

# Arkansas

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# Methodist



"SERVING TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND"  
Official Publication of

METHODISTS IN ARKANSAS  
Arkansas Methodism

## *A Call To The Methodists Of Arkansas And Louisiana*

In February we of The Methodist Church enter a Crusade for World Order. During that month in all of our churches we will study the issues of peace, how the United Nations can be used for peace, and the whole problem of disarmament.

The human race stands today in greater jeopardy of its life than at any time in its history. Our church would like to participate in any undertaking that would contribute to the preservation of civilization. We believe the Crusade for World Order may be used of God to lead men to study the issues of peace.

Every minister in Methodism has been requested to preach three sermons during February: first, on The Meaning of Peace; second, on The United Nations; and, third, on Disarmament. As helpful as will be these sermons, we are aware that the ultimate value of the Crusade will be determined by the extent to which the laity face up to these issues.

We therefore call upon our people to study during this period the excellent volume, "Ploughshares and Pruning Hooks" published by the Crusade for World Order of our church. The book can well be studied in classes in the church school, in the clubs of Methodist Men, and in discussion groups on weeknights. There is also a fine opportunity for its presentation in the Sunday evening services.

If we are to have peace we must work for it, study for it, pray for it, live for it. What a force would be developed if ten million Methodists join with millions of other Christians in thinking seriously about peace!

We call upon our people to attend the services of our churches during February, to hear our ministers as they preach on these great themes, and to study in groups during this period the stimulating and challenging volume, "Ploughshares and Pruning Hooks." "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

Paul E. Martin

Francis A. Buddin  
Cecil R. Culver  
J. M. Hamilton  
Connor Morehead  
E. Clifton Rule  
Arthur Terry  
R. R. Branton  
Edward W. Harris  
James T. Harris

Virgil D. Morris  
G. W. Pomeroy  
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Richard E. Connell  
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W. Henry Goodloe  
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E. G. Kaetzell  
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Mrs. E. G. Kaetzell  
Ira A. Brumley  
Roy E. Fawcett  
Bentley Sloane  
David M. Hankins  
Golder I. Lawrence  
John T. Redmon  
R. M. Bentley  
Paul M. Bumpers  
J. Kenneth Shamblin

## The Methodist Church In 1954

By Ralph Stoody  
Executive Director,  
Methodist Information

In Methodist circles 1954 could be labelled with equally good reason in each of several ways. It could be called an ecumenical year, a year of big meetings, a year of renewed international interest, a 15th anniversary - of - unification year or a year of mounting figures in all columns.

### An Ecumenical Year

There were three gatherings of world-wide dimensions in which Methodism played a distinctive part.

First was the World Methodist Council held in Evanston in mid-August. This three-day meeting brought into fellowship leaders of numerous independent Methodist bodies of the world.

Then came the World Council of Churches. Meeting on the campus and in the buildings of a Methodist university and divinity school, holding its worship services in a Methodist church, having a Methodist as its honorary president and another as one of its five presidents, gave the denomination a rather disproportionate prominence. Several committees were headed by Methodists, one of the six section chairmen was a Methodist bishop and the final election put one of our South American bishops into the presidium.

These facts are recalled, not to glorify one communion above another, for privileges of service to the cause of church cooperation are purposely rotated. They should, however, assure any doubtful ones that in this historic Assembly and in the general ecumenical advance Methodists are playing their full part.

On the level of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., The Methodist Church again served the ecumenical cause by providing the 1953-54 president of this great family-organization of 30 Protestant and Orthodox bodies. In fact 1954 opened with the man who was president both of the National Council of Churches and the Methodist Council of Bishops flying from camp to camp on the recent battle line in Korea to convey the greetings of the churches of the homeland to American youth in the armed services.

### Many Meetings And Big Ones

Mid-quadrannium is getting to be a time for as many large-scale Methodist get-togethers as General Conference year. An unusual number of nation-wide assemblies were held in 1954. The year opened with the National Conference of the Methodist Student Movement at the University of Kansas. Then came the Urban Life Conference in Columbus, Ohio in February where Ohio State University facilities were used for one session.

Next was the Assembly of the Woman's Division of Christian Service at Milwaukee in late May. Not to be outdone by mothers, wives and sisters, the National Conference of Methodist Men was held on Purdue University campus in Indiana in July. Then both men and women came to Cleveland in October for the second Methodist Family Life Conference.

All of these convocation, including the November meeting of dis-

1954 saw the completion of a much needed addition to the physical property of the Crossett Methodist Church—a new parsonage.

A number of years ago the Crossett church was given an entire block on the Main Street of Crossett by The Crossett Company. At one end of this block was a frame residence which was used as a parsonage. In 1949, the construction of the Crossett Church was completed but the old frame parsonage remained.

While all of the congregation recognized the need for a parsonage which would be compatible with our church, so many problems (mostly financial as is always the case) were present that no effort was made to build a new parsonage until 1953 when, at the insistence of the women of W.S.C.S., a committee was appointed to develop plans for a new parsonage and to recommend how the structure could be paid for.

After many false starts, the parsonage committee picked a plan for a brick veneer home containing slightly over 1800 square feet of living space compatible architecturally with the church. The basic room arrangement provides 3 bedroom, 2 baths, an extremely spacious living room with an L for the dining area; the kitchen is conveniently situated with ample cupboard space and a breakfast area. There is ample closet space provided throughout the house. As a part of the lawn space is a concrete patio with bar-b-que pit.

After choosing a plan a member of the congregation engaged in the business of residential construction was requested to make an accurate take-off of costs. We were advised that our new parsonage could be constructed for \$21,000. The builder agreed to supervise construction of the parsonage for a nominal fee.

We had on hand in a parsonage building fund started by our W.S.-C.S. over \$5,000. We estimated we would receive \$2,000 from the church budget and that our old

strict superintendents in Chicago, brought together Methodists from every state and in some cases from distant lands. Each one furthered its own good purpose, but it also advanced fellowship across conference and jurisdictional lines and gave added meaning to the phrase, "The Methodists are one people."

### Making The World A Neighborhood

A church which carries on work in forty countries would naturally be expected to be international in its interests. During 1954 The Methodist Church has organized this concern into a Crusade for World Order. The bishops took the first step in April by devoting three days at the United Nations for a first-hand study. The interest was carried forward at the district superintendents' conference in Chicago where three eminent leaders in the field of international affairs set forth the spearpoints in the crusade: (1) the meaning of peace, (2) the United Nations, (3) disarmament. Plans for future sermons and study on these topics were approved, including later attention to U. N.

## Crossett Completes New Parsonage



frame parsonage could be sold for \$1,100. With all of this background we approached the bank holding the mortgage on the church and made arrangements whereby our entire church loan was refinanced; the monthly payments remained the same but the length of the loan was extended. This course was followed in order that our monthly expenditure for budgeted items would not be increased.

With a great deal of deprecation, we sold the old parsonage, found suitable rental living quarters for our pastor and began construction.

Each day the construction superintendent would line out work which could be done by the men of the church after their day's work in the plants and offices of the community. From June to September the entire community was given a spiritual uplift by seeing the men of the Methodist Church digging footings, putting down sub-floors, nailing sheathing and clamboring about on the roof placing sheathing and roofing.

Members of the congregation who, for various reasons, could not help with the work sent checks to purchase labor, the women of the church sent lemonade for hot Saturday mornings.

As the structure neared completion, wonder of wonders, we had

too much money in the parsonage fund. We had originally planned only to complete the structure. Wall to wall carpeting was added as were suitable draperies at the windows. Still money remained. In addition, many individuals, classes and departments wishing to have a part in the new parsonage donated items unplanned originally. Landscaping was accomplished and complete new furnishings were purchased.

When we were ready for open house in the new parsonage, donations of labor, time, money, and items of furnishings, on the part of the entire congregation we found that on an original estimate of \$21,000 for the bare structure alone, we had spent about \$20,000 but had completely furnished and landscaped the new parsonage. In addition to the money saving which is, of course, always important, the work and participation of all of the congregation in this project greatly enhanced the feeling of "belonging" which in turn has given our whole church new impetus and life.

The Parsonage Building Committee consisted of: R. P. Meredith, Chairman, J. H. Abbott, J. M. Armstrong, E. B. Brown, Mrs. A. W. Duskin, Mrs. J. T. Erwin, Mrs. W. C. Norman, Mrs. W. A. Regnier, J. B. White. Supervisor of Construction was Robert L. Crook.

charter review and revision.

### "The Methodist Church"— Fifteen Years Old

Methodist unification was commemorated by the presentation to presentation to the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium of a bronze plaque. It recorded the reunion of three major bodies to form The Methodist Church which had taken place in that building fifteen years before, on May 10, 1939. Bishop Charles Wesley Brashares, president of the Council of Bishops dedicated that tablet which had been provided by the Commission on Public Relations.

Since unification there has been a growth of membership of about 25% (7,360 to 9,223,152), an increase in church and parsonage property values of nearly 200% (\$704,117,614. to \$1,904,785,067.) and an advance in giving for all purposes of more than 300% (\$75,608,889. to \$345,416,448.)

### Advances and New Highs

Not spectacular but steady ad-

vances over last year's figures appear in the columns of the statistician's compilation of the 1954 annual conference reports. The small loss recorded in membership last year, due to the simultaneous, wholesale pruning of records, this year is changed to a gain of 71,528. A decline in number of preaching places is replaced for the first time since unification with a gain. Total church school membership is up by 280,859. Total benevolences have advanced more than ten per cent.

Memorable 1954 events would include the dedication of the Wesley film, launching of a \$296,000, campaign for Methodist T-V, \$500,000 for retired preachers from the Publishing House and a churchwide gift of \$1,500,000. for Korea.

World War II cost this country \$360 billion, or nearly 10 times as much as World War I, and more than 1,000 times as much as the Revolutionary War.—Link

# Four Station Wagons To Argentina

Four new station wagons purchased by the Methodists of the Arkansas-Louisiana Area to be used for missionary work were scheduled to have been shipped Monday, January 3, to Argentina from New Orleans, on the Argentine flag vessel, the S. S. Tucuman. The 1954 cars, one Chevrolet and three Fords, were furnished by the churches of the Little Rock and Louisiana Conferences, the First Methodist Church of Arkadelphia, and the churches of the Forrest City and Jonesboro Districts of the North Arkansas Conference.

The station wagons, which are being sent to Buenos Aires, will be distributed under the direction of Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri, Methodist Bishop of Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia.

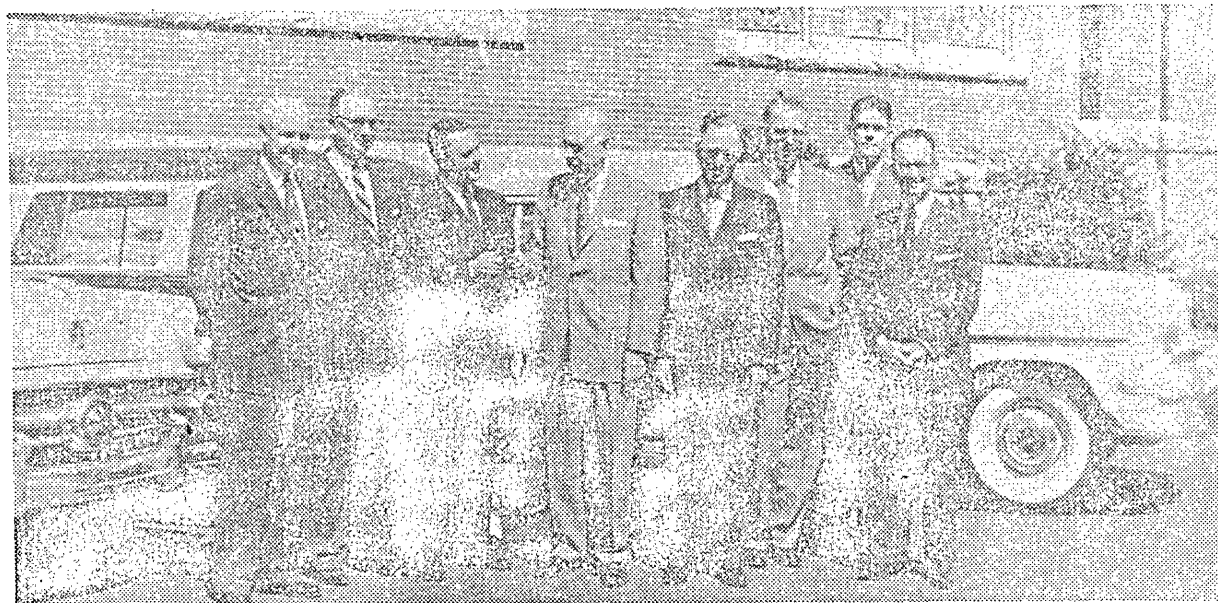
Bishop Martin, who, with the District Superintendents of the Little Rock and Louisiana Conference and of the Forrest City and Jonesboro Districts of the North Arkansas Conference, gave leadership to

ed "May God bless abundantly, all concerned with this magnificent token of brotherhood and manifestation of Christian concern for the salvation of the world in Christ."

Rev. Elmer J. Holifield and Rev.

Otto Teague are the District Superintendents of the Jonesboro and Forrest City Districts, respectively, and Rev. W. O. Byrd is pastor of the First Methodist Church, Arkadelphia.

L to r, Rev. A. Townsend, Jr., Alexandria District Superintendent; Dr. B. C. Taylor, Shreveport District Superintendent; Rev. G. W. Pomeroy, Ruston District Superintendent; Bishop Martin; Rev. R. R. Branton, Lafayette District Superintendent; Dr. Virgil D. Morris, New Orleans District Superintendent; Rev. E. W. Harris, Baton Rouge District Superintendent; Rev. James T. Harris, Monroe District Superintendent. Rev. Karl Tooke, Lake Charles District Superintendent, was absent when the picture was taken.



At Left:

L to r, Rev. Elmer J. Holifield, Jonesboro District Superintendent; Rev. Otto Teague, Forrest City District Superintendent; and Bishop Martin.

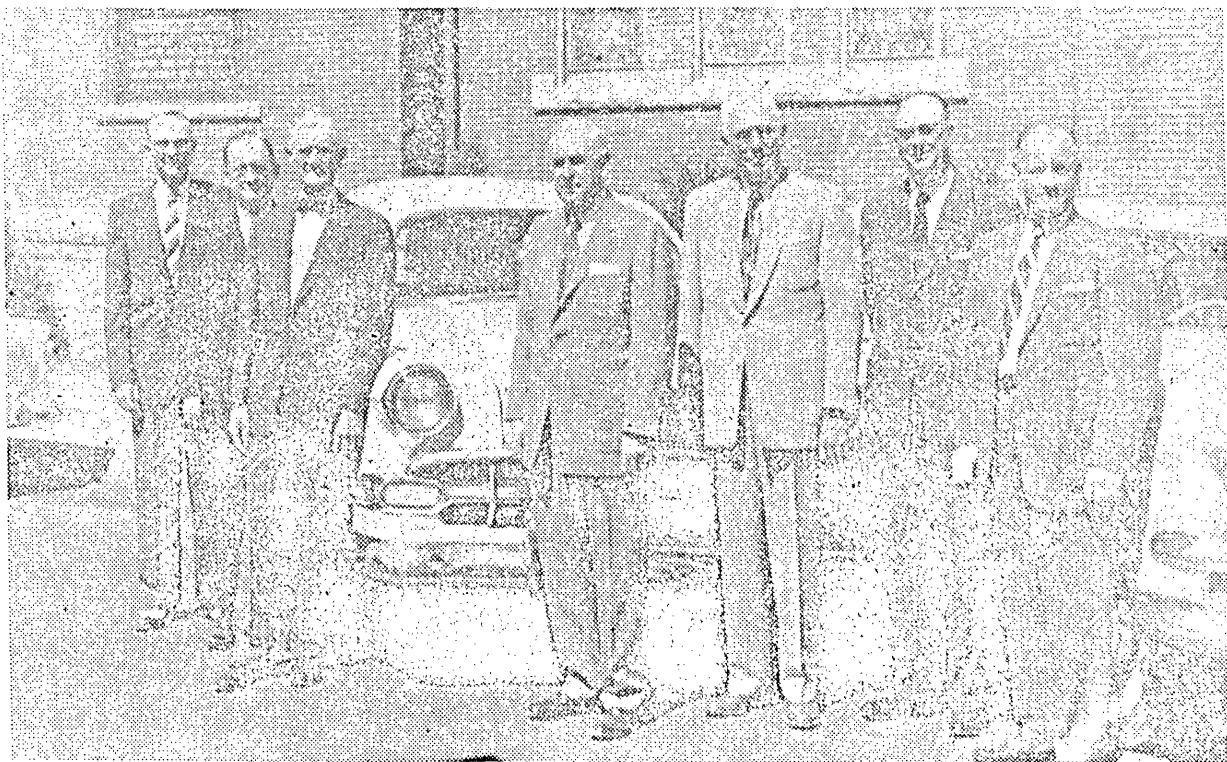


Below:

L to r, Dr. Arthur Terry, Pine Bluff District Superintendent; Dr. E. Clifton Rule, Hope District Superintendent; Rev. J. M. Hamilton, Arkadelphia District Superintendent; Bishop Martin; Dr. Francis A. Buddin, Little Rock District Superintendent; Dr. Cecil R. Culver, Monticello District Superintendent; and Dr. Connor Morehead, Camden District Superintendent.

the program of raising funds for the project said as far as he knew, no one shipment of as many as four cars for church use has been made to South America in the past ten years. He also said "It is thrilling even to attempt to imagine the ministry which will be rendered through the four station wagons that are being sent to Argentina by the Methodists of Arkansas and Louisiana. When Mrs. Martin and I were in South America, we learned of the magnificent service rendered by similar cars in Brazil. Remote places will hear the Gospel, and men and women who long for the warm evangelical message will be brought to Christ as the ministers are transported across that great nation in these station wagons. These cars will be chariots of the Lord!"

Bishop Barbieri, upon receiving news of the gift, wrote to Bishop Martin that he and his people were very grateful for the cars. He add-



## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

**B**ORN to Rev. and Mrs. Lester Finley, a daughter, Colleen Ann, on December 11, in Baroda, India.

**K**NOX KINNEY of Forrest City was guest speaker at the Hughes Methodist Church on Sunday morning, December 23. Rev. Elmus C. Brown is pastor.

**C**HARLES STUCK, North Arkansas Conference lay leader, spoke at Jacksonville on December 12 at 11:00 a. m. and at the Gray Township Dry Rally at the First Baptist Church at 2:30 p. m.

**T**HE METHODIST MEN'S organization of the Goddard Memorial Methodist Church, Ft. Smith, has bought and installed a new bronze bulletin board at the church. The board will be lighted.

**D**R. W. HENRY GOODLOE, district superintendent of the Ft. Smith District, was host to the January breakfast conference of all three areas of the district at Shores Lake Camp on Monday morning, January 3.

**C**LYDE BURKETT has been elected president of the Methodist Men of the First Methodist Church, Searcy. Other officers are Hip Gilliland, vice-president, and Bernard Bennett, secretary-treasurer. The new officers will be installed at the next meeting of the organization.

**A** WATCH NIGHT SERVICE was held at the Nettleton Methodist Church on New Year's Eve with group singing, fellowship and worship. The Men's Quartet from the Huntington Avenue Methodist Church, Jonesboro, provided special music. Two religious films were shown, "Any Boy, U.S.A.", and "Rim of the Wheel". Rev. Earl B. Carter is pastor.

**D**R. PAUL V. GALLOWAY, pastor of Boston Avenue Methodist Church, Tulsa, will be the speaker for the second annual O. E. Goddard Preaching Mission at the Goddard Memorial Methodist Church, Ft. Smith, which will be held the last week in February. The dates will be February 27-March 4. Rev. Alfred A. Knox is pastor at Goddard Memorial Church.

**G**ROUND-BREAKING CEREMONIES for the new sanctuary of the First Methodist Church of Ashdown were held on Tuesday afternoon, December 14. Rev. Clyde Parsons, pastor, the Building Committee and four of the oldest members of the church participated in the ceremonies. The members were Seth Reynolds, Mrs. Lucy York and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Briant.

**B**ISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN dedicated the educational building of the First Methodist Church at Clarksville on Sunday, January 2. He was assisted by Dr. W. Henry Goodloe, district superintendent, Rev. C. Norman Guice and the pastor, Rev. Paul M. Bumpers. In the afternoon the Bishop, assisted by the District Superintendent and the pastor, Rev. Earl B. Carter, dedicated the church at Spadra in the Ft. Smith District.

**B**ISHOP WILLIS J. KING, of New Orleans, whose area includes the work of the Methodist Church in Liberia, Africa, left the United States on December 26 for six weeks' service in Liberia. He will hold conferences with missionaries in various parts of the Republic and then preside over the sessions of the Liberia Annual Conference, January 5 to 8. He expects to return to New Orleans about February 8.

**R**EV. AND MRS. JOHN B. HEFLEY held open house at the new parsonage at Crossett on December 17 for members and friends. Members of the Building Committee, Parsonage Committee and Hospitality Committee assisted in dispensing hospitality. The house was decorated in the Christmas motif. Whit Anderson, chairman of the Official Board, presented the pastor and his wife a TV set as a Christmas gift from friends in the church.

### DEATH OF REV. T. O. LOVE

Rev. T. O. Love, age 61, pastor of the Charlotte Methodist Church, died on Tuesday morning, December 21, of a heart attack. He was a native of IZARD County.

Survivors include his wife, three brothers and three sisters.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, December 23, at the Desha Methodist Church by Rev. W. A. Abee, pastor, Rev. R. E. Connell and Rev. Lloyd M. Conyers.

### MABELVALE PASTOR APPOINTED

The Rev. Charles E. Ramsey has been appointed pastor of the Mabelvale Methodist Church by Bishop Paul E. Martin. Dr. Francis Buddin, superintendent of the Little Rock District, announced that the appointment would be effective Feb. 1. Mr. Ramsey will succeed the late Rev. O. C. Birdwell.

Mr. Ramsey will graduate this month from Perkins School of Theology. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a degree in law from the University of Arkansas.

He is married and has one daughter. Mrs. Ramsey is the daughter of the late Rev. William Arnold and Mrs. Arnold of Little Rock. Mr. Arnold was pastor of the Highland Methodist Church here at the time of his death.

Mr. Ramsey was a practicing attorney with the Arkansas State Revenue Department when he decided to enter the Methodist ministry.

### CHANGE IN APPOINTMENTS

Rev. E. G. Kaetzell, district superintendent of the Searcy District, announces that Bishop Paul E. Martin has appointed Rev. Marvin Thompson to serve the Paragould East Side Parish. He has been serving at Valley Springs. Rev. Alvin Gibbs, who has been serving the Paragould East Side Parish, has been appointed to Valley Springs.

Bishop Martin has also appointed Rev. Clinton B. Burleson, who has been attending school at Southern Methodist University, associate pastor at the First Methodist Church, Arkadelphia. His duties will also include work at St. Andrews Church, the new church recently organized in Arkadelphia.

### DR. WARREN JOHNSTON DIES IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

Dr. Warren Johnston, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, was killed in an automobile accident on Friday, December 24, while on the way to his church to a Christmas Eve service. Mrs. Johnston was hospitalized following the crash.

Dr. Johnston, son of the late Dr. F. S. H. Johnston and Mrs. Johnston, was a native of Conway, Arkansas. He was graduated from Hendrix College in 1919 and received his master's degree from Southern Methodist University in 1928. He received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Hendrix in 1940. He also attended Union Seminary at New York. He had served pastorates in Arkansas at Holly Grove, Wilson, Searcy, Fayetteville, First Church, Little Rock, First Church, Ft. Worth, Texas, and First Church Baton Rouge, since 1952. He also served as district superintendent of the Ft. Smith District from 1936 to 1939.

Funeral services were held at the First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, by Bishop Paul E. Martin, Rev. E. W. Harris, district superintendent of the Baton Rouge District, and Rev. James E. Christie, associate pastor of First Church, Baton Rouge. Services at Conway, where the body was taken for burial, were held by Dr. C. M. Reves of Conway and Dr. Aubrey G. Walton of Little Rock, Rev. Mr. Harris, Bishop Martin and Bill Mann, Baton Rouge First Church Youth Director, who sang a solo.

Other than his wife, Dr. Johnston is survived by a brother, Howard C. Johnston of Little Rock.

January 9-January 16

is the date for the

## Annual Arkansas Methodist Circulation Campaign



Renew your subscription through your local church when it has its Circulation Campaign. Cooperate with your pastor by helping him complete his report. Don't miss a single issue of your own Methodist paper that brings you each week information about The Methodist Church, inspiration by qualified writers, and news about Arkansas Methodism.

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## The Arkansas Methodist

Official Organ of Arkansas Methodism

## Arkansas Methodist

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ARKANSAS METHODIST

**Editorial:**

## Endowment Fund For Hendrix College Overpaid

**I**n this issue of the Arkansas Methodist is a statement, "In Appreciation," written by Dr. Matt L. Ellis, President of Hendrix College, in which Dr. Ellis announces the successful completion of the Hendrix Endowment Campaign and expresses appreciation to the many friends of Hendrix for their loyal and liberal support of the college in this campaign.

In view of the fact that a campaign for \$800,000.00, to match a gift of \$200,000.00 from the General Education Board had been successfully completed in 1946-48 for Hendrix College, it is all the more remarkable that so soon another substantial financial program for Hendrix could be carried to such a happy climax in 1954.

The success of this campaign is evidence of the remarkable cooperation of the whole Methodist leadership in Arkansas; the Bishop, District Superintendents, pastors and leading laymen together with the leadership provided for the campaign by the Board of Trustees of the College and the staff of the college.

The results of the campaign give further evidence of Arkansas Methodism's high appreciation of Hendrix College. Regardless of Arkansas' vigorous, enthusiastic, capable, church leadership we believe it is self-evident that it would not be possible for even such a leadership to raise by popular subscription within eight years \$1,100,000.00 in Arkansas for any church institution unless the rank and file of our people believe in the need for and value of that institution.

As a result of these two campaigns for Hendrix College we may be sure that the college is more widely known in every nook and corner of the state and more sincerely appreciated than at any time of its history. Because of the leadership being given the college by the present Board of Trustees and the college staff and because of the additional financial strength these campaigns have given the college, we believe also that Hendrix is in a position to give to the church the most effective service in its history.

We want to congratulate Hendrix College on this unusual achievement and to pledge the continued support of this publication to any program that promises to increase the usefulness of the college.

## Circulation Campaign Just Ahead

**T**HIS year for the 14th time in Arkansas and the 4th time in Louisiana the energy and time of Methodism in these two states will be centered for one week on the work of securing subscriptions to the two official publications of the area, the **Arkansas Methodist** and **The Louisiana Methodist**. The week, January 9-16 has been fixed in the calendar of the three conferences of the Area as **Arkansas Methodist-The Louisiana Methodist Circulation Campaign Week**, and during this time the leadership of the districts and local churches will be concentrating on securing renewal of present subscriptions and adding new subscriptions to these publications. This plan of circulation has had unusual success resulting in the present high level of circulation. As far as we know, this plan of circulation is unique among Methodist publications.

Several factors have accounted for the great success of the annual circulation endeavor. First, the plan has the unqualified support of the leadership of the church. Bishop Martin, the 22 District Superintendents, 22 District Directors, and more than 600 pastors cooperate in a great team effort. Secondly, each of the pastoral charges in the Area devote the same week each year to the task, thereby avoiding the confusion and uncertainty of finding other times in the church calendar for circulation campaigns. Again, the knowledge that all other churches are working at the same time on the circulation campaign is an added incentive to complete the program as other churches do. Again, the fact

that the churches of the Area are working together on the same program at the same time makes possible a system of reporting campaign results that shows the progress of the campaign. Finally, experience has shown that in circulation campaigns definite goals for each church and district are a decided help, especially when those goals are reachable with anything like a reasonable amount of effort.

The lifeblood of publications like the **Arkansas Methodist** and **The Louisiana Methodist** is circulation. Healthy circulation means healthy financial condition. The stronger the subscription list the greater the amount of service the publication can render, both in the number of people reached and in the quality of materials that can be printed. Indeed, the value of any church publication lies largely in the number of readers it has.

Your staff has worked hard to keep the quality of these publications on a level that will merit the continued loyal support of Arkansas-Louisiana Methodism. We believe that these publications are meeting a real need in the life of Methodism in this Area. We have faith that the leadership of the churches of the Area will continue to undergird the program of these publications with the same efficient cooperation that has characterized previous circulation campaigns, endeavors which have resulted in the present record list of more than 34,000 subscribers in the two states.

January 9-16 is Area-Wide Simultaneous Circulation Campaign Week. The first published report will be in the issue of January 27 and will include all reports received through January 22. Cooperate with your pastor, your District Director, your District Superintendent and your staff in making this the most successful of all circulation campaigns.

## Warren Johnston

**M**ETHODISM in these two states was saddened recently by the tragic passing of one of its great leaders, Dr. Warren Johnston, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Baton Rouge. A great preacher, teacher, pastor, administrator, churchman, Dr. Johnston contributed generously of his life and talents to his calling and brought honor to his church, each cause he espoused, and most of all to God and Christ to whom he was thoroughly committed.

A native of Arkansas and the son of a distinguished Methodist preacher and his wife, Dr. Johnston was the product of the influence and environment of The Methodist Church. He received his training in Methodist schools, Hendrix College and Southern Methodist University, and had the earlier half of his ministry in the North Arkansas Conference. Following that, he served with remarkable distinction First Methodist Church, Little Rock, First Methodist Church, Fort Worth, and was in his third year at First Church, Baton Rouge, when he met his untimely death.

For the young minister, Dr. Johnston represented something of the ideal of the ministry. Always faithful to his calling, a man of unquestioned integrity, good judgement and high purpose, Dr. Johnston was frequently sought out by his younger brethren who had great confidence in his advice and counsel.

Dr. Johnston's sermons were heard with great appreciation. They were scholarly in content, practical in their helpfulness, and delivered in a manner that warmed the heart of the worshipper. Dr. Johnston was a great pastor. He loved his people and in return was loved by them.

We are confident that we express the sincere feeling of Methodism in these two states as we convey to Dr. Johnston's family, his Baton Rouge congregation and his many friends everywhere, sympathy, love and understanding, and thank God for men of God like Warren Johnston.

## PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES

W. A. Wilde Company Publishers,  
Boston, Massachusetts, \$2.75

Peloubet's Select Notes on the International Sunday School Lessons is one of the old-

## The Layman's Column

By  
Charles A. Stuck  
Lay Leader  
North Arkansas Conference



### CALLING ALL LAY SPEAKERS!

Lay preaching is almost as old as Methodism itself. It was less than ten years after Mr. Wesley had the experience of true conversion that Thomas Maxfield, a layman, undertook to preach at the Foundry chapel in London. At first this lay "invasion" of the rights of ordained ministers was strongly opposed by Mr. Wesley. But it was only a short time before he came to realize the tremendous blessing which could be derived by the hearers as well as by the preaching laymen from this new and quite unusual manner of holding services.

Lay preaching has been an effective arm of British Methodism for over two hundred years. When the writer made a study of Lay Preaching in England nearly two years ago, he found that 7 out of 10 pulpits are filled even today by consecrated laymen. When Methodism jumped the Atlantic after the middle of the eighteenth century, laymen held many services and assisted in planting Methodism in America.

During the past half-century, Methodism has not used this very valuable instrument of God's power. But the growing needs of many churches have brought before us the very great need of using resources hitherto unused, so laymen were called again into this work of acting as assistants to the pastors in charge. It remained, however, for the North Arkansas Conference to do a great deal of pilot work in this field. Active groups of lay speakers or preachers were formed in the hill countries over ten years ago. Others came into being as it became known how great a blessing can be received by men who will accept this responsibility.

The work has progressed so fast within the past two years that men are filling rural pulpits regularly all over Arkansas and Louisiana and finding new joys in serving God in this manner. It is estimated that well over 100 pulpits are filled once each month by lay teams in the North Arkansas Conference. But this writer wishes to have information on the work being done in the Little Rock and Louisiana Conferences. Therefore, if you are a layman, preaching once or more a month in a rural church anywhere in Arkansas or Louisiana, will you please write

Charles A. Stuck  
215 Union Street  
Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Please tell the name of the church you are serving, the pastor in charge, and some of your experiences. We would like to hear from you.

est teachers' helps in this field of literature. The 1955 edition is the 81st volume of these helps. These helps are edited by Dr. Wilbur M. Smith, who was for 10 years on the faculty of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, and is now Professor of English Bible at Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California. He is a conservative in his interpretation of the Bible. He has edited Peloubet's Select Notes for the past 20 years.

In his helps Dr. Smith sticks very close to the Bible. He not only gives his own interpretation of the Scriptures used in the lessons, but also profusely uses the interpretations of many other Bible scholars both of the present and the past. At the beginning of each lesson Dr. Smith sets forth a complete outline of the lesson, which may be used by teachers if they so desire, or if they prefer making their own outline this one will help them in so doing. Another helpful feature is the fact that the time and places of the happenings of the various events set forth in the materials of the lessons are given at the beginning of each lesson.—H. O. Bolin





# ANNUAL SIMULTANEOUS

January 9th Through January 16th, 1955

## Campaign In Local Church

1. Solicit every Methodist Home for a new subscription or renewal for your church paper during the week of Circulation Campaign.
2. Make a report on Monday, Jan. 17th, to your District Superintendent and to the office of publication in Little Rock, of the results of the Campaign.
3. Any necessary follow-up work may be reported as soon as complete.

## Watch Reports Of Campaign

Watch your issue of the paper of January 27th for a full report by Districts and by Charges of the results of the Circulation Campaign as received the week of January 16th through January 22nd.

To the Ministers and Members of The Methodist Church in the Arkansas-Louisiana Area:

Dear Friends:  
January 9-16, 1955 is a week of great importance to the Arkansas-Louisiana Area. The success of the Church will be determined in a large measure by our response to the annual campaign for the ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA METHODIST.

The METHODIST should be in the home of every family of our Area. Our people respond when the Church is given a proper presentation. Such a presentation is made in an interesting and compelling manner by the ARKANSAS METHODIST. THE LOUISIANA METHODIST.

I trust the period of January 9-16 will be given enthusiastically to the annual campaign for subscription. Cordially yours,

*Paul E. ...*

## NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE



Maurice Lanier

### BATESVILLE DISTRICT

R. E. Connell  
District Superintendent

God calls us and every person to do some important work. In the ARKANSAS METHODIST we have a wonderful mine of church information and the inspiring columns of Sockman, Stuck, Reid and Teeter, and the timely editorials, and fine Sunday School lessons, which help us to fulfill our calling as we serve in our church. —W. Maurice Lanier

### CONWAY DISTRICT

R. E. L. Bearden  
District Superintendent

The responsibility of laymen is becoming more and more recognized in Methodism. For information and inspiration leading to effective work, no means available will substitute for the church paper, the ARKANSAS METHODIST.—Irl Bridenthal



Glenn Bruner

### FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT

Roy I. Bagley  
District Superintendent

The continued growth of the Arkansas Methodist over the past several years has been possible only because the paper has a message for every Methodist home. The weekly news of the Church and the inspiring messages it brings answer a need in every home which cannot be met in any other way. No Methodist home can afford to be without its church paper.—Glenn Bruner

### FORREST CITY DISTRICT

Otto W. Teague  
District Superintendent

I was raised on the ARKANSAS METHODIST; all my life it has made weekly visits to my home. It would mean much to Methodism if we could put it into every Methodist home. It keeps you informed as to what our church is doing in other communities. I can't think of carrying on the work of our church without it.—Garland C. Taylor



Guy B. Ames

### FT. SMITH DISTRICT

W. Henry Goodloe  
District Superintendent

For the interested and well informed Methodist the official publication, the ARKANSAS METHODIST is a must.—G. B. Ames

### JONESBORO DISTRICT

E. J. Holifield  
District Superintendent

In light of the fact that we have so many kinds of secular literature entering our homes every day, surely, every Christian home will want at least one piece of Christian literature each week. This unbalanced supply of reading material is partly responsible for the unwholesome attitudes which hinder the program of our Lord. Therefore, I feel that the ARKANSAS METHODIST is a MUST for every serious minded Methodist home in Arkansas.—W. O. Scroggin, Jr.



S. B. Wilford

### PARAGOULD DISTRICT

J. Albert Gatlin  
District Superintendent

The ARKANSAS METHODIST is a must for all Methodist families in Arkansas. It is the best source of information on the activities of Methodism in the state.—S. B. Wilford

### SEARCY DISTRICT

E. G. Kaetzell  
District Superintendent

As a guide for religious instruction; as a messenger to carry the current church program and news; the Methodist minister finds in the ARKANSAS METHODIST an invaluable servant for himself and his people who read this paper. The lay men and women are pleased when they find themselves well informed concerning any given program of the church which their minister presents. The minister thus finds his own ministry made more effective in the lives of his people and in the promoting of the program of the church.—O. D. Peters

Subscription Quota ..... 1003

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Alfred DeBlack

## LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE

### ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT

J. M. Hamilton  
District Superintendent

The ARKANSAS METHODIST keeps us informed of our own local Churches, but of Methodism in other parts of the world. It gives us a chance to give the paper and those who make it possible.

### CAMDEN DISTRICT

Connor Morehead  
District Superintendent

The ARKANSAS METHODIST, in my opinion, is the best thing that has ever happened to the unity of purpose in the Episcopal area. It carries through to success the work of the Church. I contribute greatly to our way of life, but I do not believe this to be true, the office of the ARKANSAS METHODIST should be decided to send the ARKANSAS METHODIST to Simpson.

### HOPE DISTRICT

E. Clifton Rule  
District Superintendent

An informed Christian is a better Christian. The ARKANSAS METHODIST furnishes information, but inspiration is a little money. Our Conference paper is Golden.

### LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT

F. A. Buddin  
District Superintendent

To me, the ARKANSAS METHODIST is the best thing that has ever happened to our great State.—Guy C. Ames

### MONTICELLO DISTRICT

Cecil Culver  
District Superintendent

A good layman once said to me, "If the Methodist Church is trying to do, why get it done they would be better Christians." I believe, the ARKANSAS METHODIST is, I believe, the best thing that each issue carries an inspiration about the program items current for the for our benefit, and should be a star home.—R. A. Teeter

### PINE BLUFF DISTRICT

Arthur Terry  
District Superintendent

The ARKANSAS METHODIST sells its lessons alone are worth the price of the greatest asset to the program of the Stephens



Irl Bridenthal



Garland C. Taylor



W. D. Golden



W. O. Scroggin, Jr.



R. A. Teeter



O. D. Peters

THE ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA AREA GIVES ONE WEEK



# AREA UNITES IN CIRCULATION CAMPAIGN

## With Goal Of 35,000 Subscribers!



BISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN

### The Subscription Price \$2.00

The subscription price remains at \$2.00. However, where the Official Board of a church enters into a contract with the Editors to send the paper into, as a minimum, the homes of every contributing family of a church, the price is \$1.50 per subscription.

There are no comparable publications in Methodism which sell for less than \$2.00 and most of them sell for more.

### The Quota And The Goal

The Charge or District has reached its authorized QUOTA when in the Charge or District new subscribers, plus renewals, plus subscriptions not due equal one subscription for each nine active members in the Charge or District.

The Subscription Goal is 35,000 subscribers. Help us reach the goal.

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not only as to the progress of our ... We should count it a privilege ... our best support.—Alfred DeBlack

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is indispensable, if we are to have ... information and inspiration to ... church. Radio and television ... not take the place of the printed ... in the Fairview Methodist Church ... every family in the church.—James

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W. D. Golden  
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ARKANSAS METHODIST not only ... where else can so much be had for ... in every Methodist home.—W. D.

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Guy C. Ames  
District Director

a must in every Methodist home in

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A. A. Teeter  
District Director

we would learn more about what the ... to do it, and how we propose to ... churchmen." Reading the ARKAN- ... road to this desirable goal. I have ... ual message and needed information ... ular time. It is our paper, produced ... ce of literature in every Methodist

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Bryan Stephens  
District Director

ny have said that the Sunday School ... er. An informed membership is the ... to the work of the pastor.—Bryan



W. D. Boddie



James A. Simpson



C. W. Bennett



Guy C. Ames



Floyd Durham



Bryan Stephens



Henry C. Blount, Jr.

### LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

#### ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

A. W. Townsend, Jr.  
District Superintendent

A Methodist home needs the information, inspiration and contact with its church which THE LOUISIANA METHODIST provides.—W. D. Boddie

#### BATON ROUGE DISTRICT

Edward W. Harris  
District Superintendent

We ministers can be extremely grateful for THE LOUISIANA METHODIST which does such a magnificent job of presenting our people with the program of the church, plus important news of the Conference, Area and Jurisdiction. A fine service at a very nominal cost.—Marvin H. Corley

#### LAFAYETTE DISTRICT

R. R. Branton  
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THE LOUISIANA METHODIST . . . A splendid Christian weekly that informs, inspires, and instructs. Superbly presented without bias or prejudice, exemplifying candor. The reader will be drawn to a richer and keener appreciation of the Church. Pastors and Official Boards should encourage the every-family subscription plan.—C. W. Bennett

#### LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Karl Tooke  
District Superintendent

THE LOUISIANA METHODIST will help to deepen the spiritual life of our people. Let's see to it that every family gets this paper.—Jack Cooke

#### MONROE DISTRICT

James T. Harris  
District Superintendent

I know of nothing for anywhere near a like amount of money that will do as much for our Church, the minister, the family, or the individual Methodist, as will a subscription to THE LOUISIANA METHODIST. What else can you get that will come to you every week of the year with all that our paper does about your Church, its program, and its people for \$2.00? We need our paper. Let's have it in every family.—Floyd Durham

#### NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT

Virgil D. Morris  
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I really believe that every Methodist home which receives THE LOUISIANA METHODIST will be a better home, and that a church which encourages its families to subscribe is doing itself a favor.—A. B. Cavanaugh

#### RUSTON DISTRICT

George W. Pomeroy  
District Superintendent

Every Methodist in Louisiana should receive THE LOUISIANA METHODIST, not only because it is the official publication of the church, but also because of its high standards and valuable service to its readers.—Henry Blount

#### SHREVEPORT DISTRICT

B. C. Taylor  
District Superintendent

Every Methodist family desiring to keep informed about his own church and the World Christian Movement should subscribe for and read THE LOUISIANA METHODIST. Rich in news of local interest, it is also timely in its presentation of Christian world facts. If you would be a better Methodist Christian, informed about our church program, enter your subscription now.—George W. Harbuck

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## ITS CHURCH PAPERS . . . JAN. 9 Through JAN. 16, 1955



# THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



## A TIME FOR ALL THINGS

**L**ITTLE John was sick. John was always sick on Monday morning. His mother called it Mondayache, and was not as sympathetic as John would have liked for her to be.

On Saturday John could sleep as late as he pleased. And even on Sunday he could sleep late because Sunday school did not begin as early as day school, and Sunday school teacher never punished the pupils for tardiness. John like to go to Sunday school but he was never there on time. It was so hard to get up on Sunday.

But Monday was the hardest day of all, and John was always feeling bad and quite cross. This day he was more unhappy than usual, so much so that the jolly ride on the bus to school and the frolic with friends he had not seen since Friday did not have the usual cheering effect. Right into the classroom went John's grouch, and it was not long before Miss Lane saw the frown on John's face and like a good teacher, wanted to help.

"What's the matter, John?" she asked sweetly.

"Always on time," growled John. "Everybody's always wanting to do everything on time. I'm tired of always having to be on time."

Now Miss Lane was a very wise teacher. Maybe she remembered when she was a little girl and grown-ups were always making her be on time. Or maybe she sometime still wished she could be late to school on a dark Monday morning. So she smiled, "Was school too early for you this morning, John?" "Yes," John answered, "and when I grow up, I'm going to do just as I please."

"How would you like to start doing just as you please tomorrow?" Miss Lane asked.

The idea brought a happy uproar from the whole class. It seemed that John was not the only one who objected to 8:30 classes on Monday.

So it was decided that on the next day everyone would do just as he pleased about coming to school. And each child hurried happily home that afternoon with a note from the teacher explaining to the parents that for one day all schedules should be subject to the wishes of the pupil.

The next morning when John's mother called him, he answered sleepily, "I'm not going to school until noon today."

"But what about the bus? Will it wait for you, or are you going to walk to school?"

John had not thought about the bus. The school was too far away for him to walk.

"I just won't go today," John thought. Then he began to wonder what the other boys and girls were going to do. And suddenly he wanted so very much to know what Jim and Tom and Helen and Joe were doing about it that he jumped out of bed, threw on his clothes, and would hardly eat his breakfast so afraid was he that he might miss the bus.

"Don't hurry. You have plenty of time," his mother urged, but John

was at the crossroads five minutes before time for the bus.

But the bus was late. John threw pebbles against the bus shed, happy in the knowledge that it did not matter whether the old bus was on time or not. After a while he grew tired of throwing stones. He thought of going back home, but the bus might come and he would miss it. On the ground he marked off a hop scotch, but it was not much fun playing by himself. Gradually he got angry. The bus driver had no right to keep him waiting.

"Bus drivers ought to be on time," he told the driver when he finally came.

But the driver was angry too. The others had scolded him for being late. "Whose idea was this about going to school when we please?" the driver growled.

Miss Lane had on her prettiest dress when they got to school. The Roberts twins, whose father brought them to school as he went to work, and Bobby and Ann were having their spelling lesson. John had always used the study period to get his spelling, but that was past, so he missed most of his words. His arithmetic was not much better. He would not make the honor roll for the month at this rate.

The big clock on the wall back of the teacher's desk pointed to twelve, and John sighed with relief. Tuesday was ice cream day, and John was hungry.

"The cafeteria will not open until one today," Miss Lane said, picking up her reading book. "Bus number three was late bringing our cooks. So we'll have our reading

lesson now. John, will read first?" The smile on her face, John thought as he arose to read, was not a sweet one.

And the cartoons that Jim Reed drew in drawing class that afternoon were not funny either, though most of the boys and girls thought so. No one named the lazy boy in the pictures, but John knew who he was.

John was glad when school was out. Uncle Henry was coming to his house that afternoon, and Uncle Henry would understand why boys did not like always to be on time. John was the first one to the bus. But the bus drivers were having a ball game, and Miss Lane did not hurry them off as she usually did.

When John reached home, he found that Uncle Henry had gone. "He could not wait, but he left this for you," his mother said as she handed John a box.

Inside was a wrist watch. John put it on proudly. "Does it keep good time, Mother?"

"Does correct time matter to you?" she asked.

John threw back his shoulders as he grinned, "You won't have to call me in the morning, Mother. I'll be on time."—Ex.

Small Walter was strolling down the street with his smaller niece when a neighbor stopped to comment on the little girl's growth.

"Can she talk yet?" asked the neighbor.

"No," admitted Walter. "She has her teeth, but her words haven't come in yet." — Philnews, hm, Phillips Petroleum Corp'n.

## FEEDING THE BIRDS

"Oh, goody," cried a little bird  
Who found some grains of wheat,  
"On such a day I didn't think  
I'd find a thing to eat!"

"For snow lies deep upon the  
ground  
And limbs are glazed with ice.  
To find a meal spread out for me  
Is wonderfully nice."

Now other birds flew down and  
soon  
They'd eaten everything.  
Then up into the tree they went  
Where each began to sing.

And Bob and Betty, watching them  
Beside the window, heard  
And were so glad they'd spread the  
wheat  
For every hungry bird.

—Mrs. Myrtle G. Burger, in  
Our Dumb Animals

## JUST FOR FUN

Professor: "This examination will be conducted on the honor system. Please take seats three apart and in alternate rows."

A theological student was sent one Sunday to supply a vacant pulpit in a certain town. Later he received a copy of the weekly paper from the town in which this item appeared: "Rev. So-and-so of the senior class of Yale Seminary supplied the pulpit at the Congregational Church last Sunday, and the church will now be closed three weeks for repairs."

Jimmy needed a playmate. Grandpa said if Jimmy would stop crying, he would play Indians with him.

Jimmy sobbed even harder, "B-b-but it won't be any fun. You're already scalped."

A lovesick youth sent his best girl an orchid. The card read: "With all my love and most of my money."

Oscar: "I see your daughter got a prize at business school for dictation."

Jack: "Yes, that kid gets more like her mother every day."

"That's a nice billfold your wife gave you for Christmas. Was there anything in it?"

"Yes, the bill for the billfold."

A teacher, who was giving the children written exercises, wrote out this "Wanted" advertisement: "Wanted — A Milliner. Apply by letter to Miss Smith, 10 Blank Street."

The children had to make application for the position in writing. One youngster wrote:

"Dear Miss Smith—I saw you want a milliner. I hate to trim hats. Can't you get somebody else? Please let me know at once. Edith Brown."—Community Tidings, Pelham, N. Y.



## A WISH FOR YOU

A brand new year has just begun  
With bells and shouts and lots of fun.

The old year left with steps so slow,  
It made us sad to see him go.

But to this New Year we extend  
A welcome warm as a new friend.

And to our friends, both large and small  
We wish a happy year to all.—A.E.W.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT COLLEGE HILL**

The annual Christmas program, under the direction of Mrs. Weldon Smith, was presented by the Children's Departments of the College Hill Methodist Church, Texarkana, in the church auditorium to a large group of parents and guests.

An invocation was given by the pastor, Rev. Howard L. Williams of the College Hill Methodist Church, Texarkana.

The Kindergarten group sang, "Jesus' Birthday", "Away in a Manger" and "Jesus, Baby Jesus".

The Primary Department sang "In Old Bethlehem" and "Silent Night."

The program was concluded by a play entitled "Jesus' Tenth Birthday," presented by the Junior Department.

Santa Claus entered while the group sang "Jingle Bells", and each child was presented with a gift and a bag of fruit and nuts from the beautifully decorated Christmas tree.—Mrs. Ben F. Hunter

**COURSES FOR CHURCH WORKERS**

*Courses for Church Workers* is just off the press. This is a free leaflet that has been published annually for many years by the Department of Leadership Education of the General Board of Education.

It contains a list of the courses offered by the department, together with their corresponding textbooks.

The booklet gives a bird's-eye view of the whole leadership education enterprise as carried on by the Board of Education. The courses listed may be used in three ways: In individual study, informal group study, and in Christian workers' schools.

There are two series of courses. First Series courses are intended primarily for persons who are just beginning to serve as leaders. The Second Series are somewhat longer and more adequate.

Six groups of courses are offered for both First and Second Series. They are general courses, courses for workers in the three age-group divisions, leadership development courses and administration courses.

"Any pastor has the opportunity to multiply his own power by helping lay workers prepare for better service," said the Rev. M. Earl Cunningham, director of the Leadership Education Department. "This opportunity the Board of Education offers through the courses for church workers listed in the booklet."

Order *Courses for Church Workers—1955* (700-B), free from your conference executive secretary or from the Service Department, Board of Education, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee.

Reason has undoubtedly an important function, but the world today does not need more reason, but an understanding and reconciliation and healing. There is no healing in reason, but there is in love and understanding. . . Peace and healing can be brought to a troubled world by bringing understanding. We will have harmony and healing when we admit that religion is the hope of the world. — Leslie D. Weatherhead.

JANUARY 6, 1955

**CHURCH'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR RECRUITING LEADERS**

Here's something to think about!

At this time of world crisis the Methodist Church has a special responsibility for recruiting choice young men and women for leadership in the church and its agencies.

*The need is great.*

As an example—While 1250 new ministers are needed each year only 1027 entered the Methodist ministry on trial in 1953.

Specifically, during the next four years it is estimated that the Methodist Church will need an additional—

- 6,000 ministers
- 12,000 doctors, nurses, technicians, social workers
- 1,600 in mission service—at home and abroad
- 1,600 Christian educators (directors of Christian education, employed workers in conference boards of education, etc.)

*Now is the time to enlist volunteers for these vocations.* Persons responsible for helping youth and young adults to choose a church vocation are: pastors, teachers, counselors, leaders of youth and student groups, leaders of young adult groups, vocations committees, personnel secretaries.

To help these folks in carrying out their responsibilities, the Interboard Committee on Christian Vocations has for distribution a packet of materials consisting of sample copies of leaflets and booklets describing the many and varied vocational opportunities in the Methodist Church.

Write to the Interboard Committee on Christian Vocations, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee, for *Vocations Packet*. The price is 25 cents. Cash must accompany order.

Also available from the Committee is a booklet *Methodist Service Projects—1955*. Price, 10 cents each; \$8.00 per hundred.

**COLLEGE STUDENTS HONORED**

College students were honored at a special service at the Pine Grove Methodist Church, Sunday, December 6th. Six young people from the three churches of the Pine Grove Charge participated in the service.

Four of the students formed a panel to discuss the topics: "The Importance of Religion on the College Campus", "The Place of Religion at a State University", "The Place of Religion at a Church College" and "What the Church Should Do To Prepare Us For College Life."

The students discussing these themes were: Miss Jean Pevy, member of Killian Chapel and freshman at Southeastern La. College, Hammond; Robert Larry Young, freshman at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and member of the church at Pine Grove; Miss Barbara Meades, a member at Pine Grove and a sophomore at Centenary College, Shreveport, La.; and Miss Kathryn Crouch, a member at the Montpelier church and freshman at Southeastern La. College.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilary Watson, Jr., seniors at Southeastern Louisiana College and members of the Montpelier Church also participated in the service.—J. P. Woodland

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

The Wesleyan Service Guild of the Brinkley Church met in the home of Mrs. Harry Hurst for its December meeting, with Mrs. Dan Baldwin and Mrs. Gordon Midkiff as co-hostesses. The president, Mrs. H. L. Swan, conducted the business session. Mrs. McCreight had the devotional. Program leader was Mrs. Edgar Henderson. Mrs. Julian Vogel, Conference Guild Secretary and Mrs. D. A. Dullas, both of West Memphis, were special guests.

The Maxie Woman's Society completed its study "Jesus' Teachings Concerning Women" in a series of five successive Thursday night meetings, with Rev. Raymond Pierson, pastor, as instructor. Especially effective in the study were the many posters featuring colored prints of women of the Bible and life and of Jesus, made by Mrs. Day Farley. Each accredited member gave a character sketch of a woman in the Bible, with worship service, and a short book review of "Seven Steeples" by Mrs. P. D. Lambert. As an outgrowth, Fellowship of Intercession cards and Prayer Calendars were to be used by those taking the course.

The members presented Rev. Pierson a copy of "The Big Fishermen" in appreciation of his leadership.

The Stanford Woman's Society met at the home of Mrs. Lester Groon December 16, after presenting its annual Christmas program at the County Farm.

Mrs. Aubrey Beasley was elected reporter. The group sang Christmas carols and Mrs. Gregory read the scripture, and Mrs. B. A. Robb told the Christmas story. Other talks were made by Mrs. Raymond Hunt, and Mrs. Lester Groon. Gifts were exchanged by the eleven members and one guest present.

Suchart Ratanakul, a young government exchange student from Bangkok, Thailand, was guest speaker at the concluding meeting of the New Iberia mission study on "India Pakistan and Ceylon." Miss Ratanakul is studying mathematics at South Louisiana Institute in Lafayette.

The study group was entertained by Mrs. W. R. Wendt in the parsonage, with Mrs. A. C. Lasalle and Mrs. Forrest Burgess as co-hostesses. Twenty-six members were present.

At the close of the meeting, Miss Ratanakul was presented an identification bracelet as a remembrance of her visit in New Iberia.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of Wesley Methodist Church, Conway, held its Christmas meeting at the home of Mrs. Carr Rosamond, on Monday afternoon, December 20.

Mrs. A. H. Langford, president, presided at the business meeting, and the meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. F. D. Rhode, a past president.

Mrs. Clifford Darling, Secretary of Supply Work, reported a box of gifts valued at \$20.14 was sent to the Navajo Indian Mission at Farmington, New Mexico, for the Christmas project. She also displayed a Japanese Christmas card received from the Women's Welfare Service, and organization which sponsors

the providing of employment for women in Japan, mostly war widows, by promoting the sending of worn out nylon hose to Japan, where the threads are unraveled and re woven into useful garments and articles. The Night Circle of the W.S.C.S. had sponsored this project last year.

Preceding the program, Mrs. Fincus Blevins led a hidden youth choir in singing of Christmas carols. Mrs. Blevins also read the Christmas Story from Luke. Mrs. R. L. Holloway, Vice President, Mrs. Harold Wilson and Mrs. Mae G. Jones gave the program using the beautifully written material in the W.S.C.S. Program Book.

Following the program, a social hour was enjoyed, during which gifts were exchanged and refreshments served. Mrs. C. D. Wilson and Mrs. F. D. Rhode were guests.

**DEACONESS TO BE COMMISSIONED**

Miss Ruby Hudgins will be one of the 16 women commissioned as a deaconess under the Woman's Division of Christian Service of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church at its annual meeting on January 12, at Cincinnati, Ohio. All of the General Boards of the Church will be meeting together, and this service will be one of the highlights of the meeting.

Miss Hudgins taught at Des Arc until deciding several years ago to do full time work under the Woman's Division; she graduated from Scarritt College, Nashville, Tennessee, last year.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET**

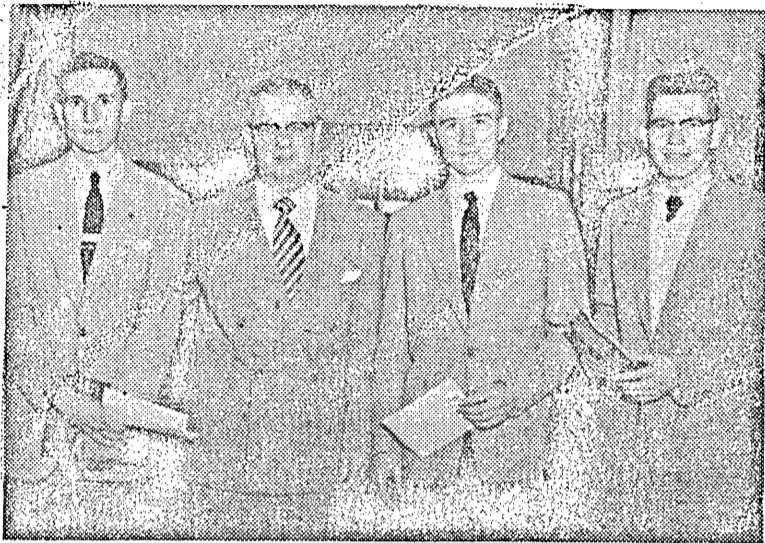
The Administrative Committee of the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service will hold its annual mid-winter meeting on Wednesday, January 19, at 10 a. m. at the Pulaski Heights Methodist Church, Little Rock.

Mrs. J. R. Henderson, president, announces that the following members of the Committee will attend: Mrs. Erik F. Jensen, vice-president, Stuttgart; Mrs. Howard East, Camden, Secretary; Mrs. R. H. Cole, Magnolia, Promotion; Mrs. C. I. Parsons, Texarkana, Treasurer; Mrs. George Meyer, Little Rock, Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities; Mrs. R. B. Thomas, Little Rock, Wesleyan Service Guild Secretary; and Mrs. T. S. Lovett, Grady, Past-President.

Mrs. Agnes Nilson Howard, has been named by the Norwegian Methodist Church as its first woman elder. She is the wife of the Rev. Henry G. Howard, of Western India Mission of the Presbyterian Church in the USA. Mr. and Mrs. Howard have been evangelistic missionaries in the Islampur and Kodoli areas since 1941. They assisted in the establishment of "Spiritual Life Center" at Nasrapur, near Poona, a place where national and international Christian gatherings are held. Mrs. Howard was for nine years a missionary of the Methodist Church from Norway, in the Punjab, India, before her marriage in 1941 to Mr. Howard. She studied in Norway and at Theological Seminary of Gothenburg, Sweden, and has an M. A. degree from Drew University, Madison, N. J.

# CURRENT NEWS IN ARKANSAS METHODISM

## FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT CONFERENCE MEETS AT CENTERTON



The Fayetteville District Conference was held at the Centerton Church December 10, with Rev. Kenneth Hatfield and people as host. Rev. Elmer H. Hook of Fayetteville gave the opening devotional and Rev. Otto W. Teague, superintendent of the Forrest City District, preached the sermon at 11:30 A. M.

The conference was organized on the commission basis with Rev. Arnold Simpson, Rev. Sam Auslam and Mrs. John Bayliss heading the commission on education; Rev. A. J. Christie and Mrs. R. K. Bent were co-chairmen of the commission on missions; Rev. John Bayliss was chairman of the commission on Evangelism; and Rev. Hubert Pearce was chairman of the commission on Finance.

The conference was conducted by the superintendent, Rev. Roy Bagley, in a very high and spiritual manner. Among the high spiritual experiences of the day was the licensing of four young men to the ministry, one of whom was Ronnie Bagley, son of the district super-

intendent and Mrs. Bagley. The others were Charles Richard Fenno and Larry Dodgen of Siloam Springs, and Roy Stubblefield of Fayetteville and a member of the Wiggins congregation.

On December 20, Dr. and Mrs. Roy I. Bagley were host and hostess to the pastor and wives of the district, superannuates, and widows of ministers at the district parsonage at a Christmas turkey dinner. Approximately seventy persons were present.

Rev. L. L. Langston, pastor of St. Paul—Madison Co. No. II—gave the prayer of thanksgiving.

Just as all present were served, Mrs. John Bayliss and Mrs. Thomas R. Whiddon called Dr. and Mrs. Bagley and presented them with a Samsonite pullman case as a Christmas present from the group.

Dr. Bagley announced that the ministers of the district would meet at Elm Springs, January 10 for an 8:00 o'clock breakfast to be followed by a business meeting—Thomas R. Whiddon

## THE ARKADELPHIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Arkadelphia District Conference convened in Oaklawn Methodist Church, Hot Springs, at 9:00 a. m. Tuesday, November 30, 1954, with Rev. J. M. Hamilton, District Superintendent, presiding.

Osborne White was elected secretary and Howard Cox, assistant secretary.

After the organization of the Conference, Dr. Aubrey G. Walton gave a Communion meditation which was followed with the observance of The Lord's Supper. Also Brother Walton brought the inspirational message just before the noon hour.

According to the pastor's report there have been 274 members received into the Churches since Annual Conference, 122 of this number were received on profession of faith and 152 by transfer.

One new Church has been organized, St. Andrew's, in Arkadelphia.

Connie Robins and W. H. Watson were recommended to the Annual Conference for Deacons Orders. Roy Bevan was recommended to the Annual Conference for Admission on Trial.

Miss Polly Lassiter, the District Worker, was presented to the Conference. Miss Lassiter assumed her duties as a worker in the Arkadelphia District last September. She gave a report on her work to date.

According to reports from the various District Workers, the work of the Church in the Arkadelphia District is moving along in a fine way in almost every respect. If the present trend continues this will be one of the truly great years for the Kingdom of God for The Methodist Church in the Arkadelphia District.

Rev. J. M. Hamilton has given excellent leadership, as District Superintendent, in every phase of work of the church. He has given both inspiration and enthusiasm to preachers and laymen alike. His great spirit was manifested throughout the Conference as it has been throughout the District.

When the Conference adjourned in the afternoon everyone present felt that it had been a truly great gathering in the Name of the Lord.

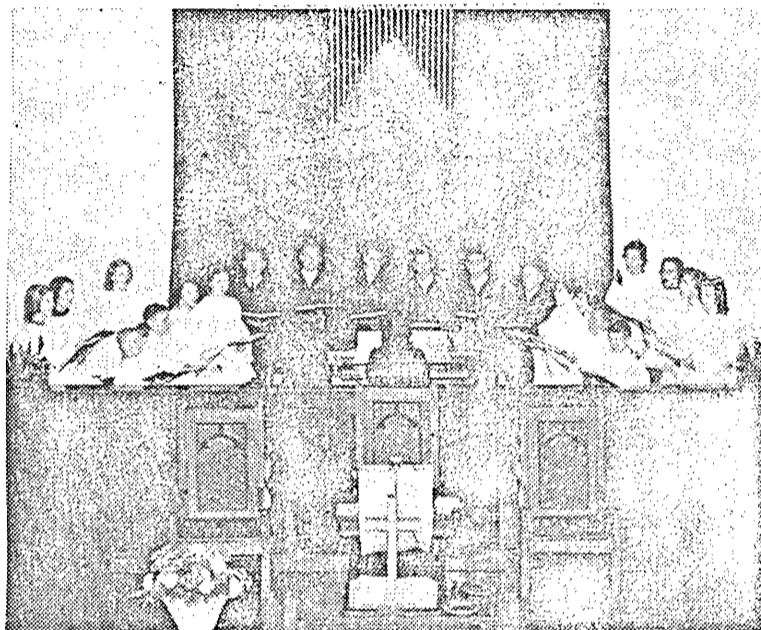
The Conference voted to have its next regular session in the Keith

## YOUTH CHOIR AT CARLISLE METHODIST CHURCH

The youth of First Methodist Church, Carlisle, occupy an important place in the church and community. They constitute the choir for the evening service each Sunday, and many of the members are called on to use their talents on various programs in the community, and are always excused from school to sing at funerals which are held in the church. Some of the older youth do triple duty. They not only sing in the youth choir at evening but also sing in the adult choir at the morning services and play the piano for Sunday school and the evening service.

We have had an increase in the number of youth taking part in the activities of the church recently. MYF attendance has increased and better attention is being given to the worship program on Sunday and there has been greater emphasis on recreational activities in the week. We are proud of the youth of our church.

The picture below was taken at an unexpected hour and six or eight of the older members were not present. Seated at the organ is Miss Sue Etchieson, Minister of Music—Curtis Williams, Pastor.



Left side, front row (l to r), Homer Coffelt, Charles Best, Margie Franklin, Barbara Seaman; left side, back row (l to r) Marilyn Hutson, Judy Couch, Rosa Mae Coffelt; back row (l to r), Kirk Smith, Billy Yarnell, Robert Moery, Jack Percefull, Pat Clyburn, Oliver Dutton; right side, front row (r to l), Bobby Percefull, Dan Bettis, Artelia Hicks, Vera Sue Stuart; right side, back row (r to l), Carol Buckley, Penny Hicks, Delores Coffelt, Lonnie Warneke.

## ARKANSAS DELEGATES ATTEND CONFERENCE ON MINISTRY

The Methodist Church's thirty-third Conference on the Ministry was held on December 28-30 in Kansas City, Mo. Two hundred delegates attended the meeting.

The group met at the National College for Christian Workers with President Lewis B. Carpenter as host.

Directing the conference were Dr. J. Richard Spann and Rev. Gerald O. McCulloh, staff members of the Methodist Board of Education, Nashville, Tenn.

The meeting is sponsored every two years by the educational board, Dr. Spann said, "in order that the conference officials may review the church's ministry, including standards, recruitment and training."

Attending from Arkansas were: Rev. Robert O. Beck, Gurdon, Registrar, Little Rock Conference Board of Ministerial Training; Rev. Lloyd M. Conyers, Batesville, Registrar of the North Arkansas Conference Board of Ministerial Train-

ing; Rev. Fred R. Harrison, Little Rock, chairman of the Little Rock Conference Board of Ministerial Training; Rev. L. D. Haynes, AM&N College, Pine Bluff, registrar for the Southwest Conference Board of Ministerial Training (Central Jurisdiction); Rev. J. H. Hoggard, St. Paul Church, Ft. Smith, chairman, North Arkansas Conference Board of Ministerial Training.

## SPECIAL SERVICES IN LEONARD PARISH

Three special parish-wide worship services were held this Christmas Season by the three churches of the Leonard Parish and a special offering was taken at each service for the Methodist Children's Home.

On December 12 a service of carols and candlelighting was held at the Five Oaks Church. Rev. Olla Anderson brought the message on "Children and Christmas". On December 18 the Youth Fellowship presented the Christmas story in costume at the Simmon's Chapel Church with Jimmie Stallings as the Reader; and on December 19 another carol and candlelighting service was held at the Macedonia (Continued on page 13)

Memorial Methodist Church in Malvern.—Osborne White

# I Saw

An Old  
Calendar



By  
Rev. R. A. Teeter

hanging on the wall,—a commonplace thing which everyone sees. But it doesn't have a commonplace meaning. It is a figure of life. The numbers on it represent segments of time, and time is the essence of living. That old calendar says that a year of living, of one sort or another, has been done. If it could talk what a speech that old calendar would make! This day would tell of some success, that one of failure. Here would be a week long story of faith and victory, and there a month long tale of doubt and fear. And there would be distressing paragraphs of sin and shame. For every man's calendar is marked according to his living. Each one of us will soon consign the old calendar to the waste basket. But none of us can throw away the marks left on us by the passage of time and the use we have made of it.

Really time is of the same quality with eternity, only it is cast for convenience into human terms, limited to the range of our sight and understanding. The old calendar goes out the window, but the thing that it represents does not. The product of that time—trash or good fruit, remains with us. It is a part of us.

Look thoughtfully at that new calendar that you have placed on your desk. It is more than a convenience for dating letters and making appointments. It is a sort of plan for day by day living that may add up to something big or come out with zero according to the use we make of it.

## METHODIST MEN'S CLUB AT WEINER ENTERTAINS

The Methodist Men's Club of Weiner held its monthly meeting on December 21st with thirty-five men in attendance. Weiner being located in a duck and deer hunting area, the program was made more interesting by representatives from the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

George Purvis and Jack Dyer from the Education Division of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission gave an educational program on the wild-life of Arkansas. Special emphasis was placed on deer and duck hunting throughout the state by the use of colored film of wild-life, filmed by Mr. Purvis within the state.

Conservation of wild-life through prevention of forest fires and proper hunting procedures was stressed. It was shown that forest fire causes material damage to the land owner and lack of hunting privileges for the hunter due to the loss of wild-life and its source of food. Everyone left the meeting feeling that a personal reward had been received by having the privilege to see pictures and hear the representatives speak of possible solutions to our wild-life problem.—Arvill C. Brannon, pastor

## Hendrix Endowment Campaign Report

### IN APPRECIATION

By DR. MATT L. ELLIS, President Hendrix College

Christmas, 1954, was a very happy time at Hendrix College, and we shall always remember it with gratitude to many friends. For on Wednesday, December 22, we could say that through a great cooperative effort Arkansas Methodists had reached the objective of the \$600,000 Endowment Campaign which was begun three years ago.

On December 6, 1951, we received this telegram:

"General Education Board appropriated \$300,000 toward development program. Official notification follows."

We had had some earlier communication with officers of this agency in New York and when the secretary's letter arrived we learned the purposes and the conditions of the grant: \$250,000 toward \$500,000 endowment and \$50,000 toward \$100,000 budget support for salaries of faculty and staff during the three years beginning January 1, 1952, payable as equal amounts were obtained by the college from other sources for the same purpose. It was further provided that the \$50,000 grants could be claimed in \$10,000 units and the endowment grant in \$50,000 units.

On January 15, 1952, a joint meeting of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Finance of the Board of Trustees was held at the college, appreciation of the liberal offer of the General Education Board was expressed and it was enthusiastically voted that the college must take advantage of it and raise the funds to match the appropriation during the time allowed. At this same meeting it was agreed that Dr. C. M. Reves, at that time superintendent of the Conway District of the North Arkansas Conference, should be asked to join the college staff and serve as leader in maintaining contact with Hendrix constituents. Dr. Reves was persuaded to undertake this work and it was agreed that he would continue to serve as superintendent of the Conway District until Conference the following June, giving such time to the college during the spring as the district work would allow. Bishop Paul E. Martin had said he would concur in this plan.

The work of promotion and cultivation was begun, and at the spring meeting of the Board on April 8 it was agreed that a com-

mittee of the Board should guide the campaign. Mr. Joe T. Thompson of Little Rock was named general chairman. On September 22, 1952, a great meeting was held at the college. Two hundred eighty-five persons, including Hendrix friends from every county in the state, attended the dinner in Hulen Hall that evening, at which Bishop Paul E. Martin and Dr. Marshall T. Steel, minister, Highland Park Church, Dallas, Texas, spoke. Mr. Thompson reported that members of the Board had personally subscribed more than \$44,000. (Trustee subscriptions finally totaled \$53,430 and the Hendrix faculty \$5,430). Friends attending the dinner went back to their homes and helped present the cause to their neighbors and friends. No quotas were assigned but in many places it was natural that comparison was made with the Million-Dollar program in 1946-48. Since more than \$800,000 was raised in that cooperative effort, it was now determined in many places that about 40 per cent of that amount would be a reasonable goal in the present undertaking. Some churches did substantially more than that for this cause.

The meeting in the fall of the first year was so effective it was decided that this plan should be continued. In October 1953, another great group gathered at the campus on the day of the fall meeting of the board, and this time Bishop William C. Martin of Dallas was the speaker. A distinguished alumnus of Hendrix, he visited the campus at a time when he was at the height of his leadership, being president of the Council of Bishops of The Methodist Church and also president of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. In October 1954, at a similar meeting, Mr. Eugene McElvaney, senior vice president, First National Bank of Dallas, was the speaker. These meetings have been so effective in developing close relations between Hendrix and the church that we hope to continue them.

In addition to these programs, the campaign has provided opportunity for many other emphases. Each year at Pastors School the Board of Managers has cooperated wonderfully in allowing us program time for presenting the college cause. At sessions of Annual Conferences and

at District Conferences we have been proud to report progress in this cooperative undertaking. Representatives from the campus and some trustees and alumni have appeared in many churches of the state. Sunday after Sunday, and also at dinner meetings of Methodist Men in many places. The Arkansas Methodist has given unfailing support to the whole program. Bishop Paul E. Martin, superintendents of the fourteen districts, many pastors and laymen have all assisted in making possible the happy report we make today.

Collections have been steady and friends have kept faith with the college on pledges in a wonderful way. At the end of the first year collections totaled \$93,009.61. On December 31, 1953, we could report \$203,015.52. The General Education Board has replied promptly when we have reported amounts in hand. On June 17, 1952, this agency sent us the first \$10,000. In 1953, two additional payments totaled \$120,000. And in 1954, we have qualified for \$170,000, the remainder of the appropriation. From the fourteen districts in Arkansas we had received on December 30 \$305,957.91. Other contributions not creditable through district reports have totaled \$18,009.21. This gives us a grand total on December 30 of \$623,967.12. Outstanding pledges on which friends are still working total about \$14,000.00. Checks are still arriving and we believe these promises will be fulfilled.

This has been a great experience for the college and for the church. As we come to the close of the campaign, which will be completed soon, we at Hendrix are keenly aware once again that our greatest assets are our friends and our obligation to prove worthy of friendships. We want all of our friends to know that we appreciate their steadfast loyalty and unfailing devotion. Hendrix must move forward from strength to strength in her program of Christian education. Our job is to promote the cause of Christ in the lives of all those with whom we are privileged to work. We are confident that Hendrix, in the days to come, will make an even larger contribution to the church and to the state.—Matt L. Ellis, President.

## PARAGOULD DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Over 200 persons representing 70 churches in the Paragould District attended the district conference at the First Methodist Church at Walnut Ridge.

Visitors were welcomed in an opening address by Mayor D. Leonard Lingo.

Several outstanding leaders of Arkansas Methodism appeared on the program, including Rev. Otto Teague, Forrest City district superintendent; Rev. James Chandler of Rector; Rev. Edwin Dodson of Pocahontas.

Dr. C. M. Reves, vice president of Hendrix College, spoke concerning the Hendrix College program and said that less than \$7000 is needed to complete the \$600,000 endowment campaign.

Dr. Paul Bumpers, Clarksville,

director of Evangelism of the North Arkansas Conference, Rev. Ewing Wayland, editor of the Arkansas Methodist, Rev. A. N. Storey, Rev. Ted McNeal, Dr. Ira Brumley and Rev. Elvis Wright also spoke.

Note was made that there have been 378 additions to the church in the Paragould district during the first six months of the conference year.

Reports were made by Mrs. Mabel Pope of Piggott, Alfred Waldron of Paragould, Rev. S. B. Wilford of Paragould, Rev. Elmo Thomason, host pastor, and Rev. H. L. Robinson of Hoxie.

Visitors from other districts included: Rev. Elmer Holifield, Jonesboro district superintendent, Rev. Lee Cates of Manila, Rev. Til Lingo of Jonesboro, Rev. Bennie Jor-

don of Monette, Rev. and Mrs. Lloyd Conyers of Batesville, Rev. and Mrs. E. B. Williams of Helena.

Rev. J. Albert Gatlin, Paragould district superintendent, presided during the day.

All visitors paid high tribute to the women of the First Methodist Church for the splendid lunch served at the noon hour.

The 1955 district conference will be held at Beech Grove. — Gail Anderson, Secretary.

## SPECIAL SERVICES IN LEONARD PARISH

(Continued from page 12)

Church where Rev. Lee Anderson brought a special message on "Five Candles". Special music was presented for all the services by talented singers of the churches.—Reporter.

# METHODIST YOUTH

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT IN SLIDES AND RECORDINGS

A different Christmas pageant was presented by the MYF of the Oak Ridge Methodist Church this year. Scenes of the first Christmas were posed in costume by the young people. Then color slides were taken of the scenes. Appropriate background scenery was painted for each scene.

For each scene the proper scripture lesson was read and then the appropriate Christmas music was sung. These were recorded on a recorder. On Wednesday, before Christmas, many of the community met at the Church to see and hear the slides and recordings.

Those taking part were: Edwards Barham, Mollie Carroll, Bob Johnson, Joe G. Cabuck, Johnny Knight, Jay Flynn, Joe Conger, Johnny McDuffie, Grulee Herron, Ronald McDaniel, Charles Nolan, Mary Sterling Rolfe, Marcia Files, Kay Conger, Virginia Sue Shepard, Annette Witherington, Bille Jean Carroll, Sterling Files, and Deborah Shaw.

In addition to the above these voices were added to the choir: Clint Shepard, Neil Mott, Mrs. G.



Virginia Sue Shepard, Kay Conger (at the piano) and Mary Sterling Rolfe, practice their parts for the recording that accompanied the slides of the first Christmas posed by the Oak Ridge Methodist Youth Fellowship.

W. Files, Mrs. Neil Mott, Mrs. J. M. Poole, Mrs. W. M. Nolan and Mrs. W. A. Shaw.

Mrs. W. H. Files, the MYF counselor, directed the filming. Mrs. W. M. Nolan directed the recording. J. M. Poole was the photographer and Bob Johnson painted the scenery.—Reporter

### OLDER YOUTH PROJECT AT WYNN

The Older Youth MYF of Wynn Memorial Methodist Church, Shreveport, was reorganized in June 1954, with Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Sistrunk becoming Adult Counselors to the group. Since that time the average attendance has increased from three in June to an average of 15 for the past two months.

Interest and attendance have increased because of the improved programs, visitation of inactives and new membership prospects, and the development of special projects.

The most recent project, in addition to the Methodist Youth Fund, was the raising of \$30.00 for the Caddo Foundation for Exceptional Children and their work.—Kenneth G. Rorie

### YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE JOINT PROGRAM AT DES ARC

The young people of the Methodist Church at Des Arc joined with the young people of the Presbyterian Church in presenting "The Light of the Ages," a Christmas program in story and song at the Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening, December 19.

Depicting the manger scene were Mary, Sharon Simmons; Joseph, Gordon Patterson; Shepherds, John Hugh Gipson, Larry and Warren Jameson; Light Bearers, Carolyn Hamilton and Ann Bethel; Prophet, Rev. Frank Tobey; Narrator, Matilda GGarth; Minister, Rev. Wesley Reutz.

Soloists for the program were Mary Evelyn Hamilton and Clarice Walls. Nancy Roe was accompanist.

The program was directed by Mary Evelyn Hamilton.—Reporter

### YOUNG PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF FAMILY NIGHT TREE

The Methodist Youth Fellowship led by Mrs. Hugh Mitchell and Mrs. Jacob Neely and its president, Nancy Moore, presented and arranged the program for the Family Night Christmas Tree at the Jennings Methodist Church. Carol singing, candle light and a manger scene interpreted by scripture readings told the old, old story. Rev. and Mrs. Robert B. Crichlow, Carol and Rob, were presented with a TV set by all the members of the First Methodist Church.—Reporter

### BIENVILLE-CASTOR MYF HAS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Christmas program and party for the Bienville-Castor Charge MYF was held at the Bienville Methodist Church on Sunday evening, December 12. The young people from the Bienville-Castor, Mill Creek and Strange churches each brought a Christmas present for some boy or girl of the Methodist Children's Home in Ruston.

Rev. Rose Carithers directed games. The Bienville young people had the program. Rev. K. K. Carithers recorded the program on tape which was sent to Gordon Turner of Little Rock, Arkansas, for the use of the Methodist Youth Fellowship of the First Church, Little Rock, for Sunday, December 19. On that date Mr. Turner recorded a program by the MYF of First Church, Little Rock, for the use of the Bienville MYF. At the conclusion of the worship service, refreshments were served by Mrs. Otis Poole and Mrs. Elon Toms, Jr.

The worship service was in charge of William Peoples. Nolan Bailey

### WITH THE SUB-DISTRICTS

#### Monroe

The Monroe Sub-District met on December 19 at the First Methodist Church, Sterlington, at 2:30 p. m. Rev. W. D. Milton, pastor of the First Methodist Church, West Monroe, led in prayer. The program, "The Story of Christmas," was given in story and song by the MYF of the Sterlington Church.

Sterlington received the banner on percentage basis and the First Methodist Church, West Monroe, received the banner for the largest number present. There was a total of 35 young people and adults present.

Gwen John gave several important dates and urged all who were not subscribing to *Power and Concern* to do so.

Refreshments were served in the educational building.—Reporter

#### Ruston

The monthly meeting of the Ruston Sub-District was held in Ruston at the Trinity Methodist Church on December 12 at 2:30 p. m.

The Trinity Church members presented a program including Christmas music and a film depicting various ways of celebrating Christmas in nations throughout the world. Rev. Preston Holly, sponsor of the Sub-District, suggested that the young people of each local church present a Watchnight Service on New Year's eve. Mr. Holly also reminded the group of the essay contest on the prevention of alcoholism.

The Dubach MYF won the attendance banner. Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.—John Kendall, Reporter

#### Union County

The Union County Sub-District met on Monday, December 6, at the Dumas Memorial Church for the annual Christmas program. Three short Christmas plays were presented and carols were sung.

Robert Nash presided over the business meeting.

After refreshments the group assembled for a mock wedding between *Power and Concern*.

There were approximately 150 present.—Reporter

#### Center

The Center Sub-District held its monthly meeting at the Leslie Methodist Church on Monday, December 13.

The host church gave the program on the topic, "Putting Christ Back Into Christmas". Having parts on the program were Sally Jo Sieger, Dana Smiley, Rev. Travis Williams and the Leslie choir which furnished the music. Mr. Williams is counselor of the Leslie MYF.

It was decided to change the time of meeting during the winter from

led the prayer. David George and Mary Alice Jordan were the readers and candle lighters. Mrs. Roland Hart, MYF Counselor, presided at the piano. Gerald Jordan and Pat Patterson were ushers. "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear" was sung by Judy Upshaw and Sharon Peoples, accompanied by Mrs. Hart, and "As With Gladness Men of Old" accompanied by Mrs. Carithers. David Poole sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem" accompanied by Mrs. Hart, and Shirley Plunkett sang "White Christmas" accompanied by William Peoples.—Reporter

the second Monday night to the second Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p. m.

The next meeting will be held at the First Methodist Church at Marshall on January 9.—Mary Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

#### Sadie Mecom

The Sadie Mecom Sub-District took as its project the providing of canned goods and food to the Methodist Children's Home in Ruston. The Sub-District sent over a ton of produce to the Home as its grocery shower. The following letter was received from the superintendent of the Home:

Dear Brother Bengtson:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and the others who shared in the fine offering of canned goods and produce to the Home. I understand that the offering came from Sadie Mecom Sub-District Union and the churches represented in the Union. I do not know the name of the president of the Union and I would appreciate it so much if you would let them know that we have received the offering and that it is deeply appreciated.

I surely wish we could get other places to helping this way for it would mean a great deal to us.

Thanking you again and with best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,  
C. B. White

The Sub-District also has adopted a young girl from the Home for whom they provide clothing and toys.—Myra Ann Moore, Reporter

#### Mississippi County

The Mississippi County Sub-District met at the First Methodist Church in Blytheville on December 13, with Richard Ferguson leading in the opening prayer.

Larry Hulsey of Osceola was named Christian Witness chairman to replace Bonnie Mills of Keiser. Rev. W. L. Diggs of Luxora will be his advisor. Margaret Whistle of Dell will be an assistant for the Christian Outreach Program Area. Rev. Eugene Hall of Dell will be her advisor.

Rev. Bennie Jordan of Monette led the discussion on Christian Witness. The filmstrip, "A Gallery of Witnesses" was shown.

The Blytheville MYF was in charge of the recreation and refreshments.

A Christmas play was presented by members of the Blytheville MYF. The Wise Men scene was silhouetted against the front wall of the sanctuary. The service was closed with prayer time at the altar and gifts of money were left there for the Children's Home in Little Rock.—Betty Jordan

#### New Orleans

The inspirational Christmas program of the New Orleans Sub-District was presented by the MYF of the Elysian Fields Church on December 14. The program was opened with the singing of Christmas carols, followed by a narration written by one of the youths of Elysian Fields Church. It told the Christmas story in three scenes, the manger, the Wise Men and the modern city. The stage and figures were made of cardboard. Lights of various degrees of brightness were focused on the figures as the story was told.

At the close of the program refreshments were served and good fellowship was shared by all. Every youth left making a promise in his heart to make Christmas a Christian one. —Edward Mullet, Jr.

## OBITUARIES

**LINDSEY** — Robert Lee Lindsey, retired merchant and planter, and a life long resident of Pointe Coupee Parish, passed away Nov. 26, at the age of 87. Funeral services were held at Simmesport Methodist Church, Sunday, Nov. 28, at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. Mims S. Robertson officiated, assisted by Rev. John B. Shearer, former pastor.

Interment was in Simmesport Masonic Cemetery with graveside Masonic services conducted by Col. W. D. Haas, Jr., of Bunkie.

Mr. Lindsey was past master and oldest living member of Atchafalaya Lodge No. 163 F & AM, also a member of the Royal Arch Masonic body. He served the fraternity as district deputy grand master two terms.

The deceased was postmaster at Jacoby, La., for over 42 years.

Survivors include his widow, the former Sarah Jane Simpson, two sons, W. W. Lindsey of Jacoby, La., and Ben Hur Lindsey of Lake Charles, La.; four daughters, Mrs. P. B. Manouvrier, Jennings, La., Mrs. Charles V. Ventrilla, Bachelor, La., Mrs. Howard F. Finley, Olla, La., and Mrs. H. R. Cole, Sapulpa, Okla.

Also surviving are ten grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Pall bearers were Eldridge Veasey, Ben Phillips, James Arceneaux and three grandsons.

Mr. Lindsey's passing is grieved by a devoted family and a host of friends. —Leo L. Ehrhardt.

**CAMP** — The Women's Bible Class of the First Methodist Church of Haynesville, Louisiana, has suffered a great loss in the death on November 30th of their beloved teacher, Miss Winnie Camp, who had served untiringly in this capacity for more than 30 years. We do not have words to express our love and appreciation of her Christian life and wonderful contribution as our teacher and leader, so Be it Resolved:

That in the passing of Miss Winnie, as she was lovingly called, the class, the church and entire community have lost a great leader, whose deeply religious life and sterling qualities were known and approved by all who knew her, Be it further Resolved:

That we of the Women's Bible Class shall always cherish and hold in deep affection Miss Winnie's faithful and devoted service as our teacher and counselor in the study of Gods Word, the measure of this service can only be recorded in eternity.

And be it further Resolved:

That we extend to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy and finally that a copy of these resolutions be sent to The Haynesville News; The Louisiana Methodist and The Christian Advocate. — Mrs. Evelyn Morgan, Mrs. Ada Baucum, Mrs. Mildred Bevil, Committee.

**PEARCE**—Culbert L. Pearce was born on October 8, 1877, at Oil Trough, Arkansas, the son of William C. and Sarah Calhoun Pearce. On October 22, 1910, he was married to Miss Mabel Owen of Sulphur Rock. Their marriage was

blessed with two children, a daughter, Marguerite, who is now Mrs. John Glenn Metcalf of Little Rock, and Owen C. Pearce of Fort Smith. He died on December 5, 1954.

Judge Pearce, as he was known to his friends, was active as a lawyer and judge over a long period of years and performed a great and outstanding service to his fellowmen in this field. But it is to his service as a churchman that we call attention, for in this he used the same earnest diligence which marked his activities in other fields.

He was a consecrated member of the Board of Stewards of the First Methodist Church of Searcy and served in that capacity and as a trustee over a long period of years. It was through his influence that the first White County Men's Easter Bible Class was organized. He served as chairman of that class for many years and recently was named as Honorary Lifetime Chairman.

He was a devoted husband and father, and a sincere friend. His life has been one to be revered for its fruitfulness and sincerity of Christian purpose. His influence will long be felt in the church and community in which he lived.

Therefore, we, the members of the Official Board of the First Methodist Church of Searcy, Arkansas, do hereby resolve:

1. That in the death of Brother Pearce we recognize the Hand of God; and that while it is with a feeling of great sorrow and loss that we part from him, knowing that we could have derived great benefit from his presence and knowledge, yet, knowing, too, that, as the Scriptures state: "If in this life only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable;" therefore we bow to the inevitable command of God who knoweth best.

2. That in the death of Brother Pearce our Church has lost one of its most experienced and cherished members; one who has been faithful as a churchman over many years. We extend to his family our sincere sympathy.

3. That a record of this resolution be kept in the files of the transaction of the Official Board and that copies be sent to the family of the deceased, to the **Daily Citizen**, and to **The Arkansas Methodist**, after it has been adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Dallas Stewart, Chairman  
Alvin C. Murray, Pastor

## STILL NEED SPECTACLES IN INDIA

The "glasses fitting center" which Missionary Halsey E. Dewey has been carrying on at Ushagram, Asansol, India, is still doing "big business" in helping make people see with the aid of used lenses furnished by Methodist people from American churches. Mr. Dewey himself has fitted more than 4,000 people, and he has supplied thousands of lenses to mission hospitals for use among impoverished patients.

Mr. Dewey now asks that no separate lenses (only madeup pairs of spectacles) be sent him, because the Customs Department has begun to charge an import duty, and they have also damaged many packages in opening and searching them.

Mr. Dewey would ask American church people to continue to send him pairs of used spectacles, each pair wrapped in tissue or newspaper, and then put in a light cardboard box, not more than 50 pairs to the package. Such packages, he says, are not so damaged in handling as are larger boxes. The package should be marked "Used glasses—of no commercial value."

"Hal" Dewey — who makes no claim at being an eye specialist, has, however, become proficient in fitting lenses so that many people are helped, "I have reached the place where I can read a lens just about as I read a book," he says.

## THE STORY OF A GUITAR

To most American church-goers, instrumental music for a worship service implies a pipe organ or at least a piano. In a village Methodist church in Costa Rica, though, the congregation are thankful they can sing hymns to the music of a guitar.

How the church received the guitar through the sacrifice of a young Christian man is told by the Rev. Marion Woods, Bird City, Kansas, a Methodist missionary to Costa Rica for four years. Mr. Woods tells of touring churches on the Kilmentro 31 circuit with the pastor.

"We talked to several people as we walked from one church to another," Mr. Woods says. "One was a young man who had given one-third of a month's pay to buy a guitar so one of the congregations

could have music with the services. But the gift was not the end of the story. The young man worked for his brother. When the brother learned of the young man's act he fired him saying 'I will have no evangelicals working under me.' The young man has work again, however, and in his difficulties, he found in fellow Christians a source of spiritual strength."

Words come easily indeed, and seem such small things; but they are terrible powers, strong enough to wreck the work and ruin lives. Is there then, anything of which we should be more careful than the living messengers called words? In them is a force a million times more dreadful than that in the atom, for atomic force can destroy only matter, while words can disintegrate spirit.—Kay Arnoll, "Old Proverbs for New Days," *New Outlook*, 2-54.

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# The Sunday School Lesson

REV. H. O. BOLIN

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



LESSON FOR JANUARY 16, 1955

## CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:  
Matthew 16:13-17; John 14:8-14.

MEMORY SELECTION: *I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.*  
—John 14:6

This is the third lesson of fifteen sessions UNIT V: "CHRISTIAN TEACHING." The first lesson of the unit dealt with the fact that the Bible is our authority, with regards to Christian teaching. Since this is true, a careful study of it is very important. It is the spiritual light that guides us on our pathway. It is to the spirit of man what food is to his body. No less authority than Christ himself said, "Man cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." Christ was a close student of the Old Testament; the New had not yet been written. He overcame the temptations that Satan brought against him by quotations from the Bible. He died on the cross with quotations from it on his lips.

The theme of the second lesson was "The Living God." In this lesson we noted the importance of a right conception of God. The great prophets went a long way in giving us this conception, but it took the coming of Christ to finish out the picture. He alone could say of himself, "He who has seen me, has seen the Father." He emphasized what the prophet had already said about God, and then went a step further by insisting that God is not only the Father of nations but also the Father of each and every individual. He taught the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Our theme for today is "Christ, the Son of the Living God." This lesson takes us right into the heart of Christianity. All that Christians have to offer the world, that is unique and different from all other religions, is Christ. Other religions have given to their adherents teachings, codes of ethics, commandments, and instruction on how to worship God, but when Christianity comes to deal with these matters it simply points to Christ. Not only did Christ teach about God but he lived the life of God in human flesh; not only did he set up standards by which human beings are to live, but he himself is those standards; he lived the perfect human life. Not only did he give his disciples instructions as to how they were to worship God, but he permitted them to worship him as God. We recall how doubting Thomas fell at his feet with these words upon his lips: "My Lord, and my God!" Other religions would stand intact if the names of their founders were not even known, but not so with Christianity. The founders of these other religions, as far as they knew, taught the truth and pointed their adherents the way to God, but Christ declared of himself, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." Christ and Christianity are so bound up to-

gether that to eliminate one would also eliminate the other. Certain movements in the world, including Humanism, have tried to appropriate the ethical teachings of Christ while denying his divine Personality, but such movements always fail.

### A Look At The Scriptures

In our first passage of the lesson (Matthew 16: 13-17) a serious question is raised and an adequate answer is given. The Lord has led the disciples to Caesarea Philippi, a place some forty miles north of the Lake of Galilee. There he began by questioning them as to what the people in general were saying about him. They informed him that some people were saying that he was John the Baptist; others, that he was Elijah; and still others felt that he was Jeremiah.

Those who are inclined to think that Christ was soft and sentimental will do well to note that the people in general of that time felt that he was one or the other of these three men. There are two qualities that stand out in the lives of all of them: they were all kind but stern, and they all had an overwhelming sense of mission from God. There was something about Christ that reminded the people of these men.

The Lord then proceeds to raise a more personal question with the disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" After all Christianity is a personal matter. What the public in general thinks is important but not nearly as much so as what the individual thinks. A person's relationship to God the Father will stand or fall with his attitude toward Christ. There is no more important question than the one Christ raised on this occasion. Proper thoughts concerning Christ and proper response to his invitation to discipleship will make one a Christian, but failure at either of these points will prevent one from becoming a true follower of Christ.

Simon Peter answered this all important question. It will be remembered that he was always spokesman for the group. In his reply he made a very strong statement: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This statement was made near the close of Christ's active ministry, and it was the first complete statement of this nature made by any of his disciples. During the early months of the Lord's ministry he had not pressed this matter of his messiahship. He refrained from doing this for one chief reason: the Jews in general had the wrong conception of what the Messiah was to be. They never dreamed that he was to be a divine Person. Other races and nations believed in a plurality of gods, but

the Jews rejected this idea and strongly believed in the fact that there is but one God. They still hold this opinion. They have never been able to accept the idea that there is one God in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They believed that their Messiah was to stand close to God; closer than any of their prophets. They felt that he would more perfectly reveal God and exercise more of the power of God than any one else who had ever lived. They felt that he would be the climax and final revelation of the mind and will of God. They thought that he would be their Messiah alone and would advance their interest above that of all others. They never dreamed that he was to be the Son of God and the Saviour of the world. Jesus was too internationally minded to be the Messiah whom the Jews expected. They were thinking in narrow nationalistic terms and Jesus had a worldwide vision.

It will be remembered that all the early disciples were Jews, as well as Christ himself. These disciples had the same idea as to what the Messiah would be as that held by the rank and file of their people. Jesus, therefore, refused to declare himself to be the Messiah until he had straightened these disciples out on the question as to the role the Messiah would fill. He wanted them to know that he was divine and that he was interested in the salvation of the world rather than in the political advancement of his own people.

Peter's answer shows that the disciples had finally come to realize that Jesus was divine. Had he stopped by merely saying "You are the Christ" he would not have gone far enough. The word "Christ" is the Greek translation for the Hebrew word "Messiah." When Peter went on to add "The Son of the living God" he was going beyond any idea that the Jews had concerning the Messiah. Jesus praised Peter for this answer. He insisted that the revelation of his divinity to Peter had not come from men but rather from God himself. From that moment on Christ determined to go to Jerusalem to declare himself the Messiah, who was a divine Person—the Son of God. Note here the fact that it is "The Son of God" rather than "A Son of God." The latter term would imply that others could be sons of God in the same way that Jesus was; a thing that is never taught in the Scriptures.

The Jews rejected Christ once and for all on the grounds of what they thought was blasphemy on his part. In John 10:31-33 we read, "The Jews took up stones to stone him. Jesus answered them, 'I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of these do you stone me?'" The Jews answered him, "We stone you for no good but for blasphemy; because you, being a man, make yourself God." The Jews finally clamored for his crucifixion on the ground that he was a blasphemer; that he, being a man, made himself out to be God.

Our next passage (John 14:8-14) goes further in the declaration of the divinity of Christ; his oneness with the Father, and it also reveals one of the chief purposes of his coming into the world. Philip requested that Jesus show the disciples the Father. He insisted that this would make them satisfied. This was a perfectly natural desire on the part of Philip. People have always wanted to see God; to know

what he is like. Philip is not to be blamed for this request. He is to be blamed, however, for not already seeing the Father in Christ. There can be no question about the fact that the Lord was disappointed in Philip. One of the chief objects of Christ coming into the world was to reveal God. Philip had been closely associated with him for nearly three years. This type of association was about to come to an end, and Philip had not been able to see God in Christ. Paul said of Christ (Col. 2:9) "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily," but Philip had not come to realize this fact. Jesus went on to inform Philip that he had already seen the Father; seen the Father in him. The Father dwelt in the Son and both worked and spoke through him. Concerning the fact that the Father dwelt in him, Jesus had this to say: "The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves." A minister was once talking to a man about salvation. They were sitting before an open fire. An iron poker was near by. The man expressed doubt as to the fact that a man could be in God and God in the man at one and the same time. In answer the minister placed the iron poker in the fire. Soon it was red hot. He lifted it and showed it to the man, and raised the question, "Do you observe that fire is in the poker?" The man replied, "Yes." He then placed the poker back in the fire, and went on to say, "You will note that the fire is in the poker and the poker is in the fire at one and the same time. Surely it is not impossible for man to be in God and God to be in man at the same instance." The truth about the matter is, all of the fire was not in the poker. Fire was both without and within. The same is true with God. He is both imminent and transcendent. He is within the true Christian, but he is also all around him and above him. God is Spirit, and as much fills all the immensity of space; he is, therefore, present everywhere. The Father, however, was in his only begotten Son, Jesus, to a greater extent than he has ever been in anyone else, and not only so, he was in Christ in a different manner for Christ is God the Son as truly as the Father is God the Father.

Christ then goes on to make a statement that should thrill the hearts of all Christians: "Truly, truly I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father." Note here that the Lord does not say that his followers would perform greater miracles than he had done. He rather said that they would do greater works. That has certainly come to pass. Christ, during his days in the flesh, was laying the foundations of Christianity, and his ideas were certainly having a hard time getting a foothold in the world. Then, his idea of the Kingdom of God was as small as a mustard seed, now it is beginning to fill the earth.

The last statement of the passage has to do with praying in the name of Christ. Many of our so-called prayers are not answered because they are not prayed in the Spirit and the name of Christ. In the Person and power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is with us and in us.

ARKANSAS METHODIST