

Arkansas Methodist



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Factual Evidence Proving Gambling Is For "Suckers"

LEADERS of the C. I. O. United Auto Workers are preparing a booklet which they hope will convince members of their organization that the average gambler is little more than a "sucker" in the hands of the professional gambler and a "sucker" equally as gullible, and naive when he bucks any gambling machine, device or racket that is operated for profit.

This booklet should be quite interesting since it proposes to present "factual evidence" which shows the odds against the garden variety of gamblers. Very few of the common forms of gambling are "games of chance" because the "sucker" never has a real chance and the operator of the gambling game or device takes no "chance" since his lucrative profits are figured almost to a mathematical certainty.

Most efforts to convince the small-time gambling "sucker" that he does not have a chance it but "wasting . . . fragrance on the desert air." It is to be hoped that the leaders of United Auto Workers will be more successful in the advice they offer.

Proof That Revised Marriage Law Badly Needed

RECENTLY the revised marriage laws in Arkansas became effective. If press reports are correct, the records on the marriage situation since the law became effective prove the desperate need for such a law.

The marriage "racket" that has flourished in some of our border counties for some years has apparently died a violent death. According to the press, the number of marriages in the state have decreased 75% since the law went into effect.

It would be difficult to believe that the conditions of the new marriage law would prevent any well-meaning couples from being married. Certainly the small increase in the cost of the marriage certificate would not stop them. The three-day waiting period would not be a serious handicap. The physical examination, so patently unnecessary in so many instances, will be patiently accepted by those who need it.

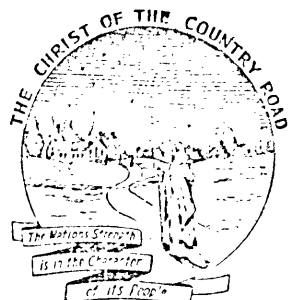
Just how the legislative powers of Arkansas ever got consent of their minds to set up conditions in our state that would make possible the marriage "rackets" is difficult to understand. Having seen the development, it would have been still less understandable if they had not made an effort to remedy it. No state can have a good conscience, or even a good name, that is willing to make merchandise out of the sacred institution of marriage for financial gain. In placing a cheapened estimate on the value and sacredness of marriage it cheapens itself much the more.

We are happy that those who are responsible for our laws in the recent legislature had the vision and moral courage to go as far as they did in remedying our marriage laws. If there was any doubt that correction of our marriage laws was needed, the situation that seems to have developed since the law became effective should prove that need beyond any reasonable doubt. It is to be hoped that the next legislature will do a job at least equally as good regarding the disgraceful divorce laws that have put us to shame in the eyes of many other states of the union.

Relation Of Centers To Methodism's Rural Churches

"FOR NONE of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself." So says Paul in his letter to the Romans. The thing that is so true of individuals is true also of the inter-dependence of our churches in centers and in the open country. Neither reaches its largest possibilities without the help that comes from the other.

It has been a commonly accepted fact, across the years, that our churches in cities and larger towns have received much strength from neighboring rural churches. This has been especially true in the last twenty-five years as a result of the marked shift of population from the rural areas to the population centers. This has often resulted in a weakening of the leadership of the rural churches since it has usually been the better equipped, more aggressive



and capable of our younger people who have felt able to meet the stronger competition found in the more active life in centers.

This partial depletion of leadership in rural churches has made progress there increasingly difficult. Since this loss suffered by our rural churches has resulted in a gain in the churches in towns and cities, that very fact creates a debt and emphasizes the responsibility the churches in centers have for giving aid to rural churches that need their help.

In Arkansas, in the last fifteen years, there has been an ever-increasing interest in the rural church by our larger churches. That interest has been implemented in a marvelously helpful manner through the revival of the lay preaching movement. There are those who tell us that Arkansas Methodism is leading our church in the nation in this movement by laymen to aid and strengthen the rural church.

Even the lay preacher movement is not a one-way street. The laymen who regularly work as lay preachers in rural churches are themselves strengthened spiritually by that service and thereby become more valuable workers in their own churches. Hence, not only does the rural church served receive benefit but also the home church of the layman rendering the service.

No church in Methodism "liveth to itself" and no church in Methodism "dieth to itself". We are a connectional church and there should always be a close connection between the rural and urban church.

Bishop And Mrs. Martin Visit South America

IN 1943 the Council of Bishops instituted a program of episcopal visitation of the various mission fields of Methodism for the purpose of giving the Bishops first-hand knowledge of the Methodist missionary enterprise. Once a quadrennium, each Bishop makes a visit to one of the mission fields. Last quadrennium, Bishop Martin, accompanied by Mrs. Martin, visited India on an assignment under this program.

Bishop Martin's assignment for this quadrennium is a visit to South America and today, Thursday, August 13, he and Mrs. Martin sailed from New York for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the first stop on a three months tour of six Latin American countries. Their itinerary includes stops in Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Peru and Panama, and they will be visiting Methodist churches, schools, seminaries, social centers, orphanages, hotels, publishing houses and hospitals.

Methodists of Arkansas and Louisiana well remember the vivid insight into social, religious and political conditions which the Martins brought back from India and the Far East which they visited in 1949-50. We pray that this trip will be equally profitable to them and us. They take the blessings of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area with them together with the prayer that they shall be returned to us safely.

This publication will publish articles written by Bishop Martin during the trip concerning the work of Methodism in the countries visited.

Food Becomes Ammunition

ONE of the most effective moves made by the United States in the cold war being waged in the Berlin area is the distribution of food packages to hungry East Berliners and East Germans. Practically ever since Germany was divided for military occupation following the conclusion of World War II considerable tension has existed between the Americans, French, and British forces on the one hand and the Russian occupation authorities on the other hand. The focal point of the tension has been in Berlin which geographically is in the Eastern zone occupied by the Russians but which, nevertheless, is divided into four zones. Russian authorities have been anything but cooperative in making a go of the Berlin occupation, even to the point of making it difficult for the other three powers to supply necessary food and material supplies for West Berlin.

A number of factors contrived to make a food shortage in East Germany. Conditions became so bad that East Germans staged a number of demonstrations against the occupying Russians in an effort to secure more food supplies. The United States government a few weeks ago offered to make large supplies available to the East Germans but the Russian authorities vetoed the idea immediately, labeling the move one calculated to stir up the German people. However, shiploads of food were dispatched to Germany and now food packages are being distributed daily to the hungry East Germans who cross the "line" in Berlin to avail themselves of the food.

Just what will be the outcome of the present policy of food distribution remains to be seen. Events since the death of Stalin seem to point up, at last for the present, to a softening of the Russian attitude toward the West. Occupation authorities in East Germany have promised

(Continued on page 4)

NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

MRS. M. E. PEACE has presented to the Methodist Church of Magnolia a gift of a public address system. Rev. J. L. Dedman is pastor of First Church.

DR. FRED G. ROEBUCK, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Ft. Smith, and Mrs. Roebuck, as a gift from the church, are making a trip to the Holy Land. They flew to New York on August 3 and left for Rome on August 6.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK will begin on Sunday night, August 16, at the Methodist Church in Augusta with Rev. George Tanner as inspirational speaker. Rev. H. Lynn Wade is pastor at Augusta.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN R. PARKS, Jonesboro, are the newly selected adult counselors for the Methodist Youth Fellowship at Huntington Avenue Methodist Church. Rev. Elmus C. Brown is pastor.

REV. AND MRS. W. C. LEWIS were honored with a surprise shower and some wedding gifts at the Elm Methodist Church, Sunday afternoon, July 19. A short program and social were held. Brother Lewis is pastor of the Roe Circuit.

THE BUZBEE CLASS of Winfield Church Little Rock, had added another volume of The Interpreter's Bible to the library in memory of Mrs. J. A. Monk. This is the fourth volume the class has donated in memory of Mrs. Monk.

THE PARSONAGE of the Atkins Methodist Church made added improvements when the woodwork was repainted recently, and the living room furniture reworked and covered with new material. Rev. George E. Stewart is pastor.

THE YOUNG ADULT CLASS of the Methodist Church in Marked Tree has adopted the project of taking a recording of the Sunday morning Sermon and Anthem to the homes of those unable to attend the service. Rev. Alvin C. Murray is pastor.

REV. A. H. DULANEY of Conway assisted Rev. Edward Thompson, the pastor, in a revival meeting at Cypress Valley Methodist Church, July 26-August 2, resulting in twenty additions to the church, nineteen on profession of faith.

BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN announces that Rev. Dale E. Crozier, son of Rev. and Mrs. Clyde E. Crozier of Nettleton, ministerial student in his Junior year at Jonesboro State College has been appointed to the Hunter-Whitehall Charge, Forrest City District.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, PIGGOTT, had a mid-summer church-wide fellowship supper on Thursday evening, July 23, when a large percentage of the membership and friends came together for an evening of fellowship. The supper was sponsored by the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

REV. J. ALBERT GATLIN, executive secretary of the Town and Country Commission of the North Arkansas Conference, was guest preacher at a revival at Lanty Methodist Church on Morrilton Circuit One the week of August 3. V. H. Merrick was in charge of the singing. Rev. William Yarbrough is pastor.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK is in progress at the Piggott Church, August 9-14. Rev. Alvin Murray of Marked Tree is the inspirational speaker each evening and Rev. Gail Anderson of Black Rock is directing the recreational program. Rev. Jesse L. Johnson is pastor of the Piggott Church.

REV. W. B. SAVAGE, pastor at Waldo, served as the official minister of the Rural Health Conference held at the Marion Hotel, July 28-29, and also took part on the program. The Arkansas Medical Society wishes to thank Mr. Savage for his participation and service to the state.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK for the Jonesboro area sub-district of the M. Y. F. will be observed August 10-15. The programs will be rotated among six of the participating churches. The Huntington Avenue MYF group will furnish special music each evening of the week under the direction of Mrs. W. A. Hickox.

THE WEDDING of Miss Helen Sullivent of Bearden and Rev. James Robert Scott was solemnized at the First Methodist Church of Bearden on Sunday evening, June 28, with Rev. M. E. Scott, father of the groom performing the ceremony. Mr. Scott is pastor of the First Methodist Church of Bearden.

A DRIVE for funds to build a new church at Clinton was launched when it was decided to buy a lot upon which to build. Committees were appointed to handle the details of the drive. Grayson Lewis is chairman of the Finance Committee and Carl Whillock is chairman of the Building Committee. Rev. J. L. Pruitt is pastor.

DR. FRANCIS A. BUDDIN, District Superintendent, Little Rock District, and Mrs. Buddin, are residing temporarily at 523 North Pine, Little Rock. The Little Rock District parsonage was sold several weeks ago and a new parsonage is being constructed at 205 South Ridgeroad, in the Kingwood section of Little Rock. The new parsonage is expected to be completed in November.

REV. MILTON LARK, a retired Methodist minister, who for over 40 years has served churches in Arkansas and Missouri, has been officially appointed associate pastor in Marion County and will serve Cedar Grove and Pleasant Ridge communities. Brother Lark has his retirement home in Cotter, where he will live. Rev. Theron McKisson is pastor of the Yellville Methodist Church, and is the pastor with whom Brother Lark will work.

A CORRECTION — In the July 23 issue under News and Notes About Facts and Folks it was stated that Rev. R. E. L. Bearden, Jr., superintendent of the Conway District was guest speaker at union services of the First Christian, First Presbyterian, First Methodist, and St. Stephen's Episcopal churches of Blytheville, Sunday evening, July 5. At the last minute Brother Bearden became ill, and Dr. Ethan Dodgen preached in his place.

ATTENDING the Jurisdictional Youth Conference at Mt. Sequoyah, were Rev. Robert E. L. Bearden, district superintendent of the Conway District, and Dr. Ira A. Brumley, executive secretary of the North Arkansas Conference Board of Education. Mr. Bearden was the inspirational speaker and Dr. Brumley served as registrar. About 200 youth from every state in the South Central Jurisdiction were in attendance.

A PARAGOULD DISTRICT JUNIOR CAMP was held at Wayland Springs on July 31 to August 1 with some twenty-four boys and girls attending. Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Johnson of Piggott served as directors of the camp, assisted by Rev. A. N. Storey, district superintendent, Rev. Alvin Gibbs of Paragould, and Rev. and Mrs. M. B. Short of Mammoth Spring. Another Junior Camp for the district is planned for August 25 to August 27.

A COMMUNITY RECREATION PROGRAM for teen-agers has been started in McCrory by Rev. W. M. Womack, pastor of the McCrory Methodist Church, with the assistance of the Methodist Youth Fellowship and Mrs. Wayne Holder, M.Y.F. sponsor. The Fellowship Hall of the church will be open to youth of all denominations each Thursday evening from 7:30 to 10:30. Committees appointed to assist are: Recreation, Mrs. Victor Capshaw and Mrs. Lewis Taylor; Refreshments, Mrs. Reece Jones, Mrs. Smith Dickerson and Mrs. Paul Bronte.

J. P. WOMACK of Jonesboro is presenting to the First Methodist Church, Jonesboro, an elevator in memory of his wife who was a member of the church for many years. The elevator is for the use of people desiring to attend church who are unable to climb the steps leading to the sanctuary. Mr. Womack has taken an active part in the work of First Church for many years. He is a teacher of an adult Sunday School class. A former superintendent of Jonesboro schools, Mr. Womack also served as State Superintendent of Education and president of Henderson State Teachers College at Arkadelphia.

THE OFFICIAL BOARD of Griffin Memorial Methodist Church, Paragould, at a recent meeting voted to increase the size of the church building four feet in length, making it 36 by 84 feet. The sanctuary will have a seating capacity of 320 as compared to the present church's 194. The new church will be constructed of variegated red mat face brick. The building will be air-conditioned, will have two class rooms, a pastor's study and a choir room in addition to the sanctuary. Walls of the two classrooms on each side of the entrance will be removable to increase the sanctuary for capacity congregations. Rev. J. H. Holt is pastor of the church.

THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, JONESBORO, will launch a drive this month for \$50,000 for the construction of a new parsonage. Plans are to build a four-bedroom parsonage which will be of brick veneer on a lot with a 120-foot front. Styling will be traditional American. With approximately 2,900 square feet of floor space, the parsonage will have two full bathrooms and one half bath, a utility room with washer and dryer as permanent fixtures, combined living room and dining room, large kitchen with family eating area, a screened-in porch off the living room and hardwood floors. Dr. Ethan Dodgen is pastor of First Church.

FOOD BECOMES AMMUNITION (Continued from page 1)

the hungry Germans that supplies of food will be increased but as yet those supplies have not been made available. While hundreds of thousands of food packages have been distributed already in West Berlin, these food packages cannot be but a trickle of what is necessary to alleviate the food shortage in East Germany. But one thing is for sure: one cannot discount the propaganda effect that this move by the United States is having in weaning away the sympathy of the East Germans from their Communist masters to the free world.

The past two or three generations has seen the introduction and development of many instruments of warfare, capable of rendering great destruction on an enemy. Is it not strange that when food is used as ammunition something of the same end may be accomplished without all of the attendant wasteful destruction of life and property?

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BISHOP AND MRS. MARTIN SAIL TODAY

Bishop and Mrs. Paul E. Martin sailed today from New York aboard the S. S. ARGENTINA for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the first stop on a three months' tour of Methodist churches and institutions in South America. Their itinerary includes visits to the five South American countries of Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile and Peru, with a brief stop scheduled at Panama on the return trip.

Bishop Martin has been assigned this visit by the Methodist Council of Bishops in a quadrennial program of visitation by each of the Bishops to one of the mission fields. Under this program Methodist Bishops receive first-hand knowledge of the Methodist missionary enterprise. Bishop and Mrs. Martin visited India and the Far East in 1949-50.

According to Bishop Martin, he and Mrs. Martin plan to visit the famous El Vergel farm in Chile where Rev. and Mrs. Donald W. Waddell are presently serving. Mrs. Waddell is the former Martha Stewart, daughter of the late Rev. Allen D. Stewart, and Mrs. Stewart. Brother Stewart was a member of the North Arkansas Conference at the time of his death this past winter.

Bishop and Mrs. Martin expect to return to New York November 16 and to Little Rock shortly thereafter.

The "Arkansas Methodist" and "The Louisiana Methodist" will publish from time to

time letters from Bishop and Mrs. Martin describing their trip.

Their itinerary follows:

Mailing Addresses for Bishop and Mrs. Paul E. Martin During Their Visitation in South America	
Allow at least one week for air mail to reach destination.	
August 13	Sail from New York on the S.S. ARGENTINA of the Moore-McCormack Lines
August 25-September 9	c/o Gloria Hotel Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
September 10-12	c/o Esmeralda Hotel Sao Paulo, Brazil
September 21-26	c/o Rev. Earl M. Smith Calle Chile 3333 Villa del Cerro Montevideo, Uruguay
September 27-October 7	c/o Bishop Sante Umberto Barbieri Rivadavia 4044 Buenos Aires, Argentina
October 14-16	c/o Rev. Donald W. Waddell Casilla 2-D Angol, Chile
October 18-21	c/o Carrera Hotel Santiago, Chile
October 21-23	c/o Mirimar Hotel Valparaiso, Chile
October 28-November 4	c/o Rev. John E. Shappell Apartado 240 Callao, Peru
November 4	Sail from Callao, Peru on "Santa Isabel" of the Grace Lines
November 16th	Arrive in New York

THE UNITED STATES NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, a weekly magazine edited by David Lawrence, has published testimony of Bishop Oxnham before the House Un-American Activities Committee. The hearing, granted Bishop Oxnham at his own request to provide opportunity for the correction of erroneous and misleading material about him in the Com-

DEATH OF BISHOP ROBERT N. BROOKS

Bishop Robert N. Brooks, resident bishop of the New Orleans Area, Central Jurisdiction, died on Sunday, August 2, at Waveland, Mississippi. Funeral services were held on Thursday at New Orleans.

Bishop Brooks was elected a bishop of the Methodist Church in 1944 after having served as head of several colleges. He was ordained a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1915. After serving as secretary of the board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church for two years, he became president in 1921 of Haven Teachers College, Meridian, Mississippi. After serving in several capacities in connection with various colleges he was elected editor of "The Central Christian Advocate," which position he held until his election as bishop.

He was a native of South Carolina. Survivors include his wife and several brothers.

The issue of the "U. S. News" carrying 52 pages of testimony is dated August 7. It is available on 25,000 newsstands. Special arrangements have been made so that newsdealers receiving requests for copies after the issue is off the stands may obtain them from their wholesalers. Copies may also be obtained by sending 20c to Anthony R. Gould, Business Manager, 24th & N Streets, N. W., Washington 7, D. C.

A Lift For Living

By Dr. Ralph W. Sockman

ADVENTURES

When school children cease to be thrilled by the daring courage of adventurers like Columbus, American culture will have lost its spark of life. In this dark and dangerous time some pessimists think we are in the twilight of our age. We do well to steep our minds in the spirit of the explorers and pioneers who came through shadows deeper than ours. Consider the intrepid Columbus who resisted the urging of his comrades to turn back and stood in the prow of his little ship commanding "Sail on," though as the late George Santayana said, he "had no chart save one that faith deciphered in the skies."

Take a look at this thing called faith. Little birds were born to fly. The urge is in them. But they are too timid to take off and try their wings until the mother bird pushes them out of the nest.

We see the same principle in teaching the child to walk. The baby is a born explorer. It reaches out in every direction, tries to take apart everything that is put into its hands. And yet that little adventurer has to be encouraged and almost forced to take the first step. Most normal men have in them the exploring impulse, but God has to call it out.

And let us fasten this point in our minds because ours is a security-conscious age. Even religious faith is being stressed as security. We tend to forget its venturesomeness. Some historians would have us believe that religion rose out of man's fear and his desire for safety. They tell us that primitive man, finding himself surrounded by dangers from lightning, floods, storms, disease, turned to his gods primarily for protection. And religion today is presented so popularly as a refuge from life's strain and hardships. Come to church and find shelter from the world's worries and tensions. Turn to God for security. How frequent and popular is that appeal.

To be sure, God is our refuge and strength and we should turn to Him for relief from sorrows and suffering. The hardest mariner at times longs for the harbor. But if Columbus' faith had meant only peace of mind and protection from perils, he would never have discovered America.

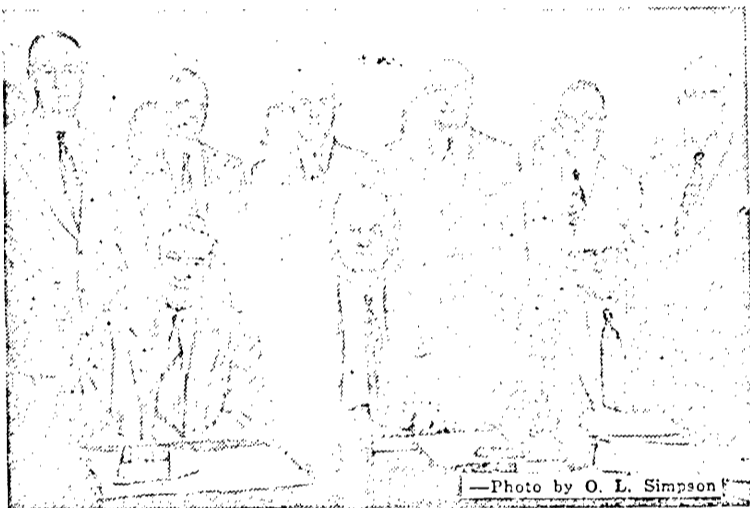
As children we begin life as eager explorers. How fast we learn in our first five years. What if we kept up that rate of learning until we were fifty. Think how much we would know. But alas, we seem to lose the eagerness for investigating new things and the pace of learning slackens. An educator explains this by saying that before school age we pursue knowledge, and then when we are sent to school we get the impression that knowledge is pursuing us and we try to escape it.

The test of a good mind is whether it keeps growing. In Sir Winston Churchill's autobiography he tells us that in the winter of 1896, near the end of his twenty-second year, a strong desire for learning came upon him. He began to feel himself wanting in even the vaguest knowledge about many large spheres of thought. So he resolved to read history, philosophy and economics. He asked his mother for books on these subjects and for two years he devoured them. He says: "It was a curious education, but I approached it with an empty, hungry mind and with fairly strong jaws; what I got I bit."

Faith keeps us on the growing edge of life. The spirit of faith keeps building even during days of danger and destruction. The dome of our national capitol at Washington was completed during the war between the North and the South. That has been the spirit of America, for as Jefferson said, "It is part of American character to consider nothing as desperate."

When the great new ship "Titanic" struck an iceberg and was sunk in 1912, one of the passengers was a distinguished leader of the stage,

METHODISM'S 'SUPREME COURT'



—Photo by O. L. Simpson

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL of The Methodist Church is shown at its recent meeting in Philadelphia. The Rev. L. D. Spaugy was seated for the first time in place of the late Dr. Charles B. Ketcham, and Dr. J. Ernest Wilkins was elected secretary.

Seated left to right, are: Dr. J. Ernest Wilkins, Chicago, secretary, Dr. Marvin A. Childers, San Antonio, Texas, president, and the Rev. Dr. Walter C. Buckner, Glendale, Calif., vice president.

Standing, left to right: Dr. Fred B. Noble, Jacksonville, Fla., Rev. Dr. Walter A. Stanbury, Asheville, N. C.; Dr. Clarence M. Dannelly, Montgomery, Ala., Rev. Dr. Ralph M. Houston, Kingston, N. Y., Rev. Dr. L. D. Spaugy, Pittsburgh, Rev. Dr. John Taylor Alton, Columbus, Ohio.

Senators Blast McCarthy Aided For Clergy Attack

Publication of "a shocking and unwarranted attack against the American clergy" by the new staff head of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's subcommittee on investigations was denounced here by the three Democratic subcommittee members. Senators John L. McClellan (Ark.), Stuart Symington (Mo.) and Henry M. Jackson (Wash.) demanded "appropriate action" against J. B. Matthews, named last month as the subcommittee's executive director. Mr. Matthews is a former Methodist clergyman. According to Dr. John O. Gross of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church,

Mr. Matthews has not been connected with of the Church nor been action in its ministry for at least 25 years. The senators were outraged by an article entitled "Reds and Our Churches," written by Mr. Matthews and published in the July issue of American Mercury magazine. They noted that the first sentence of the article said: "The largest single group supporting the communist apparatus in the United States today is composed of Protestant clergymen." The Democratic senators declared that such a charge could "not be supported by the facts." They called on Sen. McCarthy to convene the subcommittee in closed session to consider action against Mr. Matthews.

Charles Frohman. As the ship went under, he was heard to say, "Death is life's finest form of adventure."

When we have lived by faith, we can die with hope.

Army Dedicates Chapel Of The Three Stones

THE Chapel of the Three Stones, symbolizing intercreedal cooperation, was dedicated in Heilbronn, Germany, by the United States Army.

Constructed in a building once used by the German Army as a cavalry stable, the chapel takes its name from the fact that the altar is built of three stones, one taken from the ruins of a pre-war Jewish synagogue, another from a bombed-out Protestant Church, and a third from a war-damaged Roman Catholic Church now undergoing reconstruction.

As in other Army chapels, the altar will be used by the three faiths for their respective services.

The stone from the sanctuary of St. Kilian's Evangelical Church in Heilbronn has engravings estimated to be more than 400 years old. Destroyed by bombs in 1944, the church had been built in the 13th century. The stone from St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church here is also estimated to be several centuries old.

The third stone, from the Stuttgart Synagogue, recalls the tragic story of the program of November 8-9, 1938, during which Nazi SS troops invaded the house of worship, arrested the congregation and then forced them to destroy the synagogue with their own hands. Members of the congregation risked death to preserve some of the sacred symbols from the synagogue. The stone given to the army had been buried in a garden.

Convict's Sentence Commuted For Ministerial Study

A convicted murderer had his sentence commuted by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, governor of New York, so that he might be released from Sing Sing prison in time to enroll in September in a theological school. The prisoner, John Cacopardo, 43, would have been eligible for parole in about three months. The governor ordered him released within a few days. "Cacopardo," said Gov. Dewey, "has developed an apparently genuine interest in preparation for the ministry and plans to enroll at a recognized theological seminary for the September term." Cacopardo was sentenced June 25, 1937, to serve from 30 years to life. He was convicted of second-degree murder in the shooting of Miss Molly Starace in Brooklyn in 1936. Last year, County Judge Louis Goldstein of Brooklyn reversed his conviction but a higher court overruled Judge Goldstein and denied Cacopardo a new trial. The prisoner was free on bail for six months pending the court decision. During that time he studied for the ministry at the New England Bible Institute, Farmingham, Mass. With the permission of authorities, he got married.

Senate Asks U. S. Push World Disarmament

Religious groups scored a victory in Washington when the Senate, shortly before adjournment, adopted a resolution calling on the United States to take the leadership in securing world disarmament. Forty-nine members of the House had joined Reps. Leslie Arends (R-Ill.) and Brooks Hays (D-Ark.) in sponsoring a similar measure, but the House Foreign Affairs Committee decided against bringing it to the floor during the adjournment rush. They felt that if it passed with only brief debate, it would not have the full effect desired of notifying the world that the United States Congress supports such a program. Rep. Hays said the measure will be on the House calendar early in the session which meets next January. The Senate adopted both a Senate resolution (S. Res. 150) which expressed the sentiment of the Senate

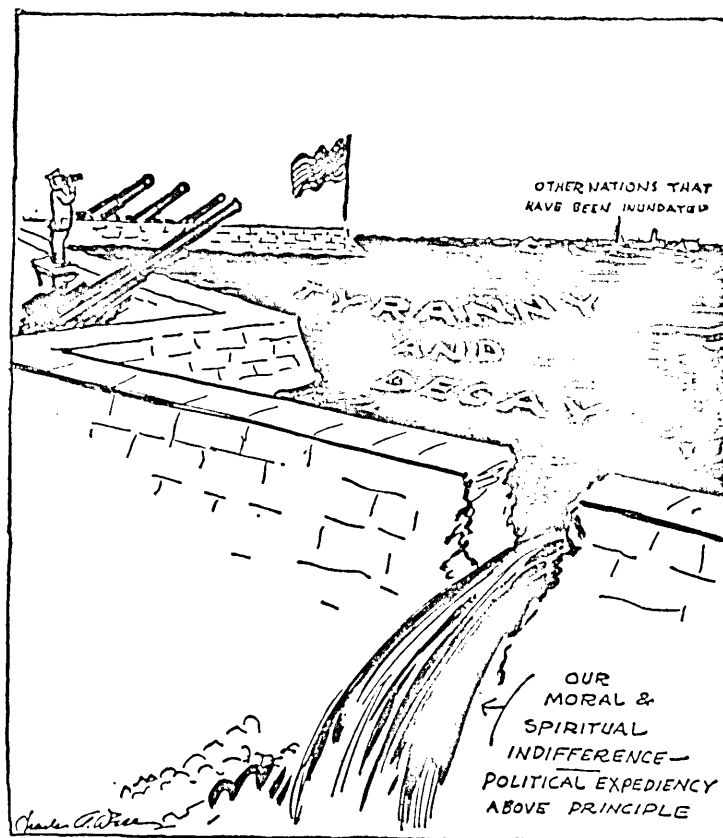
and a concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 46) in which it invited the House to join. Both, in identical language, declared that it should continue to be the declared purpose of the United States "to seek by all peaceful means the conditions for durable peace...and, concurrently, within the United Nations, agreement by all nations for enforceable limitation of armament." The resolution called upon the United States to seek enforcement of disarmament by "adequate safeguards, including a practical system of inspection under the United Nations."

Magazine Publishes 67,000-Word Text Of Oxnam Hearing

The magazine United States News and World Report published the entire text of the recent 10 hour hearing of Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington. The 67,000-word text occupied 55 pages of the magazine. Editor David Lawrence said the publication printed the text because no other newspaper or magazine in the United States had done so and because the board of editors thought it of transcendent importance and of great public interest. An informed source estimated that it cost the magazine \$50,000 to carry the text to its 625,000 readers. The only text the magazine has ever published that was longer than the Oxnam hearing was the three-part text of the Senate hearings on the ouster by President Truman of General Douglas MacArthur as Supreme Commander, Allied Powers, Far East, in 1951.

Anglican Bishop Scored For Attending Divorce's Funeral

Dr. Douglas Henry Crick, Anglican Bishop of Chester, was severely criticized by the Church Times, Anglo-Catholic weekly in London, England, for attending the funeral in a Church of England parish church of a thrice-divorced and remarried nobleman, the late Duke of Westminster. His action and "the still less appropriate" holding of memorial services for the Duke in the Chester Cathedral and in St. Mark's church, London, have "perplexed the faithful and made the man in the street derisive," the paper said. "Does the Church of England have one procedure for the great and another for John Citizen?" it asked. Pointing out that the Duke was not formally excommunicated, the Church Times said he was entitled to Christian burial and expressed the hope that "he found pardon and peace, at last." "However, his frequent divorces were



notorious and the faithful may well be perplexed," it added. "Under the Church's rules, the Duke's marriages after divorce could not be solemnized in Church nor could he rightly be admitted to Holy Communion."

Laymen Pledge Greater Participation In Church Tasks

The South-wide Conference of Methodist Laymen meeting at Lake Junaluska, N. C., adopted a report of its findings committee which pledged Methodist laymen to greater participation in the tasks of the church, especially in the fields of finance, increased church attendance, organizing men's clubs and filling unoccupied pulpits. The report also pledged support of the tithe as the minimum goal in the financial phase of the denomination's stewardship program. The conference was told by Dr. E. La-

mont Geissinger of Chicago, Ill., associate secretary of the National Methodist Board of Lay Activities, that "3,000 men practicing true Christian stewardship can change the world in one generation."

Yugoslavs Deny Reports Stepinac To Be Expelled

Belgrade -- Yugoslav Communist authorities have denied Italian press reports that Aloysius Cardinal Stepinac, Archbishop of Zagreb, will be expelled from his homeland. The reports had stated that the Cardinal, who is confined to his native village of Krasic, had been deprived of visitors by the Yugoslav regime as the first step towards his eventual expulsion from the country. However, government officials here said the ban on visitors was imposed only because Cardinal Stepinac "used interviews to make biased statements which did not accord with the truth."

NEAVITT METHODIST CHURCH
Neavitt, Talbot County, Md.

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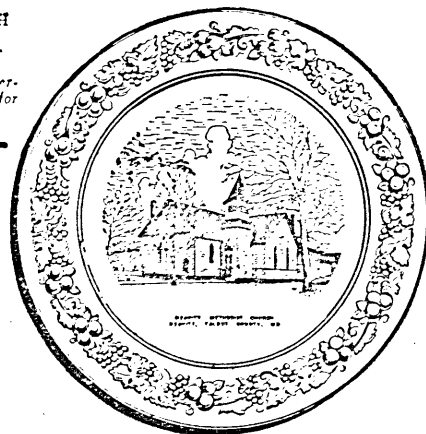
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- decorated in 23 Kt. Gold
- every Church member will want one!

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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



A VISIT TO THE CITY

JUDY and Jane were twins, so both of them were six years old. They had always lived in the country and knew many things about dogs and cats and horses and cows and pigs, but they knew nothing about the wonders of a big city.

It is no wonder then that they were excited when their father had a business trip to the city, and as it was summer time and there was no school he decided that the whole family might as well enjoy the trip.

As they drove along, Judy and Jane saw many things they knew all about. They saw cows and sheep and chickens, but all they talked about was the city.

It was evening when they entered the city, and the children were dazzled by the lights. Such lights! Lights that were red and blue and silvery white. Some lights spelled long words, and as if by magic they disappeared and new ones appeared. At one place there was a big can of peas all lighted up. Somehow the peas were spilling out of the can into a bowl, but it went on and on and the can never emptied and the bowl never became full.

Daddy and mother were glad when they finally arrived at the hotel. There the carpet was so soft and the lights were so bright, and the people dressed so beautifully that for once the children could say nothing. They just looked.

Then a man picked up their suitcases and let them into a tiny room and shut the door. "Is this our bedroom? Where are the beds? It's too small! How can we all sleep in here?"

Well daddy and mother were embarrassed, but the man with the suitcases just laughed. "This is just an elevator that takes you to your bedroom," he said. Then he pressed a button and turned a handle and the whole room, the elevator the man called it, went up. It went up so fast that Judy and Jane held their stomachs. The man laughed again. "Here we are," he said, and he opened the door and unlocked another door, and there was a big bedroom and a bathroom, and another bedroom. It was all too wonderful, and although everybody was very tired Judy and Jane asked so many questions that they took a long time to get undressed for bed. But when they once were tucked in they were asleep almost before their mother and father left the room.

"Hurry, Jane. Look!" called Judy the next morning. "People in the city are so funny. They are so small, and so are the automobiles." Judy was soon at Jane's side, and the two children could hardly believe their eyes as they stared out the window.

"Are you up so early?" asked their father as he came into their bedroom.

"Look, Daddy, look at the funny people!" called the children as they ran to greet him, and each pulled him towards the window. "Look

how small they are, and what little cars they have, too."

"I see what you see," answered their father, "but the people are not small. We are really very high up, and it is because we are so high up that they look so small!"

Then across the court they saw a man climb out of a window. He had a heavy leather strap around his waist with big hooks that fastened to rings on each side of the window. At first Judy and Jane thought he was a circus man doing tricks, but their father said he was a window washer and that heavy strap was to hold him safely. Mother moved away from the window. She said it made her dizzy even to look at the window washer, but the children thought a circus couldn't be any more wonderful.

After breakfast, their daddy said he would have to go about his business, but mother and the children might enjoy a day in the stores. He drove them down, and said he would not be able to see them again until evening and they would all have dinner together. So off he went, leaving mother and the children to go shopping.

Inside the store they saw moving stairs. Mother said they were escalators. At first the children were afraid to get on, but once they tried them they wanted to keep going up and down, up and down. All they had to do was to stand on a step and the stairs kept moving, and when they carried you to another floor they slipped you off like magic. Shopping was not half as much fun as riding the escalator, at least not for the children, but mother said she'd rather shop, and she did, and of course Judy and Jane stayed right with her because everything was so big and there were so many people that the children didn't want to get too far away from their mother.

Oh, it had been a wonderful day

and they had so much to tell their father when they saw him at dinner!

"I didn't know city children had so much fun!" said Jane. "And I didn't know any place could be so full of magic as a city," continued Judy.

"Well you've only seen a tiny bit of the city," said their mother, "and daddy says that he will be with us tomorrow and he'll take us all to the zoo. There you will see more surprises than you ever dreamed of, but as for now let us get downstairs and wait for daddy by the door on St. James Street."

When they returned to the hotel everybody was tired, so they all lay down to rest, and some took naps before going out for dinner.

It had all been a very wonderful day!

—The United Church Observer

BOYS

Folks says we do a lot of things

We hadn't ought-a had;

We never mean a bit of harm

Nor do them to be bad.

But when a chance just comes along

With fun a-peekin' through

We take it mostly just because

We've nothing else to do.

Boys are an awful problem

All the grownup people say,

But honest, all we really want

Is just a chance to play.

And all us boys from country towns

And from the cities, too.

Will quit what you call mischief

If you show us what to do.

—Clipped

A girl showing her aunt around the art gallery pointed out, "Here is the famous Angelus by Millet."

"Well, I declare!" commented auntie. "That feller's copied the picture on a calendar that hung in our kitchen 20 years ago." Gluey Gleanings.



BUILDERS

What fun it is to play in the sand

On the beach or a box in the yard.

We build castles and houses and fearsome caves,

We toil and work so hard.

The summer hours fly by so fast,

By the water or under the tree,

The joy they bring is ours because,

We are builders together, you see.—A.E.W.

SURPRISE

By Marguerite Lane

I put on my slip
Just the way a slip goes;
My clean yellow dress
I pulled over my nose.

I smoothed down my hair
With the brush from the shelf;
I buckled my sandals—
And all by myself.

Now I'll run and show Mother,
And oh, won't she be
Surprised I'm all dressed,
And delighted with me!

—In the Christian Advocate

EXCUSE ME

1. Why is the 4th of July like soup? 2. What did Paul Revere say at the close of his famous ride? 3. What benefit can be derived from a paper of pins? 4. Why is Queen Elizabeth like a hat? 5. When was B the first letter of the alphabet? 6. What is the difference between a 1950 and a 1953 automobile? 7. What was the beginning of Queen Mary and the end of King William? 8. Why would a barber rather shave three foreigners than one American? 9. Was George Washington ever licked? If so how? 10. When was a member of a baseball team first mentioned in the Bible?

EXCUSE ME—1. Because it's not good without crackers. 2. Whoa. 3. It will give you many good points. 4. They both have crowns. 5. In the days of No-a (Noah). 6. Three years. 7. The letter M. 8. Because he gets more money shaving three. 9. Yes, on a postage stamp, but they had to do it behind his back. 10. When Ruth walked to the well with a pitcher. —Sunshine Magazine.

JUST FOR FUN

Teacher—"Jimmy, name three animals peculiar to the Arctic region."

Jimmy—"Lion, tiger, monkey."

Teacher—"Why do you name them?"

Jimmy—"Because it would be very peculiar if they were there." —Portland Oregonian.

Junior and his mother were looking through the family album and came to the picture of a handsome man with a mustache.

"Who's that?" asked Junior.

"Why, that's your father," replied mother proudly.

"Yeah," said Junior, "then who's the baldheaded guy who lives with us?" —Fog Horn

"Why, that's your father," replied The employees at a factory noticed that one man was unusually glum and asked him why.

"I think my wife is getting tired of me," he replied.

"What makes you think so?"

"Well, every day this week she has wrapped my lunch in a road map." —Colgate Banter.

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

MRS. EWING T. WAYLAND, Editor

NEWS IN BRIEF

Twenty-six new members were welcomed at a supper meeting of the Wesleyan Service Guild of the First Church, Lake Charles, July 27, at the church. Mrs. Walter Nasman, president, made the welcoming address and introduced the guests.

The devotional was presented by Mrs. Walter Spencer and the program was presented by Mrs. C. D. Kemble, Miss Berla Whiddon and Miss Helen Wentz. Miss Barbara Terry, new director of religious education, was welcomed as a new member of the Guild.

The president of the Benton Woman's Society of Christian Service, Mrs. Henry Brown, has established some precedents that should be of interest to the whole missionary personnel.

She began ordering the missionary pamphlets in May and had the Guide Books ready for the organization, including the new Circle Chairmen when she was installed on May 31st. The budget was immediately set up by the executive committee and an individual copy was sent to every member. This is the first time that every member has been informed at the first of the year regarding the proposed financial work for the year, but Mrs. Brown believes that an informed membership is a working membership.

That idea seems to be bearing fruit for work has been started on the repairs in the church kitchen and the local committee under the leadership of Mrs. Guy Baker plans to have this work completed within the next few months.

A report of the first quarter's accomplishments has been mailed to each member of the Society, including the inactive members as well as the active. The entire amount due on the present membership for the special funds has been sent to the District secretary, and the pledges for the year amply cover Benton First Church's apportionment.

One member attended the school at Sequoyah for the study of Jeremiah and two went to the school at Aldersgate, for other mission study.

The Spiritual Life chairman has sponsored a Wednesday evening prayer meeting, led by the men of the church and an attendance of between 30 and 50 is being maintained. Mrs. N. D. Couch, chairman of Spiritual Life, conceived this idea and a great spiritual renewal is resulting. The younger men of the church are especially enthusiastic.

Not only is the Woman's Society achieving but the Commissions on Membership and Missions are functioning well, with the guidance of the pastor, Rev. H. O. Bolin. The Commission on Membership and Evangelism is revising the church roll so that contact can be made with every member of the church, whether by personal calls or by letter. The Commission on Mission is helping with this work and plans are being made to show

EDITH MARTIN WRITES FROM AFRICA

M.M.C.C.Tunda Station
par Lusambo,
Congo Belge, Afrique

Dear Friends,

So many things happen that would be of interest to you if those of us who work here would only sit down and write you about them. First, I must thank you for all the lovely things you do for us. I can never thank you enough for the letters, cards, gifts of supplies and money that you have sent for the work. We get a regular appropriation through the Board of Missions which comes from you but it pays

a motion picture on Missions every fourth Sunday evening. Literature has been ordered to be placed in the vestibule of the church and copies of the church wide study, "Heritage and Destiny" have been bought. —Violet Gingles, Publicity Chairman

The Berryville Woman's Society of Christian Service gave a tea honoring all new members of the year, at the Methodist Parsonage home of Rev. and Mrs. Archie Boyd. Greeting the guests were Mrs. Archie Boyd and Mrs. Faulkner.

The hours were three to six, presiding at the table were Mrs. Carlos Boyd, Mrs. A. T. Shuller, Mrs. Vinnie Hull, Mrs. H. A. Scheppel, Mrs. Ray Beck and Mrs. Fred H. Boyer.

A musical program was provided through out the afternoon, by Mrs. Carl Ketchum, Mrs. H. A. Scheppel and solos by Mrs. Joe Gregson. During the afternoon a large number of ladies signed the guest book. —Mrs. Fred Boyer

Mrs. Minza Rabun, Conference Secretary, was the guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Tallulah Guild. Miss Ruth Hale presided at the dinner, and Mrs. Vernon Thompson paid tribute to Miss Hale and presented her with a gift from the guild. Mrs. Dave Kaufman conducted an impressive candlelight service for the pledge.

The Centerville Woman's Society of Christian Service met at the church June 19 at 10 a.m., each carrying a school girl lunch, and continuing painting walls and varnishing pews. Book racks have been given by the B. R. Robertsons of Russellville. After lunch the monthly program was given by Mrs. Gail Crow. Mrs. J. O. Cain presided at the business meeting. Officers were installed by Rev. Edwin Sooter as follows: President, Mrs. J. O. Cain; vice-president, Mrs. Charles Shepherd; Treasurer, Mrs. George Brown, secretary of promotion, Mrs. P. L. Ober. —Mrs. P. L. Ober

Every cross is turned into a crown, every burden becomes a blessing, every sacrifice becomes sacred and sublime the moments that our Lord and Redeemer writes on it, "For My Sake."

—Theodore L. Cuyler

little more than the salaries of the workers and the food for the girls; therefore, we are most grateful for your love gifts that we may be able to do more to help our people live abundantly. I have divided the gifts between the girls' and women's work and that of literature. We are buying a new portable sewing machine that turns with a crank but it sews much faster than we can sew by hand, especially when we have to make a stitch that resembles a machine stitch.

One of my great interests is in the field of literature. Those of us who can borrow or buy any book that we want in our own language have no idea what it is to teach school with few books and not be able to buy one in our own tongue. Then, too, I have never seen a people become great who were illiterate. So by your help we are getting more books printed in the Otetela language. We have just sent the first edition of our daily devotional book to the press. Some of our African Christian leaders have made contributions to it; but, of course, it was necessary to do much editing before these could be printed; but it has meant much to them to have a part in a book that means so much to the growth of the Christian Church. After their devotions were revised, I let some of them read them. You should have heard their remarks. The one most often heard was, "Look at my words! Aren't they beautiful?" I trust that these daily devotionals will be a real spiritual blessing to these people who have only the New Testament and few school book in their language.

On Wednesday of this last week, Opeta, a retarded girl in one of my classes went to the hospital to get some medicine for a cold. On her return, she was caught in a down pouring of rain and was drenched. For a moment, I wondered what I should do but I knew that I could not send her home in the pouring tropical rain and I had neither a raincoat nor an umbrella to give her; so I went to the missionary barrel and pulled out a long blouse and handed it to her. She looked it over, put it on, and went on with her knitting. In a few moments, she looked at me and asked, "Mama, did you know Noa?" When she saw my surprise, she said, "Was he a friend of yours?" I was amused and puzzled why she should ask me such a question and wondered how old she thought I was. Finally, I said, "Why did you ask me that question? I am hardly old enough to have been a personal friend of his but I know him through history." She said very quickly as she looked at the shirt, "This shirt looks like one I saw Noa wear in a picture." Occasionally, when I speak about a person, they think that he or she is a personal friend of mine. They think I have a lot of friends because they see me receive letters from some of them and I often say, "Our Christian friends sent this."

The Africans have their problems

and one of the most difficult is the marriage problem. Many marriages are broken because the husband says, "You have not given me any children; therefore, I shall send you back to your father and get me a better one." The government exempts men with four children from paying taxes, and gives food rations to the amount of fifty-eight cents per month if the woman has as many as three children. It thinks that she can produce most of the food for the family if she has less than three children. As far as I know, the highest paid worker on our mission receives about \$24.00 per month and the lowest one receives about \$4.00. Of course, the lowest paid workers have to produce most of their food; therefore, they do not work full time.

Africa is a challenging country but the greatest challenge is just ahead of us as we prepare the youth for leadership in this new and changing age. It is a great joy and a deep satisfaction to bring a little bit of joy, light, and knowledge to the lives that have been lived in bondage, fear, and superstition so long and who are arising to take their place in this civilized age of which they are so ignorant but about which they are striving to learn. Africa needs our best to lead her through these days.

I shall deeply appreciate some devotionals from you, similar to the ones in our Upper Room, of not more than two hundred words including the scripture that is to be printed, the prayer, and the thought for the day.

Continue to pray for us!
Yours in the Master's work.
Edith Martin

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Youth Worker

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ARKANSAS METHODIST

CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM MONETTE

Vacation Church School

Sixty-four boys and girls enrolled for Vacation Church School the last week of June and the first week of July at Monette Methodist Church. Two hour classes were conducted daily for kindergarten, primary, junior, and intermediate ages.

The number enrolled represents a record for Vacation Church Schools at Monette. Fifty-seven of the group received certificates for satisfactory work. Forty-six of the fifty-seven are Methodist Church School pupils. Ten adult workers made up the teaching staff for the school.

Senior M. Y. F. Organized

A Senior age Methodist Youth Fellowship was organized at Monette Sunday night, June 28. Ralph Bley was elected president of the Fellowship, Barbara Arnold, vice-president, Charles Blankenship, secretary-treasurer, and Ruby Eakers, publicity chairman.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Rotton and Mr. and Mrs. David Buck are adult counselors for the Fellowship.

Monette now has two active Methodist Youth Fellowships. A Junior M. Y. F. has been functioning for the past eight months. Mrs. Clyde Evans and Mrs. Harlon Keich are adult counselors for the Juniors.

REV. AND MRS. BENNIE JORDAN were honored with a food "pounding" by the members of Monette Methodist Church, Wednesday night, July 22. Brother and Mrs. Jordan are in their second year at Monette.—Reporter

LEOLA CHARGE

Our church at Leola has paid all claims and the District Superintendent's salary in full for the year 1953-54. Our revival will start August 2 at Leola with Rev. Bryan Stevens of Sheridan doing the preaching.

Home coming day will be observed at Hunter's Chapel August 2, with Hon. Sid McMath as guest speaker. All former pastors and friends and members of the Hunter church are invited. —J. W. Carnell, Pastor.

METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT FOR JUNE

(Continued from last week)

Helena Methodist Church, Young Men's Class	10.00
Brewster Bible Class, Wynne Methodist Church	10.00
Cabot Methodist Church W. S. C. S.	10.00
Hone Methodist Church Jett B. Graves S. S. Class	30.00
Service Class, First Methodist Ch., El Dorado	10.00
Douglasville Methodist Church Intermediate Department	4.15
Trumann Methodist Ch. Primary Class	2.65
Wesley Berean S. S. Class, First Methodist Church, El Dorado	10.00
North Little Rock First Methodist Church Wills Bible Class	10.00
Rector Methodist Church Young Adult Class	10.00
P. H. Hewitt Royalty Acct.	.92
Truman Methodist Church, W. S. C. S.	10.00
Second Mile Class, Jonesboro First Methodist Church	30.00
Yancey S. S. Class, Marianna Methodist Church	10.00
Jerry DuBose	5.00
W. S. C. S. North Little Rock Methodist Church	5.00
Evelyn Whitcomb Class, Asbury Methodist Church, Little Rock	10.00
Miscellaneous Collections	140.99
Memorial Collections	177.00
TOTAL	\$3939.63

REV. T. T. McNEAL,
Director

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, AT BENTONVILLE

The Sunday of August 2, will be a memorable day in the life of the writer. He was granted the high privilege of preaching at Bentonville as the Rural Minister of the Year for Arkansas and extend official recognition by the Town and Country Commission to the church and pastor for their achievement as Rural Church of the Year for Arkansas. This was the first Sunday home from the Town and Country School held at Emory University where the awards were given. The people at Bentonville are justly proud of the wonderful work being done for their church as the magnificent new building nears completion. This will be one of the finest and most servicable church plants in the State. The location is par excellent. Methodism in Bentonville and surrounding territory will grow stronger and more dynamic in the years ahead.

It was a joyous experience to be in the pastoral home of Hubert, Lucille, Hubert Jr., and Warren for the noon day meal. The George Patchells, recently moved to Bentonville to head up the school system, added to the joy of the occasion by being present for the fellowship in the parsonage home. Things look bright indeed for the Methodist fellowship in those parts.

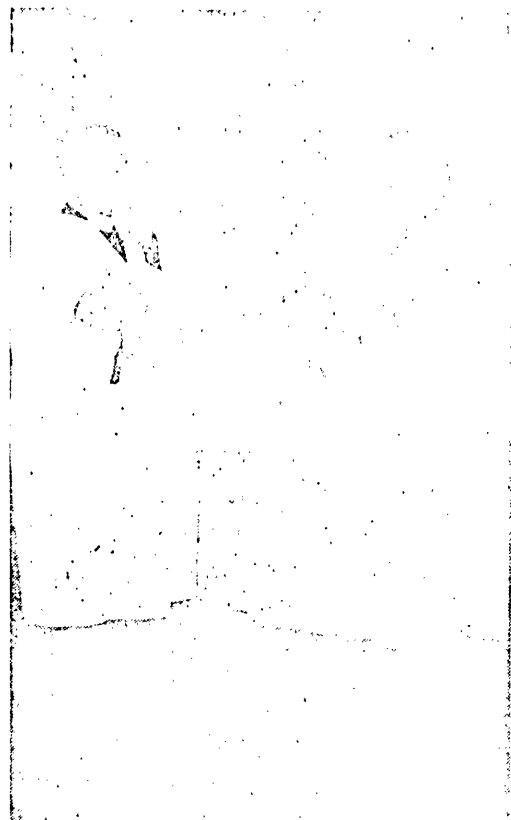
Sunday Night at Sologohachia

Sunday night we began our revival at Lanty with the first service being held at Sologohachia. This is a great charge in Conway County where history was made in the beginning of the Conway County cooperative church program. Rev. William Yarbrough is the enterprising pastor. He is a product of the County program having served as lay speaker for quite a while before entering the ministry. He and his wife are doing great work on this charge. The fellowship and friendly atmosphere prevailing make the time enjoyable to the visiting preacher. The wonderful spirit of cooperation among the churches of

MONTICELLO 1ST CHURCH TO SUPPORT MISSIONARY IN INDIA

Rev. Roland E. Darrow, pastor at 1st Methodist Church in Monticello has announced that his church in Monticello has assumed the support of the Rev. Daniel A. Francis of the Pueamba District of the Bombay Area in India.

The Rev. Daniel Francis is a graduate of the Leonard Theological College at Jabalpur. He is under the supervision of the Rev. M. S. Garrison, Superintendent of the Putamba District. So continues the good work of the Advance Specials.



L to R: Rev. R. S. Rahator, Bishop John A. Subhan, Rev. Daniel A. Francis

Conway County is indeed uplifting. The great church at Morrilton continues to lead out in this program. The judgement alone will suffice to reveal the good that has been, is being, and will be done by the churches in this area. It is good to be back where it seems like home.—J. Albert Gatlin

PASTOR AT LEVY HONORED WITH RECEPTION

The Rev. Raymond Dorman and family were honored at a well planned reception on the night of July 14 by the Methodist Church at Levy.

The program began with a "pot-luck" dinner. Beautiful roses and zennias graced the table which was loaded with good things to eat.

Mrs. Nathan Berry, president of the Crusader Class, who sponsored the program, presented the Rev. and Mrs. Dorman a lovely electric perculator, on behalf of the church. A reading was given by Mrs. Ralph Dailey. Songs were sung by Mrs. Nathan Berry and Mrs. Otis Shelton.

Brother Dorman expressed his appreciation of the privilege of serving such a thoughtful people.—Reporter.

STEWARDSHIP REVIVAL AT FAIRVIEW

Fairview Methodist Church of Camden District is now planning a Stewardship Revival which it is hoped will include every member of the congregation. The General Program is progressing under direction of Rev. J. Edwin Keith, Director of Stewardship of the Little Rock Conference, and the Pastor, Rev. James Simpson. Along with the program of Stewardship will go that of finance of the regular budget for the current year and the entire building fund, both of which total \$35,000. The achievement of the plan will save several thousand dollars by retiring the building obligation within a year instead of letting it run according to original contract.

This plan is probably the most outstanding ever adopted by this congregation. Besides the recent completion of the new educational building, an electric organ has been purchased and installed. The total program is a reminder what unified action by a congregation will achieve.—Homer L. Anderson

RECEPTION FOR PASTOR AND WIFE

A reception and pantry shower in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Ashcraft was sponsored by the Woman's Society of Christian Service in Fellowship Hall of the Village Methodist Church, Village, Arkansas, on Thursday evening June 25. Rev. Ashcraft was assigned to the Village Church after having just completed his seminary training at Vanderbilt University.—Reporter



L to R: D. D. Crumpler, Chairman of Official Board; Mrs. D. D. Crumpler, Pres. W. S. C. S.; Rev. Charles Ashcraft; Mrs. Charles Ashcraft; Martha Rogers.

The Sunday School Lesson

By REV. H. O. BOLIN

Lesson based on "International Sunday School Lessons: the International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching," copyrighted 1931 by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.



SHOULD I PRAY FOR OTHERS?

LESSON FOR AUGUST 23, 1953

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE: Matthew 6:7-13, I Timothy 2:1-8, Romans 8:26-28. Printed text: I Timothy 2:1-8; Romans 8:26-28.

MEMORY SELECTION: I urge that supplication, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, godly and respectful in every way (I Timothy 2:1-2)

This is the third lesson of UNIT XII: "DEVELOPING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE". Nothing is more important to us than the developing of this side of our lives. The subjects of the two previous lessons have been in the form of questions: "How Can I Find Strength?" and "How Can I Know What Is Right?" It will be noted that both of these subjects fit right into the general theme of the unit. One is developing his spiritual life when he finds spiritual strength. This strength is to be found by putting on the whole armor of God, by obedience, by surrender, by prayer, by Bible study, by church loyalty, and by service to others. Again, to develop the spiritual life one must know what is right. One learns what is right by meditation, prayer, observing the lives of successful Christians, willingness to do God's will, inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and above all through close fellowship with Christ, who is the perfect embodiment of truth.

Our lesson today also looks toward the development of the spiritual life. It raises the question "Should I Pray For Others?"

A Look At The Scriptures

In the first passage of our printed text Paul is speaking to his son in the gospel, Timothy. He feels a deep interest in this young minister and is talking to him about a matter that is very dear to his heart. He went on to say, "First off, then, I urge that supplication, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for all men." This first statement answers the question of our lesson. Paul, with much earnestness, urges that prayers be made for all people.

Paul urges that prayers be made for kings and all others in high positions. One can readily see the reason for prayers for such men; they are in positions where their decisions effect large groups of people. The quietness and peace-fulness of the lives of thousands of others depend upon the decisions and activities of these rulers.

The great Apostle does not say for Christians to pray for rulers with whom they agree. He would have them pray for all rulers. At the very moment Paul wrote these words, Nero was Emperor at Rome and the Apostle was a prisoner there in that great city. He knew that his life was in danger. Not very long after the writing of this letter, Paul was beheaded at the orders of Nero. But still the great Apostle would have Nero remembered in prayer. We might well take a lesson from this. It is very easy to criticize rulers for their mistakes, but we should always bear in mind that destruc-

tive criticism never accomplishes anything. As Christians, we should, for the most part, work on the constructive side. Prayer is constructive. "Prayer changes things." As Nero was an enemy of the human race of his day, so we have rulers who are enemies of the race today. We should pray for them. We should not pray that they succeed in their evil undertakings, but that somehow they might see the light and turn from their evil ways.

Not only should we, in America, pray for the rulers of our enemies, we should pray with all the strength of our souls — undergirded by clean hands and pure hearts — for our President. The burden of leading this nation has become so great that no man in his own strength alone can bear it. Above all things, he needs the help of God. The prayers of the Christians of the nation would be a source of great strength to him. There is a power in prayer. Somehow it releases spiritual forces that otherwise cannot operate to the fullest extent.

Paul's Insight Into Prayer

The Apostle's statement here shows his insight into prayer. He speaks of supplication, thanksgiving, and intercession. The prayer of supplication is an humble entreaty made to God either for self or others; intercession is an entreaty made on behalf of others; and thanksgiving is the expression of gratitude to God for blessings already granted. In the daily Bible readings, for the week, we have illustrations of all these types of prayer as well as other types. In Genesis 18:23-33, we have Abraham's intercessory prayer for Sodom and Gomorrah. He prayed that the wicked cities might be spared. In I Samuel 2:1-10, we have Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving. She had asked God for a son. The petition had been granted. She was deeply grateful. In Ezra 9:5-15, we have a prayer of confession. This great man of God not only confessed his own sins but the sins of his people. When we pray it is well to bear all of these different types of prayer in mind. All well-rounded prayers encompass each of these types.

Paul gives as a further reason for praying for all people, the fact that God wants all people to be saved. We are told that God wills not the death of any but desires that all be saved, and again, that it pleased Christ by the grace of God to taste death for all men. This means that God is deeply interested in all people, and to be his children, we must make our Father's interest our own. For one to secure an answer to his prayers for others, he must be able to lift up holy hands to God; his own life must be right.

The Place of Prayer In Christian Living

Prayer is the very heart of Christian living. Over and over again the New Testament tells of the prayer life of Christ. He had the habit of getting up a great while before day and going to some secret place to talk with the Father. He was known to have spent all night in prayer. He prayed before every great crisis of his life. He prayed at the time of his baptism, which marked the beginning of his active ministry. He prayed in the wilderness where he was tempted of Satan. He prayed all night before his choice of the Twelve who were to become Apostles. He prayed on the Mount of Transfiguration until his face shone like the sun. He prayed just before his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane until his face sweat as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. He had the prayer habit. His disciples noticed the strength that came to Him through prayer and they said, "Lord, teach us how to pray." It was the prayers of Christ that impressed them most. The Lord was a matchless teacher and an eloquent preacher, but these men never said to Him, "Lord, teach us how to teach, or how to preach." Their request was, "Lord, teach us how to pray."

Our Helper In Prayer

These three verses from the eighth chapter of Romans throws a great deal of light on the matter of prayer. Paul goes on to say, "For we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercessions for us." The Spirit renders a double service in prayer; he inspires us to pray and then guides us in prayer. God the Father knows what is in the mind of the Spirit for he prays in keeping with the will of God.

The last verse of this passage is one of the most often quoted verses in all of Paul's letters. Thousands of individuals have found strength and courage in the midst of great difficulties because of the wonderful promise made here: "And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good." The passage does not say that the good things work together for good; it says "all things." That is a broad statement and a great promise. If a person really believes this promise with all of his heart and is sure beyond a doubt that he loves God supremely, he can carry almost any burden. He may suffer all kinds of disappointments; he may experience all kinds of losses; he may lose health, wealth, friends, and even life itself, but in it all he is able to keep his head up and his chin out, for he realizes that he loves God and that the heavenly Father is able to make all of these adverse things and circumstances work out to his eternal good. This promise is of special value at a crisis time like that in which we are now living. God does not directly rule in the affairs of men. He allows room for free moral agency, but he over rules. We are told in the Bible that he makes the very wrath of men to praise him.

Why Pray?

The question "why pray?" is often raised. Some argue that there is no use of praying for everything is governed by laws. There are the natural laws that govern nature and then there are the spiritual laws that have to do with the inner nature of personality. God works through both sets of these laws. We are told that there is no use in praying to Him for He will not change these laws.

It is a fact that God does operate through these laws, and that most of his activities are directed through them.

Still another group raises the question "why pray?" Their argument is that prayer is useless because God knows what we need better than we do; he loves us better than we know how to love ourselves; and is always anxious to do what is best for us. Again, we have to admit the truth of these statements; God does know better than we do just what we need; he does love us to the extent that he is always anxious to do what is best for us.

The trouble with the two above objections is that they are both built on a wrong conception of prayer. Both of them take it for granted that the object of prayer is merely to get things from God. The chief purpose of prayer is to have fellowship with God, rather than to get things from Him. It is true that God always desires the best for his children but there are some things that he can't give to them unless they pray. For example, the greatest blessing that God can confer upon people is to give them a Christlike character. He is anxious to give them such character, but such character cannot be given outright. It can only be obtained through fellowship with Christ, and this fellowship is attained and maintained through prayer. The same is true with many blessings that earthly parents want to confer upon their children. One of the greatest blessings that a father can give a child is a good education. He is anxious to confer this blessing to the child. He has ample means to pay for the education. But unless the child desires the education he cannot give it to him. It will be remembered that prayer is desire. The poet sang, "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, uttered or unexpressed" etc. Some of the greatest blessings of life come only to the individual who desires them to the extent that he is willing to work and sacrifice for them. This is where prayer comes in.

Another great purpose of prayer is to come to know God. Jesus said, "This is life eternal that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ who thou hast sent." Eternal life is one of God's richest blessings. It can only come to the individual who knows God, and one comes to know God through communing with him. That is the way that one person comes to know another; it is through the medium of conversation. When we pray, we talk to God and when we read our Bibles, God talks to us. Thus we come to know and love Him, and prayer is one of the chief mediums of such knowledge.

If your church is organized and equipped to minister to adults solely or principally, the reports of the growing youth population of America should make you "stop, look, and listen." For while it is true that the population over 65 years of age is growing, that under 18 years is on the increase also. Here is the story, as told in "Printer's Ink:" "The number of children under 18 increased more than twice as fast as the total population from 1950 to 1951, estimates the Bureau of Census. While the total population was increasing 1.8%, the under-18's were increasing 4%. There are two reasons for the contrast: A high birth rate, and the fact that the above-18 population is now drawing from the low birth rate of the '30's."