

## Raney Lectureship Heard With Appreciation

THE Methodists of Greater Little Rock and Arkansas had the unusual treat of a stimulating series of lectures by Dr. Roy L. Smith, delivered at the Pulaski Heights Methodist Church, Little Rock, as the T. J. and Inez Raney Lectureship was inaugurated. The gift of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Raney, Pulaski Heights members and in memory of Mr. Raney's father and honoring Mr. Raney's mother, the lectureship proved to be a well-received gift, appreciated by the great numbers of people who attended the lectures.

Dr. Smith, a gifted speaker on any occasion, used as his theme "The Greatest Conversation Ever Held" based on the experiences of Jesus and the Woman Of Samaria. This is the third of local church lectureships that Dr. Smith, former editor of the *Christian Advocate* and now one of the two publishing Agents of The Methodist Church, has inaugurated, and the sixth time that he has been the first speaker of a lectureship, the other three lectureships being in connection with schools.

Visitors, ministers and laymen, from over the state were in attendance at many of the lectures. We noticed visitors from other denominations also present. This is of course an indication that this lectureship is a contribution not only to the Pulaski Heights Methodist Church but also to other Methodist churches and communities throughout the state as noted churchmen are brought each year to Little Rock to give a series of lectures. Bishop Paul E. Martin will deliver the lectures next year.

We predict a growing interest in this lectureship year after year with an ever increasing appreciation of those who have made provision for it.

## War As A Futile Means

AS the first anniversary of the Korean conflict draws near, it now appears that the operation is a further demonstration of the futility of war as a means of settling international disputes. After nearly a year of military operations ranging from one end of Korea to the other, and after untold destruction of life and property, military leaders are saying at the most that can be expected is a cease-fire agreement or a stalemate. A year of fighting has done little more than sharpen up the issues involved, threaten the solidarity of the western world and literally destroy a little country.

The UN and the United States had no other course than to resist the communists-inspired Korean aggression. This was a choice between the lesser of two evils. Think, on the other hand, of all that would have been spared if the difficulties could have been handled in some other fashion than the use of military force. The Korean conflict will have indeed served purpose if it convinces the peoples of a divided world of the utter futility of war. If it fails to do this it will go down in history as another costly conflict that spread neither peace nor goodwill.

It can be argued convincingly that communist aggression can be checked in no other way than by meeting force with force. Those who are bent upon mastering the wills of free peoples must be restrained through the use of force, if necessary. It will be to the everlasting credit of the UN that it has taken the course that has. But modern war, as such, settles little

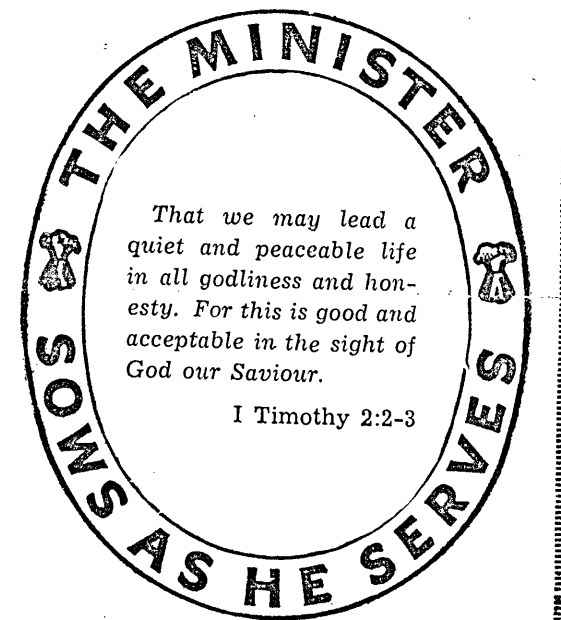
(Continued on page 4)

## Musts For "Our Ministry"

LAST week we emphasized the fact that "Our Ministry" must be morally clean. May we here call attention to the fact that ministers must be financially honest.

It is a rare exception indeed when a minister is guilty of financial fraud, or cheating or stealing. In general there is little danger that a minister may be guilty of such gross dishonesty.

Occasionally there is evidence of a carelessness in regard to financial obligations that may be mistaken, by the creditor, for deliberate neglect or outright repudiation of a debt. It is possible for a minister to so handle his obligations as to



hurt or destroy his credit, and in so doing seriously affect his usefulness, although he ultimately pays every dime he owes. We may be so careless with financial obligations or treat them so lightly that our creditors become uneasy and suspicious—and possibly disgusted. Consequently, when we again apply for credit, they diplomatically recommend that some other business concern is in a better position to extend us the credit we desire. This usually means that our business relations have been so unsatisfactory and our business methods so closely akin to dishonesty that reliable business concerns prefer to lose our business, rather than be bothered with our slack business methods.

It is no more reflection on a minister than it would be for a layman to be in debt. Reasonable financial indebtedness on the part of either may be perfectly proper. The hurt comes in either case—and more quickly with the minister—if there is evidence of a wrong attitude toward the indebtedness.

Because of a fixed and often a rather limited salary, and because, in general, a minister is located in a place for a limited time, it is important that he be doubly conservative with financial obligations. Sometimes an unexpected move can embarrass a minister who is scrupulously honest.

## "Fish Bowl" Diplomacy

NO one doubts the effectiveness of the Iron Curtain in keeping secret from the rest of the world the plans, purposes and activities of Russia and her satellites. As a result of this all but total ignorance of the basic strategy of the communistic forces, we must predicate our international program on guesses, surmises and other uncertain bases.

With Russia, our number one enemy, the situation is altogether different. In view of our "fish bowl" diplomacy, if there is anything Russia does not know about the thinking and planning in America, it is probably something Russia does not think worth bothering about. In the few attempts we have made at real secrecy—the atomic and hydrogen bombs are examples—we have fared very poorly. In general we seem to insist on giving full publicity to practically every form of strategy we devise in which Russia might be interested.

The present size of our navy is generally known and we quickly announce it if additional vessels are returned to service from our "moth ball" fleet. We tell the world of the size of our air force and announce our plans to increase it together with the timetable for the increases, together with the ultimate goal. Russia, together with anyone who cares, knows the approximate size of our military forces in Korea, Europe and America. That everybody may be kept up to date, we publicly announce our draft quotas for the nation by states and give the timetable on these quotas and the ultimate goal we have for the strength of our military forces.

Lest Russia might be uncertain about our strategy in playing for time until we can re-arm, an official high in government a few days ago practically advised Russia to march now by declaring that Stalin is a "dead duck" if he waits as long as two years to strike. Last week press reports quoted a top government official as saying that our purpose is to divide Russia and China. Although at war with China, we publicly announce that we will not strike China anywhere except in Korea and that we will prevent the National Forces of China from doing so. We declare publicly that we will follow no course, however advisable it may appear, unless we are able to carry our allies along with us. We air publicly the dangerous divisions existing among our leaders regarding the importance of Asia as compared to Europe as a place for a show-down with communism. Our leaders state publicly their fears regarding many courses of action that, in the ordinary practices of war, would seem to be advisable and practical if not imperative because they fear that such action might result in all-out war with China and Russia.

This article is not a criticism of the over-all strategy of our nation in the present crisis. We would not be guilty of such presumption. The ideas and plans and activities undergirding our general strategy seem to be well grounded and sound. Nevertheless, it is common knowledge, if players are anything like equally matched, that one cannot win even a checker or chess game if he regularly reveals to his opponent the strategy involved in every move he makes. How can we expect to win a game as serious as the contest in which we are now engaged with communism if we continue to practice a "fish bowl" diplomacy that forewarns our enemies of every plan we have or may have to bring about their defeat. We should quit telling them how we plan to do it. We should leave a few things, at least, to the imagination of enemies who will destroy us if they can find a way.

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E. T. WAYLAND  
EWING T. WAYLAND { Editors and Business Managers  
ANNIE WINBURNE Assistant to Editors

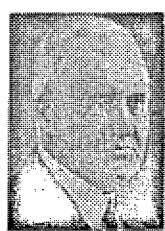
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Roy I. Bagley Mrs. Sue M. Wayland  
H. O. Bolin

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Little Rock Conference—J. S. M. Cannon, J. L. Hoover,  
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## A WEEKLY MESSAGE

By FORNEY HUTCHINSON

### - WHY? -

During my fourteen years at St. Luke's Church, Oklahoma City, there lived just across the street from the church a saintly old lady by the name of Mrs. Etta Caldwell. She had come to Oklahoma City from somewhere in the North, where she grew up, and had for many years been a member of the M. E. Church. As it was so convenient, she attended St. Luke's and later on joined that church. I used to drop in frequently to see her, and it was always a refreshing experience to spend awhile in her presence. She loved to talk about religion and was anticipating her home in heaven.

One day I heard she was ill and I called at once to see her. I found her in bed under the care of a daughter with whom she lived. Naturally, I said, "Sister Caldwell, what's the matter?" She looked at me rather questioningly and said, "Brother Hutchinson, last night I was going down the stairs on my way to prayer meeting. Being somewhat feeble, I fell and broke my hip, and have been in bed ever since. I don't understand," she said, "why it happened. If I had been going to a dance, or some sort of a frolic, it would have been different, but since I was going to prayer meeting, and trying to be a Christian, I can't understand it." In due time she recovered sufficiently to attend prayer meeting and the other church services as well.

Her perplexity was not unusual. Many good people wonder why they have to share the common lot—why God allows them to be subject to the misfortunes that afflict many others who do not call themselves Christian at all.

The time came when Sister Caldwell, looking back upon the period of her affliction, would say, "I understand now why God allowed me to fall. It enables me to sympathize with other people who suffer." Jesus, though he was the son of God, suffered death on the Cross. That experience enabled him to understand us, and certainly helped us to understand Him. It is the common lot which produces sympathy and love, one for another.

Like Sister Caldwell, we will do well to remember that as Christians we are in a training school here and are learning to understand our fellow human beings. Thus we are enabled to sympathize with them. Let us not expect special protection for ourselves, but turn to good account every experience that life shall bring. Sister Caldwell learned to understand.

## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

REV. ALFRED A. KNOX, pastor of the First Methodist Church, West Memphis, will be in charge of a Religious Films Preview for the Forrest City District at the First Methodist Church, Forrest City, Friday evening, May 18, 7:30 p. m.

SACRED MUSIC CONCERT was given on Monday evening, May 7, by the combined choirs of the Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Warren. Wayne K. Wilson was director and Miss Jessye Mae Harley was organist.

BORN to Rev. James W. Workman Jr. and Mrs. Dottie Workman Saturday afternoon, May 12th, a daughter, Karen Sue. Brother Workman is in his first year as pastor on the Perry-Perryville charge. He is a son of Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Workman who are serving First Methodist Church in North Little Rock.

JEROL GARRISON, U. of A. student, was elected president of the Wesley Foundation, University of Arkansas, when election of officers for the school year 1951-52 was held Sunday, May 6. Other officers include Marjorie Hammond, vice-president; Frances Poe, secretary; Billie Bowden, treasurer; Myron Cassidy, assistant treasurer.

WORTH GIBSON, recent graduate of the University of Arkansas and former President of the Wesley Foundation at the University, will serve as student director of the University Wesley Foundation this summer. At the present Mr. Gibson is attending the Perkins School of Theology, SMU. He will assume his duties June 1 and will resume his theological training September 1.

BISHOP MARTIN is listed for the opening worship meditation at the Ecumenical Methodist Conference on Wednesday, August 29 at Oxford, England. The formal opening and welcoming service will be held the evening before. Other Bishops and Ministers of the South Central Jurisdiction having places of leadership in the program include Bishop Charles C. Selecman, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Bishop A. Frank Smith, Dr. Umphrey Lee, and Dr. W. W. Sweet.

PLANS were advanced at a meeting of the Camp Committee of the Forrest City District for the construction of a District Youth Camp at Bear Creek Lake to be ready for use by the summer of 1952. G. E. Dooley, Marianna, was elected chairman of the Camp Committee. C. L. Harris, Helena, was chosen as the vice-chairman and to head a finance committee to raise the money necessary to finance the project estimated to cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000. W. G. Hoyle, Marianna, was selected as the secretary-treasurer of the group. Rev. Ethan Dodgen is the District Superintendent of the Forrest City District.

THE sympathy of many friends over the state goes out to the family of Mrs. J. W. Moore of Caraway in her death on May 8. Mrs. Moore was the wife of the Methodist pastor at Caraway and besides her husband is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Martha Selby, Leachville; a son, Fred P. Moore, Jonesboro; and two sisters, Mrs. J. E. Stanley, Ft. Smith, and Mrs. Abe Ford, Ozone. Funeral services were held in the Caraway Methodist Church by Rev. E. B. Williams, district superintendent of the Jonesboro District, assisted by Rev. Lyman Barger, pastor at Hunnington Avenue Church, Jonesboro. Burial was at Paragould.

DEDICATION SERVICES for the Donald Jones Memorial Organ at Aldersgate Camp, near Little Rock, held April 29 at the Camp were attended by a large group of young people and youth leaders of the Little Rock District. The organ was a gift of the young people of this District in memory of Rev. Donald Jones who died last summer. Brother Jones had been active in youth work in the Little Rock District. Those participating in the services were Bill Holmes, Little Rock District youth leader, Rev. Cecil Culver, Robert Gannaway, soloist, M. L. Scott, president of the district youth organization, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jones, Donald's parents, Dr. Francis Buddin, Little Rock District Superintendent,

### NOTICE

Dollars held in World Service Treasuries do not serve the World. May 31 is the deadline for local church treasurers to send all World Service and Conference Benevolence money to Conference treasurers. Church members: you can assist the work of your Church greatly by keeping your pledges paid up to date.—Council of Secretaries

Dr. A. G. Walton, Donald's pastor, and Jimmie Rose Harrison, organist.

### NOTICE

The Ministers' Wives Fellowship of the North Arkansas Conference will have a luncheon in Paragould at the Vandervoort Hotel on Saturday, June 16th, at 1:00 p. m. The ministers' wives who will attend conference as delegates, or who live within driving distance of Paragould, should make their reservations with Mrs. Hubert Pearce, Heber Springs. Tickets will be \$1.50. Mrs. James T. Randle, President

### HIGHLAND METHODISTS OPEN NEW SANCTUARY

The Highland Methodist Church congregation moved into a beautiful new sanctuary for its first service last Sunday, May 13. Of New England Colonial architecture, built at a cost of in excess of \$100,000, the new building is located on Thirteenth Street just south of the church plant which has been in use for several years. Rev. W. L. Arnold, pastor, delivered the sermon to a capacity congregation at the first service. He was assisted in the service by Rev. Roy E. Fawcett, and Rev. J. L. Leonard, former pastors. The ladies of the church served at an Open House in the afternoon which was attended by a large crowd.

A week of special services celebrating the newly completed building program is featuring sermons by former pastors including Rev. Roy E. Fawcett, Rev. Harold Sadler, Rev. O. L. Cole, Rev. O. E. Holmes, Rev. John Hefley, Rev. E. C. Rule, Rev. J. L. Leonard. Bishop Martin will preach at the morning worship service Sunday, May 20, and will lead in the Cornerstone Laying ceremonies following the worship service. On Sunday evening Dr. Francis Buddin, Little Rock District Superintendent, will deliver the sermon.

### LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON

Again we come to that time of the year when we begin to think of Conference and the Ministers' Wives Luncheon. As is the custom we will have our luncheon on Saturday, June 9th, at 1:00 o'clock at the Y. W. C. A. We hope that all the wives of our active ministers, the wives of the retired ministers, and the widows of our ministers will make their plans to come. The Y. W. C. A. is centrally located on Central Avenue so that it will be accessible to all. Our first announcement in the *Arkansas Methodist* stated that the tickets would be \$1.00 but please make this correction in your mind that the tickets will be \$1.50 as they were last year. Will you please make your reservation with Mrs. M. W. Miller, Hamburg, not later than June 1st.—Mrs. C. Ray Hozendorf, President

### WAR AS A FUTILE MEANS

(Continued from page 1)

than completing the destruction of life and property in the arena of action.

As long as those who would destroy freedom choose to use force to attain this goal just so long will the lovers of freedom be forced to meet force with force. The problem is to convince the destroyers of freedom of the futility of war.



## From The Gujarat Annual Conference Arkansas Methodism's Advance Responsibility In India

By Rev. Lester Finley  
Field Correspondent

### VILLAGE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

By Pearl Precise, Village  
Education Service

I have just been on a tour of some of my schools—I have 28 scattered over an area beginning 10 miles from Nadiad extending in one direction from there about 20 miles and the other direction about 40 miles or more. So do not get to each school often. I was delightful with the progress in one school where a young lad, Kantilal Mangal, has been teaching for two years. He teaches where he has the kind supervision of one of our senior preachers, who was for 15 years "Teacher-helper" supervisor of village schools, my co-worker for 8 years in Baroda District. He is not in school work but has instilled much of his spirit of service and helpfulness into this young lad. Kantilal is "qualified" (i.e. passed the Grammar school exam. preparing him for teacher training course). His teaching experience necessary to taking up the teaching course has proved a real recommendation. His school is one of the best I have inspected this year, ranking right along with the one taught by the trained teacher, and far above some taught by people of more experience. So you may be sure I am glad to recommend his going for training and have hopes he may go this year. He wishes the training before he marries so he had better get there soon for the fond parents may not want him unmarried for long! He is about 19 years now! We say "Shabash" to him and his pastor who guides him! (Shabash—Well done).

Yesterday a long letter signed by many of the young Christian Endeavor leaders of one village and other church leaders who can write and others who only "thumb printed" the request, that their young preacher-teacher, Hiralal Somchand be not transferred this year as they had heard was contemplated. He has so won the hearts of the folk there in the two years he has been there, especially in guiding the C. E. in organizing, has created greater interest in the school; is himself studying for examination to qualify for teacher training course; well, he and Zhaverbai his wife have led so well that the church and school folk wish him to continue for at least two years more. I like such reports.

Another young couple—Maganlal K. Dass and Shantabai—have one son about one and one-half years of age. Now they decide they want both to go for teacher training so plan that "grand mother" shall look after the son while they study. They hope to go for training in June if accepted by the Training school. He is graduate of our Gujarat United School of Theology and she qualified to take teacher training so we hope they can go and thus be more valuable preacher-teachers for the further development of the church in

the villages.

We hope to have some institutes for teachers both in Bible teaching and teaching methods of reading, writing, and arithmetic, etc. There is always need of "refresher courses." My summer vacation may be spent thus. So the days remain full of tasks of one nature or another. But one is happiest when busy, if one just accomplishes something in the "business" and that is not always the case! But we keep on going and the road as Miss Underhill says "Leads up all the way." Its the climbing that develops the strength and faith!

### BOYS' PRIMARY SCHOOL & HOSTEL AT GODHRA

By Helen Harcourt, Hostel  
Superintendent

In Godhra we have a Primary school for village boys, who have no other means of getting a good education. We have only the first four grades, in school. Thus it is for small boys. Most of them are under twelve years of age in the hostel. We have a good House father and Mother, he was a minister, and has been a teacher preacher in the villages for many years. He and his wife take good care of the boys. As Government has brought in compulsory education we have many more day scholars now than hostel boys. Most of the day scholars are Hindoos, many are refugees from Sind, and some are Bhil boys and girls (Tribal people).

The Hostel boys are all Christians of course, and have to take turns in keeping their dormitories clean and tidy. They also help in the kitchen and gardens, as much of the watering is done by hand; so there is plenty for them to do. Of course, they have ample time for play also, as they take it in turns working and playing. We grow as much vegetables as we can for the hostel, tomatoes and greens and other country vegetables. Then we have one field, which we call large, but you in America would not think much of it, we grow grain there and in other patches, this provides grain for the boys and food for the oxen. We have a pair of oxen to draw water, plough the fields, haul rations, etc.

When the boys come in from the villages they have a spirit of independence. They have never been taught to obey orders; and thus they find it very difficult when they first come. But the change in the boys after a few months or so is remarkable. Through the influence of the House Father and teachers in the School they settle down very nicely. Last year ten of our boys gave their lives to Christ and joined the Church thus publicly confessing their love for Christ and a desire to live a better life. We stress truth and honesty and brotherly love in the Hostel. Pray for us that we may lead these boys to a deeper knowledge of Christ and also for their parents and those who live around

them. Pray that the Hostel cook and the people who work in the fields and gardens, may live true pure lives and live in peace and harmony with one another. In the Advance Asksings scholarships of \$50.00 on the primary school level may be sent for this Godhra School.

The following note from the District Superintendent, Kapadwanj District, Gujarat Conference (Rev. Mithalal Hirallalbhai), shows why we are glad that the Methodists of Arkansas are sending us funds for building district headquarters:

The most important project for Kapadwanj District is the most pressing need for a District headquarters in Kapadwanj town. Some years ago land was purchased for the express purpose of building a district centre in Kapadwanj. This part is quite different from the rest of Gujarat. The people are very backward in every way—educationally, economically and culturally. Because of ignorance, superstition has taken strong possession of them. To cite only one example, some months ago a group of persons in a village near Kapadwanj were bitten by a mad fox. We advised them to go to a hospital where such cases were treated; instead, they went to a witch doctor and as result they had to face serious consequences. Christian work is much needed in this section to wipe out superstition and ignorance from the people. The Sweeper community has become Christian in Kapadwanj, but they are the poorest people in India, so they cannot make a large contribution towards this project. Therefore we have to rely upon our American friends to help build this District headquarters. The population of the town is 25,000. The railway line does not go beyond this town so people use primitive type of vehicles for travel. I do my itinerating mostly on foot.

### EDUCATION BOARD IN ANNUAL SESSION

"Looking Toward the Future In Christian Education" was the theme of the annual meeting of the Methodist Church's General Board of Education held in Chicago, April 30 to May 2.

Current economic conditions and the constant threat of war make the outlook critical, the board agreed, and came up with these specific recommendations to the next general Conference:

1. Form a Commission on Theological Education (comprised of six bishops, six pastors and six laymen) with a full-time executive secretary in order to unify the relationship of the board, particularly the Division of Educational Institutions, and the 10 Methodist seminaries.

2. Provide more adequate financial support of the 10 seminaries for the strengthening of faculty staffs, and broadening of the curriculum to meet fully today's needs in theological education.

(Note: the above proposals will be presented by the General Conference Committee on Theological Education which estimates that approximately \$950,000 annually for four years will be needed to "modernize" the educational program of the seminaries. None of this sum would be used for building expansion. Bishop Richard C. Raines, Indianapolis, is chairman, and Dr. Corliss P. Hargraves, Nashville, is secretary of the committee.)

3. That a total sum be raised church-wide annually (estimated at \$6,000,000) toward the current operation of the 119 Methodist-related secondary schools, colleges and universities, and the Wesley Foundations and similar programs at 164 state and private institutions. This sum would represent a minimum yearly asking of 50 cents per church member for the institutions, the present goal, and 15 cents annually

(Continued on page 4)

### Chaplain Seals Writes Of Korean Civilian Needs

Chipijangni, Korea  
3 May 1951

Dear Brother Wayland:

You have heard of course about the new push here by the Chinese Communists. I will not comment on the military aspects but only on civilian hardships.

A great stream of women, children and old men comes over the hills and through the valleys all day long.

My interpreter and I talked to some of them and found they had walked for 40 miles and still had as many more to go. One woman said her husband was in the Korean army and she had to move herself and eight children by foot over the long trail from the fighting front to the south for security.

We talked to several parents who said they had all lost at least one child by sickness. One couple had lost four out of five children.

We asked some Korean soldiers how these civilians felt. He replied "Like they were dead." That's about it, "The Living Dead!"

We gave out 200 candy bars I had in my jeep for Americans. The people were so grateful but of course I did not have enough to go around. It's just heartbreaking.

The urgent need now is for food above all else. I feel that for the next few weeks packages of dry soup mixture or bouillon cubes would be a Godsend. If any of your Methodist readers could send packages of dry soups, noodles, anything that would keep and could be shipped in small cartons, it would often save lives of hungry and tired children and aged men and women.

Just received two wonderful boxes from Central Avenue Methodist Church, Batesville. God bless the kind people of Arkansas.

My new address is Ray D. Seals, 0,927,996, Chaplain Capt., Hdqs and Hdqs Btry, 7th Inf Div Arty, APO—7 San Francisco.

Sincerely,  
Ray

Editors Note:

The following Excerpt from a letter of a superior officer of Chaplain Seals will be of interest to his friends: "Chaplain Seals is an earnest, hard-working officer, possessing the ability and drive to perform his duties in a superior manner. Services on company level within the battalion during combat operation, have been an asset to the morale and welfare of all personnel. Distribution of clothing to civilians at Refugee control points in the regimental area is proving what we in a Democracy believe in."





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

The Methodist Church

The North Arkansas Conference  
Hendrix Station, Conway, Arkansas

Paul E. Martin, Bishop  
Rev. Floyd G. Villines,  
President

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

Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Executive Secretary

### WORK ON THE VALLEY SPRINGS CIRCUIT

Rev. James G. Smith, pastor of the Valley Springs Charge, serves his church in a sacrificial and earnest manner. He visits among his people. He is diligent in the matter of the affairs of the church. While serving the Pangburn Circuit he led his charge in the paying of their Advance for Christ apportionments for the entire four years in the first year of the program. The fellowship with Brother and Mrs. Smith has been enjoyable during this conference year. — J. Albert Gatlin.

The work on the Valley Springs Circuit has been progressing in a great way. When we came here in June, following Annual Conference, we found the churches of Valley Springs, Bellfonte, Bergman, and Everton awaiting us. We found the Bellfonte Church with an indebtedness of \$832, and a labor and repair bill of \$117, making the total amount of indebtedness \$949. A financial drive was made in March, 1951 led by the pastor and Trustees and this indebtedness has been paid in full.

The pastor thanks God for the cooperation of his people. The Valley Springs Church is making great progress in many respects. The Bergman Church has been completely redecorated inside which includes new doors and windows. The building will be painted on the outside in the very near future. The Everton Church has been completely redecorated inside and out. The floors have been sanded and varnished. Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Secretary of Town and Country Commission, has assisted the pastor during the year by giving additional services wherever needed. Revivals have been held in each church by Brother Gatlin, Rev. Uriah Smith, the pastor's son, who is on the Kibler and Mountain View Charge in the Ft. Smith District, and the pastor. Larger attendance was had in these services than in the years past according to reports by the people. We have had a number of additions to the church during the year. Seven infants have been dedicated to God in baptism. Mrs. Wilma Fulbright, the Conference promotional secretary of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, assisted the pastor in reorganizing societies at Bellfonte and Bergman. The Bergman Church has organized a Youth Fellowship; Raymond Cook has been elected president of this fine group.

All financial claims on the charge will be paid in full before the session of Annual Conference.

Knowing that all strength, courage, and wisdom come from God we pray for the increasing of these great qualities that the work of The Methodist church committed to our hands may continue in a successful manner to the glory of God.—James G. Smith, pastor



REV. JAMES G. SMITH

### FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT MEETS

(Continued from page 6)

was formed by the presidents of the twenty-four societies that were organized at the time the visitation was planned. The unbroken chain, symbolic of their co-operation, was presented to Mrs. Gilstrap, and she presented it to Mrs. Johnnie McClure, president of North Arkansas Conference. Mrs. McClure expressed her deep appreciation of the accomplishment, and the desire for eight such chains, one for each district in the conference, instead of only one.

Mrs. McClure spoke on the White House Conference and Mrs. Cooley reported on the Jurisdiction meeting held in Little Rock recently. The district officers presented a skit on What Makes a Model Executive Meeting.

Mrs. McClure installed the newly

elected officers in an impressive service of dedication. Mrs. L. W. Harris of Rogers provided appropriate music, and Mrs. Arthur Anderson of Rogers was soloist.—Mrs. Bessie Andrew

### WESLEYAN GUILDS MEET AT SPRINGDALE

Springdale W. S. G. was hostess to the Fayetteville District W. S. G. meeting Sunday, April 22nd.

Dinner was enjoyed by approximately fifty at Chicken Little. After the executive meeting held in the Ladies' Parlor, at which Mrs. Oakes, Dist-Sect., presided, the meeting was opened in the Sanctuary of the church with the singing of the Guild Hymn, followed by prayer by Mrs. Jessie Gilstrap.

Prairie Grove was in charge of the devotion—a group of scripture verses, poems, and thoughts on "Mother's Day" was given by Mrs. Alvin Bell and a Solo by Myrtill Dorman.

The following Conference and District officers were introduced: Mrs. Johnnie McClure, Conference W. S. C. S. President; Mrs. Grace Ketzel, Conference W. S. C. S. Vice President; Mrs. Jessie Gilstrap, District W. S. C. S. President; Mrs. Vera McNair, District W. S. C. S. Treasurer; Mrs. Randell, District W. S. C. S. Youth Secretary; Miss Margaret Spencer, District W. S. G. Treasurer; Mrs. Opal Morton, District W. S. G. Recording Secretary.

Rev. Roy Parks of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Springdale sang two lovely solos, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Parks. The Fayetteville unit, presented "Duties of the Officers" in the form of a skit entitled "The Ghost of a Dead Meeting."

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's reported a balance of \$36.75 in treasury. Roll call was answered with reports by the presidents of each Guild.

Mrs. Oaks gave a brief resume of the past year, reporting the organizing of one new guild—38 new members, 10 members lost to W. S. C. S. increased District pledge 20%, received credit for 5 study courses in District, gave 3 adult life and 2 baby memberships.

Mrs. Gilstrap extended an invitation to Guilds to attend District W. S. C. S. meeting in Rogers, April 25th.

Mrs. McClure reported on White

### EDUCATION BOARD IN ANNUAL SESSION

(Continued from page 3)

per member for the Wesley Foundations. The funds would be raised and allocated on an annual conference basis. Annual church support currently totals less than \$3,000,000.

"Christian education is faced with the problem of survival . . . we cannot afford to be concerned simply today, but must do everything possible to strengthen and broaden our facilities so that we can face the future with confidence," declared Bishop Fred P. Corson, Philadelphia, president of the board, in his summary of the meeting.

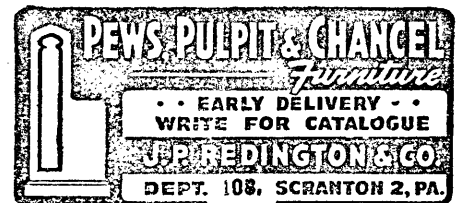
Other major addresses and the annual reports of the board's three executive secretaries—Dr. John Q. Schisler, Division of the Local Church; Dr. C. A. Bowen, Editorial Division, and Dr. John O. Gross, Division of Educational Institutions—underscored an urgent need to improve and extend Methodism's total program of Christian education.

The board voted to hold its 1952 meeting in Nashville, Tenn., March 4-6. At that time the board's new national headquarters building, now under construction, will be dedicated.

House Conference on Children and Youth. She emphasized using all study courses, to continue our study courses and asked us to remember our supply work.

Mrs. McNair asked us to empty our treasurers before the end of the year. The minutes of the executive meeting were read. A recommendation from the Executive meeting to use the remaining money in our Treasurer to send Mrs. Oakes to The School of Missions on Mt. Sequoyah in July was presented and acted upon.

Mrs. Oaks gave a very stirring challenge to each unit, to grow, increase their pledge in time, service and money. The meeting was closed with the reading of Romans 12th Chapter and a prayer.—Opal Morton



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# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

## CHILDREN'S WORKERS' CONFERENCE

The Inter-denominational Regional Children's Workers' Conference held in the Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, April 26-27, proved to be very successful. There were 123 registered delegates attending the conference, representing 11 denominations, Christian, Presbyterian, C.M.E., Episcopalian, A.M.E., Methodist, Salvation Army, Baptist, Congregational, A.M.E. Zion, Evangelical and Reformed.

Study groups were led by Miss Ruth Reynolds, Children's Workers in the Christian Church; Miss Jennie Lou Milton, Associate Professor of Education at the University of Arkansas; Miss Elizabeth Workman, training school instructor of The Methodist Church; Mrs. Alice Goddard, director of Children's Work for the National Council of Churches; and Rev. John Spragens, executive secretary for the Board of Education, Arkansas Synod, of the Presbyterian Church.

"Learning to Live with Children as Christians in One World," was the conference theme. The following speakers developed various phases of this general theme, Dr. M. L. Harris, Mrs. Alice Goddard, Dr. Laurence Kenney, Rev. E. L. Weinrich, Rev. John Spragens, Miss Margaret Marshall, Rev. T. P. Devlin and Dr. R. D. Nolen. Mrs. A. S. Ross of Winfield Church, lead the group in a worship service and a sacrificial meal. An offering was taken for hungry children of Korea, the offering amounted to \$43.74. The Arkansas Baptist Choir furnished music for the evening service. And Mrs. C. E. McMeans lead the group in learning new songs during one session. At another session Juniors from Winfield presented a number of new songs to the group, under the direction of Mrs. McMeans. The delegates were very enthusiastic over the opportunity given not only to study ways of "learning to live together as Christians in One World," but to practice working together as an inter-racial, inter-denominational group.—Mrs. W. F. Bates

## LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE CAMP FOR CHILDREN'S WORKERS—July 10-12, Lake Catherine

Children's Workers of the Little Rock Conference will be looking forward to their first experience in the lovely new conference camp on Lake Catherine. The camp will begin at ten o'clock on the morning of July 10th, and will close at noon on July 12th. The Rev. Neill Hart will give the keynote address on the theme of the conference, "The Church School's Responsibility for Creating and strengthening Christian Homes." Several outstanding children's workers have been secured to furnish leadership during the camp. Among these are Miss Lula Doyle Baird, who has written lesson materials for use with Primary children, and Miss Elizabeth Workman who formerly served as Conference Director of Children's Work in the Southwest Texas Conference. The program for the camp will be published at an early date. For further information regarding

## NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE NOTES

By Ira A. Brumley

### Church Schools Increase Membership

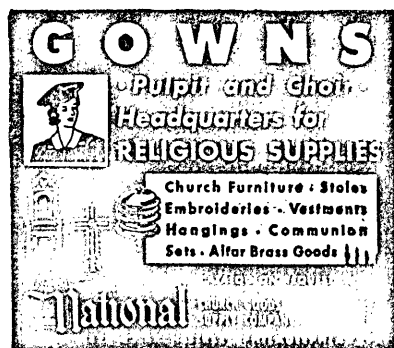
The reports from church school superintendents of the church schools of the North Arkansas Conference indicate that many of these schools are showing a gain in membership and attendance as compared with a year ago. We do not have enough reports to show what the report for annual conference will be as to church school membership and attendance. We are listing the schools and the number of increase per school, as to membership reported now, as compared with the report made annual conference in June 1950: Goddard Memorial, 34; Mt. Zion (Hartman Charge), 5; Ft. Smith, First Church, 42; Charleston, 17; Bonanza, 24; Bird's View, 42; Lamar, 1; Mt. Vernon, 5; St. Paul's, Ft. Smith, 4; Lows Creek, 5; Greenwood, 4; Tuck's Chapel, 21; Sulphur Springs, 54; Oakley's Chapel, 6; Gravette, 7; Siloam Springs, 10; Centerton, 29; Harmon, 17; Washington Ave., 21; Conway, Wesley, 12; Overcup, 16; Houston, 41; Moreland (a new school, reports 54); Mayflower, 2; Dardanelle, 16; Vilonia, 1; Bells Chapel, 2; Bellville, 21; St. Paul (Pope County Ct.), 2; Oak Grove (Dardanelle Ct.), 10; Salem (Wheatly Charge), 32; Moro, 23; Marvel, 9; Forrest Chapel (Colt Charge), 5; Smith Chapel (A recognized school), reports 83; Wesley Chapel, 11; Aubrey, 1; Cherry Valley, 43; Whitten, 18; Sunny Land, 23; Marked Tree, 4; Bono, 11; Pleasant Valley (Harrisburg Charge), 8; West Black Oak, 27; Delfore, 4; Paragould, First Church, 21; Griffin Memo., 43; Pruitt's Chapel, 13; Langley's Chapel, 5; Attica, 9; Reyno, 7; Cummins Chapel, 14; Smithville, 15; Mt. Zion, 3; Corning, 37; Warren's Chapel, 4; Rector, Fourth St., 31; Ramer's Chapel, 24; Center Hill, 14; Damascus, 2; St. Joe, 62; Patterson, 6; Judsonia, 10; Steele Hopewell, 14; Sulphur Rock, 2; Batesville, First Church, 41; Gassville, 24; Oil Trough, 22; Salado 7; Weldon, 10; Oxford, 26; Batesville, Central Ave., 42; Alicia, 1; Evening Shade, 13; Bethesda, 22; Jacksonville, 23; Evansville, 8; Parkin 23; Scranton, 17. We know that other schools have made gains, but have not reported to us.

### Korean Student In Youth Assembly

The North Arkansas Conference is having a foreign student in the

the camp, write:

Mrs. W. F. Bates  
326 Exchange Building  
Little Rock, Arkansas



Conference Youth Assembly to be held in Conway, June 5-9, a Korean student. This is very fortunate for the youth of our conference.

### Conference Board To Meet June 12

The North Arkansas Conference Board of Education is to meet at Paragould, First Church, at 2 p. m., June 12. It is expected that in an afternoon and evening session that most of the work of the board can be completed. This will make it possible for the members of the Board of Education to attend the sessions of the Annual Conference without spending time of the Conference in board meetings.

### Training Council Dinner

The Annual Training Council Dinner will be on the opening day of the Annual Conference, June 13. The dinner will be at 5:45 p. m. This dinner is for all members of the Training Council of the North Arkansas Conference.

This dinner is provided for the members of the Council as an appreciation for the splendid services rendered in the training program of the Conference by members of the Council.

### Senior Assembly, July 2-6

An assembly for seniors of the Conway, Forrest City and Searcy Districts will be held on the Hendrix College Campus, July 2-6. It will be open to youth who have reached their fifteenth birthday, but are not yet eighteen.

### Larger Quota For Youth Convocation

The North Arkansas Conference has been given an increased quota for the National Youth Convocation to be held August 27-31. This will make it possible for churches that have not been able to secure a place for a youth to have another chance. These additions places will be held for youth from local churches which have not had a delegate registered. This will not make it possible for all churches or even charges to have a delegate, but will give more churches a chance. All delegates must have reached their sixteenth birthday by August 27 to be eligible.

## DISTRICT VACATION SCHOOL WORKSHOP

More than a hundred vacation school workers from twenty churches attended the Forrest City Vacation School Workshop in Forrest City, Tuesday, April 17. The program, under the direction of the district superintendent, Rev. Ethan Dodgen, and the district director of Children's Work, Mrs. W. B. Gibbs, Forrest City, had been planned in cooperation with the Conference Board of Christian Education.

Mrs. Robert Moore, Brinkley, directed the workers with Kindergarten children in ways of developing the unit, MY HOME AND FAMILY. Mrs. Charles Johnson, Forrest City, led the primary workers in their preparation for the course, WE GO TO CHURCH. The Junior Course, THE STORY AND WORK OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, was presented by Mrs. Ola Higginbottom of Helena. Rev. Alfred Knox, West Memphis, met with the Intermediate workers and helped work out suggestions for teaching Intermediates in the Vacation School. They used the book, WHY CHURCH? by Marguerite Bro.

Following the worship period, a film strip was shown by Rev. Harold Womack, Hughes, and script read by Bro. Knox. This visual presentation described the effective means of setting up the vacation school in the local church. This was followed by a forum period, led by the district director, Mrs. W. B. Gibbs, dealing with problems and plans for the organization of the vacation church school.

During the afternoon session different age groups were given the opportunity to see suggestions from the screen on teaching procedures with their own age group.

Lunch was served in the church and the group enjoyed a brief fellowship period during this hour. Texts to be used were made available and distributed during the program, and other materials as needed.

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# WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. SUE M. WAYLAND, Editor

## HOPE DISTRICT MEETS AT TEXARKANA

The Hope District W. S. C. S. convened at First Church Texarkana April 24, with a good attendance of women and five ministers.

Quiet music was played after which Mrs. O. B. Poland, District President, opened the meeting.

A most inspirational devotional was given by Mrs. Raymond Luter from College Hill Society. The Scripture was taken from Acts 10:38.

The President, Mrs. O. B. Poland, presided. A short business session was held. All the societies were welcomed.

Election of officers followed and the new officers are: President, Mrs. T. B. Tooley, Hope; Vice President, Mrs. J. M. Johnson, Emmet; Secretary, Mrs. Claude Clark, Ashdown; Treasurer, Mrs. R. T. White, Hope; Secretary of Promotion, Mrs. Earl Miller, Texarkana; Youth Work, Mrs. John L. Tucker, DeQueen; Student Work, Mrs. George Meyer, Nashville; Spiritual Life, Mrs. Gus Orr, Texarkana; Christian Social Relations, Mrs. J. C. Oslin, Texarkana; Missionary Education, Mrs. John Rushing, Dierks; Missionary Personnel, Mrs. T. F. Bauman, Foreman; Literature and Publications, Mrs. Has Owen, Texarkana; Status of Women, Mrs. W. R. Shackleford, Texarkana; Supply Work, Mrs. P. C. Stephens, Blevins.

These officers were installed by Mrs. A. R. McKinney, a past President of the Conference. Mrs. John Rushing and Mrs. R. T. White were elected to go to the School of Missions at Mt. Sequoyah. Mrs. C. I. Parsons, Texarkana, was a delegate to the Jurisdiction meeting of the Woman's Society. She gave a very interesting talk.

Mrs. Earl Cotten of Little Rock spoke to us on the Little White House on childrens and Youths Christians Social Relations.

The morning session was closed with prayer by Rev. E. D. Galloway, District Superintendent. The ladies of First Church served a very delicious luncheon in the church dining room.

Following the meal Mrs. C. H. Farmer of Fair View church gave the Devotional.

"What has been done locally?" was next on the program. Each President gave a brief summary of the year's work in her Society. Mrs. George Meyer gave the report of the courtesy committee.

We were fortunate in having Mrs. E. D. Galloway, the wife of our District Superintendent with us who spoke to us on our theme, *Advance My Concern*. Her appeal for a greater work to be done for the advance was impressive.

Mrs. T. B. Tooley, our new District President, urged all societies to corporate and work hard for the advancement of God's Kingdom after which Mrs. E. D. Galloway presented a life time membership to Mrs. O. B. Poland in appreciation of her untiring efforts in promoting the work of the Hope District for the past four years as District President, also a life membership was presented to Mrs. Stevens of Prescott District who was District President of Prescott District when the Texar-

## MARY MITCHELL RETURNING FROM CHINA

Geneva, Switzerland  
1 May, 1951

Dear Friends:

It has been almost six months since I last wrote. The time has certainly flown by. I had intended to get a letter off to you telling about my Christmas in Shanghai, but before I got it written I had applied for my exit permit and found myself in the midst of visiting with friends and packing to leave.

On February 18th I left Shanghai with Ruth Harris and Doris Caldwell. We went by train to Canton and from there on to the border of China where we walked the little stretch of no man's land. Then we caught the train on in to Hong Kong. Friends were at the station to meet us. It was good to see them and to have them show us the way around.

During the two weeks that we were in Hong Kong I had invitations to go to Malaya to work to finish out my five years. I was considering the possibility, but the recommendation of the New York Office was that I come home on furlough before reassignment, so I gave up the idea and we began planning for the journey home.

As we compared costs of the trip via Pacific and that via Europe, we found that due to the high price of tickets on the American President Lines across the Pacific we could go by way of Europe for almost the same. Since none of us had urgent reasons for reaching America we decided to take the long way home.

We've had quite a number of interesting stops along the way. We left Hong Kong by ship on the 9th of March. It stopped in Singapore, Penang and Rangoon on the way to Calcutta. In each place we visited with Methodist missionaries and saw the work that was going on there. Everyone was most gracious and cordial toward us.

In India we went from Calcutta to Allahabad and visited the Rural Institute there, then went on to Lucknow to visit Dorothy Bearden, a friend from Scarritt days. She was busy making arrangements for herself and a sick friend to leave India on furlough. Sarah Chako, the principal, has certainly made the Christian influence felt in her school. The chapel there at Isabella Thoburn is a lovely building and often in use.

After we left Dorothy we went on to Delhi. One day while we were there we went down to Agra to visit the Taj Mahal. It was beautiful. The guide whom we got to show us around turned out to be a former student of the Methodist school there!

We flew from New Delhi to Beirut. There we had some trouble with our visas, but were finally granted permission to stay over. We took a car down to Damascus in

kana and Prescott District became the Hope District.

A very impressive pledge service conducted by Mrs. R. T. White closed the program of the day.—Reporter



MISS MARY MITCHELL

Syria and spent the night there. During the afternoon we were able to visit some of the old places in Damascus and get our first picture of the land of the Bible. The second day we drove from Damascus through Amman to Jericho and up to Jerusalem. We asked a guide who had been recommended by some Mennonites we met in Damascus to take us on and he agreed to. For three days he showed us around and told us the old stories connected with the places. Many of the spots of Bible times were covered with immense cathedrals, but we got a good view of the land and of the feeling of the countryside. Since then we have had a much clearer picture of what we are reading and what it would mean to be on the Mount of Olives or to walk to Bethany.

There were many Arab refugees throughout the land we visited. Many of them are bitter about having to leave their homes on the Israel side. Even our guide said that it was a terrible thing to stand on the border and see his good land on the other side while he and his family are forced to live with his sister in Jericho. But he was fortunate to have a sister, most refugees are living in old tents. They feel that they have been ill-treated by the United Nations and more specifically by the U. S. We have yet to come to a place in which America stands in favour with the people.

We flew back from Jerusalem to Beirut and caught our Pan-American plane on to Rome the next day.

We were in Italy for something over a week, first in Rome where we visited the four main cathedrals and saw Michelangelo's work and some of the old Roman remains, then in Florence for more art, on to Venice for its lovely canal scenes and a fair in the public square, ending up in Milan where we saw the Last Supper and many of the new industrial models and exhibits of many countries.

From Italy we came into Switzerland where we are working on permits to go into Germany. We've visited the United Nations and sat in on a Human Rights Committee meeting in which Eleanor Roosevelt was representing us and Charles Malik of Lebanon was acting as chairman. It was a very interest-

## FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT MEETS

The annual meeting of Fayetteville District set a new record of attendance when nearly two hundred women met in Central Methodist Church in Rogers, April 25. Twenty-seven of the twenty-eight societies in the district were represented. Mrs. R. K. Bent lead the group in thinking of the kind of light each individual sheds upon those around him, closing with the childhood songs, "Jesus Bids Us Shine."

Mrs. Jessie Gilstrap, district president, presided at the business session at which time officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. Jessie Gilstrap, Bentonville; vice president, Mrs. Walter Fiebach, Cave Springs; recording secretary, Mrs. Denver Misenhimer, Fayetteville; promotion secretary, Mrs. Bessie Andrew, Bentonville; treasurer, Mrs. Sam McNair, Fayetteville; secretaries of lines of work: spiritual life, Mrs. R. K. Bent, Fayetteville; missionary education, Mrs. H. T. Henry, Springdale; C.S.R. & L.C.A., Mrs. P. T. Verhoeff, Fayetteville; children's work, Miss Sadie Inch, Bentonville; youth work, Miss Mary Walker, Siloam Springs; student work, Mrs. Maurice Rickard, Rogers; literature and publications, Mrs. Witt Carter, Fayetteville; missionary personnel, Mrs. W. F. Cooley, Fayetteville; Wesleyan Service Guild, Mrs. Velma Oakes, Siloam Springs.

Mrs. Gilstrap gave a brief report of the Annual Meeting of North Arkansas Conference in Searcy. Then the group divided into workshops which were lead by the various district officers, and others.

In the afternoon, Mrs. Bessie Andrews lead in a service of recognition of those societies participating in the Birthday Visitation. A chain

(Continued on page 4)

ing meeting. All three of us would have like to stay longer and hear more.

Just now I am sitting in one of the offices in the World Council of Churches typing this letter to you. The Council has its offices in a little old Swiss House. Geneva is a beautiful place with its snow covered mountains and its lake. The past two days have been quiet cold, but today it is more like spring. Pansies and tulips are in full bloom.

I'm planning to reach New York in June and should be home by July. I hope that I will be able to see many of you during the summer or fall. Write to me either in care of the Methodist Office, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, or to my home, 536 Center Street, Conway, Arkansas. Sincerely yours, Mary

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# CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

## FORREST CITY DISTRICT TO DEVELOP YOUTH CAMP NEAR MARIANNA

Nearly two hundred Methodist Laymen in a meeting at Blackfish Lake Thursday evening voted to raise \$20,000.00 to develop a camp for youth on a lease in the Bear Creek Lake Project near Marianna, G. E. Dooley, Marianna, announced today. Over \$4,000.00 was raised at the meeting. The group represented fifty Methodist churches of Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, St. Francis, and Woodruff counties.

Blackfish Lake Methodist Church, under the direction of the pastor, Rev. J. W. Glass and a committee of laymen composed of Charles Grayson, D. H. Anderson, W. G. Davis, and H. D. Torian, served a chicken dinner. A program on camping as sponsored by the church was presented under the direction of the district superintendent, Rev. Ethan W. Dodgen, Forrest City. Miss Mauzel Matthews, Marjorie Adams, Betty Lou Gibbs, Elma Mallory, and Mary Dodgen, Forrest City, gave a dramatic skit describing camp life. Mr. Dooley reported the recommendations of the committee for needed buildings and equipment with estimated costs. C. L. Harris, Helena, received subscriptions and cash contributions to start the fund.

The Camp Committee is composed of six laymen: M. E. Bird, Earle; E. Clay Bumpers, Wabash; C. L. Harris, Helena; W. G. Hoyle, Marianna; T. W. Stout, Forrest City; and Fay L. Wells, Proctor; and five ministers: Ethan Dodgen, Forrest City; E. J. Holifield, Helena; Jesse Johnson, Brinkley; Alfred Knox, West Memphis; and Sam G. Watson, Marianna.

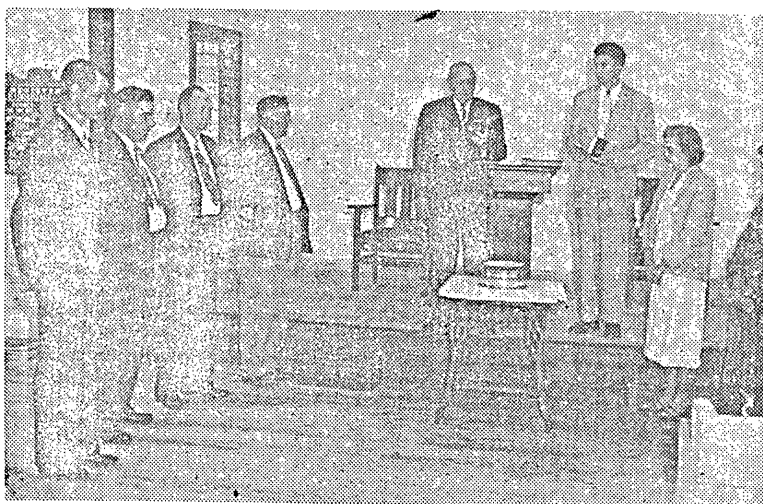
## A REPORT ON SUNSHINE FUND

When I came to the State Sanatorium a little more than three months ago as chaplain the Sunshine Fund was turned over to me. This is a service of love that is carried on in the Sanatorium through the contributions made from organizations in both the North Arkansas and Little Rock Conferences. It is a gracious expression of interest in sick and needy people.

Several contributions have been received these three months. They have come from the Intermediate Sunday School Class in the Garfield Church, the Matron's Class, Central Church, Fayetteville, the Custer Bible Class, Pine Pluff, two Sunday school classes, Garfield Church, The Woman's Society of Christian Service, Marked Tree Church, the Woman's Society of the Cotton Plant Church, Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Beebe Church, Woman's Society of Christian Service of New Hope Church, Van Buren, The Woman's Society of First Church, Fort Smith, and Woman's Society of Christian Service of Goddard Memorial Church, Fort Smith. The receipts from these groups amount to \$70.00.

The expenditures during this period are as follows: Bibles and portions of John, \$85.00; fifty Upper Rooms, \$2.50; Easter tray cards, \$4.00; a refund to another fund, \$2.50; tracts, \$4.20; for New Testament Portions, \$2.70; for pajamas for patient, \$3.04; for New Testaments, \$7.50; glasses for patient, \$20.00; total \$131.44. Bank balance

## NEW METHODIST CHURCH AT WILBURN



Rev. C. E. Whitten, district superintendent of the Searcy District, leads in dedication service for baptismal bowl and communion service in new Wilburn church.

On April 1 the first quarterly conference was held for the new Wilburn Methodist Church. This church is one of the outstanding accomplishments of faith and sacrifice.

For a good many years the Wilburn Church had been a community church. Conditions developed to make it advisable to divide interests and organize a Methodist Church. For a church of less than 50 members this including the erection of a suitable building was a mammoth task. When the resources were counted, faith and determination were the larger part.

On July 18, 1950 the foundation was started for a buff hollow tile building. Much leadership was furnished by Rev T. W. Roberson, a local Methodist preacher, who had been a member of the church most of his

life. Most of the labor and much of the material for its construction was given. The building and furnishings are valued at \$7,500.

Rev. James Beale, a student at Hendrix, is now serving as pastor.

The building committee was C. B. Magnes, M. C. Taylor, and T. B. Moore. The Board of Stewards of the new church is composed of J. L. Shearer, D. B. Moore, N. G. Holliman, T. B. Moore, Mrs. Letta Taylor, and Mrs. Eva Magness. The Trustees are J. L. Shearer, Door B. Moore, T. B. Moore.

In addition to the First Quarterly Conference, a dedication service was held for a Communion Service and baptismal bowl, presented by Mrs. Mae Robinson, in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Moore. —Hubert E. Pearce.

## JOINT MEETING OF YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIPS

The Benton County Young Adult Fellowship met jointly with the Elmer H. Hook Young Adult Fellowship in the Wiggins Memorial Methodist Church of Fayetteville Tuesday, May 8. Robert Cunningham, president of the Elmer H. Hook group, presided and led in singing with Mrs. Alf Eason at the piano.

It was voted to send all the funds of the joint meeting as of May 8, as the second and third installments on the scholarship for a boy in the Gujarat Conference in India. This is a part of the program for the Advance for Christ and His Church. The group assumed a \$200.00 scholarship two years ago for this purpose before it divided. Only some \$10.00 is now needed for the fourth and last installment of \$50.00.

It was voted to meet again jointly at Bentonville on August 23.

Rev. Alf Eason, director of Adult Work in the Fayetteville District, suggested that in the future young adults center their programs around such themes as "The Recreation Program in the Local Church", Book reviews, "Good Literature for Young Adults", panel discussions in which several young adults would discuss various phases of a central theme, etc. Brother Eason appointed the following as a committee to work with him and Rev. W. F. Cooley, district superintendent, in making plans for future programs: Rev. Arnold Simpson, Rev. S. O. Patty, Vaughn Pickard and Robert Cunningham.

The host pastor, Rev. Arnold Simpson and his church, were most gracious in the serving of refreshments.—H. W. Jinske, Reporter.

## RURAL LIFE SUNDAY AT OAK GROVE

Rural Life Sunday was observed Sunday, April 29 at Oak Grove Methodist Church in Batesville District. The Order of Service put out by the Town and Country Commission, was used for the worship program.

The Women's Home Demonstration Club co-operated in a very fine way. The county demonstrator, Miss Blanche Crain, was with us and talked on "Abundant Living". Other subjects read or discussed were, "Social Side of Country Life", "Things I Love in the Country", "Benefits from the Soil", etc. Everything was intended to point towards the enrichment of country life. J. K. Rawlings, an erstwhile high school superintendent, talked on "Recollections of a Country School Teacher". One lady read a very interesting article on "School Days in the Hill Country". Rev. M. A. Graves, pastor of Hazel Edwards Memorial Church, Newark, was present and made a talk. Folk songs and country ballads were sung.

We began several weeks ahead of time collecting material from farm journals and other papers and magazines, to be used in the program.—J. B. Stewart, Pastor.

as of May 9, 1951, \$201.57.

May I request an interest in your prayers as I work day after day in the Sanatorium. — Bates Sturdy, Chaplain.

## An Active Member For Forty-One Years

THE Woman's Society of Christian Service of Copperas Springs Methodist Church on the McRae Charge, honored Mrs. Sarah Mason on Sunday, April 22, at the 11.00 o'clock hour. Mrs. Mason has been a member of the Copperas Springs Church for 41 years, a member of the Board of Stewards for 25 years and secretary of the board for 15 years. She has taught a Sunday School class continuously. Her mother gave the land upon which the church was built.

Taking part in the service honoring Mrs. Mason were Mrs. Wayne Cranford, Mrs. William Woosley, Virgel Weir, Mrs. Marvin. Dean Faith, Mrs. Neil Cranford, Mrs. Kirby Welch, Miss Fern Bowman, Harry and Wallace Walker.

Wayne Cranford, superintendent of the Sunday School, paid tribute to Mrs. Mason by using the scripture, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven", saying that Mrs. Mason is one of these light carriers in her community, shedding radiance far and wide. Mrs. Walter Cranford and Mrs. Virgel Weir presented her with gifts of joy, wishing her joy in traveling life's road. Mrs. Charles Hays and Mrs. Bill Moates brought gifts of peace, trusting she would always walk in peace. Mrs. Lloyd Reaves and Mrs. Ira Reaves brought gifts of happiness, typical of the way



MRS. SARAH MASON

she goes about shedding the light of happiness from her many good deeds. Mrs. A. J. Liles and Mrs. Raymond Liles presented gifts of faith, symbolizing the faith she has in her Master. Mrs. Sidney Cranford and Mrs. Cecil Crisco brought gifts of love, an emblem of her love for her church and friends.

The class of men she taught twenty years ago attended in a body.

The service closed with the singing. (Continued on page 8)

# The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

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## WHERE IS GOD IN CRISIS?

LESSON FOR MAY 27, 1951

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE: II Chronicles 36:11-21; II Kings 25:3-7; Jeremiah 29:4-14; Psalms 137; Ezekiel 11:14-21; Daniel 1:8-16.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13)

### A Look At The Scriptures

This lesson completes a unit of study entitled "ISRAEL'S CHECKERED NATIONAL HISTORY." This unit has extended over the four Sunday in May. The titles of the lessons are as follows: "Is God With the Successful State?"; "What About Leaders Who Drink?"; "What Is Important in a State?"; and the subject of the lesson today, "Where Is God in Crisis?"

The object of the entire unit has been to set forth a brief history of the Israelites, showing God's dealings with them. One thought that keeps occurring in these lessons is the fact that when the Israelites lived right they prospered, but when they rebelled against God calamity came upon them. Their continued rebellion against God finally led to destruction of both of these nations—Israel and Judah. Israel fell in 722 B. C. and Judah in 586 B. C.

These nations fell because of sin. This has been the cause of the fall of scores of other nations during the history of the world. Some of the very sins that have caused the fall of many other nations are now prevalent in the United States. The hope of the continued wellbeing of our country depends upon a great spiritual awakening. All of us should pray earnestly that we as a nation may learn to put first things first. The eternal values must be re-emphasized while less attention is paid to the material things of life. Otherwise, godless, paganistic materialism will engulf the world. Our country is now thoroughly aroused over the greed, selfishness, dishonesty, sensuality, gangsterism and political corruption that are eating like cancer at its very heart. Our hope for the future lies in the fact that we are aroused and not indifferent to these evils.

### The Fall of Judah

The Scripture of our today's lesson begins with the terrible fall of Jerusalem. In II Chronicles 36:11-21 and also in II Kings 25:3-7 we read of this fall. The great Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar had formerly conquered Judah. He placed Zedekiah on the throne as a vassal king in 597 B. C. At this time he carried away some ten thousand men as captives to Babylon. It is said that the families of these men also went along which made about forty thousand captives who were carried to Babylon in this first deportation. All of the leading men of the nation were carried away. This left King Zedekiah with a group of very weak advisers, with the exception of the Prophet Jeremiah. These advisers finally brought about the ruin of the nation.

### Jeremiah Advised The King

Jeremiah advised the king not to rebel against Babylon. The king

believed in Jeremiah and felt that he was divinely inspired, but he was weak. He fell under the domination of other advisers. As a result Jeremiah came to be greatly hated and persecuted. He was imprisoned as a traitor to the nation.

The Babyloians, under the able leadership of Nebuchadnezzar, returned and completely destroyed Jerusalem. They captured Zedekiah and his family. They slew the king's sons before his eyes and then blinded him. He was carried as a blind captive to Babylon.

### Jeremiah Remained In Jerusalem

The Babylonians knew that Jeremiah had advised Judah not to rebel against them. For this reason they permitted him to choose whether or not he would go with them back to Babylon or tarry in Jerusalem. He chose to remain in his home land.

### The Sad Plight of The Captives

The hundred thirty-seventh Psalm tells of the sad plight of the captives. This psalm was written in Babylon. The captives had arrived there. For the most part they were not treated too unkindly by their conquerors, but they were homesick. They pined for Jerusalem. The psalm tells of them hanging their harps on the willow trees that fringed the rivers of Babylon. All joy had gone from their lives. They did not feel like singing the Lord's songs in a strange land.

### Jeremiah Writes To The Exiles

When the captives arrived in Babylon there arose false prophets among them and predicted that their stay in Babylon would be very brief. Jeremiah wrote to straighten them out at this point. He warned the people against the false prophets. He insisted that the captivity would last for seventy years. He advised the people to make the most of their captivity; to settle down, build homes and rear families. He assured them that the captivity would finally come to an end and that they would be permitted to return home. He was anxious that they, as far as possible, continue their family life in order that the nation might not be weakened. He insisted that they should carry on their worship. He informed them that they would be able to find God even in a strange land. He admonished them to seek the Lord with all their hearts. He promised that God would finally turn away their captivity. He advised them to even pray for their enemies and to seek the peace of the city of Babylon. He went on to say, "For in the peace thereof shall ye find peace." This is the first time in the Bible that people were advised to act thus toward their enemies. The Jews of the captivity have it to their everlasting credit that they carried out this

advice. They so won the hearts of their enemies and were so well treated by them that finally when Jerusalem most of them decided to the time came for the return to remain in Babylon.

### Ezekiel Writes From Babylon

Nebuchadnezzar made three deportations of Jews from Jerusalem to Babylon. The first took place in 597 B. C. the other two in 586 and 581 B. C. Ezekiel was in the first of these deportations. At the time he wrote this letter Judah was a vassal state to Babylon and was ruled by the vassal King Zedekiah. Jerusalem had not yet been completely destroyed. Ezekiel was kept posted as to what was going on in Jerusalem by travelers between the two cities. He realized that if something was not done the nation would finally be completely destroyed. He, therefore, wrote his letter from Babylon and sent it back to Jerusalem.

The Book of Ezekiel is made up of a series of visions which he had by the River Chebar in the land of Babylon. The Jews had formerly believed that their God, Jehovah, was a local deity. He made his home only in Palestine and could only be found and worshipped there. That is one of the reasons why they were so heartbroken over their captivity. The prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel set them right at this point. Jeremiah advised them to go ahead and worship God in this strange land. Ezekiel not only worshipped God but had visions of him in Babylon. They came to realize, as never before, that there is but one God and that He is present everywhere. In this connection Ezekiel quotes God as saying, "Although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come." Not only does Ezekiel have God promising to be with his people wherever they may be, but he has the Lord promising to give them a changed heart: "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh . . . and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

We mentioned the fact above that here for the first time we have people being advised to pray for their enemies. We also have here, in Ezekiel, the first mention of the fact that God can and does change the hearts of people. Prior to this time the change was only one of outward life. Here God strikes at the root of the sin problem by proposing to change the personality of the sinner. This was something new under the sun. It will be remembered that both of these ideas were greatly stressed by Christ. The very heart of his message was the fact that God is Spirit and can be worshipped anywhere and that the worship of God leads to the transformation of the character of the worshipper. Thus we see these great truths first coming to life in the Old Testament.

### What Is Crisis?

The theme of our lesson is in the form of a question: "WHERE IS GOD IN CRISIS?" We might note briefly just what is meant by the term "crisis". A crisis marks a period of change—a change upon which something of great importance depends. There is a crisis period in the progress of the disease of a patient. When that time is reached the patient either gets better or worse.

It may be a matter of life or death to the patient. The idea of a crisis in the history of a nation carries something of the same meaning.

The last four lessons have shown the crisis periods reached in two nations—Israel and Judah. When the crisis periods came they turned for the worse and both nations died. A careful review of the entire unit will show just why they died. They were destroyed by sin. They sowed to the flesh and of the flesh reaped corruption. They might have sown to the spirit and from that source reaped life everlasting. They stand as examples of the fact that sin does not pay. They forgot or failed to heed God's warning: "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

### Our World Crisis

It is a trite saying to mention the fact that we are in the midst of a crisis period. The world has never before faced a greater crisis. In all the history of the human race there has never been a time when greater changes were taking place and doing so with such rapidity. Never before has there been a time when more was at stake in changes. Our world is a sick world. The disease has reached the crisis stage. Not long hence there will have to come a turning point. The disease will either prove fatal or there will be a turn for the better.

Not only does the world at large face a crisis, but our nation also faces such a condition. Some of the very sins that proved fatal, not only to Israel and Judah, but also to scores of other nations in the past are eating at the heart of our country. If we are not careful materialism will prove our downfall. This sin is at the root of the greed, selfishness and corruption that are abroad in our land. Materialism has the habit of feeding upon itself. The more an individual or a nation has the more he or it wants. This leads to selfishness and corruption in obtaining the material comforts or luxuries of life. In the scramble for things God is forgotten and the spiritual values, that make a nation strong, are lost sight of.

### Where Is God At A Time Like This?

There is but one answer to this question. He is with us. He does not approve of our sins any more than he did the sins of Israel and Judah. But in spite of his disapproval of their deeds he remained with these people to the end. They were carried away into bondage but he went with them. From their very bondage came a richer faith; a firmer belief in the fact that there is but one God and that he is all powerful and everpresent.

### AN ACTIVE MEMBER FOR FORTY-ONE YEARS

(Continued from page 7)

ing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." A beautiful basket of pink snapdragons was placed by the chancel rail by Mrs. Mason's daughters, Mrs. Patrick O'Sullivan and Miss Ruth Mason of Little Rock.—Mrs. Wayne Cranford.

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