

Arkansas Methodist



"SERVING TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE CHURCHES"
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NO. 31

Vacation From God

IN this season of the year of planning vacations and enjoying "getting away from it all" consider how often it happens that one takes a vacation from God. To maintain a vigorous, healthy and growing spiritual life there must be a continuous relationship with God. That relationship will be enriched just to the extent that a consistent effort is made to sincerely fashion with God's help one's life after the Christian ideal. The reason many lives do not reach Christian maturity is that one takes a vacation from God.

When one gets a couple of weeks off he and his family usually finds restoration of perspective and spirit by a change in scenery. This is accomplished by taking a trip or engaging in some activity that is usually reserved for such occasions. In either event the result is usually both refreshing and beneficial as one returns to his or her normal duties better prepared to do what is expected of one.

On the other hand a vacation from God has the opposite effect. It neither restores one's soul nor clears one's perspective. Away from God life takes on a dull meaningless existence which starves the spiritual life. God never takes a vacation from us.

Crusade Against Liquor Advertising And Beercasting

THE National Temperance and Prohibition Council, which is composed of twenty-three of the strongest national temperance organizations in America, with a total membership of more than 25,000,000 is now engaged in an all out national crusade against liquor advertising and wine and beercasting. The National Temperance League, the National Woman's Christian Temperance League and the Board of Temperance of The Methodist Church are three of the twenty three organizations in this Council. Our own Bishop Wilbur E. Hammaker is the president of the National Temperance and Prohibition Council.

The Council, through its Committee Against Liquor Advertising, has just published a large four-page circular of some 28,000 words which contains all of the information needed for active participation in the Crusade.

The circular discusses the staggering amount liquor is spending annually to promote and increase its sales. It gives impressive and even imperative reasons why such a Crusade as it is now launching should be supported by prohibition forces everywhere.

You will find in the circular some astonishing figures regarding the wide reach of radio and television advertising of wine and beer. Such advertising makes of our radios and television sets billboards in our own living rooms for some of the most subtle, dangerous propaganda to which our children can be subjected.

This crusade is not merely a movement to fight and condemn liquor advertising. It also has as an objective the commending of those leading national magazines with a combined circulation of almost thirty-eight million, that refuse to carry liquor advertising.

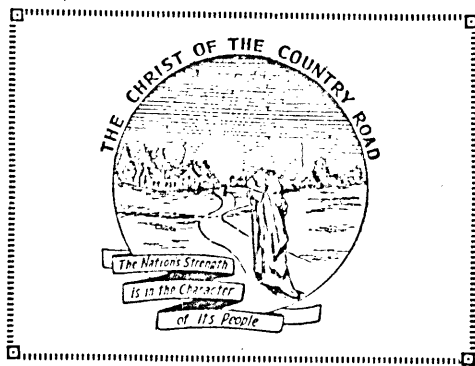
This crusade is being promoted throughout the nation. It is expected that its effect will be felt in Congress where the situation could, at least partially be remedied. These circulars may be had by writing Dr. Renwick H. Martin, 209 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh 22, Pa. 1 to 20 copies 10c each. 25 to 50 copies 8c each. More than 50 copies 6c each.

The Matter Of Financing Methodism's Rural Churches

THE MATTER of financing our churches in rural areas is a problem which, by this time, should at least be familiar to the leadership of Methodism since it has been a long time with us. Rural churches, however, should not feel that this problem is peculiarly their own. Churches in centers, with the enlarged budgets so necessary today also feel the weight of financial pressure in meeting their budgets.

While the matter of financing the local church is not easy anywhere, it is particularly necessary for leaders in rural churches to give careful attention to this question if difficulties are to be avoided.

It is as essential in rural areas as in centers that the local church have a good



financial plan adapted to the local situation. Our office recently received from Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Secretary of the Town and Country Commission of the North Arkansas Conference a "Suggested Financial Program for Town and Country Methodist Churches". This suggested financial program was prepared at the request of Bishop Paul E. Martin by Rev. J. Albert Gatlin and Roy-Farrow, S.M.U. Dallas, Executive Director of the Texas Stewardship Program. We are not informed as to just how this excellent booklet is to be distributed. However, it certainly should be in the hands of Chairmen of Official Boards and the Chairman of The Commission on Finance in each local church. A card to Brother Gatlin's office at Conway will bring information regarding the distribution of this printed financial plan. In this service Brother Gatlin is filling a long-felt need.

The hit-and-miss, pay at the end of the year practice of other days no longer has a place in adequately financing the rural church—or any church. Such a plan has often torn down, in a turbulent month, about all that the leadership of the church has been able to build up in the other eleven, and has left the church gasping for spiritual breath at the beginning of the new conference year.

The rural church can be adequately and helpfully financed. This we know because it is being done in numbers of average places where the only noticeable difference between these and some other churches is the will to do it.

Methodist Youth Fellowship

THE office of The Louisiana Methodist hereby acknowledges the receipt of a complimentary copy of "Handbook of the Methodist Youth Fellowship." The volume came from Youth Department Division of Local Church, General Board of Education.

It is our feeling that this book is a very valuable contribution to the work of Methodist Youth Fellowship throughout our church. The book is the product of the entire staff of the Youth Department, with additional contributions to its contents by other specialists in youth work.

According to the preface, the "Handbook has three main purposes: To provide you with a glimpse of what your MYF is and can become. To bring together in one book the basic information that will help you understand your MYF and work in it. To help you find the joy and thrill of working in the MYF as millions before have done."

Leaders in every MYF in The Methodist Church should and likely will have a copy of this valuable aid to youth work. It may be had from The Methodist Publishing House at \$1.50 per copy, cloth bound, or 75c per copy paper bound.

Gambling On Way Out

LEGAL and illegal gambling apparently is on the way out in Louisiana. All over the state the word has been passed on that bingo, slot machines, pinball machines that pay off and various other devices calculated to separate a person and his money must be stopped. Orders for this move evidently came from the state administration and have been put in force through the state police system with the cooperation of Parish sheriffs.

Whatever may be behind this cleanup drive, we believe that the better citizenship of Louisiana heartily endorses the move to rid the state of gambling, legal or illegal. It is unfortunate that these various forms of gambling had become so entrenched that it became a part of the accepted life in certain sections of the state. Indeed, many churches had found bingo games and church raffles a profitable source of income and at least one city and parish finds itself in great financial difficulty because slot machines were the major source of income to finance the city and parish government, and this source of revenue is now cut off. We cannot believe that many Methodist churches, if any, had allowed its sense of stewardship to become so warped. However, Methodists must accept their part of the responsibility for having permitted overall conditions to continue as long as they did.

We want to commend state officials for their action in this respect. It was not an easy step to take and it will not be an easy step to maintain. Coming in the middle of an off-election year the usual cry of politics will have little meaning. Those responsible for this move will need all the support and cooperation they can get from the citizens of the state to make the crack-down stick. Persons who have profited so greatly from the weaknesses of the other person cannot be expected to give up easily. The danger will come when the excitement of the initial ban is passed. We believe, however, that with the open support of local church leaders of even the two strongest Protestant groups that gambling will not only be on the way out—it will stay out.

Tallulah and any other city that has depended on slot machine revenue to finance its affairs may find that it will have more money without slot machines than with them. According

(Continued on page 2)

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

MR. R. C. WALSH, wife of Rev. R. C. Walsh, retired Methodist minister of Bearden, is in a Little Rock Hospital recovering from surgery on July 14.

SAILING DATE FOR BISHOP AND MRS. PAUL E. MARTIN for their trip to South America will be August 20, from New York, on the S. S. Brazil, of the Moore-McCormack lines.

REV. EARL CARTER, pastor of the Hartman Methodist Church was the guest speaker at the Russellville Methodist Church, Sunday evening, August 2. Rev. Harold Eggenberger is pastor.

REV. JACK T. GOODYKOONTZ, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of Little Rock, was the guest speaker at Gardner Memorial Methodist Church, of North Little Rock, Sunday evening, August 2. Rev. Irl Bridenthal is pastor.

"LOYALTY SUNDAY" was observed in the Huntington Avenue Methodist Church, Jonesboro, Sunday, August 2, at the morning service, with a visitation program in the afternoon. Rev. Elmus C. Brown is pastor.

REV. D. L. DYKES, pastor of Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville, will take part in the Training School for Christian Workers to be held at Lake Junaluska in North Carolina the week of August 9.

REV. AND MRS. STANLEY T. BAUGH left Monday, August 3, for a visit with their children in New Jersey and New York. They were accompanied by Col. and Mrs. W. H. Howze, of West Memphis. They expect to return about August 25.

BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN announces that, Rev. Richard T. Perry, associate pastor, First Methodist Church, Hot Springs, has been transferred to the North Texas Conference effective August 1. There he will be associate pastor at the First Methodist Church, Paris, Tex.

REV. E. H. HALL, pastor at Dell Methodist Church, was the guest preacher at a revival at St. John's Methodist Church, Manila, the week of July 26. B. B. Threlkeld was in charge of the singing. Rev. J. F. Weatherford is pastor at St. John's.

REV. HOWARD COX, associate pastor of the First Methodist Church of North Little Rock will be guest preacher for the Youth Revival to be held at the Atkins Methodist Church, the week of August 2. Rev. George Stewart is pastor.

REV. THURSTON MASTERS, pastor of the Methodist Church, Tyronza, was the guest speaker for the MYF of the Marked Tree Methodist Church, Sunday, August 2. Members of the Tyronza MYF were invited as guests. Rev. Alvin C. Murray is pastor at Marked Tree.

REV. VIRGIL BELL, pastor of the Texarkana Circuit, is guest speaker for the revival being held this week at Concord Methodist Church, on the Austin Circuit. Concord members have recently placed new pews in the church, and installed an attic fan. Rev. J. R. Martin is pastor.

A SUB-DISTRICT RETREAT AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK is being held in the Smackover Methodist Church this week. Guest leaders for the week will be a youth fellowship team from El Dorado, which has recently completed a special training program. Rev. John L. Tucker is pastor.

REV. EARL CARTER of the Hartman Methodist Church is the guest speaker for the Christian Adventure Week being held this week by the Russellville Methodist Intermediates. A program of worship, study, recreation and crafts has been planned. Rev. Harold O. Eggenberger is pastor.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK was observed in the West Memphis Methodist Church the

week of July 26-August 2. The theme was "God's Will — Nothing More, Nothing Less." Inspirational speaker for the week was Rev. James Majors, pastor of the Methodist Church at Heber Springs. Courses were taught by Rev. Alf Eason, Albert Evans, and Rev. Ralph Hillis the pastor.

THE ARKADELPHIA METHODIST CHURCH has made a temporary change in the time for having weekly devotional services. Instead of meeting on Wednesday nights, services will be held each Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock during the month of August. This change will give business men an opportunity to attend the services on their way to work and will also be cooler. Rev. William O. Byrd is pastor.

THE NEW PARSONAGE of the Marmaduke Methodist Church has just been completed. Construction started about May 1. The new building has three bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, bath, utility room and carport, and is valued at \$10,000. The W. S. C. S., the Wesleyan Service Guild and the MYF cooperated in furnishing the parsonage. Rev. John F. Wilson is pastor at Marmaduke.

THE PULASKI HEIGHTS JUNIOR HIGH METHODIST YOUTH held their semiannual election Sunday, July 19. The following officers were chosen: Clifford Evans, President; Carl Powell, Vice president; Rose Mary Milwee, Secretary-Treasurer; Billye Jean Spotts, Chairman of Worship and Evangelism; Patricia Whitman, Program Chairman; and Janet Rowland, Chairman of Recreation. Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Simmons are adult counselors.

E. W. MARTIN, Hendrix College treasurer, is in Nashville, Tennessee, this week attending the annual Institute of Higher Education at Scarritt College. He is one of the program chairmen for college business officers and treasurers at the institute and also one of two business consultants. The institute is sponsored by Scarritt College and a number of Methodist and interdenominational agencies, and is the tenth annual session.

REV. AND MRS. E. J. HOLIFIELD, and son Brooks, were honored with a reception in the Fellowship Hall of the Marked Tree Methodist Church, following a district set-up meeting, Monday evening, July 23. Brother Holifield is the district superintendent of the Jonesboro District. Mrs. W. F. Bridger was in charge of arrangements, and was assisted by the members of the WSCS. Rev. Alvin C. Murray is pastor of the Marked Tree church.

ANNOUNCEMENT has come that Rev. Worth Wesley Gibson, son of Mrs. L. C. Gibson and the late Mr. Gibson of Fayetteville will be married to Miss Olga Suzanne Ziegler, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Ziegler of Boonville, Missouri, at the Nelson Memorial Methodist Church in Boonville, August 12. Brother Gibson was recently appointed pastor of the Methodist Church in Gentry, and they will make their home there.

ST. PAUL METHODIST CHURCH in Little Rock is observing Methodist Student Day, Sunday, August 9th, at the 11:00 o'clock hour. The Rev. William Elder, who for years was a member of this congregation, will be the guest preacher. Brother Elder has returned on furlough from mission work in Nagasaki, Japan. He will complete his work at Perkins School of Theology in Dallas for his B. D. degree while he is in the States.

OVER 150 STEWARDS OF Methodist churches in the Jonesboro District and their pastors attended a district set-up meeting at the Marked Tree Methodist Church, Monday night, July 23. The purpose of the meeting was to outline the district program for the year. Highlights of the evening's program were talks made by Rev. J. T. Byrd, Rev. Clyde Crozier and Rev. Orville Brannon on the recent World Convocation on

NOTICE

On account of pressure of the summer program the small church camp scheduled for August 11-14 at Camp Tanako, has been cancelled.

Evangelism held in Philadelphia. Dr. Ethan Dodgen, pastor of the First Methodist Church, of Jonesboro spoke on "Missionary Sp. chals".

AREA LEADERS PLANNING CHURCH ATTENDANCE CRUSADE

Meeting at the call of Bishop Martin, the three annual conference Secretaries of Evangelism, the chairmen of the conference Boards of Evangelism, a representative of the three cabinets of the conferences and eight other selected Area leaders met at the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, Friday, July 31, to map plans for a Church and Church School Attendance Crusade in the Arkansas-Louisiana Area to be conducted the first three and a half months next year. Rev. Eugene Golay, staff member of the General Board of Evangelism met with the group. The Crusade in this Area is a part of a church-wide emphasis on Church attendance. Rev. Mr. Golay has been assigned to the South Central Jurisdiction for the period of the emphasis where a very intensive program will be carried out. The Arkansas-Louisiana Area program will be related to the Jurisdictional program.

Those attending the meeting included Bishop Martin, Dr. Cecil R. Culver, Little Rock, Rev. H. O. Bolin, Benton, (Ark.), Rev. John Bayliss, Pocahontas, Rev. James T. Harris, Monroe, La., Rev. W. D. Boddie, Bunkie, Dr. F. A. Buddin, Little Rock, Rev. Roy Fawcett, Little Rock, Dr. W. Henry Goodloe, Fort Smith, Rev. George W. Pomeroy, Ruston, Dr. Ira A. Brumley, Conway, Rev. Paul M. Bumpers, Clarksville, Rev. R. E. L. Bearden, Conway, Rev. Ewing T. Wayland Little Rock, and Dr. Golay.

GAMBLING ON WAY OUT

(Continued from page 1)

to press reports, the machines were set to return 85% to the players yet the return to the city was in excess of \$150,000 yearly. This means that more than a \$1,000,000 passed through these machines annually, without figuring anything for the association that maintained the equipment for the city. Anyway, those who are the happiest about losing the "slots" will be those who haven't been paying very much to support the city's government. We can think of no better way to conclude this article than to quote from Proverbs 16:8, "Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right."

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

LOOKING BEHIND AND AHEAD

We need to see what is behind us in order to safeguard us for the road ahead. Attached to your automobile is a mirror which enables the driver to see the road behind without taking his major gaze off the road ahead. As we know, it is quite as important to see what is coming behind us as to see what is in front of us; for on our crowded highways there is almost more danger of collision from the rear than from the front. And especially do we have to see behind when we make a left turn.

In our social thinking, we speak of turning to "the left" as meaning turning to the new, the radical, the revolutionary. And it cannot be denied that during the last few decades the general trend of political and economic life throughout the world has been toward the left. Hence it is doubly imperative that we look behind us in these leftward times lest some old fallacy carrying a 1953 license plate come dashing down the road and wreck us.

This is the danger that threatens us. The communistic philosophy of Russia and her satellites and the totalitarian programs of some other dictator-led governments are really old theories, carrying new names. If there ever was a time we needed to get back to the fundamental principles of our nation's founders, that time is now. Let us steep our minds in the spirit of integrity, industriousness, and courage which cleared the wilderness and built the communities of this western continent.

At this vacation season let us refresh our minds by reading some American history. If possible visit some of the historic spots such as Williamsburg, or the Hermitage at Nashville, or Old St. John's Church at Richmond where Patrick Henry spoke. Let us visit the museums of Chicago and Pittsburgh and the libraries of Pasadena and Newark and Boston in order that we may see the beginnings of our American way of life. The better we know the things that made America, the better we shall handle the things America makes.

Yet, there is always the danger that in looking back to the past we may lose our pioneering spirit toward the future. There are some people so enamoured of the "good old days" that they are intolerant of anything new.

We all have to watch this tendency as we get older, lest we grow too timid to tackle the things ahead of us. Yes, fear is one of our tendencies as age advances. Physically that is understandable because our bones become more brittle. But mentally and spiritually we need not become afraid as we approach age.

When does a person pass his prime? Physically, perhaps in the late forties, mentally perhaps in the early sixties, although Immanuel Kant was seventy-four when he wrote his "Metaphysics of Ethics" and Goethe was past eighty when he finished "Faust." The calendar need not matter much. A person never passes his prime until he begins to believe the best of life is behind him. He is still progressing as long as he can say with Browning's Rabbi Ben Ezra: "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be, the last of life for which the first was made."

I like that statement of John Buchan (Lord Tweedsmuir), late Governor-General of Canada, in which he described how to keep the long view. He said that we speak of youth as climbing the hill of the years, and then when men pass middle age we speak of descending the hill. Tweedsmuir, however, reminds us that when we are going down the hill the long vistas are straight ahead of us.

And so it is when we get a Godly confidence about the future. The view lengthens. Even death is not the end. We face the future unafraid.

This has been the land of hope and dreams. When Pastor John Robinson preached his farewell sermon in Holland to the embarking Pilgrim Fathers, he told them that God hath more light to break forth from His Holy Word. And so He has. The great days are still ahead.

The Commission on Promotion and Cultivation of The Methodist Church has requested its executive director, the Rev. Dr. E. Harold Mohn of Chicago, to visit home and overseas mission fields in Alaska, Hawaii, and the Orient this fall. Dr. and Mrs. Mohn plan to leave Chicago September 5, and hope to complete the mission before Christmas.

They will first visit outpost mission stations in Alaska and will then fly to Tokio to make an extended tour of Methodist missionary work from the north to the south of Japan.

Dr. Mohn will spend about two weeks in Korea to contact native Methodist churches, observe relief work, and gather information about the progress of the missionary enterprise throughout South Korea.

Upon his return to Japan, Dr. and Mrs. Mohn will visit Okinawa, Formosa, Hong Kong, the Philippines and the Hawaiian Islands, making a personal survey of mission stations and observing the possibilities for church extension and service in all of these countries.

Dr. Mohn will be travelling as a representative of all the World Service boards and agencies of The Methodist Church, but will especially represent the Board of Missions. He has also been asked to represent the Committee of Fifty in its promotion of the World Mission of Evangelism.

SEEK NEW HYMN FOR URBAN CONVOCATION

The Hymn Society of America, at the request of the Division of National Missions, Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, is seeking a new "city hymn" to be sung at the Division's "Convocation on Urban Life." The Convocation will be held in Columbus, Ohio, February 24 to 26, 1954, and the text of the new hymns should be in the possession of the Hymn Society by January 1.

"The American city has changed so greatly in its need and in its spirit in the last half century that we need new words of a hymn to gather up its story and its aspirations and its longing for spiritual knowledge," says Dr. Robert A. McKibben, secretary of the Convocation. The Rev. Deane Edwards,



DR. E. HAROLD MOHN

president of the Hymn Society will name a committee to judge the texts submitted and select the one to be made the "convocation hymn."

According to Dr. Edwards, texts only are wanted, and they should be in meters to which tunes are now in the standard hymnals of the churches and preferably in the "Methodist Hymnal." Texts should be sent to the "City Hymn Committee," Hymn Society of America, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Bishop Frederick B. Newell, of New York, is general chairman of the Convocation, and Bishop Glenn R. Phillips, of Denver, is chairman of the program committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Continued from page 6)

Student Loan Fund	644.07
Officers Training Day	85.38
Student Workshop	175.00
Training Laboratory	125.00
Buck Hill Falls Meetings (Pres. & Miss. Ed.)	415.00
Board Meetings	53.73
Auditing	50.00
Children's Workers Conf.	11.00
World Friendship Workshops	37.50
Regional Youth Meeting	44.50
Interview-Rural Worker	50.48
Summer Camp Work (Miss Daily)	42.86
Ark. Council Church	25.00
Women	14.40
Rent on Safety Box	50.00
L.R.M.C. (Office Exp. Col. Worker)	116.24
Other Disbursements	
Total Disbursements	\$89,252.21

Mrs. C. I. Parsons, Conference Treasurer

On A Wide Circuit

W. W. Reid

DO WE FEAR THE SHOCK OF PEACE?

Are we afraid of peace?

Will the armistice "now around the corner" injure or end America's "period of unprecedented prosperity?"

We have material prosperity such as the world has never known before. We have 61,300,000 civilians in profitable employment, and other millions in "the best-paid army and navy in the world." We have \$23,385,000,000 deposited in savings banks—and other billions in the business banks: "backlog for a rainy day." We have a national debt of \$272,400,000,000—"safe place for the citizen to invest his money." Our cities and towns are cluttered with automobiles — "the workmen have more cars than lunch-boxes"—and our homes are bulging with gadgets. The National Industrial Conference Board tells us that since World War II and while the conflict has

been waging in Korea, America's consumer wealth has risen by more than 50%; that 70% of its families have bank accounts; and that 50% of its families have a net worth of \$7,500 or more. We are in creature comforts the wealthiest nation that ever walked the earth.

But we are not at all agreed as to what is going to happen when peace comes, when nations stop piling up armaments "for fear of" other nations. The traders in stocks and bonds — "always sensitive to world conditions" — have been rather jittery in recent days when peace negotiations seemed to be running smoothly. The prices "fell," and some stocks were "dumped." Peace would mean a cutback in the demands for certain materials and war gadgets; a cutback or cancellation of orders would cut or end profits: "get your money into something else."

Of course, there are those optimists (or are they more shrewd economists?) who declare that American economy and American industry are so strong they can "withstand the shock of peace." Even if all defense preparation were to end within, say, a year, there are other industrial fields into which men and factories can be placed — some fields, like industrial use of atomic power and further development of colored TV, etc., just waiting for war-employed scientists, man-power, and money. During the re-tooling of factories, they say, the greatest

corporations will still have undivided profits (and lowered taxes) to provide for employees.

No less an authority than industrialist Eugene G. Grace, of Bethlehem Steel — a corporation deeply engaged in the war effort and supply — says, "Only the timorous and uninformed could look on peace with apprehension." Industry, he and many others feel, is still in the pioneering stage of what is to be. Another recalls that some "experts" predicted that after World War II some 8,000,000 would be jobless in America: At least we seem assured of a few years of prosperity while we are "recovering from Korea."

All I would add here is my own personal conviction that if war is the price of prosperity (and I do not believe it necessary), then I am still for peace with whatever "downward economic adjustment" it entails. Any economic "system" that thrives on war will and should perish from the earth. I don't want my gadgets at the cost of your son's blood.

DR. OTTO J. BAAB has been named acting president of Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., for the remainder of the calendar year. He began his duties August 1 upon the retirement of Dr. Horace G. Smith, who had been president since 1932.

Religious Groups Get Low Mailing Rate For Films

PRESIDENT Eisenhower has signed into law a bill that will allow religious and other non-profit organizations to send movie films and other audio-visual aids through the mail at the book rate. The book rate is eight cents for the first pound, and four cents for each additional pound, regardless of destination. Sponsored by Sen. Frank Carlson (R-Kan.), chairman of the Senate Post Office committee, the bill passed both Houses of Congress without opposition. In recommending passage in the House, Rep. Gardner R. Withrow (R-Wisc.) said, on behalf of the House Post Office Committee, "The purpose of this legislation is entirely consistent with the policy laid down by Congress 15 years ago when reduced postal rates were established for books. The policy laid down by Congress is that the widest possible dissemination of information for both educational and cultural purposes is essential to our national welfare." The Postmaster General will shortly promulgate detailed regulations as to the conditions that must be met by organizations seeking the lower rate for films, filmstrips, and slides. The Post Office Department, however, said that all religious films mailed to churches or Sunday Schools would be eligible for the new, lower rate.

South India Church Involved In Court Dispute

Church of South India leaders are considering an appeal to India's highest tribunal from the ruling of a lower court in Trivandrum, India, which denied the Church's jurisdiction over certain of its constituent congregations. The leaders consider the ruling, handed down by the High Court of Travancore-Cochin, one of the most serious threats to the union Church since it was formed in 1947 through the merger of Anglican, Congregational, Methodist, Presbyterian and Reformed bodies in India. In rejecting an injunction petition by the Church's South Travancore Diocese, the court held that a dissident group called the Continuing Congregationalist Churches "are the true London Mission Christians" and that it should be permitted to function "without hindrance." The diocese had sought the injunction to restrain representatives of the group from interfering with clergymen of the Church of South India in the exercise of their ministry in 12 congregations of the diocese in which the group is dominant. There are about 400 former Congregational churches in the diocese.

Church Loyalty Oath Is Sought

Persons who establish churches or other religious organizations in Atlanta, Ga., may have to take a non-Communist oath. The Municipal Board of Adjustment, in a formal request to the city authority, has asked whether it legally could require such an oath of persons applying for permission to organize such groups. Alfred Pitman, board member who sponsored the proposal, said: "I am not a McCarthyite, but we have applications from some persons coming before us who do not even know who the preacher will be. We should take reasonable precautions to see that the application is honestly for religious teaching and devotion."

Clergymen Named to Citizens' 'Watchdog' Committee

Three clergymen were named to the nine-member committee which will serve as the citizens' "watchdog" over a proposed \$40,000,000 public improvement program in Baton Rouge, La. The appointments were made by Mayor-President Jesse Webb Jr., of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Council and approved by that civic body despite the opposition of Councilman Woodrow

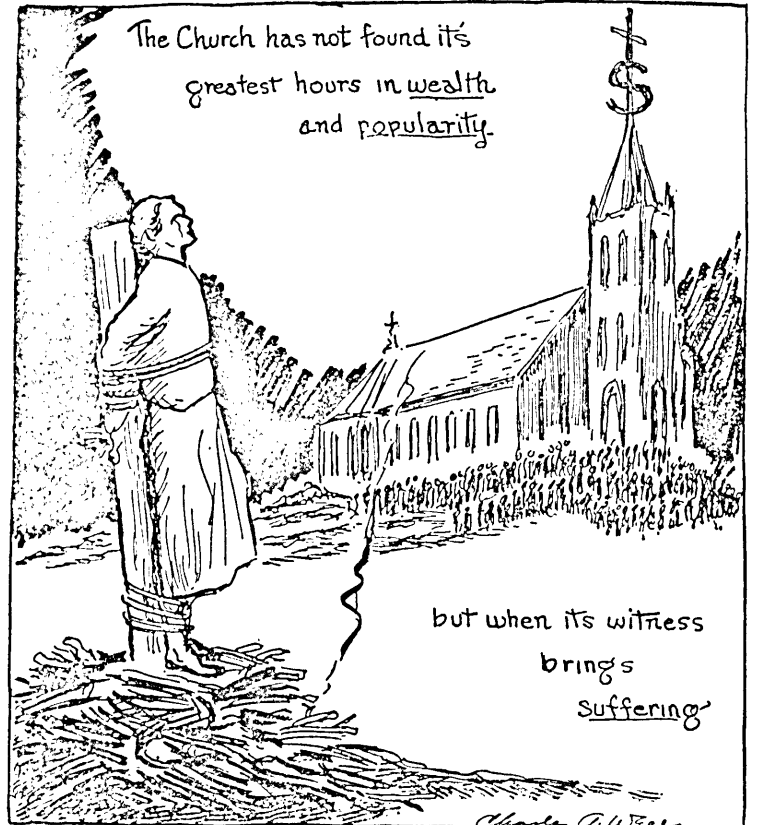
Dumas who said he viewed the action as a violation of the principle of Church-State separation. Earlier Councilman Lewis S. Doherty III had said he felt that "ministers of the Lord should stay out of governmental operations." The clergymen named to the committee are the Rev. Robert Taylor of Southside Baptist Church, the Rev. Paul Gauci of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, and Raggi Walter Pejser of B'Nai Israel temple. While normally an advisory body to public officials responsible for carrying out the improvement program, the committee would be empowered to recommend the sale of bonds, approve contracts and conduct audits. Parish voters will go to the polls shortly to decide whether the improvement program will be launched and a bond issue floated to finance it.

50,000 Scouts Fulfill Pledge To Worship

Some 50,000 Boy Scouts assembled in Santa Ana, Calif., for their National Jamboree took a day off from the conventional business and fun of the annual gathering to fulfill the pledge to worship, each in his own faith, enunciated in Scouting's 12th law. Separate worship services for Scouts of each of the major religions and various denominations were held during the day, which was climaxed by an evening mass convocation in a mammoth natural amphitheatre at the foot of a nearby hill. "My Duty to God" was the theme of the convocation which was featured by music, drama and the simultaneous lighting of 50,000 candles held by the Scouts attending. Among the convocation speakers were Protestant Episcopal Bishop Stephen F. Bayne, Jr., of Olympia, Wash.; Msgr. George M. Dowd, national director of the Catholic Committee on Scouting; Dr. Norman Salit, president of the Synagogue Council of America, and Elbert R. Curtis, superintendent of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons). Largest of the daytime worship meetings was a united Protestant service led by the Rev. Robert A. Uphoff of Richland, Wash., which Bishop Bayne later described as "the greatest of its kind ever held in America."

First Elected South India Bishop Consecrated

The Rev. A. G. Jebaraj was consecrated at Palamcottah, India, as bishop of the Tirunelveli diocese, Church of South India. He is the first bishop elected by a diocese since the Church was formed in 1947 by a merger of Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist, Reformed and Con-



gregational groups. The election was made possible by a Church constitution that recently went into effect. Previously, bishops were chosen for dioceses by a Synod Board of Electors. Bishop Jebaraj succeeds the Rt. Rev. George T. Selwyn, who has retired. The consecration rites were performed by the Rt. Rev. Michael Hollis, Moderator of the Church, assisted by three European and two Indian bishops.

Separate Postage Class Urged For Religious Publications

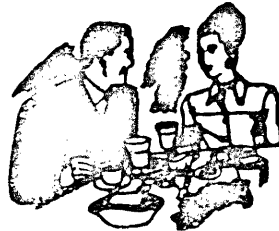
Creation of a fifth class of postage into which all religious, educational, and other non-profit publications would be placed has been proposed in Washington by Rep. Gardner R. Withrow (R-Wisc.). The rate of postage for publications eligible for the fifth class would be fixed at one and one-half cents a pound, the same (as at present. Mr. Withrow said he believed creation of a separate class for such periodicals would be preferable to keeping them under the second class, but at a different rate than other second class publications. If Congress approves the new rate scale being proposed by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield, there will be a 62 per-cent differential among second class publications. The proposed fifth class would include "newspapers or periodicals maintained by and in the interests of relig-

ious . . . organizations or associations, not organized for profit and none of the net income of which inures to the benefit of any private stockholder or individual."

Jewish Leaders Ask More Emphasis On Prayer

More emphasis upon prayer was urged at Atlantic City, N. J., by Jewish religious leaders who discussed ways of revitalizing worship. Dr. Abraham Joshua Heschel of New York told the annual meeting of the Rabbinical Assembly of America that "prayer constitutes the very essence of man." "To live without prayers is to live without God, without a soul," he said. "No one is able to think of God unless he has learned how to pray to Him." Dr. Heschel, associate professor of Jewish Ethics and Mysticism at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, called upon spiritual leaders to "give priority to prayer over preaching." "Instead of spending our fire on the altar of oratory," he said, "we must at each service learn how to convey to others what it means to say a word in the presence of God. The foremost task of the rabbi is to pray and to inspire others to pray. What mankind needs is a renaissance of inner devotion. Nothing less than a spiritual revolution will save Judaism — and indeed, all of humanity — from oblivion."

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ARKANSAS METHODIST

Missions School Expresses Confidence In Oxnam

THE 391 WOMEN attending the South Central Jurisdiction School of Missions sent a letter to Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam expressing their appreciation of his "far sighted leadership as a Christian statesman."

The letter was sent by Mrs. J. Russell Henderson at the request of the delegates. Mrs. Henderson, resident of Little Rock, Ark., is secretary of Christian social relations for the jurisdiction and served as chairman of the school.

The letter, resulting from action at the annual School of Missions June 30-July 7 at Mt. Sequoyah, continued: "We are concerned for the preservation of freedom in this nation. We express our deep gratitude for your public statements regarding the dangers facing this nation if we do not change some of our methods used in the fight against Communism. We wish to commend you for your forthright stand protesting the undemocratic methods of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. We pledge to you our full support of all good means to preserve civil liberties in this nation and safeguard our religious freedom."

"We look with confidence to your appearance on July 21 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities to answer their attacks and we want you to know that we shall be mindful of you in a special way as we pray on that day."

In other action in the field of social relations, the group maintained a 24-hour prayer vigil in accordance with a request by President Eisenhower. A letter was sent to the President commending his action in making July 4 a day for repentance and prayer for the nation. The women maintained the prayer vigil for him, the leaders of the world, and for the promotion of good will and peace.

Vesper speaker during the School was Jameson Jones, president of the National Conference of Methodist Youth.

Delegates from the Arkansas-Louisiana area included:

Little Rock Conference: Mrs. Sam Bowman, McGehee; Mrs. Earl Cotton, Little Rock; Mrs. Hazel Dabney, Pine Bluff; Mrs. L. W. Ederington, Warren; Mrs. John Glenn, Murfreesboro; Mrs. Erik Jensen, Stuttgart; Mrs. J. Russell Henderson, Little Rock; Mrs. Barton Lee, Little Rock; Mrs. Glen Martel, Magnolia; Mrs. T. A. Prewett, McGehee; Mrs. Charles Primm, Smackover; Miss Norene Robben, Texarkana; Mrs. J. B. Ross, Warren; Mrs. Sam Sargo, Hot Springs; Mrs. M. E. Scott, Stamps; Mrs. Frank Shanks, Benton; Mrs. A. B. Sellers, El Dorado; Mrs. R. B. Thomas, Little Rock; Mrs. J. L. Verhoeff, Lonoke; Mrs. Curtis Williams, Carlisle; Mrs. Paul Wylie, Carthage.

North Arkansas Conference: Mrs. Wendell Barbaree, Green Forest; Mrs. Nels Barnett, Batesville; Mrs. Elmus Brown, Jonesboro; Miss Mary Chaffin, Melbourne; Mrs. Raymond Franks, Forrest City; Mrs. J. K. Fraser, Ft. Smith; Mrs. W. Henry Goodloe, Ft. Smith; Miss Sally Ingels Fayetteville; Mrs. Walter Jimerson, Augusta; Mrs. Alex Mitchell, Paris; Miss Mildred Osment, Jonesboro; Mrs. W. W. Peck, Blytheville; Mrs. Hubert Pierce, Bentonville; Mrs. Mildred Scott, North Little Rock; Mrs. Robert Sessions, Ft. Smith; Mrs. Sam Sullivan, Searcy; Mrs. J. H. Vogel, West Memphis.

Mrs. Johnnie McClure, Springdale; Mrs. Bessie Andrew, Springdale; Mrs. R. K. Bent, Fayetteville; Mrs. J. E. Critz, Fayetteville; Miss Gertie Stiles, Ft. Smith; Mrs. Jack Winegart, Fayetteville; Mrs. D. L. Dykes, Fayetteville; and Mrs. W. F. Cooley, Fayetteville.

Louisiana Conference: Mrs. R. M. Baker, Shreveport; Mrs. Warren Constant, Bunkie; Mrs. D. F. Davis, Lake Providence; Mrs. Sam Dunbar,

New Orleans; Mrs. Sybil Farr, Baton Rouge; Mrs. Thomas Folk, Ruston; Mrs. H. W. Gates, Elmer; Mrs. Charles Goldthwait, New Orleans; Mrs. C. I. Jones, New Orleans; Mrs. Glenn Laskey, Ruston; Mrs. C. K. McClure, Monroe; Mrs. Dessie McKenzie, Mrs. Frank Peabody, Baton Rouge; Mrs. F. G. Phillips, Plain Dealing; Mrs. J. B. Pollard, New Orleans; Mrs. D. W. Poole, Lafayette; Mrs. Minza Rabun, Bastrop; and Mrs. George Willis, New Orleans.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK AT HARRISON

The youth of The Methodist Church of Harrison, Arkansas, observed Youth Activities Week July 19-23. The program began at 5:30 each evening with a supper served by the circles of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, followed by discussion groups. Rev. Calvin Roetzel, assistant pastor and youth director of the Church, led the senior discussion group, "Faiths and Beliefs of Different Churches". Rev. Earle Cravens, pastor, led the intermediates in the course, "Boy-Girl Friendships". Recreation followed the discussion groups. The recreation was varied, ranging from party games to a hayride.

Each night the program was concluded with a worship service led by Rev. John Hays of the Little Rock Conference. Monday night Mr. Hays used, "What do you want more than anything else out of life?" Tuesday night he spoke on, "Sav, where are you going?" Wednesday night, "How far are you from God?", was the theme of our thinking. Thursday night the all important question, "What are you doing with Christ?" was under consideration. The theme for the week was "Still He Calls!". — Joanne Boyd, Publicity Chairman, MYF

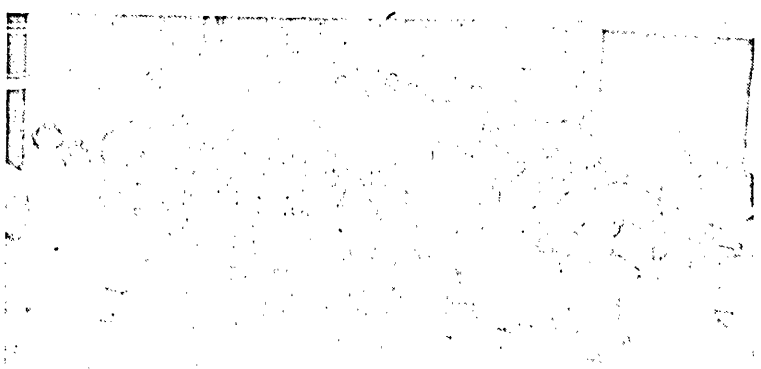
YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK IN JONESBORO DISTRICT

"God's World for All Men" will be the theme of Youth Activities Week for the Jonesboro sub-district, August 10-15. Nightly meetings, beginning Monday, will be held at Fisher Street, Pleasant Grove, Nettleton, Huntington Avenue, Bay and First Church, Jonesboro, the last meeting being on Saturday night.

Evening programs will begin with supper at 6:30, followed by group singing.

Climax of the week will be a Youth for Christ Rally beginning at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Speaker will be the Rev. Bennie Jordan, director of youth work in the Jonesboro dis-

MONTICELLO SUB-DISTRICT HEARS DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



The Monticello sub-district of the Monticello District met at Mountain Home Church on Monday evening, July 6th. The crowd of young people was so large it overflowed the church seating facilities. After a pot-luck supper served in the open under the huge oak trees the MYF went into the church where the young people of Mountain Home presented a worship program and

Dr. W. E. Brown, the District Superintendent, gave an excellent address on the subject of "To Have or To Be".

The young people were inspired to seek to have character and purpose rather than to seek to accumulate wealth for wealth's sake. It was an intent crowd that listened well despite the weather. —Roland E. Darrow

VACATION SCHOOLS REPORTING

(continued from last week)

Fifty-two boys and girls were enrolled at the vacation church school held jointly by Mountain View, Shady Grove, Dallas and Rocky churches. Mrs. C. F. Ferguson was director.

Courses taught were: Beginners, "Stories about Jesus," Mrs. D. L. Burnett and Miss Virginia Bennett; primary, "Our Church," Mrs. C. F. Ferguson and Miss Betty Ruth Lehmann; juniors, "Learning to Use Our Bible," Mrs. Hobart Lehmann, Mrs. W. F. Ryals, Miss Esther Ryals; intermediates, "The Epistles of Paul," Miss Louise Vaughn.

Certificates were awarded at the closing service, and handwork of the pupils, including booklets, scrapbooks, pictures, friezes and wall plaques, was displayed.

Average daily attendance was 73 at the vacation church school held on the Dubach-Harmony Chapel charge. Mrs. Jim Foster directed the school, held at Harmony Chapel Church.

The curriculum included singing and worship, study of approved texts, hand crafts, recreation and refreshments.

Staff leaders were: Beginners, Mrs. Troyce Napper and Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Napper; primary, Mrs. Willard Barham and Mrs. Jack Owen; juniors, Mrs. J. W. Ossenbeck and Mrs. M. L. Ferrell; inter-

mediate, Mrs. Henry Blount and Miss Ada Napper; refreshment committee, Mrs. Lamar McCurry and Mrs. Jim Foster.

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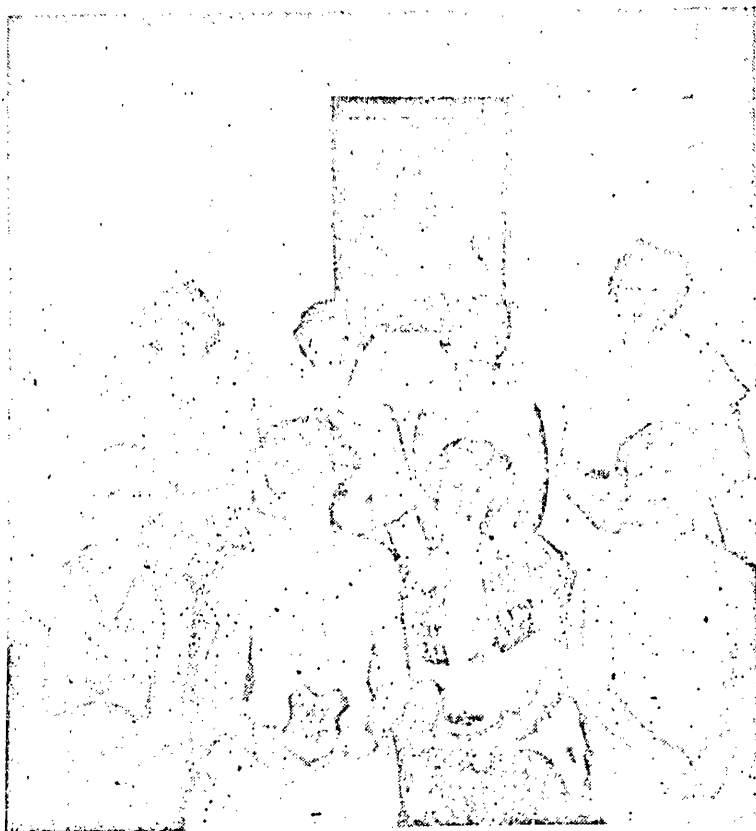
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CHRIST'S MISSION

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. EWING T. WAYLAND, Editor

WORLD FRIENDSHIP GROUP GIVES PROGRAM



Mrs. Everett Davis, Woman's Society director and the Group from the MYF of the Midland Heights Church—Standing: Nancy Carter, Sue England, Elizabeth Baker, Mrs. Everett Davis—Seated: Joyce Hays, Nancy Rose, Sue Powers and Wilma Downum.

The Woman's Society of the Midland Heights Church, of Ft. Smith, had an interesting program presented to them at the June meeting by their program chairman, Mrs. Everett Davis, and seven girls from the World Friendship Group; the girls' topic was "Youth and the Church".

The Woman's Society of Christian Service gave five Adult Life Memberships as a part of their year's work. The Men's Fellowship Club also gave our Pastor's wife, Mrs. W. A. Downum, an Adult Life

Membership pin, in appreciation of the fine work she has done in the church.

A fine President, Mrs. Earl Baker, and a wonderful group of officers, work together fine in their work in this field. The Woman's Society sends a letter and Upper Room every two months to the boys and girls away from the church in college or in the Service.

The project for this year is to cover the floor in our Friendship Hall of the new Educational Building with asphalt tile.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Wesleyan Service Guild of the Houghton Church had new hard wood floors put in the parsonage. The pastor and his family appreciate them very much. Mrs. G. W. Smith is the Guild President.

The Society of the First Methodist Church, Van Buren, met July 14 for their monthly business and program meeting with Circle No. 2 as hostess. Mrs. Edwin Buckalew, presided and Mrs. Fay Williams was in charge of the program. Mrs. Phil Holder gave an interesting talk on the Bible. —Mrs. Fay Williams

Projects	10,626.00
Special Memberships	5,675.00
Memorials	300.00
In Remembrance Gifts	269.50
Conference Work	600.00
Honoring Retiring Jur.	
Officers	25.00
Credit on Pledge	\$59,767.19
W.S.G.—	
Pledge to Missions	6,736.59
Projects	760.63
Special Memberships	560.00
In Remembrance Gifts	30.00
Credit on Pledge	\$ 8,107.22
Total Credit on Pledge,	
W.S.C.S. & W.S.G.	67,874.41
Youth Fund	2,355.63
Children's Service Fund	199.96
Total on Appropriations	\$70,430.00
Foreign Supplies	2,054.61
Home Supplies	2,231.69
Week of Prayer	3,912.29
Supplementary:	
W.S.C.S.	1,100.00
W.S.G.	24.50
Division Cultivation Fund	30.74
Transient (Ins. on Car)	61.40
Total to Division	\$79,845.23

OTHER DISBURSEMENTS:

Administrative Expense	826.42
Printing & Mimeographing	714.99
Annual Meeting:	
W.S.C.S.	605.31

COUNCIL PRESENTS TV SERIES

The Arkansas Council of Church Women is sponsoring a series of weekly broadcasts over station KRTV by Dr. and Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale every Monday night at 6:45. These religious programs, of particular interest to church people, are in the form of a Christian counseling service, entitled, "What's Your Trouble?" Appearing as television's first religious man-and-wife team, the Peales discuss in a friendly and informal manner, the ways in which simple faith and common-sense psychology can help people solve the problems they face on their jobs, in their marriages, personal and family lives.

On Thursday, August 6 at 9:30 p.m. over KLRA, the State Council of Church Women sponsored a United Nations broadcast in the form of a half hour drama, "Jungles in Retreat," interpreting the work of United Nations abroad.

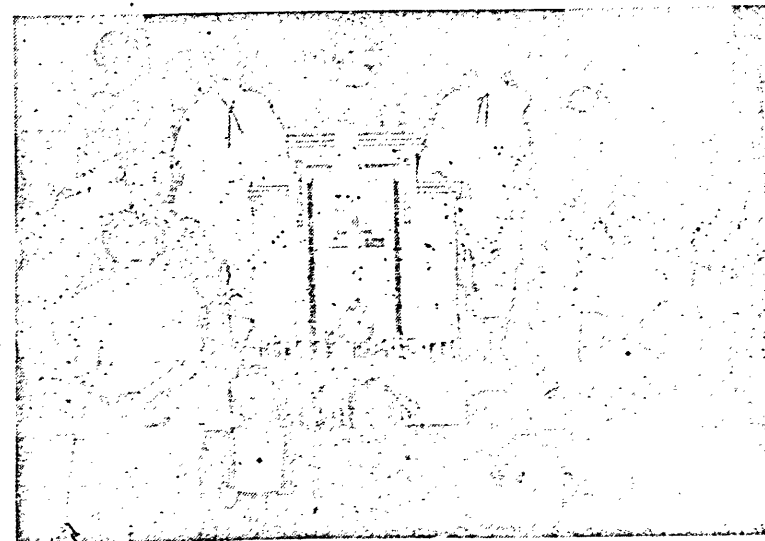
Mrs. Alan Cazort, Radio Chm. Arkansas Council of Church Women

W.S.G.	43.42
Itineration—	
Mrs. Landrum	52.50
W.S.G. Retreat	26.49
Missionary Tours	133.31
Jurisdiction Cult. Fund	400.39
Jurisdiction Meeting	416.70
Jurisdiction School	
of Missions	162.09
Conference Institute of	
Missions	95.06
Car—Rural Work	973.45
Cultivation Fund:	
W.S.C.S.	1,783.34
W.S.G.	255.85
Alcohol Education	750.00

(Continued on page 3)

ELIZABETH TRICE CIRCLE INSTALLS OFFICERS

Pictured below are those taking part in the installation service.



The Elizabeth Trice Circle of the First Methodist Church, Paragould, installed its new officers at a special service in the church auditorium. Mrs. Ed Dollins conducted the business and a skit "The Dollar Speaks" was presented by Mrs. Dick Woodward with the use of a puppet made from a fifty cent piece and a dollar in currency.

Mrs. Richard Austin, president, installed the following officers as they knelt at the communion rail: Mrs. Ed Dollins, chairman; Mrs. Harvey Farrell, Mrs. Fuller Jenkins, Mrs. Frazier Hammond, Mrs. L. D. Barfield, Mrs. Bill DuVoll, Mrs. R.

P. Worley, Mrs. Fred Berryhill, Mrs. R. V. McCoy, Mrs. R. E. Bryarly, Mrs. Ben Turner, Mrs. R. E. Cox. Candlelighter and devotional leaders were Mrs. Franklin Wilbourn, Mrs. Pearl Wills and Mrs. Harold Boyd. Special vocal selections were presented by Mrs. J. E. Wilbourn and Miss Betty Lou Wilbourn with Mrs. Cecil Mitchell at the organ.

Following program refreshments were served by Mrs. F. J. Schreit, Sr., and Mrs. Guy McSpadden. The closing benediction was given by Rev. S. B. Wilford in the subdued glow around the large Cross in the worship center.

FINANCIAL REPORT—LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE W. S. C. S. 1952-1953

Balance May 20, 1952	\$ 5,215.31	W.S.C.S.	1,783.84
RECEIPTS:		W.S.G.	353.85
Undirected Pledge to Missions:		Week of Prayer:	
W.S.C.S.	\$50,259.01	W.S.C.S.	3,442.82
W.S.G.	6,067.04	W.S.G.	460.47
Projects:		Student Loan:	
W.S.C.S.	2,204.02	W.S.C.S.	601.07
W.S.G.	1,497.82	W.S.G.	18.00
Orlene McKimney:		Alcohol Education:	
W.S.C.S.	1,916.17	W.S.C.S.	766.60
W.S.G.	12.00	W.S.G.	7.00
Wanda Stahley	2,046.56	E.T.W. Fund	805.15
Conference Rural Work	1,544.10	Other Receipts:	
Special Memberships:		W.S.C.S.	102.84
Honorary Baby:		W.S.G.	.40
W.S.C.S.	480.00	Total Receipts W.S.C.S.	\$79,409.53
W.S.G.	55.00	Total Receipts W.S.G.	9,618.92
Honorary Youth	120.00	Total Receipts from Districts	\$89,028.45
Adult Life:		OTHER RECEIPTS:	
W.S.C.S.	5,175.00	Taylor-Endowment Fund	1,120.00
W.S.G.	500.00	Supply Work:	
Memorials	300.00	Conf. Rural	786.75
In Remembrance Gifts:		Ark.-Okla. Rural	1,159.50
W.S.C.S.	269.50	Conference Work	600.00
W.S.G.	30.00	Refunds:	
Little Rock Methodist		Institute of Missions	60.66
Council	1,371.30	Student Workshop	30.00
Credit on Pledge:		Other refunds	51.04
W.S.C.S.	\$65,685.66	Offerings—Annual Meeting:	
W.S.G.	8,161.86	W.S.C.S.	211.76
Total Credit on Pledge	73,847.52	W.S.G.	70.20
Youth Fund	2,355.63	Treasurer's Books	.80
Children's Service Fund	199.96	Total Receipts	\$93,119.16
Total on Appropriations	\$76,493.11	Add Balance	\$98,334.47
Cash for Supplies:		C.S.R. & L.C.A. reported—	\$49,100.36
W.S.C.S.	3,664.96	DISBURSEMENTS:	
W.S.G.	590.84	W.S.C.S.—	
Supplementary Gifts—		Undirected Pledge to	
W.S.G.	24.50	Missions	\$42,271.69
Cultivation Fund:			

CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

"LITTLE EGYPT WON"

"God has not despised the day of Small Things."

"Little Egypt Won." It was a thrilling announcement that came from the master of ceremonies in the closing moments of the Town and Country School at Emory University. After hours of checking and studying every possible angle of the contest and those taking part, the evaluation committee came up with the final answer. A little country church on a five point circuit in the state of Mississippi won the great and outstanding recognition as "The Rural Church of the South." There are thirty two members. They are one year old as a functional church. A new building was erected. A great, challenging program was launched. It became so dynamic and inspiring that it reached out to help even those of another faith as the little band assisted a Baptist church in improving its own building. They even helped buy a car for the Baptist pastor. After much deliberation and concentrated thought, mixed no doubt with earnest prayer, the committee selected the little church. It was a popular decision with all others, including contestants. The victory is one for all small churches. The quality of work, the purpose of life, the deep abiding devotion of a small group is challenging and uplifting to all others. The thousands of small evangelical churches over America will arise to this new recognition of appreciation to their mutual situation.

Rev. Hubert Pearce, whose church at Bentonville won first award for Arkansas in the contest, flew to Atlanta and was present for the award to his church. His report and work were among the top. It was a great joy to have a member of our conference there for this signal recognition.

Methodists from all over our Southland would have rejoiced in the recognition services as eight of the thirteen first places went to Methodist churches. As the roll of one hundred thirty award winners was called the name Methodist was called fifty times. More than a dozen denominations entered the contest. More than thirteen hundred different churches enrolled.

Methodists can take genuine pride that the Interdenominational School is held on a Methodist Campus. On the program were representatives from many faiths. The last day there came a representative from the Roman Catholic Faith to address the school on the Catholic viewpoint concerning Rural America. He pointed out that his church was weak in the country, but that they expected to change the picture in the days ahead and become aggressive in the rural areas.

May I take this opportunity of expressing my personal thanks to my many friends who have called, wired or sent personal cards and letters to me expressing their joy in this recognition of my work in the Town and Country Program of our church.—J. Albert Gatlin

STUTTGART PASTOR TO VISIT HOLY LAND

The Rev. H. M. Lewis, pastor of Grand Avenue Methodist Church in Stuttgart, left New York

SMACKOVER CHURCH HONORS PASTOR AND WIFE

And Officers of Men's Bible Class

The Methodist Church at Smackover recently gave a Fish Supper in Smackover City Park in honor of the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Tucker, who had returned for another year, and to the outgoing officers who had served the Men's Bible Class during the past year. More than two hundred members and guests were present, including Dr. and Mrs. Connor Morehead, of Camden. Presents were distributed to the outgoing officers at the dinner, and the preceeding week a new Air-Conditioning Unit was installed in the Methodist Parsonage. Also on June 26th, a Fellowship Dinner was served to some sixty-five members of the Official Board and the four new commissions, at which time the Rev. J. Edwin Keith, of Little Rock, spoke on the Stewardship program which he now heads in the Little Rock Conference.

Samuel (Buzzy) Teague, of Hendrix College has been employed as a full time Youth Director for the summer. He has organized and is working with three Youth Choirs, composed of older youth; Juniors; and the children. These choirs are leading the music in the evening worship services. The college youth who are home for the summer, recently conducted the College Recognition Service. The Intermediate Youth were well represented at Camp Tanako. Mrs. J. L. Tucker and Mrs. Joe Gunn from Smackover were on the Faculty at the camp. Three of the Children's Workers were attendants at the Children's Workers Conference at Camp Tanako. Mrs. Charles Primm from this church was at Mt. Sequoyah. Three of the WSCS leaders, including Mrs. N. R. Price; Mrs. Charles Primm; and Mrs. J. L. Tucker attended the Leadership School at Aldersgate the week of July 20th. Perhaps the largest Vacation School enrollment ever registered in this church was conducted in this church his summer under the leadership of Mrs. Purser, Mrs. R. A. McLeon and a large staff of officers and teachers. Rev. Elmer L. Thomas recently taught the New Discipline course here. There was a total attendance in the course of some seventy-five members.

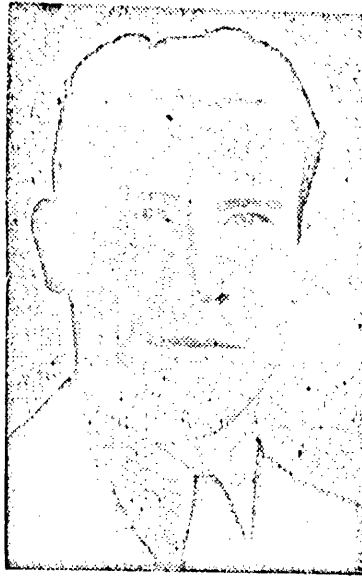
The regular church budget has been considerably increased over what it was last year, and the Official Board has adopted a goal of \$2,000.00 on the Hendrix College Endowment Campaign to be raised this conference year. A new \$15,000.00 cooling and heating system has recently been installed in the Sanctuary and New Educational Building.—Earl Harwell, Secretary.

Tuesday, August 4, with the Brownell Holy Land Tour.

Going first to London by Pan American Airways, the group will also visit Paris, Reno, Cairo, Beirut, Lebanon, Damascus, Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, Haifa, Athens, Geneva, and return to London before coming back to New York.

Mr. Lewis is pastor of Grand Avenue Methodist Church in Stuttgart, having received the appoint-

"ADVENTURE IN STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN" AT 1ST METHODIST, CAMDEN



B. T. FOOKS

Preliminary planning and organizational work for the First Methodist Church "Adventure In Stewardship" have been completed and calendar of events drafted. B. T. Fooks and Ed Horton, local laymen, have been named general chairman and co-chairman for the campaign which will be seven weeks. Associate chairmen have been named also and the steering committee has held two meetings. First meeting was Thursday night July 23 and second was Thursday night July 30. Announcement of the campaign was made by Ed Pace, associate chairman in charge of solicitation, before the church last Sunday.

Steering committee is composed of Mrs. Don Harrell, Mrs. N. S. Thornton, Roy Smith, Pace, Fooks, Ray Parham, Don Harrell, Horton, John Stinson, Dan Reynolds, Dr. J. L. Dedman, Jr., Al Rose, Robert Copeland, and Rev. R. B. Moore, the pastor. Rev. J. Edwin Keith of Little Rock, conference director on stewardship will direct the general campaign and has already set up headquarters here.

Associate chairman in addition to Pace are Ed R. Harrison, mechanics committee; Mrs. Harrell, women's work committee; and Al Rose, edu-

ment in June of this year. A former member of the North Arkansas conference, he served at one time as superintendent of the Conway district and has served at Morrilton, Batesville, Forrest City and Springdale.

"STEWARDSHIP ADVENTURE" VERY SUCCESSFUL

Under the direction of Rev. J. Edwin Keith, Conference Director of Stewardship, we presented to our members and friends a challenge in a Stewardship Adventure.

Our goal was to secure 3-year subscriptions for our budget and building program, in the sum of \$30,000.00.

The response was surprisingly good. To date the total is \$30,025.00; a few pledge cards will be brought in later.

Our church sent 16 young people to this summer's camps at Tanako



ED HORTON

education committee. Committee organization will take two weeks, educational program will require four weeks and there will be one week of solicitation at the close. The kick-off dinner will be Monday August 31 and the campaign closes Sunday September 6.

Three primary objectives of the campaign are: give the maximum number of persons something to do, educate the entire membership on generous giving and secure a pledge from every member. Every member of the local church will be visited during the campaign.

More than 160 volunteer workers among the church membership will take part. Team captains under Chairman Pace were named Thursday night. They are Roy Smith, Claude Robertson, Joe Parker, and W. A. Geddie. Each will have four section leaders and each section leaders will have six workers.

Goal of the campaign is \$75,000 and a three-year program has been mapped by the official board of the church and the steering committee. Funds will be used to redecorate and improve the sanctuary, expand the Sunday School which includes a new building, and air conditioning of the church.

and Aldersgate. Church membership has grown to 173. We had 157 in Sunday School last Sunday.

This is a delightful work. Our people are deeply religious, sincerely interested in the program of the church; with unusually capable leadership in so small a church.—W. S. Cazort, pastor.

HOMECOMING AT CAPITOL VIEW

August 9th will be Homecoming Day at the Capitol View Methodist Church in Little Rock. All members and former members are cordially invited to bring an old-fashioned basket lunch and attend all-day services at the newly decorated church.

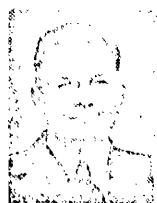
Church School at 9:45. Morning worship service at 10:50, led by the pastor. Rev. H. O. Bolin will preach at 2:30 and Rev. C. D. Meux at 7:30. Both are former pastors of Capitol View.—Reporter

AUGUST 6, 1953

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.



HOW CAN I KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT?

LESSON FOR AUGUST 16, 1953

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:
Colossians 1:1-2:7. Printed Text: Colossians 1:3-6, 9:20.

MEMORY SELECTION: He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:17)

This is the second lesson of Unit XII: "DEVELOPING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE". The first lesson raised the question "How Can I Find Strength?" This first lesson was our quarterly temperance lesson. The gist of the lesson was in the Memory Selection: "It is right not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother stumble". All people have influence over others. "No man lives to himself". All will have to give an account before God of bad influence they have over others. No professed Christian can imbibe alcoholic beverages without hurting others. The moderate, social drinker wields a more dangerous influence, especially over the youth, than does a habitual drunkard. Young people are not likely to follow the example of habitual drunkards, but when they see professed Christians practicing moderate drinking and apparently without any ill effect, they think they can do likewise. In trying to follow this example, many of them become habitual drunkards. Literally thousands of parents about over this nation have, in this way, actually ruined the lives of their own children. Many of these parents are church members and professed Christians (with the emphasis on the word "professed") but in spite of their big claims they are guilty of the destruction of their own flesh and blood. This is a sin that is so vicious that it almost has no name. God will hold them accountable for it.

A Look At The Scriptures

The Epistle to the Colossians was written by the Apostle Paul while he was in prison in Rome. It was written about A. D. 61. The letter was addressed to the Church at Colossae, which was a great Greek city in the province of Asia.

After the salutation, with which Paul was in the habit of beginning his letters, he goes immediately into the matter of thankfulness. Paul goes on to tell these Colossians that he is praying constantly for them, and in so doing he always gives thanks to God. With regards to these Colossians there were three things for which Paul was deeply grateful; first, their faith in Christ; second, their love for other Christians; and third, their hope of an eternal future in heaven. It will be noted that the three qualities Paul mentions here are the same ones that he mentions in I Corinthians 13:13: "Now abides faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

All are aware of the importance of faith and love. Hope also ranks high in the realm of Christian virtues. The sense in which the word

is used here is that of longing for something. Nothing has more to do with the development of a person's character than the thing he constantly longs for. If an individual has a habitual longing; an undimmed hope of becoming more and more Christlike in character, he will find himself progressing in that direction. The Poet Browning took comfort in the longings of his soul. He went on to say, "What I aspire to be and am not comforts me I might have been a beast but I would not sink in the scale." Christ had the same thought in mind when he said, "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled."

Paul wrote to the church at Colossae because it was in danger. From the first to the sixth centuries of the Christian era Gnosticism was very prevalent over the civilized world. This movement began before the time of Christ, but it did not spread much until his coming. The Roman Empire permitted a great deal of religious freedom. Some philosophers conceived the idea of trying to create a religion that would be satisfactory to all by taking certain elements of each one in the Empire and blending them together. They, therefore, took Judaism, Paganism, Christianity, and various types of philosophy and blended them together. The product was Gnosticism. This term comes from a Greek word which means "to know". These people claimed superior knowledge. They made knowledge in the place of faith the chief means of salvation.

These Gnostics did not believe that one could come into direct contact with God. They believed in a number of beings who were all but divine and who served as mediators between God and men. They felt that at death the soul attempted to go immediately to the highest heaven, but was prevented from doing so by these mediating spirits, unless the soul possessed the knowledge of certain names and pass words. The Gnostics were supposed to have the knowledge of these names and pass words and would pass them on to those who accepted their teachings. The danger of the doctrine was in the fact that it made Christ out to be only one of these many mediators.

Paul made only one petition in his prayer for the Colossians. He went on to say, "That you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding." He prayed that they might know God as he was revealed in Christ and not depend on these false mediators. He insisted that God had delivered them from the kingdom of darkness, ignorance,

and superstition and had transferred them into the kingdom of his Son. They had secured their redemption through Christ and none other. He alone is the image of the invisible God. For him, by him, and through him all things were created, and not only so, by him all things are held together or sustained. Paul believed that if the sustaining power of Christ were removed the whole material universe would go to pieces. What Christ is to the material universe in a material sense, he is to the Church in a spiritual sense. "He is the head of the body; the church."

It was bad for the Colossian Church to go out after Gnosticism and to incur the danger of completely losing Christ as the one and only Saviour, but in a way this has proved a blessing to us. It led Paul to the writing of this letter, and there is no other passage in the entire New Testament where the preeminence of Christ is so emphasized. This pre-eminence of Christ is one of the greatest doctrines of the entire Bible.

The Lesson Applied

Our lesson raises a very important question: "How Can I Know What Is Right?" The greatest knowledge on earth is to know God's will. The greatest activity on earth is to do God's will. Perhaps the greatest advice ever given is this: "Learn in what direction God is moving, and then move in that direction." That is just another way of saying, "Learn God's will, and do it." "How Can I Know What Is Right?" I can learn what is right by learning God's will. God has not made a lot of rules and regulations just to see whether or not men can keep them, and then punish them where they fail. His will always looks toward the good of men. God loves people better than they know how to love themselves. He knows far better than they do, just what is good for them. He has far greater power than they have, to bring about desired ends. In brief, in dealing with the human race God is too good to do wrong; too loving to be unkind; too wise to make a mistake; too merciful to be cruel; too forgiving to be unjust; and too powerful to be overcome by the adverse circumstances of life. That is why people can well afford to leave themselves wholly in the hands of God. That is why the greatest possible good comes to people through co-operating with him.

When people know God's will, they know what is right. When they do his will, they do what is right. How can they come to know his will?

They can come to know God's will through the study of his word. In Micah we read, "He has shown you, O man, what is right; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." In this passage alone we learn much of God's will. He wants us to be just and fair in all of our dealings with others and in our attitudes toward them. He wants us to so love mercy that we will be kind and considerate of others. In speaking of mercy Shakespeare said, "The quality of mercy is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven. It is twice blessed; it blesses him who gives and him who re-

ceives." The last point here is that man shall walk humbly before his God. Humility is a great virtue indeed. Spiritually speaking, the way up is always down; down on one's face before God. Christ himself said, "They who humble themselves shall be exalted, and they who exalt themselves shall be abased."

Again we read in I Thessalonians 4:3 "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification." A person or thing is sanctified when he or it is set apart wholly for the use of God. Man consecrates and God sanctifies.

From the Bible we learn that it is God's will that we love all people, even including our enemies. We learn that it is his will that we forgive. It is his will that we forsake sin and accept Christ as our Saviour. It is his will that we become fishers of men in attempting to bring others to him. It is his will that we render humble, helpful service to others.

"How Can I Know What Is Right?"

I can learn what is right through prayer. That was the means that Paul was using in trying to help the Colossians. He was praying for them. They were fascinated with knowledge. They were placing that above faith in their lives. Paul prayed that the true knowledge of God might come to them. This knowledge was the full revelation of God through Christ.

We can know what is right by coming in direct contact with Christ. The Lord called himself the truth. He not only spoke the truth but was the embodiment of the truth. The truth is right. Christ is the truth about man; the truth about God; the truth about righteousness; the truth about love. We find all of these beings and qualities at their best in Christ. We can know we are right if we put Christ first in our lives; if we surrender our wills to him; if we so imbibe and radiate his Spirit that the world can see Jesus in us. This matter of knowing what is right is a matter of experience as well as of thought. Man by thinking alone cannot learn all about God. He can learn many things in this way, but he can learn even more by experience. Some years ago a man came in contact with one of our Bishops. This man liked to argue against religion. As soon as he learned who the Bishop was he accused him of worshipping a dead God. The Bishop insisted that this was not true. The man went on to say, "You worship Christ don't you?" "Yes" replied the Bishop, "Well", said the man, "he was crucified and buried, therefore, you are worshipping a dead God." "Not so," replied the prelate, "he is alive." "How can you prove it", the man queried. The Bishop answered, "I had a talk with him just a little while ago." That settled the argument.

Again, we can know what is right by meditation. There is a close kniship between prayer and meditation. The two really belong together. No person can sit down with an honest heart and an open mind and seriously try to think God's thoughts after him without receiving help from the Lord.

Christ himself felt that this knowledge often comes through surrender to God's will. It was the Lord who said, "If any man wills to do his will, he shall know of the doctrine."