the Searcy Methodist Men's club. Mr. Dallas Stewart, the president was in charge of the meeting. He is beginning a good year as leader of this fine group. Mr. Homer Fulbright is serving as secretary and lending a most splendid hand in in promotion. The Searcy ladies served a wonderful meal which made speaking easier and it did not seem to hurt the attention of the listeners. It was a great joy to be there with Brother Conyers, Brother Sherman, and Brother Whitten in the fellowship with a great body of Methodist Men.

Sunday morning the writer enjoyed preaching at Beebe and having the gracious hospitality of Brother Floyd Villines Jr. and his fine people. It was good to see many friends there and be lifted by their presence and the beautiful sanctuary. Brother Villines is doing a good job in his third year. He is also serving as Chairman of our Town and Country Commission. The noon meal was sumptuous and reinvigorating. The parsonage home is blessed by a gracious spirit.

Sunday night the writer drove on to Hunter where he is at present preaching all week in a revival with Brother Bill Stegall and his splendid people. This is the pilot charge for the Forrest City district this year. A more complete report will follow next week. We are having a good time. —J. Albert Gatlin.

FAMILY NIGHT AT SCOTT STREET

Scott Street Methodist Church, in Little Rock, is conducting a series of Family Night Get-Together Meetings on Wednesday evenings. A ten-cent-a-serving meal is served from 6:00 to 7:00 p. m. Mrs. F. B. Longstreth, President of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and Mrs. James R. Ross, Vice-President, are in charge of the meal, with the able assistance of other members of the Society.

From 7:00 to 8:00 o'clock the study

course, "Toward Understanding the Bible," by Georgia Harkness, is conducted in the sanctuary. This study is under the leadership of the pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Cooper. They are assisted by Mrs. Ray Robinson, spiritual life secretary; Mrs. J. R. Ewbank, missionary education secretary and a committee composed of other leaders of the church. This character of study can be of interest to children as well as adults.

Course cards of recognition will

be given to all who read the textbook, attend and participate in at least four of the six special Family Nights. This recognition will be given publicly. To assist in the learning process, match questions are given out a week ahead of the time of special study. Each correct answer counts one point. Those in attendance are finding this a very helpful and interesting evening of fellowship and study. —Mattie R. Ewbank

REPORT FOR JANUARY, 1953

(Continued from last week)

OTHER GIFTS		
North Arkansas Conference,		
P. E. Cooley, Treasurer	\$ 442.34	
Little Rock Conference, Fred Gantt,		
Treasurer	520.89	
Evelyn Whitcomb Class, Asbury		
Methodist Church, Little Rock	10.00	
Mrs. Warren S. Riley, El Dorado		
First Methodist Church	10.00	
Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Robison, Des		
Arc	1.00	
Heber Spring Sunday School	45.00	
Builders Class, Brinkley Methodist		
Church	30.00	
Lexa-Telfore Bible Class, Fordyce		
Methodist Church	10.00	
Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Dean, Russell-		
ville Methodist Church	10.00	
Friendship Class, Mena Methodist		
Church	10.00	
Brewster Bible Class, Wynne Meth-		
odist Church	10.00	
Go-getters Class, Wynne Methodist		
Church	10.00	
Heber Springs Friendly Sunday		
School Class, Methodist Church	30.00	
Jett B. Graves Sunday School Class,		
Hope Methodist Church	10.00	
Progressive Sunday School Class,		
El Dorado First Methodist Ch.	10.00	
Fellowship Class, Henderson Meth-		
odist Church, Little Rock	10.00	
Syble McDaniel of Midway Union		
Church	1.00	
Mr. Aubrey Summers, Ozark Meth-		
odist Church	10.00	
Kate Campbell Class, Augusta Meth-		
odist Church	10.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Wade W. Bell, Asbury		
Methodist Church	20.00	
Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Farabaugh,		
Camden First Meth. Ch.	10.00	
Miss Exa Olive	7.00	
Builders Class, Paris Meth. Ch.	10.00	
Mrs. B. K. McClanahan	10.00	
W. S. C. S. Beebe Meth. Ch.	10.00	
W. S. C. S. Cabot Meth. Ch.	10.00	
Junior Dept., Camden First Meth-		
odist Church	10.00	
Young Couples Class, First Metho-		
dist Church, Camden	10.00	
Susanna Wesley Class, First Metho-		
dist Church, Texarkana	5.00	
Fred Gantt, Treasurer of Little		
Rock Conference	321.54	
Circle No. 3, W. S. C. S. Wynne		
Methodist Church	20.00	
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hollerman and		
daughters, Wynne Methodist Ch.	10.00	
Miss Roberta Harwell, Wynne Meth-		
odist Church	10.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Rogers, First		
Methodist Church, Little Rock	10.00	
Mrs. G. S. Rumph, Camden	10.00	
Anonymous	10.00	
Joseph W. Cammack	5.00	
Golden Rule Sunday School Class,		
Harrisburg Methodist Church	10.00	
Golden Rule Sunday School Class,		
Harrisburg Methodist Church	10.00	
Rector Young Adult Class of Rector		
Methodist Church	10.00	
The Service Class, First Methodist		
Church, El Dorado	10.00	
Mrs. Rema Hutchinson, First Metho-		
dist Church, Camden	10.00	
Wynne Methodist Church Wesleyan		
Service Guild	10.00	
Murray Chevrolet Co., Wynne Meth-		
odist Church	120.00	
Searcy Methodist Church Choir	30.00	
Mr. Charles Dante	10.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Earl G. Heimbach,		
First Methodist Church, El Dora-		
do	10.00	
Miscellaneous	262.36	
TOTAL	\$2181.13	
Memorials	289.00	
GRAND TOTAL	\$2470.13	

T. T. McNeal, Director

BATESVILLE DISTRICT MINISTERS' MEETING

The ministers of the Batesville District met in First Church Batesville February 26. Rev. H. W. Jinske opened the meeting with prayer. Rev. R. E. Connell, District Superintendent, conducted a round table discussion on the following subjects:

The first item of business was the Arkansas Methodist Subscription campaign. A number of churches had reached and some had exceeded their quotas. A few are still doing some follow up work. All in all the district has a fine showing in the number of subscriptions to this very fine church paper.

Next on the agenda was the Hendrix campaign. Many of the churches have already secured their full pledges. Bro. Connell said the response on the whole was very satisfactory. He expressed his appreciation for the fine response that the churches are making toward their college.

The third item of the program was a discussion on Missions led

by Dr. Golder Lawrence, District director of missions. Dr. Lawrence suggested that each church assume a mission special. Bro. Connell stated that among the mission specials for the Batesville District are Wayland Springs, Alaska, and Wesley Foundation work among Methodist Students in state institutions.

The fourth item of the agenda was a discussion on Evangelism led by Rev. Guy Ames, District Director of Evangelism. Bro. Ames stated that this was the year of Evangelism. He suggested that prospect lists and church records be brought up to date and that evangelism receive renewed emphasis in our Pre-Easter services.

In conclusion Bro. Connell asked the ministers to have the personnel of each of the four local church commissions ready for confirmation at the fourth quarterly conference. The Pastor with the committee on nominations is to nominate the commissions for confirmation by the fourth quarterly conference.

Brother Connell also stated that Mrs. W. D. Murphy of Batesville will conduct Vacation Church School Clinics in three or four places of the district. The dates and places will be announced.

April 17 is the day for the convocation of the Town and Country Commission at Gassville. Bishop Paul E. Martin will be there to speak with Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Executive Secretary of the Commission. —H. W. Jinske, Reporter.



ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA

Methodist

Youth

Fellowship

NEWS

YOUTH CONFERENCE TO MEET IN KANSAS CITY

The National Conference of Methodist Youth has selected the National College for Christian Workers, Kansas City, Mo., for the scene of its next annual meeting Aug. 23-31.

The National Conference council, or executive body, meeting in New York City Feb. 20-22, also scheduled two other national meetings in Kansas City on the same dates — the Methodist Student Commission and Methodist Youth Fellowship Commission.

Twenty council members heard a first-hand report from two of their leaders who returned recently from a three-month world tour of Methodist youth work. Jameson Jones, Lexington, Ky., National Conference president, and the Rev. George Harper, Nashville, Tenn., projects secretary, returned in February, after

visiting youth work in Italy, India, Malaya, Thailand, Borneo, Japan, and Hawaii.

The council voted approval for its Nashville headquarters to move from 110½ Woodland to the Methodist General Board of Education building, 1001 19th Avenue, South Nashville. Its post office address will still be Box 871.

WITH THE SUB-DISTRICTS

The Paul E. Martin Sub-District met on February 17 at Midland Heights Methodist Church. The District Youth Rally to be held on March 6 at Goddard Memorial Church in Fort Smith and the Youth Rally at Conway on March 27 were both discussed. Due to these rallies there will be no March meeting of the Sub-District. Tom Cutting was guest speaker at the worship service in the sanctuary. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and a sophomore in High School. Recreation was held in the basement of the church. The April 21 meeting will be held at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Fort Smith.

The Oakdale Sub-District met at the Glenmore Methodist Church on February 24 for a Washington's birthday party with the following charges represented: Elizabeth, Oakdale, Glenmore and Lecompte. Sixty young people were present from the various charges. Miss Glenda Sigler from Elizabeth was in charge of recreation. Oakdale had charge of the devotional period and Lecompte furnished the refreshments. The following pastors were present: Rev. G. A. LaGrange, Elizabeth; Rev. Ed Barksdale, Oakdale; Rev. R. E. Carter, Glenmore and Rev. E. W. Sandel from Lecompte. The Sub-District is composed of Elizabeth, Oakdale, Glenmore, Lecompte, First Church, Alexandria, Trinity Church, Alexandria and Wesley Church of Alexan-

WESLEY FOUNDATIONERS BECOME WORLD TRAVELERS

By A Wesley Foundation Member

EVERYONE wants to go around the world, but few are as lucky as the members of the Wesley Foundation at Arkansas Tech, Russellville. They made the trip in one afternoon and evening!

The week before, however, there was much stew and stir to obtain tickets, passports, and flight accommodations over the Wesley Airlines. Then on February 8, with bags packed and all necessary clearances made, thirty-two world travelers climbed aboard the John Wesley as a culminating activity to a series of programs on missions. The motors buzzed, land dropped from sight, and soon they were over the Pacific Ocean.

In Mid-Pacific the pilot stepped from his cabin with a worried air. After a short conference with the stewardess, he announced that one of the motors was missing, the games had not arrived. One of the passengers, an expert on such matters, volunteered to do a quick repair job, and soon they were winging steadily on their way again—the games had been rescued!

At the first landing, the passengers descended to see what was going on in Honolulu, Hawaii, which looked startlingly like Russellville's Methodist Church. Here a Hawaiian maiden, complete with grass skirt, served an appetizer of pineapple juice. A rousing musical game was played, called "Walking on Wakiki Beach".

Thoroughly exhausted, the travelers returned to the air. Enroute to Chunking, China, the next stop on the itinerary, the navigator miscalculated and they found themselves high over Japan. However, the mistake was soon rectified, and they make a three-point landing at Chunking's modern airport. Hopping over mud-puddles, they soon found themselves warmly invited into a Chinese home, where they sat on the floor in true Chinese fashion and ate chicken-rice soup. In true American fashion they carried off their eating utensils as a souvenir of their visit. Here the passports were read, and it seemed the State Department had made a great mistake letting these people leave the U. S.

As they climbed out of the plane for the third time, the poor passen-

gers were shivering from cold and fear. A typically fierce Russian soldier checked their visas with more than necessary precaution as they emerged from the tunneled entrance of a gold mine which they were visiting. After a sharp prodding from his bayonet they staggered, one by one, into the living-room of a Siberian home, which was situated in the gold mine to conserve heat. Here the passengers were refreshed with gold nugget salad and gold bricks, and played a Siberian game, "Ivan Says".

The plane next settled itself in Johannesburg, South Africa, where the travelers ate cocoons and caterpillars and sang native African songs.

By-passing Europe, the plane flew on to Buenos Aires, Argentina, where the meat course, locros, was served. As at all stops a native of the country visaed the passports here, and two charming señoritas met the tourists at the door. South American music was played throughout the visit.

Haiti, land of mystery and voodoo, was next host to the Wesleyans. Orange and date cake was served in generous portions and a game called "Mental Telepathy" magically enlivened the stay.

Costa Rica, once again resembling the church, was host to the travelers during evening service—the sermon was on missions. Afterward, the movie "Go Forth" was seen by the group while they refreshed themselves with famous Costa Rican coffee. Now foot-sore and weary, the passengers returned to the plane for the last of the journey. As they sped back to good ole U. S. A. they agreed that, although their trip had been short three o'clock to ten o'clock p. m.—it was certainly an exhausting one—and that they all wanted to be on land to be exhausted again next year!

The following officers were elected; Berna Dean Worshum, of First Church, Alexandria, president; Carol Kennedy, of Oakdale Church, vice-president; Betty June Hendrickson of First Church, Alexandria, secretary-treasurer, and Kathleen Weeks of Elizabeth Church, publicity chairman.

AMERICA'S YOUTH ARE ON INCREASE

If your church is organized and equipped to minister to adults solely or principally, the reports of the growing youth population of America should make you "stop, look, and listen." For while it is true that the population over 65 years of age is growing, that under 18 years is on the increase also. Here is the story, as told in **Printer's Ink**:

"The number of children under 18 increased more than twice as fast as the total population from 1950 to 1951, estimates the Bureau of the Census. While the total population was increasing 1.8%, the under-18's were increasing 4%. There were two reasons for the contrast: A high birth rate, and the fact that the above-18 population is now drawing from the low birth rate of the '30s.

"But a geographical breakdown shows that the picture is far from uniform. Percentagewise the biggest gains in under-18 population were shown by California (7.4), Nevada (7.9), Florida (7.2), Delaware (6.7), Maryland (6.6) and Colorado (6.4). In actual numbers, the greatest growth was shown by California (220,000) and New York (201,000), with Ohio (115,000) and Michigan (104,000) trailing behind.

"At the other end, Alabama showed a decrease, and Kentucky stood even. Other states showed gains far below the national average—Arkansas, North Dakota, Maine, Mississippi and the Carolinas.

"Total population under 18 as of July 1951: 48,585,000."—Board of Missions

YOUTH CARAVAN IN LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

A Methodist Youth Caravan will visit the Louisiana Conference for six weeks, beginning on June 27.

Miss Dorothy Douglas of Gilliam, Louisiana, will be the Caravan counselor and the team will be made up of young people from other states.

The Caravan will spend one week in six different churches.

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LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

OBITUARIES

HOOPER—"When one has reached maturity and has lived the good life, and been true, pure, useful, physical death is not so much a time of sorrow and sadness as it is a time of triumph." Such was true in the passing of Miss Florence Hooper at her home on Saturday morning, October 11, 1952, at Clarendon.

Many who are now parents and even grandparents, on entering the Beginners Class of the Methodist Sunday School heard and learned for the first time from the lips of Miss Florence the favorite song of all little children, "Jesus Loves Me This I Know." She was a gentlewoman of the old South, holding the traditions of her beloved southland in high and rightful place. She belonged in many ways to the entire community where she served as teacher in the school and Sunday School. She held a life membership in the Woman's Society of Christian Service which was given to her by the local Woman's Society in appreciation of her faithful service to this organization. She was loyal to friends and to her family.

There is a passage in Second Timothy that seems to me to exemplify the life of Miss Florence for she too fought the good fight; she finished the course; she kept the faith. Surely she has received the crown of righteousness and there are many to call her blessed.—Alta M. Bateman.

ROGERS—Mrs. Martha S. Rogers, age 72, answered the call "Come up a little higher" at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Harvey Atkinson, Winter Park, Florida, on January 9, 1953. She was the beloved wife of the late L. T. Rogers, who served many appointments in the Little Rock Conference acceptably and efficiently. They were loved by the people they were appointed to serve. Other children than the daughter at whose home she was residing at the time of her death, are: Jewell S. Rogers of Memphis, Tenn., David Howell Rogers, Ft. Smith, Arkansas, Mrs. J. B. Bond, Wilamette, Ill.; one sister, Mrs. Hunter Parham, Fordyce, Arkansas. One brother, Jimmie Stell, Homer, La., and six grandchildren: Dave Rogers, Jr., Larry and Rogers Atkinson, Frances, Peggy and Bill Bond.

The funeral service held at the Temperance Hill Methodist Church, Thornton Ct., was vibrant with simple dignity undergirded with great faith in God. Friends and neighbors from far and near had come not for a parting, but to testify of her abiding service to mankind and to the unending reward of her life. It can literally be said "Her children rise up to call her blessed."

Ministers sharing in the service were: Wylie Barron, Thornton Ct., R. C. Walsh, Bearden, C. M. Atchley, Dumas, and Otto Teague, Pine Bluff. Burial was in Stony Point Cemetery, near Fordyce, Ark. I



METHODISTS JOIN IN CONGO MISSIONARY JUBILEE

THE Jubilee Celebration of the arrival of the first Protestant missionaries in the Belgian Congo, Africa, in 1878, is now being celebrated there is a series of great mass meetings in all principal centers. The celebration was initiated recently by a meeting in the King Baudouin Stadium, at Leopoldville, which was attended by 25,000 persons. Governor-General Petillon, with many other representatives of the government, the press, and of industry and commerce, were present at an impressive pageant.

Four thousand children of the Protestant mission schools of all denominations marched in striking colors. A fraternal delegate of Belgian Protestantism, Pastor de Worm, and the General-Secretary of the Congo Protestant Council, the Rev. R. V. Thompson, addressed the assembly in French; and the Rev. Daniel Nkomi, a veteran African pastor, spoke in the native Langala tongue: all spoke of the amazing advance made by the Protestant churches in the Congo in the past 75 years. A visitor-participant who thrilled the vast audience was Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, American singer now on a goodwill tour of the world, who sang a Negro spiritual and a prayer.

At the opening of the Leopoldville celebration, there was read a congratulatory telegram from the Colonial Minister in Belgium, Dr. Dequae, expressing the appreciation and interest of the Belgian Government in the work of Protestant missions. Pastor de Worm, who is president of the Federation of Protestant Churches in Belgium, emphasized the work of evangelization which the missions have carried on in the Congo and which has spread deep into the Colony. "These Christian principles which have been taught here are the foundation of true democracy," he said.

The General-Secretary of the Council, Dr. Thompson, spoke of the important role missionaries have played in the development of Africa, inspired first by David Livingstone's determination "to open up central Africa to the light of the Gospel." He pointed out that five years after Livingstone's death, Thomas Comber and George Grenfel arrived on a survey trip and became the first missionaries in the Congo; and in the same year Henri Craven, of the Livingstone Inland Mission, opened the first mission station in the country. Dr. Thompson also noted that at present there are 43 mission societies established in the Congo at 270 mission stations; and that these are surrounded by thousands of village churches in which are found more than 600,000 adult church members and 270,000 preparatory members.

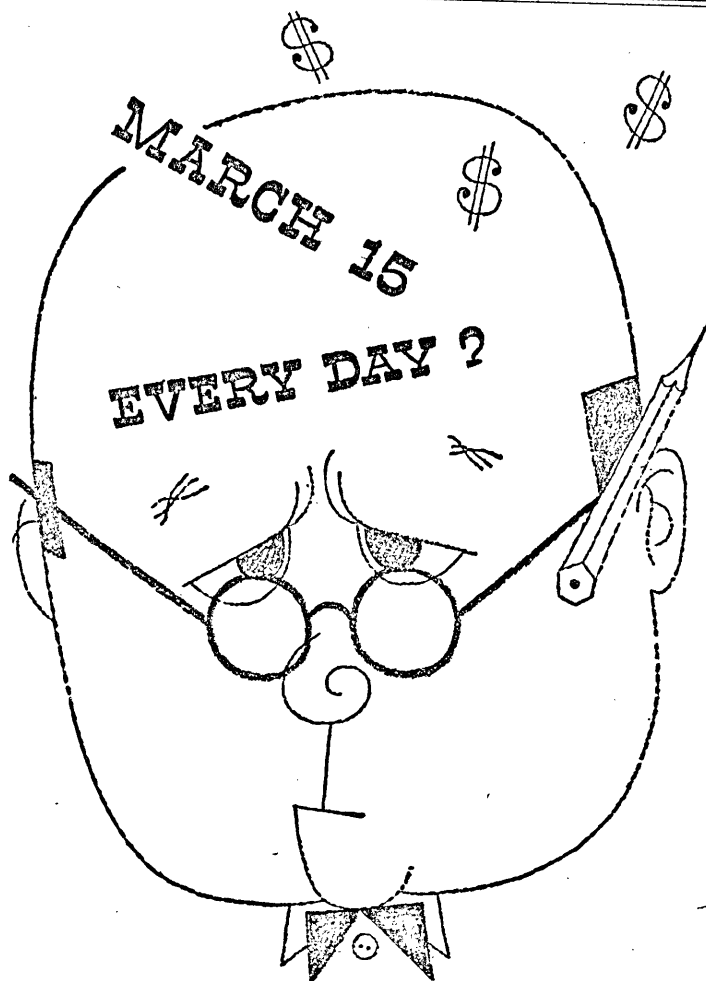
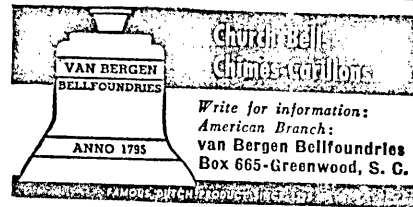
Among the societies and churches forming the Congo Protestant Council, and conducting this 75th jubilee, are the Central Congo Annual Conference and the Southern Congo Provisional Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. Methodist Bishop Newell S. Booth, as a director

have known Mrs. Rogers through the years, and especially during the years I have been pastor of Lakeside Church in Pine Bluff. She personifies all that is good in motherhood, all that is sacrificial as a minister's wife and all that is noble in a faith. She has not died. She has gone to be with Him.—Otto W. Teague

of the Council's Union Press, was in attendance and preached at the opening session of the Council. Other Methodist members in attendance were Miss Kathryn Eye, Miss Tove Jensen, E. H. Lovell, and L. H. Robinson.

As a part of the anniversary celebration, the Rev. George Carpenter, former secretary of the Congo Protestant Council, has prepared the story of missionary work there, and it has been printed in book form as "Highways for God in Congo." Editions in French, Swedish, Norwegian,

ian, and in several African dialects, as well as in English, are under way. Upon completion of the celebrations, Dr. Carpenter will return to the United States and assume the post to which he was but recently elected, that of Africa secretary of the Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of the Churches of Christ. He will succeed Dr. Emory Ross, who retires.



In a way, *every day* is tax day, because of hidden taxes on everyday purchases.

For instance, if you are a family of three with an income of \$3500 a year you pay almost *three times* as much in other taxes (most of them hidden) as in income tax!

Now we all know taxes are necessary. (This company—like all of America's electric light and power companies—pays out in taxes about 20% of the money it collects.)

But in return, all of us should see to it that our government spends our tax dollars carefully. And it should never spend taxes for what people and businesses can do for themselves. For that way lies socialism.

• "MEET CORLISS ARCHER"—ABC—Fridays—9:30 P. M., Eastern Time.

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The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

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



LESSON FOR MARCH 22, 1953

WHY CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:
Matthew 26. Printed text: Matthew 26:6-13, 26-30.

GOLDEN TEXT: Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' (Matthew 26:26)

We are beginning a new series of lessons today; Unit VII: "COMMUNION, CROSS, AND RESURRECTION". This unit covers some of the greatest themes in Christianity. The lesson today has to do with the Communion. The theme is in the form of a question, "Why Celebrate the Lord's Supper?"

A Look At The Scripture

There are two events in our lesson. The first has to do with the anointing of Christ by a certain woman in Bethany. This event took place on Saturday (the Jewish Sabbath) just the day before the Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The other event tells of the establishment of the Lord's Supper which took place in the Upper Room in Jerusalem on Thursday of Holy Week just prior to the crucifixion on Friday.

Bethany is a small town just two miles southeast of Jerusalem on the road from that city to Jericho. It is still in existence and has a population of some 200. The Lord had some very dear friends in this community and visited here on several occasions. He spent all the nights of Holy Week prior to his crucifixion in this community. He spent the days of this week in Jerusalem but returned each night to Bethany.

The event opens with the account of the Lord's being entertained in the home of Simon the leper. This man was not a leper at this particular time. He had been a leper, however, and some students feel that Christ himself had healed him of this disease. This is thought to be the reason why Simon was delighted to entertain the Master in his home.

This event is mentioned in all three of the synoptic Gospels, but in none of them is the woman who who anointed Jesus named. There is the account of a woman anointing Christ in the Gospel by John, and in this Gospel she is referred to as Mary the sister of Martha and Lazarus. In the case of this Gospel, however, the woman is said to have anointed the feet of Jesus. It will be noted that the other gospels have her anointing his head. Some students feel that this is the record of the same event in all four of the gospels, while others think that the account in John is of a different event and refers to a different woman. Luke tells us that this particular woman was a great sinner and this description of her does not seem to fit the character of Mary the sister of Martha. Luke also would lead us to believe that the woman anointed Jesus because of her appreciation of the fact that the Lord had forgiven her of her great sins.

Whatever the reason was for the woman anointing the Lord, all are agreed that it was not her conscious intention of doing so in order to pre-

pare him for his burial. It was another case — as is often found in the Bible — of a person doing more and saying more than he realized himself. Some think that the woman felt that she was anointing Christ as the Messiah, but Jesus realized that the anointing was for his burial.

A great sacrifice was made in this anointing. Some students say that it represented a year's salary, at that time, for a laboring man. Goodspeed, in his translation, designates the amount as \$60. There is no conflict here since that amount, at that time, would represent a year's salary.

The woman was criticized on the grounds that enough was wasted here to have been of great help to the poor. This is true, but Christ took the woman's part. Ordinarily the Lord was much more interested in people helping the poor than in their doing great honor to him, but this was a special case. No doubt this woman had given her all in the service of her Lord. Not only did Jesus laud her for her act at that particular time, but he said she would be praised for it down through the years. This honor was not to be given merely to the woman as an individual, for her name is not even mentioned. The honor was to be given to the act of sacrifice made by her, a thing that has a large part in the Gospels.

The second part of our printed text has to do with the establishment of the Lord's Supper. This took place in the Upper Room in Jerusalem. This was quite a noted meeting place in the history of early Christianity. The event of our lesson alone would have given it a large place in history, but there were many other great events which also took place here. It was here that the Lord appeared to ten of the twelve Apostles on the evening of his resurrection. It will be remembered that Thomas for some cause was not present and Judas Iscariot had already committed suicide. It was also here that the Lord appeared to the eleven (Thomas being present) some eight days later. It was here that Matthias was chosen to take the place of Judas as one of the Twelve. It was there that the 120 disciples, including the Apostles, met in a ten days' prayer meeting. This prayer-meeting culminated in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. Some claim that this room is still in existence. There is a place so designated which is now in the hands of the Mohammedans. The better scholars, however, doubt that this is the same room. Considering the wonderful history back of this room, we do not wonder that our great devotional pamphlet is entitled "The Upper Room".

The Lord's Supper was established

at the close of the last Passover Feast Christ ever had with his Apostles. There is a close similarity between the Passover and the Lord's Supper. It was very fitting that Christ should select this particular time for the inauguration of this Sacrament.

Space will not permit us to go into a detailed comparison of these two institutions, though such comparison would be interesting. Suffice it to say that both of these institutions are Sacraments; not only so, but living Sacraments. One is still practiced by the Jews and the other by the Christians.

All of us remember the origin of the Passover. It was established the last night of the Israelites sojourn in Egypt as slaves. The blood of the slain lamb was sprinkled on the posts of the doors of the homes of the Israelites and the Death Angel passed over those homes. This Sacrament has been carefully kept by the Jews from that time until now. Like all Sacraments, it is kept with considerable ritual. The Communion of the Lord's Supper grew out of this Jewish Sacrament like a flower grows out of the soil. There is a very definite connection between the two.

The Lesson Applied

There is a definite connection between the two passages in our printed text. Materially speaking the woman made a great sacrifice; she gave her all. The gift was in a precious container; an alabaster box. The box was broken and the expensive ointment was poured over the head of the Master. In the great sacrifice made by the Lord his body was broken on the cross and his blood was shed for the redemption of the world. The elements used in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper symbolize the broken body and the shed blood of the Lord. It is, therefore, very fitting that these two passages are brought together in this lesson.

The Meaning of The Lord's Supper

In answering the question of our theme "WHY CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER?" It is necessary to look into its meaning both for the individual and the church. Various individuals and groups have emphasized different points in the Lord's Supper.

Some, for example, have emphasized the matter of memory. There can be no question that this is one of the chief objects of this sacrament. Jesus himself said, "Do this in memory of me." Christ was about to leave the world so far as visible form is concerned. It is more or less the disposition of all under such circumstances to want to be remembered after they are gone. On the part of others, this desire might be a bit selfish but not so with Christ. He longed to be remembered not so much for his good as for the good of others. The greatest tragedy that could come to this world would be to forget Christ. Each succeeding generation needs to remember him; his teachings; his great sacrificial life; his unselfish service; his love for all even including his enemies; but most of his atoning death on the cross. He was thinking primarily of his death when he instituted this Supper. All who partake of the elements which symbolize the broken body and shed blood of Christ should do so with their minds centered on this great sacrifice. Throughout all eternity he has stood as a lamb slain. Before his coming in visible form, his people killed the lambs and looked forward to his coming. When he came to John the

Baptist for baptism in the Jordan River John said of him, "Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." Since his coming we take the Communion and look back to him on the cross. Thus the crucified Christ stands in the midst of the universe. It is this great fact that the partaking of the Lord's Supper is supposed to call to our minds.

There are others who emphasize most of all the idea of thanksgiving in the Communion. This is also of great importance. No one can meditate upon what Christ has done for the world and meant to the world without being deeply grateful.

Then, there are others who emphasize above all things the matter of consecration. Consecration on our part simply means laying all on the altar of submission and surrender. The consecrated person has given up all those things that would in any way separate him from Christ, and not only so, he has laid his all on the altar to be used for furthering the cause of Christ. He has consecrated his time, his talents, his material possessions, his training, and even his physical strength to be used in building the Kingdom of God on earth. Consecration, therefore, is a very important principle in the taking of this sacrament.

There are still others who emphasize the matter of fellowship. The communicants have fellowship with each other and fellowship with Christ. This fellowship does not end with those who might be present in visible form at any particular time that the Communion is taken. It includes the fellowship of Christian people all over the world, not only of this present generation but of all past generations as well. The Church is one on both sides of the grave. It is the Church Militant here and the Church Triumphant there. People do not cease to be church members merely because they are dead. They are dead to the militant portion of the Church but forever alive in triumphant portion. Christian fellowship will continue throughout eternity and it reaches out to both sides of the grave. When one participates in the Lord's Supper he ought to be conscious of this fellowship. His fellowship with the risen Christ brings victory over the temptations of life and also strength to bear the burdens of disease, sorrow, failures, disappointments, and even death. Surely, this matter of fellowship is very important.

The element of hope is also present in this sacrament, and is emphasized by some. Christ has conquered death and through him we shall also win the victory. It is the hope of immortality; a life that shall never end in a place prepared by Christ for those who love and serve him.

Pretty soon Christians everywhere will be taking this Communion. As you come to the sacred chancel of the church, you will do well to remind yourself that you are kneeling at an altar that reaches around the world. As we participate in this Sacrament it is to be hoped that all of us will emphasize, not one but all of the features mentioned above. Let us call to mind the fact that the Communion is a memorial feast. We must especially remember the sacrifice Christ made on the cross. Then, let us be thankful for what he has done for us, and may our gratitude lead us to a deeper consecration as we have fellowship with Christ and the good of all ages of the world.