

# Arkansas Methodist

"SERVING TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND METHODISTS IN ARKANSAS"  
Official Publication of Arkansas Methodism

VOL. LXXIV

LITTLE ROCK

SAS, JULY 14, 1955

NO. 27

## BISHOP W. C. MARTIN TO V COUNCIL MEET

Dallas — Texas Methodists will be represented at a meeting of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches at Davos, Switzerland, near Zurich, Aug. 2-9, by Bishop William C. Martin, presiding bishop of the Dallas-Fort Worth Area of The Methodist Church and past president of the Council of Methodist Bishops and the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

At recent sessions of the three conferences in the Dallas-Ft. Worth Area, Central Texas, North Texas and Northwest Texas, Mrs. Martin was presented funds to make the trip with her husband. They will sail from New York City on Wednesday, July 13.

Bishop and Mrs. Martin left here Tuesday noon, July 5, and arrived in Chicago Wednesday, July 6, where the bishop served as chairman of the General Commission on Promotion and Cultivation of The Methodist Church. After this meeting closed on Thursday, July 7, they continued to Washington, D. C. and New York City on church business.

Bishop Martin was named to membership on the committee of about 90 persons at the Evanston,

Ill., World Council of Churches meeting in 1954.

This will be the longer meeting of the Central Committee since it was named, and it will consider next steps to be taken by the council in the light of decisions reached at the Evanston assembly.

This meeting will follow sessions of working committees of the departments and divisions and will have their proposals on the agenda, along with basic issues concerning the life of the council itself.

Theme for the central committee is "The implications of Christian unity for interchurch aid and for assistance to under-developed countries." One of the topics will be the various meanings of unity and the kind of unity the World Council seeks to promote. Special attention will be given to the aid that is needed by the younger churches.

Bishop Martin will confer with Bishop Ferdinand Sigg in Switzerland, who will suggest places that can be visited to best advantage. Bishop Martin said that he expected to visit as many of the Methodist mission stations as possible and will tour France, Germany, Italy and North Africa. Bishop and Mrs. Martin plan to return to Dallas about Sept. 15.

## 1ST CHURCH CONWAY OPENS NEW EDUCATIONAL BUILDING



The new educational building, recently completed by the First Methodist Church in Conway was formally opened on Sunday July 3rd.

At the morning hour the worship service preceded the Sunday School hour. Rev. Henry A. Rickey, District Superintendent, preached and was assisted in the service by the pastor, Rev. Joel A. Cooper. After the preaching service the Sunday School pupils of the Children's Division went for their classes for the first

time in the new building which has ample room for all departments of this division of the Sunday School.

The cost of the building, furnished, was approximately \$100,000.00. The building is air-conditioned throughout. Air-conditioning also has been installed in the sanctuary of the church.

John Parks Almand, of Little Rock, was the architect; Don Kendrick, of North Little Rock, was the contractor.

## New Director Christian Education Camden

Miss Anne Geddie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Geddie of Camden, has assumed duties as director of Christian Education at the First Methodist Church, Camden. She has been teaching at the Hockaday School for Girls in Dallas.

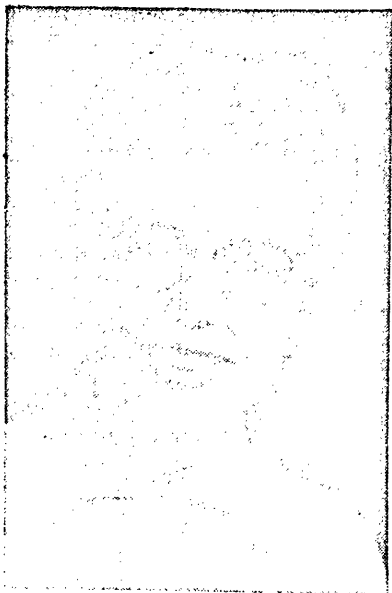
Miss Geddie is a graduate of Camden High School and after completing her college work, went into teaching. She has decided to enter the field of Christian Service and has started work at the First Methodist Church.

She graduated in 1951 and was an honor student and member of the National Honor Society. She was chosen to go to Girls State and was also chosen to attend Girls Nation as representative of Arkansas and she made Band All-State.

After graduation she attended Southern State College in 1951-52 and then went to Texas State College for Women at Denton, graduating in June 1954. She was active at both colleges and held many honors there, being treasurer of the Arkansas Club at TSCW, vice-president of the Wesley Foundation, and member of honorary fraternities and clubs.

Miss Geddie was at Hockaday in 1954-55 and was active in church and school work there.

Rev. Robert Moore is starting his fifth year as pastor of the First Methodist Church, Camden.



MISS ANNE GEDDIE

## Methodist Official To Visit Russia

An official of The Methodist Church will spend a week in the Soviet Union this summer as part of a ten-week peace mission to Europe.

The Rev. Dr. Charles F. Boss, Jr., executive secretary of the Methodist Board of World Peace, Chicago,

## New Trustee Of Methodist Hospital

The Rev. Earle Cravens, pastor of the Washington Avenue Methodist Church in North Little Rock, Ark., has been installed as one of three new members of the Board of Trustees of Methodist Hospital at Memphis.

The Rev. Mr. Cravens was born in Logan County, Ark., attended public schools and was graduated from Hendrix College in 1926. He also attended Southern Methodist University. He joined the North Arkansas Conference of the Methodist Church in 1925.

He was ordained an elder in 1930. He has served as chairman of the board of education for the North Arkansas Conference and held a

similar position with the board of hospitals and homes for four years.

The Rev. Mr. Cravens is married and the father of two children, the Rev. Byron C. Cravens of Ponca City, Okla., and Mrs. Phil L. Deal of North Little Rock.

Officers of the Board of Trustees



REV. EARLE CRAVENS

from the North Arkansas Conference that were re-elected are James H. Crain, Wilson, Ark., third vice president and J. F. Fogleman, Marion, Ark., treasurer.

# Juvenile Delinquency

## Your Problem and Mine

The writer, Jane Smith, of First Methodist Church Bunkie, La. was the State winner in the Annual Essay-Speech contest for high school age members of the Methodist Youth Fellowship, sponsored by the Boards of Temperance and Education of the Methodist Church of Louisiana.

Miss Smith gave her essay as a part of the report of the Board of Temperance in the 1955 session of the Annual Conference held in Alexandria, at First Methodist Church, May 31, to June 3.

WILL Rogers once said, "Everybody talks about the weather but nobody does anything about it." Juvenile delinquency, like the weather, is something we all talk about but something few of us ever do anything about. Now, more than ever, we are beginning to have a greater concern about crime among our nation's youth and especially those youth under the age of seventeen. Two per cent of the youth in America are classed as delinquents!

We have been able to find cures and vaccines for dread and rare diseases, yet we have not even been able to lower the number of youth involved in juvenile delinquency.

Let us look at delinquency as would a medical researcher. First, the researcher would check into many people's ideas of the disease. He would make an inquiry into the known facts about it. He would see the results of other scientists' experiments.

The researcher would check into the cause of the disease. Looking carefully and checking into many cases, we find that more youth from slum and low income bracket families are in institutions.

We would then ask ourselves and others this question: "Why are there more youth in crime from slum and low income bracket homes?" Interested individuals have found by interviewing many competent psychiatrists that the middle and upper income bracket families take their children to psychiatrists when these children begin having chronic warped thought patterns. Therefore, either the slum families and parents don't recognize warped thought patterns or they don't have the money to use the services of a psychiatrist.

Warped thought patterns are the direct result of a serious emotional disturbance! They can be caused by numerous things. Two of the major causes are marital trouble between parents and lack of guidance on the part of one or both parents. Both of these causes are usually coupled with the wrong influences outside the family circle. Under-punishment and spoiling are more a cause of delinquency than is over-punishment and depriving the child.

The researcher would begin to experiment and try to find a cure for those already stricken with the disease. Should we check into our court system we would find that, although more and more cities and counties are adding juvenile courts, there are not nearly enough. A ju-

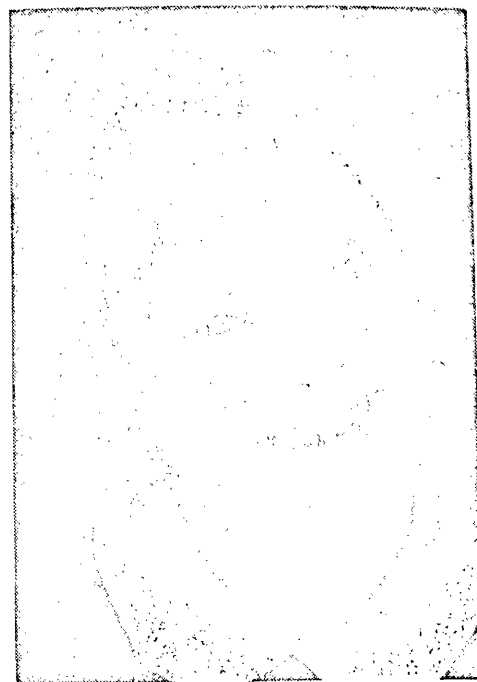
venile court should bring together the child, parents and law in a simple, informal atmosphere. The parent should be given advice on the future problems of the child. Only in extreme cases should a child ever be sent to an institution. Once the child is in the institution he is likely to develop the idea that he is a criminal. An institution should be thought of as a hospital rather than a prison! While the churches of America as well as our city and county governments are doing much along the line of preventing juvenile delinquency it is the personal obligation of every Christian to do all he can toward saving his brother's character for, after all, aren't we "our brother's keeper."

We don't accuse the home enough in juvenile cases. Too quickly we blame society more than the parent. We blame the children little Johnny had to play with. But we forget it was the parents' business to see to it that the children their little Johnny played with were of his own age and of good influence.

One significant factor about this juvenile delinquency problem is that in nine cases out of ten neither the parent nor the child has any sincere religious affiliation, or he is inactive in the church to which he belongs. This shows the need for more and more churches in our slum areas. These churches must have a message—a message of hope to bring to a troubled people. The problem of delinquency seems to come up seldomly if at all in a truly Christian home. While we think about this problem of delinquency let us remember that ninety-eight per cent of the youth in America between the ages of ten and seventeen have never even come up before a traffic court. These are our readers of tomorrow!

Schools play a very important role in any person's life and character. The juvenile delinquent usually has created many problems in school. The teacher may be the first to notice that the child is extremely nervous. She might notice him taking small things such as pencils from other students. Teachers and schools can help spot potential delinquents before they harm themselves and others.

We hear a lot of talk about the adverse effects of television and comic books on our children and youth. The child who is psychologically stable — in other words, used to behaving properly with only the normal mischievousness of any child his age — is less likely to be influenced adversely by comic books and television. He will, with the help of his parents, be able to put these in the proper perspective in relation to a well-balanced emotional life. The danger comes in those children who are psychologically unstable and have an unhappy home. But if television and comic books effect even a small per centage of our youth, how can we help then but to ban the harmful ones? For, after all, isn't every child important to us and to every thing we stand for here in America and in all Christendom?



JANE SMITH

It is the observation of experts that only a very small percentage of youth who run afoul of the law belong to Scouts, Young Men's Christian Association or Young Women's Christian Association. These character building organizations stand for something in our communities. It is necessary that we interest our youth in them and promote them. Summer camps are wonderful for thrill seeking youngsters. These camps give them something wholesome to talk about and remember for a long time. But camps do more than that! Camps are very effective places for learning to get along with others and work with others efficiently. After all, didn't the juvenile delinquent just start out as a mal-adjusted child?

The researcher would then survey all the data and information he has obtained. Let us sum up what we have said concerning this problem of delinquency. The causes: lack of guidance, marital trouble between parents, lack of love on the part of the parents for each other and for the child. The cure: lecture to the parents in all cases, psychiatric help in cases where lack of guidance is the cause, institutions for the very severe cases. The preventative: not necessarily to have a psychiatrist in every school but to emphasize the importance of a happy home to the parent, have more love in the home and show it toward one another, have a church and attend it regularly, encourage the child to join organizations, especially those of Scouts and Y-Teens. And, most important of all, help the potential delinquent before he becomes a delinquent!

But how can we accomplish all this?

First, we need to educate the youth still in school as to the problem of delinquency. We need to educate them with facts and figures and we need to educate them with the need of a happy home and the need of a church in the family life.

Second, we must go into the areas that are now poorly churched. We must equip these churches with leaders that are trained. The work of lay leaders can not lightly be overlooked. CHRIST is the ANSWER to this problem of juvenile delinquency!

Third, we must encourage teachers to watch for potential delinquents. The teachers, in turn, must encourage the parents to employ psychiatric help when the need arises.

This age long problem stands before us still! Now we can solve it! The solution is preventing it!

When was the last time you as an American and you as a Christian did something about preventing juvenile delinquency—your problem and mine?

## THE BROADCASTER

J. Daniel Barron



One of my two readers calls not only for better preaching but for "evangelistic preaching".

In the words of the pastoral relations committee, "Amen, but..." Evangelistic preaching, in its true sense, is the best. But, in its accepted sense, it is the worst.

I'd walk a mile (or more) any day to hear a true evangelistic sermon. I'd run ten miles (and more) any day to miss what usually passes as an evangelistic sermon.

What is commonly called evangelistic preaching merely blows the whistle of the Gospel train. True evangelistic preaching puts people on that train.

John Wesley denounced the whistle type preaching. "Let but a pert self-sufficient animal," he said, "that has neither sense nor grace, bawl out something about Christ, or his blood, or justification by faith, and his hearers cry out, 'What a fine Gospel sermon!'"

The first mark of true evangelistic preaching is that it is directed toward the preacher as well as toward the "sinner." It deals with Christians as well as non-Christians. It works on my friend who calls for evangelistic preaching as well as on the people in the by-ways and hedges whom the Baptists are winning.

Stanley Jones pleading with pastors to part with their pride; Jesus urging people to love their enemies so that they may be sons of their Father; pastors on Sunday mornings pointing their people to the ways of Christian faith, are all engaging in true evangelistic preaching.

By all means let us have evangelistic preaching, but let us make it true Gospel preaching; not merely bawling out something...

## A "Call To Prayer"

A world-wide "Call to Prayer" for the meeting of the four heads of governments in Geneva on July 18th was issued today jointly by the six presidents of the World Council of Churches. They appeal "for the prayers of all Christians that ways may be found by which fear and suspicion may be removed." The call also specifically urges united intercession "for the four men upon whom so solemn a responsibility rests at this time."

Emphasizing the significance of this movement for world-wide prayer, the Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, as the American president of the World Council of Churches, proposes that in this country the churches make Sunday, July 17th, a special occasion for services of intercession for the Geneva Conference. He also suggests that Christian people in their homes pray daily for the conference as long as it continues in session. In a statement on the subject Bishop Sherrill said:

"Reinforcing the appeal of the World Council of Churches for united and world-wide prayer for the four-power conference, I urge all Christian congregations in America within the membership of the Council to hold services of intercession on Sunday, July 17th. I hope that in every church in every community in America earnest prayer will be offered for God's guidance of the statesmen who meet together in Geneva on the following day."

"I further suggest that all Christian people in their homes and places of work continue to pray each day for the Geneva Conference as long as it remains in session."

A service of intercession for the four-power conference will be held in the Cathedral of Geneva, Switzerland, under the auspices of the World Council of Churches, simultaneously with the opening of the four-power conference in the same city on July 18th. The 162 member denominations in 47 countries of the world are asked to arrange for services of intercession on the same

## A Conference Parable

### THEY BEGAN TO BE IN WANT

REV. B. C. TAYLOR

A certain Bishop had eight districts. The younger men, thereof, and indeed, some of the older ones, said: "Bishop give me my share of the good appointments." So he divided the appointments among them.

They quickly gathered up all they possessed and hastened to their new assignments. When they looked over the parsonage, and the church, and the general situation they began to be in want.

They wanted the house done over from front to back. They wanted a new ice box that would make more cubes on a hot day. They wanted part of the house air-conditioned so it would be pleasant to take a nap on hot afternoons. They wanted new furniture for the house to replace the "old stuff they could not stand." They wanted the back yard fenced to keep the babies in and the neighbors dogs out. They wanted a new typewriter and some new book cases. They wanted a secretary, part time, at least. They wanted the ex-

pense account raised and the salary lowered in order to reduce the assessments. They wanted their vacations as planned, even if they did move, in June. They wanted the District Superintendent to see that these things were done as they wished.

There were some higher wants too: they wanted to get started right; wanted to profit by the mistakes in the last appointment; wanted to be a better leader and a more diligent student; wanted to know more about the Bible; wanted a more effective prayer life; wanted to win more people to Christ; wanted a deeper sense of life's values; wanted an effective program of the church; wanted to be God's representative in thought, word, and deed.

With these higher wants in their minds and hearts, they said: "I will arise and go about making these things to come to pass." The laymen of the church, learning of this new decision, said: "The preacher has found himself." And they rejoiced and celebrated together.

day or on the preceding Sunday, July 17th. "We are persuaded that a world-wide act of intercession in all our fellowship is required, and that this bond of prayer should never be more evident than in this grave but hopeful moment.

Let us pray:

For the four men upon whom so solemn a responsibility rests at this time.

For the peoples they represent.

For all other peoples who look to them in anxiety yet in hope.

For the peace of the world.

'Blessed are the peace-makers.'

## Seniority Of Bishops By Age And Election

Bishop Herbert Welch, senior member of the Council of Bishops in point of age, has compiled two lists of his colleagues which will be of value for reference purposes.

The first listing is in order of election to the episcopacy; the second is in order of date of birth.

The present Bishops of the Methodist Church in the order of their election:

1912 Leete, 1916 Welch, 1920 Jones, 1922 Boaz, 1924 Miller, Lowe, 1928 Wade, Baker, 1930 Moore, A. F. Smith, Gowdy, 1932 Magee, Cushman, Gattinoni, 1935 Pickett, 1936 Elphick, Hammaker, Flint, Shaw, Oxnam, Springer, 1937 Ward, 1938 Holt, Peele, Purcell, Sealeman, W. C. Martin, Watkins, 1939 Straughn, 1941 Mondol, Rockey, Balloch, Chen, Kaung, 1944 Corson, Ledden, Booth, W. A. Smith, P. E. Martin, Harrell, Garber, King, Kelly, Brashares, 1945 Subhan, 1949 Barbieri, 1950 Archer, 1952 Newell, Love, Clair, Branscomb, Watts, Coors, Voigt, Ensley, Grant, Sabanes, 1953 Wunderlich, Hagen, 1954 Sigg.

The present Bishops of the Methodist Church by seniority of age.

1862 Nov. 7 Welch, 1866 Oct. 1 Leete, Dec. 18 Boaz, 1868 July 8 Miller, 1869 Dec. 7 Gowdy, 1872 Feb. 19 Jones, 1873 Aug. 29 Elphick, Sept.

In 1935 Miss Thillayampalam was called back to her native Ceylon where she served for fifteen years, first as vice-principal, then as principal, of Chundikuli Girls' College in Jaffa. In 1950 she was elected president of the famous Lady Doak College, of the Church of England, in Madura, South India. She remained there until her election to head of the college in Lucknow.

7 Springer, 1874 Oct. 13 Sealeman, 1875 May 29 Wade, 1876 Feb. 17 Hammaker, 1877 June 1 Straughn, Dec. 17 Lowe, 1878 June 24 Gattinoni, Nov. 14 Flint, 1879 Apr. 18 Shaw, June 2 Baker, Nov. 12 Cushman, 1880 June 3 Magee, Dec. 27 Kelly, 1881 Nov. 26 Peele, 1882 June 26 Ward, 1883 Oct. 13 Arvidson, 1884 Nov. 17 Purcell, Dec. 4 Kaung, 1885 Feb. 12 Harrell, July 1 Balloch, 1886 Jan. 9 Holt, 1886 Oct. 1 King, 1887 Oct. 31 Archer, 1888 Mar. 27 Ledden, Dec. 26 Moore, 1889 Aug. 1 Coors, Sept. 4 Rockey, Sept. 24 Bowen, Nov. 1 A. F. Smith, 1890 Feb. 21 Pickett, Mar. 11 Newell, Aug. 12 Clair, Oct. 16 Northcott, Nov. 6 Watts, 1891 Mar. 31 Brashares, Aug. 14 Oxnam, Sept. 10 Love, Sept. 15 Reed, 1892 Feb. 13 Voigt, Apr. 18 Dawson, 1893 July 28 W. C. Martin, 1894 Jan. 19 Franklin, May 21 Phillips, Dec. 21 W. A. Smith, 1895 May 26 Watkins, July 29 Werner, 1896 Jan. 23 Wunderlich, Mar. 15 Tippet, Apr. 11 Corson, Oct. 11 Mondol, 1897 Aug. 24 Grant, Sabanes, Subhan, Dec. 31 P. E. Martin, 1898 July 16 Chen, Aug. 25 Valencia, Dec. 23 Raines, 1899 July 27 Garber, 1901 May 22 Wicke, 1902 Mar. 22 Sigg, Aug. 2 Barbieri, Aug. 23 Lord, Oct. 19 Short, 1903 June 14 Booth, 1905 May 11 Branscomb, Dec. 16 Hagen, 1907 Aug. 12 Ensley, Aug. 30 Kennedy.

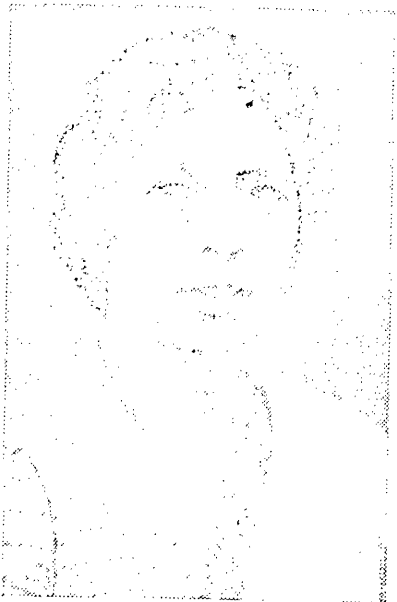
Wonder is the beginning of wisdom in learning from books as well as from nature. If you never ask yourself any questions about the meaning of a passage, you cannot expect the book to give you any insight you do not already possess. —Mortimer Adler, quoted in *The Argonaut*.

## Isabella Thoburn To Install New Principal

Miss Evangeline Muthammah Thillayampalam, a native of Ceylon, and a post-graduate from Columbia University, New York City, where she was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1929 for research in zoology, will be inaugurated as principal of Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, India, on August 12. In this post she succeeds the late Dr. Sarah Chakko, who died last year. Miss Chakko was the only woman president of the World Council of Churches.

The inauguration ceremonies will be conducted by Bishop Clement D. Rockey, of the Methodist Church, Lucknow. Isabella Thoburn College, founded by the Methodist Church in 1870 for the education of Indian women, now enrolls 410 students. They represent fifteen language groups, and five different religions.

Miss Thillayampalam was born into a Hindu home in Ceylon, but early entered a school there under the Church Missionary of England (Anglican Church). While in the school, both her parents died, and she later became a Christian and joined the Church of England. Later she entered Isabella Thoburn College, and then Lucknow University, and Allahabad University, receiving the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees and majoring in biology.



Miss Evangeline Thillayampalam

In 1920 Miss Thillayampalam joined the Isabella Thoburn faculty as a teacher of biology where she remained until 1935. During this period she visited the United States, three times, completing her thesis on "The Scolidon" (the dogfish of the Indian seas) for her degree at Columbia; and teaching zoology for a year at Wellesley College, Massachusetts, as an exchange professor.

## Summit Meetings-- Then And Now

THE four power parley scheduled for Geneva beginning July 18 has been referred to by world leaders as the Summit Meeting. This designation possibly has come about because of the geographical location of the meeting high in the Alps Mountains. It is interesting indeed that many significant events in history have taken place at great heights on the earth's surface, and in Biblical times such importance was attracted to certain mountains that more than one Old Testament prophet warned his hearers lest the mountains themselves become objects of worship.

Summits were the scenes of some of the most significant happenings in the Scriptures. Moses received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai; Noah brought his Ark to rest on Mount Ararat as the flood subsided. Jesus was known to have prayed just prior to his arrest on the Mount of Olives and a few hours later was executed on Calvary mountain.

There was a Summit Meeting of four persons recorded in the gospels, the incident being the Transfiguration of Jesus, probably on the summit of Mount Hermon. Jesus took three of his disciples, Peter, James and John apart from the rest of the group and shared with them this experience which without question left an indelible impression on them. After a season of prayer the disciples recalled that Jesus' countenance shone brightly and his raiment was white and glistening and that Moses and Elias walked and talked with Him. Further, a voice came from a cloud saying "This is my beloved Son; hear him." The disciples were so moved by the experience that Peter was heard to say "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." Such was the summit meeting of the New Testament days.

One could easily hope that such harmony, inspiration and good would come from the Geneva Summit Meeting that the participants would covet the erection of a suitable structure commemorating the meeting. If the prayers of the Christian people of the world were fully answered the participants would at all times be aware of the fullness of the Spirit of God. Then, there would be little doubt as to the success or outcome of the Geneva Summit meeting.

## Ghosts Of Yesteryears Walk Again

AS a result of the threatening, international crises that have been so numerous in recent years, we have frequently been reminded that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." This same idea applies to social and moral conditions as we want them.

This idea has not had a more striking example recently than is found in the long-drawn-out fight by race track promoters to build a race track in Arkansas across the river from Memphis.

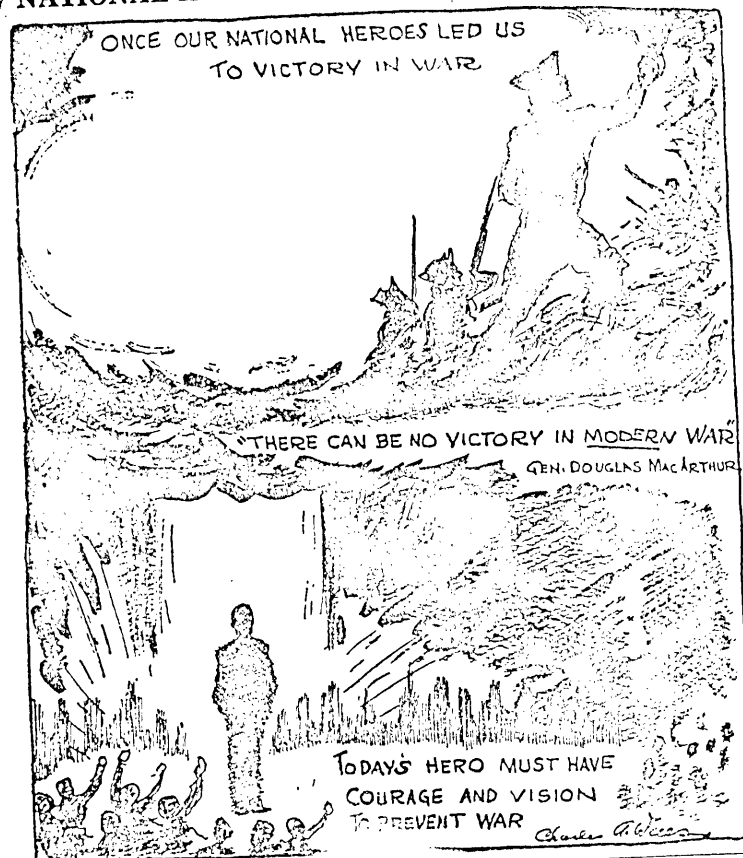
Although the proposal has been blocked many times in many ways, once in Crittenden and St. Francis Counties by a vote of the people, the idea seems to be still alive. It is now proposed to build a dog race track near West Memphis and with the track already built to apply for a franchise to operate it. Whether those concerned would take such a financial risk with the operation of such a track so uncertain remains to be seen.

Sponsors of the track may feel that resentment by eastern Arkansas over the attitude of Memphis regarding the Dixon-Yates Power Plant may make this an opportune time for another election. One thing is certain; The Arkansas-Louisiana Area does not need any more race tracks of any character.

## "Call To Prayer" For Big 4 Meeting

THE heads of the governments of England, France, Russia and the United States are to meet in Geneva, Switzerland, next Monday, July 18th, for the long-hoped-for Big Four Conference which may influence the course of history for the years to come. When this conference is over it will likely be easier to determine whether the world is to drift on into a catastrophic war or enter a pathway leading to world peace.

Because of the critical importance of this meeting, the six presidents of the World Council of Churches have called on the one



hundred sixty-two member denominations of the Council in forty-seven countries of the world to join in a world-wide "Call to Prayer" for the four leaders of governments in the meeting; for the people they represent; for the other people of the world indirectly affected and for the peace of the world.

Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, the American president of the World Council of Churches, has proposed that the churches of America make Sunday July 17, a day of special prayer for the Conference.

It is not expected that the specific problems that now plague the world will be solved in this brief meeting; many of them may not even be discussed. It is expected, however, that in this meeting the trend of the discussion of major world problems will reveal whether it is possible for the stronger nations of the world to join forces in a program for world peace or whether we are to remain divided into two armed camps which might make World War III inevitable.

So important is this meeting that every Christian everywhere, in private devotion and public worship, should lift his heart in prayer that God may fill the hearts of world leaders in Geneva with such a sincere, burning desire for peace that the peace for which the masses of earth have yearned so long may be realized.

## World Service Giving Is Up

FIGURES just released by the Methodist Council on World Service and Finance, Chicago, show that giving to World Service was increased during the fiscal year June 1, 1954-June 1, 1955. Receipts from throughout the church during this period amounted to \$9,761,407.78 while giving for the same period of time the previous year was \$9,620,625.42. The annual apportionment for the 1952-56 quadrennium is \$9,525,089.00. Thus, for more than two years now Methodist giving to World Service has exceeded the apportionment set by the General Conference in 1952. The apportionment had been increased by 33 1/3% at the beginning of the quadrennium over the apportionment for the 1948-52 quadrennium.

Arkansas-Louisiana Area leaders will be interested to know that giving to World Service in this Area has increased at a higher rate than throughout the whole church. On an apportionment of \$218,945, Methodists in this area gave \$232,632.95 last year and \$208,960.45 the previous year. Each of the annual conferences of the Area exceeded their apportionment from \$2,000 to \$15,000. This Area was one of 12 of Methodism's 38 Areas which equaled or exceeded the amount given last year. These figures do not include amounts given for conference benevolences, money used within the Conferences.

## Arkansas Methodist

An Official Publication of  
The Arkansas-Louisiana Episcopal Area  
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY  
Except the Weeks of July 4 and December 25  
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$2.00 PER ANNUM  
Retired Ministers and Wives of Deceased Ministers of the  
Little Rock and North Arkansas Conference  
Complimentary.

Office of Publication, 1136-1137 Donaghey Building  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

E. T. WAYLAND Editors and Business Mgrs.  
EWING T. WAYLAND Assistant to Editors  
ANNIE WINBURNE  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: H. O. Bolin, Mrs. Ewing T. Wayland.

OWNED, MANAGED AND PUBLISHED BY  
THE METHODIST CHURCHES OF  
ARKANSAS AND LOUISIANA  
Commissioners:  
Little Rock Conference—O. C. Landers, E. Vernon Markham, Charles W. Richards, C. Ray Hozendorf, Arthur Terry, Aubrey G. Walton, Burney Wilson.

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North Arkansas Conference—Joel Cooper, J. G. Moore, R. J. Rice, Robert P. Sessions, J. Frank Warden, J. William Watson, W. M. Womack.

Entered as second-class matter, January 31, 1905, at the Post Office at Little Rock, Ark., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.  
When asking for change of address, please include charge key number, former address, new address and name of pastor.

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

ARKANSAS METHODIST



## FINGERPRINTS OR FOOTPRINTS

Fingerprints are a means by which we track our criminals. Footprints are marks by which we follow our heroes. It is thought sentimental by many to quote the old-fashioned lines of Longfellow.



*"Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing, leave behind us,  
Footprints on the sands of time."*

On the other hand it is considered clever to detect the fingerprints of evil around us. We have talked so much about the badness of men, that we expect to find the sordid rather than the noble. And it is the law of life that we see the traits for which we look.

It was against this natural tendency that Saint Paul warned: "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." At that dark time the lives of many were depressed to the point of making things worse than they were or needed to be. They, like ourselves, needed to lift their eyes from the fingerprints of evil to the footprints of good.

For one thing, we should look from the fingerprints to the footprints in order to keep us from getting a falsely exaggerated idea of the forces of evil. In a struggle, if one opponent can get the other downright afraid of him, he has begun the process of overcoming. And one of the best ways of creating this fear is by repeated suggestions of his own strength.

This was the principle on which Hitler worked to intimidate and often the Nazis' neighbors. This same method of propaganda has been used by the Soviet Union to impress its satellites and others with Russia's resources.

And today we in America are prone to see some of our domestic dangers too darkly. We talk so much about juvenile delinquency that we may come to think all boys are bad. The cleverness of criminals is so played up that organized crime seems to be more powerful than the law.

While there is much to make us think that evil wins over good, history reveals that the footprints of goodness give evidence of progress and purpose.

My old teacher, Charles A. Beard, a great historian of Columbia University, when asked what lessons he had learned from history, said that he had learned four.

These lessons were: First, Although the mills of the gods grind slowly, yet they grind exceedingly small. Second, Those whom the gods are about to destroy they first make mad. Third, When it gets dark enough, you can see stars. Fourth, The bee fertilizes the flower that it robs.

Ponder these four conclusions of the renowned historian: the slow but inevitable working of divine justice, the suicidal futility of anger, the emergence of stars in the night, and the fertilization of life through the stings of sacrifice. Do these not point to footprints which lead from pessimism to hope?

Let's be realistic in our view of good and evil. There is popular Pollyanna preaching today which asserts that if we just think things are all right, so they will be. This makes religion too easy.

On the other hand, we can also fool ourselves by seeing things too darkly. Let's face the facts, but try to see all the facts. And when we do, we discover what Saint Paul learned, "Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more."

One of the most fascinating departments of the Federal Bureau of Investigation contains the fingerprints of more than a million criminals. It was organized primarily for the purpose of identifying men and women whose contempt for our laws resulted in their arrest. Fingerprints were regarded as a stigma. Now there is another department of fingerprints in the offices of the FBI. These fingerprints represent thousands of honest citizens who voluntarily submitted themselves to the process. In the event of death or accident, they may be readily identified by their families or friends. What began as a system for trailing evil-doers led to protective measures for law-abiding people.

So often evil has inspired the good to overcome it. Without ravishing fires we might never have improved the old hand-pump of our forefathers.

The best way to overcome evil is to make goodness more attractive. Evil is driven out as darkness is driven out, for evil is the absence of goodness as darkness is the absence of light. We cannot dispel darkness with a fan or a sword. We turn on the light and the shadows flee away. Likewise we turn on our goodness and evil disappears. We can reach for that switch right now, wherever we are.

## The Layman's Column

By  
Charles A. Stuck  
Lay Leader  
North Arkansas Conference



### DOES PRAYER REALLY MATTER?

Without doubt many persons, whether believers in God or not, have asked this question. In these distempered days some persons tell us that prayer is too flimsy a resource with which to meet the hatred that is abroad. Many feel that the whole matter of dependence on God and Christ is too theoretical to be of much use except to little children and old people. Strong men and women who have to meet the harshness of the world must have a lot more than such a "theoretical crutch" for their mental and spiritual needs. Prayer doesn't really matter to some people.

Does prayer really matter? A Methodist missionary, Olin Stockwell, sits alone in a Communist prison cell for fourteen weary, heart-breaking months, never knowing whether he will see his loved ones any more. As lonely and isolated as a drowning man he turns to God in prayer. Then from his lonely pen there springs these beautiful lines:

*Give me, O Lord, the pliant will  
To follow to Golgotha's hill,  
To offer self in love to thee  
Who there didst give thine all for me.*

Does prayer really matter? A mother had three sons on three separate firing lines during World War II. Each son was under fire on several occasions. The days were dark. But that mother never faltered in her faith. It wasn't that she asked God to return her boys. She asked Him to keep her strong in body and spirit to send the comfort and cheer to her sons in addition to managing the affairs of an active household. She did not become bitter or outwardly sad. It was surely the power of prayer that supported her through the days of separation from those whom she loved.

Does prayer really matter? Of course God is not a divine errand boy to come running at every tearful call. But God most certainly is ready and willing to help us if we call upon Him in faith. Prayer is not something we can pick up and lay down like a magazine article. It

## On A Wide Circuit

W. W. Reid

### THE ICE OF HATE CAN DESTROY US

In one of those word-spare but punch-packed poems for which Robert Frost is renowned, the poet has been saying that people believe the world may end in fire or else in ice. He himself leans to the idea of fire; but he adds the surprise stab:

*"I think I know enough of hate  
To say that for destruction ice  
Is also great  
And would suffice."*

Frost has never written a commentary to his poems. We can only imagine what he meant to convey in this now classic metaphor; but it seems clear in its message for our day. It may be that fire — the atomic power of the universe wrongly and destructively used in the hands of men — can and will consume the earth. But hate — the all-powerful "ice" with which man attacks man and nation attacks nation — can do as much destruction as atomic fire.

Hate is the most vengeful and destroying psychological power in the universe: and it consumes the user more fully than the object of its attack. Physicians and psychiatrists agree that many specific diseases (heart ailments, ulcers, asthma, pneumonia, tuberculosis among them) are either caused or made much worse by emotional and psychic disturbances of which hate is a principal offender. "Hating people is like burning down your own house to get rid of a rat," suggests Harry Emerson Fosdick.

It has always been the device of the demagogue to give the people someone to hate (the rich, the Jews, the Americans, etc.) and then the demagogue could work his nefarious plans

is a habit to be required after much practice. Of course prayer matters if we use it often and stay on speaking terms with God. If you want to have proof, try praying to Him at least three times a day for a month and see if you will not be helped in your spiritual life. Yes, prayer certainly does matter.

either unheeded or "with wide public support." Indeed, this has been the objective of some "hate campaigns" in recent years in our own land. Hate blinds us, deafens us, benumbs our reason — and then we become one with the driven mob.

Today we Americans are going through spasms of hate at the very mention of communism, of anyone remotely associated with communism in either China or Russia, or anyone even saying an understanding word for communism in America. We turn our iciest ice upon every mention of communists — we hate them with a hate that is "great for destruction" not only of the forces we oppose but of ourselves as well. Anger, ire, hate, loss of temper: these lead to the breakdown of character and could lead directly to war itself. For hate, like both fire and ice, respects no boundaries, has no inner power to stem its spread.

Speaking recently at Yale, President A. Whitney Griswold suggested that hate of communism is less likely to deter those who follow that philosophy and way of life than it is to hurt us who practice hate.

"Whatever we may think of communism," he said, "to answer those who preach it in kind exposes us to the same fate. . . Somewhere between the extremes of appeasement and hate there is place for courage and strength to express ourselves in magnanimity and charity — and this is the place we must find."

The antithesis to hate — and the middle ground of magnanimity and charity — is love. Not any sentimental or unreasoning surrender, not any weak hoping or wishing or compliance; but that understanding and calculated service to another, the very force of which he cannot resist. It is that mightiest of mighty powers that Jesus comprehended in his cryptic "Love thine enemy." It is this positive love and goodwill that can cause a man or a nation to rise above the consuming ingredients of hate.

Paul understood this power of love (as, alas, we seldom do) when he expanded Jesus' words in writing to the Romans: "Bless those who persecute you: bless and do not curse them. . . Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. . . Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but give place to the wrath of God: for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink, for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

# Infant Baptism and Sprinkling

By

REV. D. MOUZON MANN

FROM the viewpoint of the Methodist who understands the practice of his church, this sermon is unnecessary. We are dealing with a form while believing that spirituality isn't derived from a form. Secondly, we don't defend this practice as the only form. Since we hold that no form in itself will save us, we use most any form available. Should a particular form be taken from us, it wouldn't affect our faith.

However, there are multitudes who think honestly that there is no real basis for infant baptism, who look upon it simply as the dedicatory service for a baby. They think that sprinkling, as a form of baptism, has no authority behind it. Our purpose isn't to change anyone's viewpoint, primarily, but to inform all who do not know on the Biblical, historical and doctrinal reasons for these practices.

Part of this discussion will be on the level that our members have to deal with it from members of other denominations. For example, it has been said that there is no clearcut instruction in the New Testament to baptize infants. Therefore, it is erroneous. By the same token, there is no clearcut instruction in the New Testament to serve women the Lord's Supper. If the reasoning is sound in the first situation, isn't it in the second? Of course, but no church refuses women the Lord's Supper.

A word of caution is in order. You will learn that infant baptism and sprinkling are grounded in Scripture and Church practice of New Testament days. We wish to remind you that most any position, in such matters, can be substantiated by the Bible. Indeed, you'll find grounds for immersion. The Bible itself must be understood; otherwise, we shall conclude that the early Church was in conflict, when it wasn't, and that there is a reason for conflict today, when there isn't.

Just in passing, we'd like to remind you that probably 90 percent of all Christians today were baptized as infants. That doesn't mean that these are right and the others are wrong. Remember, we're saying, in a sense, that no one has to be wrong. It does mean this, at least the 10 per cent ought to be careful before the eternal Judge about questioning the faith of the 90 per cent who were baptized as infants.

Now, what are some reasons for our belief that infant baptism is grounded in the Scripture? Because of the references to the baptism of an entire household, which included not only the immediate family, but the families of slaves and servants. (1 Cor. 1:14-16. Acts 16:14-15; 25-34.) "... it would be only one chance in many a million of there being no small children in the only three households specified. But after all, the strength of our argument does not depend upon whether or not there were little children in these houses. The mere fact that the word household is used demonstrates the thought and custom of the times as to the religious unity of the family." (Wm. P. King, Methodist Position on Controversial Issues, quotes are by permission.)

To say the least, if infant baptism had been a terrible heresy, as some believe, it would have been prohibited in the New Testament. At no place is it forbidden. It isn't particularly enjoined because it was so customary that it wasn't necessary. Peter said: "The promise is to you and your children."

Some say infant baptism is foolish because the child knows nothing about what's happening. Jesus knew nothing about what was happening when he was circumcised at the age of 8 days, but Mary still presented Him at the altar for the ceremony. When He was 40 days old, He was taken again to the Temple for the Ceremony of Presentation. God can bless a child

through baptism. We dare not say that God can't bless a baby.

Baptism is a brand or seal of the baby's membership in the Father's family. If anyone is a member it is an innocent child. You can't study the life of Jesus and reach any other conclusion. The water doesn't save him; it is a seal of a relationship that already exists. Adult baptism doesn't save one; it is a seal of a relationship established by the grace of God and the faith of the adult.

Furthermore, some object: the Scripture says, "Believe, and be baptized." (King, i. e.) "They take this to mean that infants are excluded since belief was stated as a condition of baptism. We must remember, however, that when these words are used, the gospel message is addressed to adults. If this position proves anything, it proves too much, for it says: 'He that believeth not is condemned.' Are the little children then to be lost? No, children are in a saved state until they reach the age of accountability." "Requirements of faith are made upon those only who can exercise it. All others are saved without faith." (W. S. Swift, "Why Baptize" quoted by permission.)

In infant baptism, therefore, the parents make a choice for the baby until he is old enough to choose for himself. This is their Christian responsibility. This is sound, for the parents choose in everything else until the baby is old enough to make his own choice. This approach to the child's spiritual life is directly opposite to that expressed so frequently in these words: "We're going to let our son make up his own mind." We fear that in too many cases this is a cloak for hiding parental failure to develop the spiritual lives of their children.

The first question that is asked the child at the time of his own decision for Christ and uniting with The Methodist Church is this: "Do you renew the solemn promise and vow that was made at your baptism?" The child takes for himself the vow under which he has lived, through his parents, since baptism.

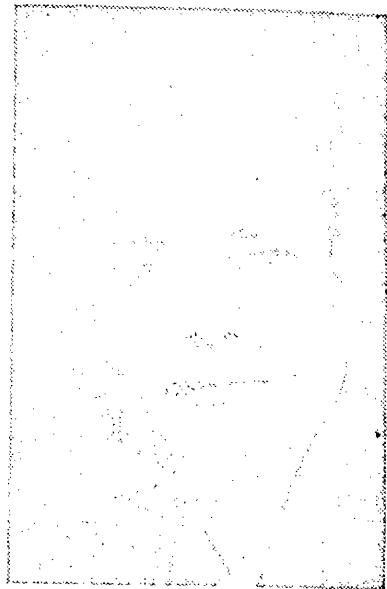
The family is a religious unit as well as a biological unit. This is borne out in the New Testament. When a man confessed faith, his whole family were baptized and joined the Church with him. We still prefer this New Testament way of joining the Church.

This basic situation prevailed in antiquity. (Hastings Bible Dictionary, p. 34) "From the time of Abraham onwards the Jew had felt it a solemn religious obligation to claim for his sons from their earliest infancy the same covenant relationship with God he himself stood in. There was sufficient parallelism between baptism and circumcision (Col. 2:11.) for the Jewish-Christian father to expect the baptism of his children to follow his own as a matter of course. The Apostle assumes as a fact beyond dispute that the children of believers are 'holy' (1 Cor. 7:14), i. e. under the covenant with God, on the ground of their parent's faith."

Secondly, infant baptism is grounded in the Scripture, and sprinkling, consequently, not only in the New Testament, but the entire Bible. An additional guide is the meaning of the word "baptize."

All Christian ceremonies have their antecedents in Jewish practice. From the very beginning, we find signs of the use of sprinkling or pouring in baptizing. The Israelites while in the sea on dry land (Ex. 14:29) were baptized when the clouds poured out water (Ps. 77:17). They were under the cloud (1 Cor. 10:2). In Ezekiel 36, we read, "Then I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean." Philo said: "It was customary for the Jews to sprinkle themselves with river water."

The picture we have of the Holy Spirit baptism, which is the important baptism, is that



REV. D. MOUZON MANN

of pouring. Joel 2:28. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit on all flesh. . ." Peter said in Acts 2:17 that the Pentecostal experience was the fulfillment of this prophecy. Acts 2:3, the baptism of fire is represented as appearing to rest upon the people. This method of baptism by the Holy Spirit is the same figure as that used to describe water baptism—a pouring out, or sprinkling from above.

Now, what was John the Baptist's method of baptism? Many hold that it was pouring or sprinkling. He said: "I baptize with water." The Greek preposition "en" (Matt. 3:11) can be used to mean "in" water or "with" water. In Luke 3:16, we have John's statement using a form that means definitely "with" water. (Swift is the basis of much of the discussion at this point.)

Look again to the meaning of words. The preposition "eis" is sometimes "into" and sometimes "to." So, for example, Phillip and the eunuch could have gone down "into" the water or "to" the water. Both ek and apo are sometimes translated out of and sometimes from. So the reading could be either out of or "from" the water.

The question arises: does "baptize" mean only immerse? No. The word "baptized" in Mark 1:9 is from the same Greek verb as is translated "wash" in Luke 11:33. A translation of Mark 7:3, for example, is: "When they came from the market they will not eat without first sprinkling themselves." The original word for wash is the same as the original for baptize.

We conclude: there can be no doubt about the entire Bible being marked with the practice of infant baptism, or its counterpart, and sprinkling. Further, interspersed in the above discussion are the doctrinal reasons for these practices.

Now, concerning the historical proof—in other words, sources other than the Bible.

Origen, a Greek born about 185, whose Christian heritage went back 3 generations directly to the apostles, says they received the custom of baptizing children from the apostles and that the practice was common among the Churches. (Again we rely on Swift) Justin Martyr, born in Palestine, very likely saw the Apostle John. He wrote in 138 A. D.: "Christian persons of both sexes, some sixty, some seventy years old, who had been made disciples from their infancy. . ." He meant they were baptized as infants. Irenaeus, born 97 A. D., a pupil of Polycarp, who was a convert of the Apostle John, says: "The Church learned from the apostles to give baptism to infants."

If we believe history at all, we must conclude that infant baptism was a common practice in the New Testament Church.

Finally, some say, doesn't it turn out sometimes that the baptism of the infant did no good. Yes, just like the baptism of some adults.

The validity of a sacrament must be established in the hearts of those who partake of it. If the parents are faithful and "rear the child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" as the Scripture says, the child, as a rule, will accept the vow and fulfill in his life the meaning of the Sacrament.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

# Student From Salzburg Leaves Shreveport

By Ella Mae Charlton

ON the 22nd of June, Karin Eskelson high school student from Salzburg, Austria, left Shreveport to join other foreign students for a four weeks tour of the United States before embarking from New York for her home.

Karin attended Byrd High school and lived in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Trickett during her stay in Shreveport. "It has really been a wonderful year," she said as she prepared to leave. "Naturally I am looking forward to seeing my own family again, but I can't put into words what living in the home of my 'adopted family' has meant to me."

Under the sponsorship of the American Field Service and the Shreveport Rotary Club (the Rotary Club paid her transportation both ways), Karin came to the United States in August of 1954. Her first reaction on seeing this country was that everything was very different. But as time passed the differences became less obvious until, as she expressed it, "I had to think twice to remember what the differences really are."

She found the students of Byrd High School friendly and helpful. "They especially tried to help me understand the slang expressions which were so hard for me." She said she was also impressed with the extra curricular activities and school clubs. In her school in Salzburg there are no such activities. It is study and classes there, and she found belonging to the pep squad, being a member of the student council, the French and History Clubs in the local high school a stimulating experience.

During her stay here she attended Noel Memorial Methodist Church where she was a member of the Senior High Department. A member of the Lutheran Church, she found, in her own words, "Not too much difference in the church service, but a great difference in the program of the church. In our church at home," she added, "we have only one worship service on Sunday, sometimes on special occasions there will be two services. But there is no church school, family night, or any of the other many events which are a part of your church."

Members of the Senior High Department and Karin's school friends considered it a privilege to have her become "one of them". One young man expressed it this way, "This plan of the American Field Service to bring about understanding between peoples of the world is really the greatest. Having known Karin makes us have a more friendly feeling toward all the people in Salzburg, all of Austria really."

The purpose of the American Field Service is to promote good will and peace. Founded in 1914 as a volunteer ambulance corps, over 2,000 Americans served in carrying the wounded on the battlefields of France. During World War II the

group reactivated and again drove ambulances in France.

At the close of the war, these volunteers, motivated by the experiences they had known, voted that the American Field Service be re-born in peace as an organization to promote good will among nations. Out of this movement the interchange of teen-age students came into being.

At the same time students have been brought here, arrangements were made for American teen-agers to spend 6 to 8 weeks during the summer in European homes. Students and summer visitors are chosen with care so that they may be honest representatives of their country and become ambassadors of good will. Homes where the young people are to stay, both here and abroad, are carefully selected. Because of this thorough handling the program has continued to grow from the beginning.

The Trickett family, Mr. and Mrs. Trickett, Linda and Edward, agree that the year has not been any more wonderful for Karin than for them. "It has been a meaningful experience," Ed Trickett, spokesman for the family says, "to have had Karin in our home. It has meant as much to us as it could possibly have meant to her. And we are glad," he adds, "that we can feel we are doing our part, small though it may be, toward bringing about a better understanding among peoples of the world."

## BEGIN WORK ON MASTER TV PLAN

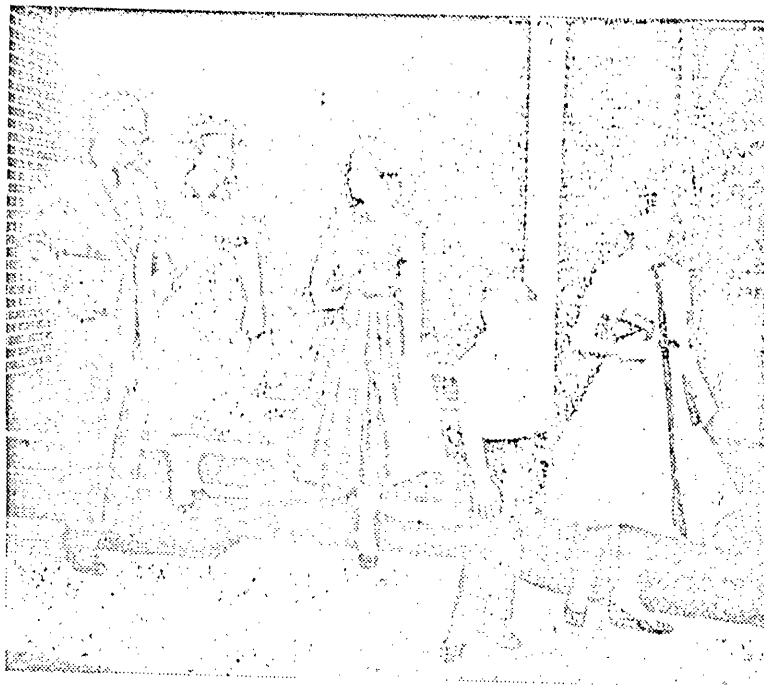
The National Council of Churches has begun work on the development of a master plan for the use of television in Christian education.

The blueprint will focus on the family unit as the primary audience. It is also expected to include suggestions for materials which will enable churches to make television programming a part of their Christian education programs.

Development of the plan was a recommendation of some 60 TV industry and Christian education leaders meeting in Green Lake, Wisconsin, early this month for a consultation of Christian Educational Television.

The Rev. Dr. S. Franklin Mack, director of the National Council's Broadcasting and Film Commission, said the plan envisions the launching of a new program series for children, and the possible later addition of new programs for the family as a whole.

Consultation participants urged the integration of Christian education TV programming on the local and national level and asked that all new programs be preceded by careful research. They suggested that denominational boards of Christian education include guidance material "for purposeful television viewing" in the home and family life literature distributed through the churches.



The Trickett family and Karin, third from left, leave for church on

the last Sunday of Karin's stay in Shreveport.

## TO VISIT SOUTH AMERICAN CHURCHES

Three executives of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church left New York June 29 to attend the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Brazil and to visit Methodist institutions in other Latin American countries.

Two of the group, Dr. James E. Ellis and Miss Marian Derby, will be delegates to the July conference in Rio de Janeiro, having been elected by the Board in April. Dr. Ellis is administrative secretary for Latin America of the Board's Division of World Missions and Miss Derby is executive secretary for Latin America of the Woman's Division of Christian Service. The Methodist Church of Brazil is an independent, self-governing church in the "Methodist family," developed from earlier missions.

The third member of the party, the Rev. H. Burnham Kirkland, also will attend the conference. He is the treasurer of the Division of World Missions. All of the group will visit Methodist missions in Argentina, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Costa Rica and Panama. Mr. Kirkland will return in August and Dr. Ellis and Miss Derby in October.

## MINISTER AT CONFERENCE, MARINE CONDUCTS SERVICE

The marines have again come to the rescue, this time to the Opa-Locka Methodist Church in Miami, Florida.

Pfc. Brad Dinsmore, 20, was on hand to preach three sermons on a recent Sunday when the Rev. Joseph W. Jones, pastor of the church, had to be out-of-town to attend the meeting of his Florida Conference.

Since reporting to the Marine Corps Air Station in Miami, Pfc. Dinsmore, who intends to enter seminary after his marine duty is over, has assisted the minister in secretarial work and in overseeing the construction of the church's new building.

Pfc. Dinsmore is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen B. Dinsmore of 56 Lincoln Road, Saco, Maine. He has attended Thornton Academy in Saco, Maine, and Portland University in Portland, Maine.

## WILL SURVEY MISSION WORK IN AFRICA

The Rev. Dr. Hanford H. Closson pastor of Grace Methodist Church, Rochester, N. Y., and president of the Board of Missions of the Genesee Conference of the Methodist Church, and the Rev. Dr. Jesse A. Engle, of Tarrytown, N. Y., executive secretary of the Division of Education and Cultivation, of the Board of Missions, left Idlewild (L. I.) Airfield on June 29 for a two-months' survey of Methodist mission work in Africa. Dr. Closson is a member of the national Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, and is also president of the Rochester Federation of Churches.

In Africa the two churchmen will visit churches, schools and hospitals, and confer with religious and governmental leaders in Liberia, Belgian Congo, Southern Rhodesia, Mozambique, Angola, and the Union of South Africa.

## PARLIN AGAIN ELECTED TO WCC INTERPRETATION JOB

Charles C. Parlin, Methodist lawyer in charge of press and broadcasting for the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches, has again been elected to head the standing committee on Interpretation and Support of the World Council of Churches in the United States.

This committee of 33 men and women active in church public relations and publications has been re-organized since the meeting of the Second Assembly of the World Council in Evanston last summer. It is a section of the United States Conference for the World Council of Churches.

In addition to Parlin, there are four other Methodists on the committee: H. P. Demand, public relations counselor, Chicago; H. Maurice Fridlund, lawyer, New York; Dorothy McConnell, editor of *Methodist Woman*, New York, and Dr. Ralph Stoddy, director of Methodist Information, New York.

Miss Eleanor Kent Browne, staff secretary for Administration and Finance of the United States Conference for the World Council, is an active worker in St. Mark's Methodist Church in Brooklyn.



## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

**T**HE METHODIST MEN of the Paragould District will meet at Pocahontas on Thursday evening, August 4.

**M**R. J. L. TUCKER, wife of our pastor at Jackson Street Church, Magnolia, underwent surgery at the El Dorado Hospital on Wednesday, July 6.

**R**EV. RALPH HILLIS, pastor of the First Methodist Church of West Memphis, has been elected president of the Ministerial Alliance of West Memphis.

**M**R. B. F. FITZHUGH writes that she is now making her home in Wilmot. Mrs. Fitzhugh is the wife of the late Rev. B. F. Fitzhugh, member of the Little Rock Conference.

**R**EV. BARRY BAILEY, pastor at Lewisville, is doing the preaching in a youth revival at the Jack Mayfield Memorial Methodist Church in Huttig, July 11 through July 15.

**R**EV. AND. MRS. J. W. CARNELL of the Fountain Lake Methodist Church, Hot Springs, were given a reception on June 24 on their return to the church for the second year.

**M**ARRIED at Hunters Chapel on the Roe Circuit on June 26, Mrs. Virginia Trice and Lonnie Steadman with Rev. W. C. Lewis, pastor of the Roe Circuit, performing the ceremony. The couple is at home in DeWitt.

**M**R. AND MRS. JERRY PARTRIDGE of Torrance, California, announce the birth of a son on June 30. Mrs. Partridge is the daughter of Rev. C. V. Mashburn, pastor of Marysville-Fredonia.

**R**EV. CURTIS WILLIAMS, newly appointed pastor of the First Methodist Church of DeWitt, reports that he and Mrs. Williams have been graciously received. The parsonage is the recipient of a 13-foot food freezer, the gift of Miss Hattie Boone Black.

**D**R. AND MRS. WM. E. BROWN of the First Methodist Church, Texarkana, were honored at a Family Night dinner on Wednesday evening, June 6. The dinner was sponsored by members of the Official Board.

**R**EV. J. R. EWBANK is studying at the University of Wisconsin during the month of July under the Economics-in-Action Program. During his absence, the Rev. J. D. Boyack will fill the pulpit of the Mountain View Methodist Church near Little Rock.

**R**EV. AND MRS. A. J. CHRISTIE of Grand Avenue Methodist Church, Hot Springs, were the honorees at a reception given at the church on Sunday evening, June 19. The Woman's Society of Christian Service was in charge of the affair.

**D**R. H. L. JOHNS, associate secretary of the Section of Home Missions of The Methodist Church, spoke on Alaska and showed pictures of that country at the evening service of the First Methodist Church, Ft. Smith, on Sunday, July 10. Dr. Johns was formerly pastor of the First Methodist Church of Monroe, La.

**M**ACEDONIA CHURCH, one of the rural churches on the Leonard Circuit of the Paragould District has recently installed a new Baldwin Orga-sonic in the sanctuary. According to the pastors, Revs. Lee and Ella Anderson, there is a marked increase in the interest in good church music in all three of the circuit churches.

**B**ORN to Mr. and Mrs. Jessup V. Andrews of Little Rock, a daughter, Teresa Ann on June 26. Mr. Andrews is the son of Rev. and Mrs. C. R. Andrews of Leola. Mrs. Andrews, the former Mary Lucille Wallace, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yancey Wallace of Buckner. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are members of Capitol View Methodist Church.

**M**R. C. M. REVES of Conway, wife of Dr. C. M. Reeves of Hendrix College, suffered a broken right arm at the wrist in a fall on Sunday, June 26, at her home as she was going to the car to attend church services and slipped on a wet sidewalk. Dr. Reeves reports that she is doing nicely but that she will be shut in for several weeks.

**A** SUPPER was given at the Black Rock Methodist Church on the Paragould District on Wednesday, June 22, for Rev. and Mrs. Gail G. Anderson and daughter, Janis, who left for their new charge at Wheatley the following day. The family was presented with an electric percolator by the church. The Methodist Youth Fellowship gave pastel bed linens to Mrs. Anderson and a gold locket to Janis.

**M**ISS MARGARET JEAN ELLIS, daughter of Dr. Matt L. Ellis, president of Hendrix College, Conway, and Mrs. Ellis, was married on June 30 to Maurice D. Edwards at the home of the bride on the Hendrix campus. Mr. Edwards is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Edwards of Conway. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards will live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**T**HE PARSONAGE COMMITTEE of the Mountain View Church, Little Rock, sponsored an open house at the parsonage on Sunday, June 26, in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Ewbank. Mrs. Harold J. Harris is the chairman of the committee. She was assisted by Mrs. George Trammell, Mrs. Jim McKnight, Mrs. J. W. Baker, Mrs. A. B. Andrews and others. The couple was presented with a silver tray.

**R**EV. AND MRS. J. H. HOGGARD of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Ft. Smith, were honored with a reception at the church on Sunday, June 26, following the evening worship, on their return for the fourth year. After words of appreciation to Brother and Mrs. Hoggard, they were presented with a love gift. Refreshments were served by the Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Wesleyan Service Guild with Mrs. Garland Wells in charge.

**T**HE CHOIR of the First Methodist Church, Stuttgart, attended the Wednesday evening rehearsal of the Chancel Choir of the First Methodist Church, Little Rock, on July 6. A fellowship period was held under the direction of the Social Committee of the host church and refreshments were served. Mrs. M. F. Elms is director of the Stuttgart choir and Dr. B. C. Alstadt is organist. John H. Summers is organist and choirmaster of First Church, Little Rock.

**B**ISHOP PAUL E. MARTIN led in groundbreaking ceremonies for two Methodist churches in Pine Bluff on Sunday afternoon, July 3. One was for the recently organized St. Luke Methodist Church of which Dr. Clem Baker is pastor. The other was for the sanctuary of the new Wesley Methodist Church of which Rev. Winslow Brown is pastor. Bishop Martin was assisted by Dr. Arthur Terry, district superintendent, the pastors of the churches and other ministers in the district.

**O**PEN HOUSE for the new parsonage and a reception for the pastor, Rev. W. D. Golden, and his family were held jointly at the parsonage in Prescott on June 23, from 3:00 to 5:00 and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The visitors were received by Rev. and Mrs. Golden and Simone. They were directed through the new parsonage by Mrs. Ruby Duke, Mrs. H. H. McKenzie, Mrs. O. G. Hirst and Mrs. Dan Pittman. The house was decorated with flowers sent by members of the congregation. A dedication service for the parsonage will be held in the near future.

**R**EV. MAURICE LANIER writes: "Our new address is Bondville, Illinois. I am pastor of the Methodist Church and this is a student charge. I expect to enter Garrett Biblical Institute in September to continue my seminary training. I attended Yale Divinity School for two years, 1943-45, and I now hope to complete the

requirements for the B. D. degree at Garrett. My wife and I will enjoy reading the **Arkansas Methodist** to help keep informed about the Methodist Church in Arkansas and about our friends here."

**M**R. W. HENRY GOODLOE, wife of the Ft. Smith District Superintendent, has been invited for the second consecutive year to teach in the Oklahoma Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service School of Missions at Camp Egan, July 11-15. The following week, July 18-22, she will teach in the School of Missions at Oklahoma City. This school is sponsored jointly by the Oklahoma Conference WSCS and the Oklahoma City Council of Church Women. In both schools Mrs. Goodloe will teach the foreign mission topic, "The Christian Mission in a Revolutionary World."

**O**FFICERS of the Rose Couples Class of the First Methodist Church of Camden for the new year are Robert Reeves, president; Maury Barnes, vice-president; Jimmy Soffos, treasurer; Laura Fooks, secretary; Catherine Spain, assistant secretary; Al Rose and Bill Lester, teachers. The class was organized in January, 1948, with 17 members. The membership today is over 130. In the past year the class has made many improvements, including new floor tile, painting, redecorating, addition of tapestries, new lectern built by class, a religious painting of Moses and the Ten Commandments by Frank Harrison, member of the class and in past few weeks installation of two air conditioners.

### DR. STOWE DIES IN LAWTON, OKLAHOMA

Dr. J. J. Stowe, age 85, former member of the Little Rock Conference, died at the home of his son, Dr. J. J. Stowe, Jr., in Lawton, Oklahoma, on Thursday, June 3.

Dr. Stowe served a number of charges in the Little Rock Conference, among them the First Methodist Church of Hot Springs. He also served as district superintendent of the Arkadelphia District and the Camden District. He had made his home in Nashville, Tenn., for a number of years prior to his death.

Dr. McFerrin Stowe, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Oklahoma City, is also a son of Dr. Stowe.

Funeral services were held at the McKendree Methodist Church of Nashville, Tenn., on Saturday, July 2.

### NEW EDITORS FOR METHODIST PUBLICATION ANNOUNCED

The Rev. Romey Pitt Marshall, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, Lock Haven, Pa., has been elected editor of the North Carolina *Christian Advocate*, Methodist weekly published at 429 West Gaston St., Greensboro.

He will assume the editorial post August 1, succeeding the Rev. Cecil W. Robbins, who has been elected president of Louisburg College, a Methodist school at Louisburg, N. C.

Dr. Marshall was associate editor of the *Christian Advocate*, national Methodist newspaper published in Chicago, from 1941 to 1945, and previously he served five years as editor of the *Florida Methodist*.

In other editorial changes, the Rev. S. E. Ashmore is the new editor of the *Mississippi Methodist Advocate*, a weekly published in Jackson, Miss., succeeding the Rev. Clinton T. Howell, who has returned to the pastorate in Aberdeen, Miss., and the Rev. John David Erb, who has been elected acting editor of *Zions Herald*, published monthly at 581 Boylston St., Boston by the Boston Wesleyan Association. He succeeds the Rev. J. T. Copplestone who resigned to return to the pastorate.

New editor of the monthly *Florida Methodist* is the Rev. Charles A. Thompson, Winter Haven, Fla., who has held the position once before. He succeeds the Rev. Bascom W. Carlton, Enterprise, Fla.

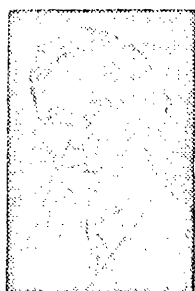
The former *Oklahoma Methodist*, a conference monthly, has been expanded to serve a two-state episcopal area and renamed the *Oklahoma-New Mexico Methodist*. It will be issued every two weeks. The editor is the Rev. E. L. Jorns, Oklahoma City.

ARKANSAS METHODIST



Jehu's

Chariot



By

Rev. R. A. Teeter

in modern form. You know about Jehu? He drove a chariot in ancient Israel and it was said to be the fastest thing on wheels. That sounds modern doesn't it — fast, speed. Two kings, one of Judah and one of Israel, looked down the road one day and saw something coming in a cloud of dust, there being no pavement or black top roads in that day. They sent a messenger to find out what was coming, and "the thing" gobbled him up. They sent another, and it devoured him too. Then they could see that it was a chariot coming, and one said: "The driving is like the driving of Jehu, the son of Nimshi; for he driveth furiously." It was Jehu in person — the speed king of his day — and he was on his way to commit murder. He got the job done too, killing two kings, Joram and Ahaziah in a few minutes. Then he roared on to kill a woman — Jezebel. She needed killing all right according to the standards of the day. But it was a gruesome way to do it — throwing her out of a second story window for the dogs to eat, which thing they did in a few minutes. Then he proceeded to kill seventy of her sons and stepsons. Jehu drove furiously in more ways than one.

This "modern Jehu" passed me in a whiz, riding in his twelve cylinder chariot — the fastest thing on wheels. I got a glimpse of him. Then a few miles down the road I got a good view of him — the slowest thing on wheels, a dead man in a hearse. If you're in a hurry to kill some one, ranging from a king to yourself just drive like Jehu. Take pride in being the fastest thing on wheels. Speed will get the job done.

But there is one thing speed will not do. It will not find a satisfying knowledge of God. "Be still and know that I am God." It's a good thing to stop and look at something standing still like a mountain or a great tree motionless in the sun.

### GENTRY HOLDS GROUND BREAKING SERVICES

On Sunday morning, July 3, the congregation of the Gentry Methodist Church held ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Educational Building. Dr. Roy Bagley, Fayetteville District Superintendent, delivered a most inspirational sermon at the morning worship hour. At the close of that service, the congregation moved out to the building site for the actual ground-breaking.

The first person to turn a spade of dirt was Mrs. J. M. Carl, who has been a member of Gentry Methodist Church since 1899. Others who turned shovels of dirt were H. C. Magruder, Chairman of the Official Board; Lyle Glass, Chairman of the Building Committee; Mrs. A. M. Steele, President of the Woman's Society of Christian Service; Henry Pendl, Church School

### LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE HAS LARGE BLOOMINGTON DELEGATION

Twenty-three persons from the Little Rock Conference will attend the National Methodist Town and Country Conference in Bloomington, Indiana, July 22-25, according to Rev. C. Ray Hozendorf, chairman of the Little Rock Conference Town and Country Commission.

The theme for the conference is "Town and Country Methodism Facing the next Half Century." Bishop Paul E. Martin is the Chairman of the study group on the "Group Ministry and Similar plans of Cooperation." Rev. Mr. Hozendorf is a member of the "Interboard Committee on Town and Country Work" which is promoting the Conference and which was authorized by the 1952 General Conference. Other study groups include Conference Town and Country Commission, Recruiting and Training Leadership, Colleges and Theological Schools, Christian Education in Town and Country, Evangelism in Town and Country, Outreach of the Town and Country Church Through Missions, The Church and the Family, Christian Vocations in Town and Country Areas, Community Outreach of the Church, The Church and Class Structure, Christian Stewardship, Land, Food and the World Situation, The Methodist Church and Other Religious Groups, Church Building in Town and Country, Worship and Music in Town and Country.

All sessions of the Conference will be held on the campus of Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana.

Delegates from the Little Rock Conference include, Rev. Louis W. Averitt, Fordyce; Hugh Bragg, Route 1, Benton; Dr. Francis A. Buddin, Little Rock; Rev. Harold K. Davis, Bryant; Mrs. J. Russell Henderson, Little Rock; Rev. and Mrs. C. Ray Hozendorf, Magnolia; Rev. Joe Hunter, Emmett; Rev. Elbert B. Jean, Strong; Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Landers, Altheimer; Rev. and Mrs. Robert B. Moore, Camden; Rev. and Mrs. Robert B. Moore, Jr., Portland; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. McKinnon, Parker's Chapel; Rev. Clyde T. Parsons, Ashdown; T. A. Prewitt, Tillar; Rev. and Mrs. Robert L. Riggins, Bayou Meto; Dr. E. C. Rule, Hope; Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Savage, Sheridan; Rev. and Mrs. Harold Scott, Altheimer; Mr. and Mrs. John H. Simpson, Almyra; Rev. Kenneth L. Spore, Monticello; H. E. Sutton, Emmett; Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Terry, Pine Bluff; and Rev. Osborne White, Star City.

### BELLEFONTE METHODIST FISH FRY

The Bellefonte Methodist Church got the new year off to a good start by enjoying the fellowship of

Superintendent; Mrs. Blanche Rogers, President of Willing Workers Class; Patsy Foresee, President of Methodist Youth Fellowship; Rev. Worth W. Gibson, Pastor, and Dr. Bagley.

The new Educational Building will be constructed at a cost of \$17,000. It will have a total ground area of 4,500 square feet. It will match and will connect onto the sanctuary, so that the total plant will be an U-shaped structure. The building will be completed by fall or early winter. — Reporter.

### FROM HENDRIX COLLEGE

Seven Methodist church groups of the state are holding meetings on the Hendrix campus this summer. The series began with the North Arkansas Youth Assembly held June 7-11 with approximately 100 in the 16-23 age group enrolled.

The Conway-Searcy Districts held an assembly for senior high school youth at the college from June 20-24. Others which have been held during the summer are the North Arkansas Young Adult Conference, June 25-26; the North Arkansas Senior Adult Conference for adults over 65, June 27-30; and the Conway District Intermediate group for youth 12-14 years of age, July 5-9.

The North Arkansas Woman's Society of Christian Service is holding a meeting at the college from July 11-15. Final meeting of the summer will be the annual Arkansas Pastors School to be held September 5-9 with approximately 250 Methodist ministers from throughout the state attending.

#### New Dean of Women

Mrs. Ella Myrl Shanks of the Speech faculty will succeed Miss Marie Williams in August as dean of women at Hendrix.

Miss Williams is returning to the dean of women's staff at Florida State University, Tallahassee. She came to Hendrix from Florida State in 1946.

Mrs. Shanks will continue as head of speech and dramatics at the college and will continue to do some teaching. Joining the staff this fall to assist in teaching will be Miss Patty Jo Hoff of Little Rock. Miss Hoff was a speech major at Hendrix, where she graduated with honors in 1954. She received the master of arts degree in speech from the University of Arkansas last month. She is a counselor this summer at Camp Junaluska for Girls in North Carolina.

Mrs. Shanks came to Hendrix in 1952 from Arkansas College, where she taught speech and directed the Harlequin Theater. She holds the A.B. degree from Arkansas College and A.M. from the Northwestern University School of Speech. She is in Columbia University Graduate School for advanced work in speech this summer.

Miss Williams holds the A.B. degree from former Galloway Woman's College at Searcy and the A.M. degree from the Teachers Col-

a fish fry Wednesday evening, June 22nd.

Rev. Alvin Gibbs, the pastor, who being welcomed back for another year donned a chef's apron and cap and proved that he could serve in more ways than one by frying the fish and hush-puppies in an open pot out in the open air.

Our ladies of the church enjoyed the new facilities of their new church kitchen by preparing all of the trimmings that go with a fish fry. Green salads from their own well laden gardens seemed especially good.

The bountiful meal was served in the church basement which has recently been completed and furnished with new tables and chairs recently purchased.

Everybody, young and old, enjoyed a wonderful fellowship and social hour of games led by the pastor. A short business session followed in which a kitchen supervisor and church reporter were elected. — Church Reporter.

lege of Columbia University. She has been active in the American Association of University Women and various professional organizations. She was a teacher of English in El Dorado High School from 1927 to 1944.

#### Will Join Science Staff

Arthur A. Johnson of Maperville, Ill., will join the Hendrix science faculty in September.

Mr. Johnson will take the place of Dr. Paul Harding, Jr., member of the faculty since 1952, who has left the college in order to enter government service.

A graduate in 1950 from the University of Minnesota, Mr. Johnson received the master of science degree from the University of Illinois in 1952 and is scheduled to complete all work there for the Ph.D. degree this summer.

During his graduate study, Mr. Johnson has held fellowships in the University of Illinois and also at the Duke University Marine Biological Station. He has done work for the U.S. Public Health Service. He is a member of two honorary science fraternities, Phi Sigma and Sigma Xi. For 33 months following his graduation from high school, Mr. Johnson was in the U.S. Army.

#### Dean's List

Thirty-one students won place on the Dean's List for superior scholastic achievement during the semester ending in June. Requirements for the list include making at least a B-plus average in all classwork.

On the list are the following: Ruth Anderson, Jim Browne, Bob Clark, George Kamp, Hornor Lyford, Claire Moore and Betty Woodiel of Conway; Jim Armstrong, Martha Choate, John Gill, and Dennis Lucy of Little Rock; Bill Blackburn, Gloria Mason and L. M. Phillips of North Little Rock; Mansel Baker and Robert Rorex of El Dorado; Thomas Cook of Fort Smith; Bill Gentry and Al Graves of Hope; Ernest Nipper of Camden; Meredith Miller, John Pike and David Schallhorn of DeWitt; Frances Pearson of Hooks, Texas; Nelda Peoples of Jacksonville, Texas; Sherry Sager of Gillett; Norman Totten of Benton; Beverly Whitaker of Harrisburg, and Marthell Williams of Helena.—Mary Lou Nipper, Reporter.

### BAPTISMAL FONT GIVEN TO MARION CHURCH

A baptismal font of Gothic design, finished to match the pulpit and other altar furnishings, was presented to the Marion Methodist Church by Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Stone of Fayetteville in the morning service Sunday, July 10.

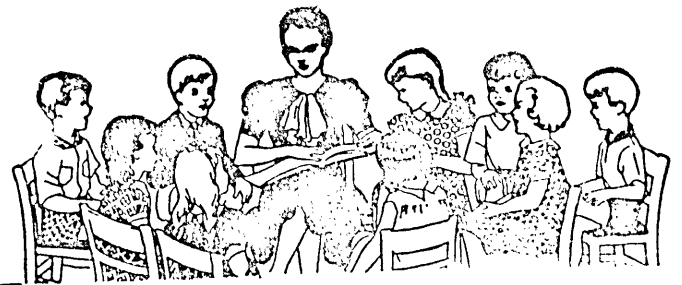
Mrs. Stone presented the font in loving memory of Mary Stokes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stokes, who died August 4, 1954. It was accepted by E. A. Rieves, Jr., chairman of the church's official board and the Rev. I. L. Claud, presented the words of dedication and offered the dedicatory prayer.

Mrs. Stone is the sister of Mrs. J. F. Fogleman of Marion and great aunt of Mary Stone Stokes.

Immediately following the dedicatory service, Charlotte Alberta Stokes, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stokes, and namesake of Mrs. Stone, was presented by her parents for christening by the Rev. Mr. Claud.

# A Page For The CHILDREN

ANNIE WINBURNE, Editor



## A DEED OF KINDNESS

By Agnes Burden Dustin

A boy of 18 left his country home in Kentucky to travel to the nearest city to look for work. It was his first venture into the great world to search for fame and fortune.

To save expense, he traveled 20 miles on foot to the nearest town on the stagecoach line, carrying his clothes in a carpet bag, and spent the night at the inn, helping the hostler, to pay for supper and breakfast.

His fare took the last dollar from his purse, but that fact was not disturbing; and it was with a feeling of exaltation that he stowed away his bag and swung himself up to the seat beside the driver in the stage-coach.

The driver had gathered up his reins when a woman, with a shabby bonnet and shawl, rushed up to the coach and implored a seat.

"Can't take you this time madam," the driver refused civilly. "Every seat is taken. There isn't room to squeeze in a cat."

"But I must go! I must!" begged the woman, tears choking her voice, "I have word that my son is terribly sick, and he's alone in the city, and he'll die! And he's all I have!"

The driver got down and looked inside the coach. He shook his head as he slowly climbed back to his seat. As he had said, there was no room.

The boy could not bear the tragic despair of the woman's worn face. With a bound he was on the ground beside her, rescued his bag, and, thrusting his ticket into her toil-roughened fingers, helped her to his seat. Not a word was said, the driver cracked his long whip; the coach rolled away in a cloud of dust, leaving the boy standing alone in the road.

He was, turning away, bag in hand, whistling to keep up his courage, when a man who had witnessed the little transaction from the walk stepped up and accosted him. He soon learned the facts in the case; and, after studying the boy's face

thoughtfully, said:

"Young man, how would you like to study law?"

"Like it? Of course I'd like it," declared the boy, for that was one of his dreams for the future.

"Then you come into my office," decided the man. "I think we'll suit each other."

That was the beginning. The boy recognized his opportunity when it came and made the most of it. Later in life he became a successful lawyer in that city to which he did not travel as a boy; served two terms in the United States Senate; and was elected governor of his state.

Now I don't mean to say that every boy whose actions are ruled by compassion and kindness will meet with the prompt appreciation and help that came to this country

## A MUSICIAN OF BOHEMIA

By Margaret Zinn

Once a ragged little boy followed a strolling musician as he moved from corner to corner on the streets of the little village of Mulhausen, Bohemia. The boy's father was a butcher and wished his son to continue in the same trade. But cutting meat was hard to do when the strains of a violin were floating hauntingly through the window.

This boy was Antonin Dvorak, destined to become the great Bohemian musician. He was born September 8, 1841. His parents were very poor so he had very little education and very little musical training. But he listened intently to the

boy; but courtesy and kindness are great factors in a successful life, and often pay larger dividends than we know.—Kind Words.

few musicians who came to the village.

Soon he was traveling along the highways and through the forests of his native country, always listening to the songs of the peasants, paying his way by fiddling for fairs and weddings. Later, he gave the world great symphonies through which are woven these simple folk tunes.

After he became famous in his own country, he was invited to tour the United States. While here, he gathered folk tunes from different parts of America and wove them into one of our greatest musical compositions, The New World Symphony. In it we find such old familiar melodies as "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" and many others.

"Humoresque" is perhaps the most familiar of his Bohemian compositions.—Upward

## MUD PUDDLE

By M. Parsons

The puddle in the pathway  
Is as lovely as can be,  
In it I see the waving hands  
Of our old maple tree.  
Pink hollyhocks and sunflowers,  
And robins sometimes too,  
And lovely things like lacy clouds  
Are mirrored in its blue.  
A butterfly floats over it,  
Her gorgeous wings to see,  
And who's that chubby person  
there?  
Well, now, that might be me!  
I think it is the strangest thing,  
No matter what the day.  
That old brown puddle beauty  
finds  
In all that comes its way.

—In The Christian Advocate

## JUST FOR FUN

Salesgirl, handing package to customer: Do you want to take this with you, or shall I send it direct to the exchange department?

\* \* \*

A man who was continually losing his collar button while dressing complained to his wife about it. With an ingenuity born of the use of hairpins, she told him to hold his collar button in his mouth. The next morning, she was startled by an unusual commotion.

"What's the matter?" she asked anxiously.

"I've swallowed the collar button," said the man.

"Well," responded his wife, "there's one comfort; for once in your life you know where it is."

\* \* \*

Hear about the men from Mars who landed in a field, marched up to a cow and said: "Take us to your president at once!"—Mike Connolly, Hollywood Reporter.

## ARKANSAS METHODIST

## THE CHILDREN'S PRAYER SONG

Father, bless thy little children  
As we come to Thee in prayer;  
We are safe from harm and danger,  
For we have thy loving care.

Father, for our homes we thank thee  
And our parents kind and dear,  
For the sunshine and the flowers,  
For sweet bird songs that we hear.

Father, fill our hearts with kindness  
For all children of the earth;  
We would love them of all races,  
In whatever land their birth.

Father, for our lives we thank thee,  
For our clothing, food, and friends;  
Everything we have dear Father,  
On thy loving care depends.

Elizabeth Mae Crosby, in  
Wesleyan Christian Advocate



## A GIFT

Mother and Dad are taking a look  
At my birthday present, a story book.

There are tales of helpers, brave and true  
And some of the noble things they do.

There are stories there of other lands  
And boys and girls with helping hands.

Stories of friends of every kind,  
So many of these they call to mind.

I've learned to love these stories so,  
A book is the nicest gift I know.

—A. E. W.



# WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE • WESLEYAN SERVICE GUILD

## ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA AREA

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS AT GARDNER MEMORIAL

Gardner Memorial Church of North Little Rock honored six of its leaders in the Woman's Society and Guilds during the past year with Life memberships in the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Early in the year Mrs. Claude Wilson, retiring local president and District Vice-president, was presented a Life Membership pen at a combined meeting of the circles. At Christmas time Mrs. S. J. Lyons, local Treasurer and Mission study leader and District officer, was presented a Life Membership pen at a dinner honoring new members.

At Easter, Mrs. R. J. Goss and Mrs. Oscar Goss were presented Life Memberships in a morning worship service, recognizing their many services in the Church, especially their work with children and youth. Mrs. Irl Bridenthal was presented a membership pen from the Guild at the Annual Conference

### GUILD SEMINAR AT ALDERSGATE

The fourth annual educational seminar of the Little Rock Conference Wesleyan Service Guilds will be held at Camp Aldersgate, July 16-17, according to Mrs. R. B. Thomas, conference guild secretary. The approved studies for the woman's division will be presented as follows:

"The Christian Mission In A Revolutionary World", Miss Theresa Hoover; "An Introduction to Five Spiritual Classics", Dr. J. D. Boyack; "Indian Americans", Mrs. Wm. Shepherd; "To Combine Our Efforts For Lasting Peace", Mrs. J. Russel Henderson. Also panel discussions on lines of work and organization and promotion.

Rev. James Robert Scott, pastor

held in Batesville. Mrs. Carl Sadler, retiring president of the Irene Taylor Guild, was presented a life membership pen at the officer installation in May.

of Primrose Church, will talk on The World Council of Churches on Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. Ralph Artigo and Checka Berryhill, students spending the summer at Aldersgate will be presented Sunday morning at the eleven o'clock hour. "Crown Thy Good With Brotherhood" is the theme for the meeting this year. Registration will begin at one o'clock Saturday and will be in charge of Miss Faye Rollins, 2917 West 24th Street, Little Rock. Miss Rollins is a member of the Henderson Wesleyan Service Guilds. Literature will be available at the Aldersgate seminar.

All local, district and conference officers urged to attend! All members are invited.

### DANVILLE W.S.C.S. AND W.S.G. MEETING

Members of the Wesleyan Service Guild of Danville Methodist Church were hostesses at a dinner

meeting, Thursday evening, June 23rd, when the Guild and the Woman's Society of Christian Service had a joint installation of officers. Mrs. R. C. Keathley and Mrs. S. C. Tucker assisted by others were in charge of the dinner which was served at the Home Economic Cottage.

Mrs. Dickey Keathley welcomed guests and introduced Mrs. Oral McCarrell who gave an interesting report on a district meeting she had attended in North Little Rock.

Rev. Paul Lanier installed officers of both organizations. WSCS officers: Mrs. Oral McCarrell, president; Mrs. Baxter Gatlin, vice-president; Mrs. Eston Smith, recording secretary; Mrs. H. C. Minnis, treasurer. WSG officers: Mrs. Dickey Keathley, president; Mrs. Aubrey Cowger, vice-president; Mrs. W. C. Landers, recording secretary; Mrs. Hays Scisson, treasurer.

Mrs. Gatlin, Mrs. Eric Caviness, and Mrs. Clarence Pledger presented the worship and pledge service. Pledge cards for the year were signed.—Mrs. T. R. Pound, reporter

### NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

#### FINANCIAL REPORT—1954-55

<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	
Pledge:	
W.S.C.S.	\$41,228.15
W.S.G.	10,726.49
Special Memberships:	
W.S.C.S.	4,740.00
W.S.G.	1,255.00
Missionary Projects:	
W.S.C.S.	2,431.01
W.S.G.	114.60
Treasure Chests:	
W.S.C.S.	2,129.10
W.S.G.	504.34
Emma Nell Wayland:	
W.S.C.S.	744.21
W.S.G.	112.00
In Remembrance Gifts:	
W.S.C.S.	373.00
W.S.G.	5.00
Children, Gifts to	
Missions:	
W.S.C.S.	143.87
Supply Work—Home:	
W.S.C.S.	5,884.36
W.S.G.	1,072.06
Supply Work—Foreign:	
W.S.C.S.	2,142.88
W.S.G.	292.45
Week of Prayer:	
W.S.C.S.	3,633.31
W.S.G.	813.61
Narcotic Education:	
W.S.C.S.	389.45
W.S.G.	186.17
Supplementary Gift:	
W.S.C.S.	100.00
W.S.G.	5.00
Miscellaneous:	
W.S.C.S.	49.70
W.S.G.	11.25
W.S.C.S.	\$64,439.04
W.S.G.	15,097.97
Total from District	
Treasurers	\$79,587.01
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS:</b>	
M. Y. Fund	\$ 1,225.42
Refunds	1,009.46
Guild Supply Work	16.90
Collection at Conference	234.34
Miscellaneous	92.56
	2,627.78
Total Received from	
1954-1955	\$82,214.79
Balance brought forward	
June 1st 1954	12,038.53
Total to be accounted for	\$94,253.32
<b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b>	
<b>TO DIVISION—</b>	
Pledge to Missions:	
W.S.C.S.	\$56,223.91
W.S.G.	10,311.00
Special Memberships:	
W.S.C.S.	4,790.00
W.S.G.	1,350.00
Missionary Projects:	
W.S.C.S.	2,411.01
W.S.G.	114.60
Treasure Chests:	
W.S.C.S.	140.20
W.S.G.	111.99
In Remembrance Gifts:	
W.S.C.S.	373.00
W.S.G.	5.00
Children—Gifts to	
Missions	143.87
M. Y. Fund	1,225.42
W.S.C.S.	\$45,307.41
W.S.G.	11,892.59
Total on Appropriations	\$57,200.00

<b>Supply Work:</b>	
Home	\$ 6,617.07
Foreign	2,323.08
Week of Prayer	4,446.87
Supplementary Gift	115.00
Division Cultivation	36.35
Miscellaneous	19.75
	13,558.12
Total sent to Division	\$70,758.12
<b>OTHER DISBURSEMENTS:</b>	
Cooperative:	
Social Work, Booneville..	366.67
"Sunshine Fund",	
Booneville	100.00
Car Expense	1,077.44
Record Player	64.21
Ark. Council of Church	
Women	25.00
Narcotic Education	1,000.00
Dora Hoover Scholarship	350.00
Miscellaneous	30.99
	3,014.31
<b>Administrative:</b>	
Jurisdiction Cultivation	508.68
District Cultivation	3,114.43
Conference Cultivation	1,978.26
Juris. School of Missions	153.39
Conf. School of Missions	174.53
	5,929.34
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	
Printing	806.36
Supply Work (W.S.G.)	484.00
Projector, etc.	135.68
Tires, etc.	215.80
Miss Gerhart's	
Itineration	38.83
Honorarium	30.00
Exchange	8.70
Miscellaneous	153.78
	1,914.15
Total Disbursements	10,857.80
Balance on books May 31st,	\$81,615.92
1955	12,637.40
Total Accounted for	\$94,253.32
<b>—MRS. BEN DeVOLL, Treasurer</b>	

<b>SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS</b>	
<b>BATESVILLE DISTRICT:</b>	
Life: Mrs. W. B. Huff, Newport 1st Ch.	
Adult Life: Mrs. J. Wesley Yeager, Mrs. Flora Dodd, Mrs. Clarence Joyce, Batesville Central Avenue; Mrs. Sibyl Wann, W. S. G., Batesville Central Avenue; Mrs. Edgar Morris, Mountain Home; Mrs. Marie H. Barrett, Mrs. Ben Torian, Mrs. M. L. Pugh, Mrs. Joe V. Wilson, Mrs. W. E. Conner Sr., Mrs. Bill Duncan, Mrs. M. O. Valentine, Mrs. R. L. Harper, Newport 1st Church; Mrs. Rowena C. Bengel, Mrs. Claudia S. Taylor, W.S.G., Newport 1st Church. Honorary Youth: Jane Purdy, Carolyn Lindsey, Marcia Heatherly, Anne Elizabeth Eubanks, Newport 1st Church. Honorary Baby: Mark Austin Williams, Mary Louise Wilson, Dennis Lynn Ford, Catherine Marguerite Pierce, Sandra Jane Doherty, Batesville Central Avenue; Cynthia Hodges, Terry Louise Larrimore, Patricia Fredericks, Newport 1st Church; Laura Jean Penix, Martha Elaine Boyce, Tuckerman.	
<b>CONWAY DISTRICT:</b>	
Adult Life: Mrs. Hettie Bailey, Atkins; Mrs. David Griffin, W. S. G. Atkins; Mrs. C. J. Greene, Conway 1st Church; Mrs. G. A. Hulen, W. S. G. Conway 1st Church; Mrs. James Upton, Conway District; Mrs. Lee Cloud, Dover; Mrs. Paul Powell, Mrs. L. B. Ball, North	

Little Rock 1st Church; Mrs. Leslie Hereford, W.S.G. North Little Rock 1st Ch.; Mrs. Elizabeth Goss, Mrs. Edna Goss, North Little Rock Gardner Memorial; Mrs. Irl Bridenthal, Mrs. Ida Sadler, W.S.G. North Little Rock Gardner Memorial; Honorary Baby: Dale Lynn Burnett, W.S.G., Levy.

**FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT:** Adult Life: Mrs. Beatrice Coger, Mrs. W. D. Jackson, Bentonville; Mrs. Fred Douglas, W.S.G. Bentonville; Mrs. Russell Broyles, Farmington; Mrs. F. F. Nonnamaker, Mrs. Fred Kerr, Fayetteville, Central; Miss Lillian Blackburn, Mrs. Mac Pierce, Miss Mary Ellen Hill, W.S.G. Fayetteville Central; Mrs. Elizabeth Pearson, Gravette; Mrs. Ross Mitchell, Harmon; Mrs. A. E. Mitchell, Mrs. Mable Anderson, Mrs. Martha Britt, Mrs. Marie Hawkins, Rogers; Mrs. Laura Fentem, Mrs. Mary Shopner, W.S.G. Rogers; Mrs. Mary Holdridge, W.S.G. Siloam Springs. Honorary Junior: Mona Jo Reed, W.S.G. Rogers. Honorary Baby: John Gabriel Sugg, Susan Dianne Shibley, Fayetteville Central; Joseph David Cupps, Harmon; Luanne McKinney, Huntsville; Dixie Marlene Wambsgans, Edwin Rickey Buttram, Oakley Chapel; Steven Austin Jacks, Rogers; Mary Ruth Powell, Siloam Springs.

**FORREST CITY DISTRICT:** Adult Life: Mrs. R. A. Scott, Earle; Mrs. C. W. Heustess, Mrs. Carroll Wood, Forrest City; Mrs. Finis McDaniel, W.S.G. Forrest City; Mrs. George Newbern, Mrs. Earl Mayo, Mrs. J. O. Payne Sr., Marianna; Mrs. Chloe Weaver Dacus, Mrs. Clara Weaver Owen, West Memphis; Mrs. Opal Flanagan, W.S.G. West Memphis; Mrs. William Hall, Widener-Round Pond. Honorary Baby: Bertha Wong, Claudia Lee Jennings, Elaine; Robin Laurel Weaver, Marvel.

**FT. SMITH DISTRICT:** Adult Life: Mrs. John Kenney, Mrs. Cynthia Kincannon, Booneville; Miss Charlotte Patterson, W.S.G. Booneville; Mrs. Garland Harmon, Clarksville; Mrs. Ollie Frazier, Mrs. J. H. Hill, Mrs. K. W. Keltner, Mrs. Sam Allen, Mrs. W. T. Reynolds, Mrs. H. Q. Hamilton, Mrs. S. E. Hinkle, Mrs. Anna Speakman, Mrs. Jas. K. Fraser, Mrs. Harley Goodman, Mrs. Don Flanders, Mrs. Ralph Blair, Mrs. Douglas Parker, Mrs. Buford Poe, Mrs. Claude Huff, Mrs. Hays Petree, Mrs. D. Whittenburg, Mrs. Leo Cole, Mrs. KeKmit Keifer, Mrs. E. L. Peterson, Mrs. Joe Sinaid, Ft. Smith First Church; Miss Anna Marie Wernitz, Mrs. Helen Cunningham, Mrs. Lena Crow, Mrs. Lucille Good, Jennie Harriess, Mabel Richardson, Lois Schrodt; Mrs. W. W. Reints, Mrs. W. L. Cunningham, Ft. Smith Midland Heights; Mrs. James Knight, Mrs. Murry Hall, Ft. Smith St. Paul; Miss Aline Wells, W.S.G. Ft. Smith St. Paul; Mrs. George Shamlin, Mrs. Edward Haynes, Miss Lillie Danner, Miss Marie Oglesby, W.S.G. Ft. Smith Goddard Memorial; Mrs. H. G. Tolleson, Greenwood; Mrs. Vivian McBride, Van Buren 1st Church; Mrs. Naomi Rapier, Van Buren St. John; Mrs. W. J. Spicer, Ft. Smith District. Honorary Youth: Mary Sandra Lewis, Ft. Smith District. Honorary Baby: Sally Ann Hopper, Donna Anne Butler, Judith Ann McConnell, Edward Paul Pitts Jr., Booneville; Elizabeth At-

kinson, Lauren Faela Fraser, Brent Walker Laughlin, Mark Adair Bruni, Joe Henry Hodges, Judith Elizabeth Edwards, Jennifer Gay Carlisle, Mary Lynn Klusmeier, Debrah Carol Hamilton, Sandra Gail Ferrior, Joseph Victor Manchaca, Michael Forsgren, Douglas King Skokos, Susan Elaine Sherman, Ft. Smith 1st Ch. Jerry Earl Overton, W.S.G. Mansfield; Elizabeth Ann Brothers, Ft. Smith District; Barbara Eugenia Justice, Van Buren City Heights.

**JONESBORO DISTRICT:** Adult Life: Mrs. F. D. Smith, Blytheville 1st Ch.; Mrs. George Shanks, Blytheville Lake St.; Mrs. L. M. Moody, Dell; Mrs. Laura Freese, Hickory Ridge; Mrs. Roy Penix, Mrs. Trudy Marlar, Jonesboro 1st Ch.; Mrs. Grace Stone, Miss Labelva Connelly, Miss Iva Mae Waddell, W.S.G. Jonesboro 1st Ch.; Mrs. Eva Dacus, Jonesboro Fisher St.; Mrs. Vance Fullenwider, Jonesboro Huntington Ave; Mrs. Perry Defries, Mrs. T. A. Kennett, Leachville; Mrs. E. R. Bogan, Luxora; Mrs. Otis Grant, Mrs. A. O. Harmon, Marked Tree; Mrs. James Blankenship, Monette; Mrs. W. S. Hoke, Mrs. D. S. Crane, Osceola; Mrs. Franklin Heeb, W.S.G. Harrisburg. Honorary Youth: Clara Virginia Colbert, Larry Hulsey, Osceola. Honorary Junior: Theresa Ann Held, Turrell. Honorary Baby: Gladys Elizabeth Stone, Linda Jean Scott, Bay; Ann Blythe Crigger, Charles Edward Crigger, Melissa Ann Guard, Martha Jo Lane, Dixie Golden Regenold, Martha Dale Regenold, Joe Thomas Robinson, Blytheville 1st Ch.; Annetta Jean Wallace, Curtis Hagler, Hickory Ridge; Janet Kay Schisler, Nancy Cole, Marcia Ann Patton, David Allen Nelson Jr., Leslie Goodloe Stuck, William Willis Spurlock, Colleen Ann Finley, Michael Scott Nelson, Jonesboro 1st Ch.; Michael Warren Allison, Donnis Kay Field, Jonesboro Fisher St.; Sheryl Schisler, Jonesboro Huntington Avenue; Martin Lee Steed, W.S.G. Leachville; Michael Lee Hodges, Lepanto; Becky Jayne Brownlee, Carol Ann Stanfield, Kimberly Jeanne Perry, Teresa Sue Worsley, Robt. Owen Harrison, Luxora; Sandra Gayle Hout, Agnes Marie VanCleve, Macey; Tommye Mae Sparks, Marked Tree; Jennifer Looney, Tyronza; Nancy Sue Saddler, George Edward Holmes, Wilson.

**PARAGOULD DISTRICT:** Adult Life: Mrs. E. J. Cox, Corning; Mrs. C. R. Hawker, Paragould 1st Ch.; Mrs. W. L. Warmath, Mrs. Lelah Gilbert, Piggott; Miss Ella Mowery, W.S.G. Piggott; Mrs. Loyd Turner, Maynard-Ravenden Spgs. Charge. Honorary Baby: James Carroll Bates, Deborah Mae Sanders, Hardy; John Garrison Meiser, Paragould 1st Ch. **SEARCY DISTRICT:** Adult Life: Mrs. O. H. Chrisp, Bald Knob; Mrs. R. R. Huffaker, Mrs. James Hugh Garrett, Beebe; Mrs. Mattie Toler, Mrs. J. M. Huddleston, Cabot; Miss Elsie Kruger, W.S.G. Clinton; Miss Helen Price, Mrs. Coy Jones, W.S.G. Harrison; Mrs. W. W. Albright, Heber Springs; Mrs. J. H. Smith, Mrs. L. W. Sturdivant, McCrory; Mrs. Kate McGibbons, Mrs. O. D. Rodgers, Mrs. Leslie Carmichael, Edith Fuller, Searcy. Honorary Baby: Nancy Lynn Van Patton, Marcia Elize Guthory, Reta Ann Spillman, David Warren Fisher, Searcy; Hollis Wayne Duncan, Mark Fredrick Duncan, Charles Kim Holley, Bryan Dwight Olmstead, Marla Ann Baker, Denise Ann Mullens, Howard Dale Law, James Victor Major, Annell Mullen, John Edgar Evans, W.S.G. Heber Springs.



# Christian Education



NEWS . . . . . PROMOTION . . . . . CULTIVATION

## Arkansas-Louisiana Area

### NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE NOTES

By Ira A. Brumley

#### Institute for Local Church Music Leaders

The Institute of Church Music being held at Mt. Sequoyah, Fayetteville, July 18-22, as a part of the Leadership School, offers local church leaders of music a rich opportunity. This program is not for professional music leaders, but for the general local church music leaders. The professional leader would get values out of the program.

The following activities in the daily schedule indicates something of the scope of the program:

Meet Our Hymnal; Choral directing and repertoire; Examination of music exhibits; Consultation with Institute leaders; group projects; Music with children; the church school and related choirs; Techniques of organ playing; The function of music in worship; Hymns as teachers of religion; Festival choir rehearsal; Music and Christian education; Learning new choir music; Our faith in song; Hymns and anthems; The Whole World Singing; Festival choir.

We have listed these activities in which various members of the Institute will be taking part.

Persons interested in going should write us for folder and registration form.

#### Adult Conferences

The Young Adult Conference for North Arkansas was held at Hendrix College on June 25 and 26, with Mr. Emmitt Clem of Siloam Springs, serving as Chairman.

Dr. Meredith F. Eller of Fayette, Mo., was the leader in Bible periods. The program this year was centered in an emphasis on The Biblical Foundations of our Christian Beliefs. Four discussion periods were held in which the larger group was divided into small groups for discussion. Following each of these periods Dr. Eller brought a Bible message.

Rev. Earl Hughes of Ft. Smith was in the meeting on Saturday and led periods of recreation, both in afternoon and evening.

Mr. Jim Wiseman of Searcy, Conference Director of Adult Work, was present on Sunday and presented the Trends in Adult Work.

Mr. Harold Davidson of North Little Rock was elected President of the Young Adult Fellowship for North Arkansas Conference for year 1955-56.

The Senior Adult Conference was held at Hendrix College, June 27-30, with Rev. I. L. Claud, Marion, Arkansas, as Director. He was assisted by Rev. Raymond L. Dorman, as Recreation Leader; Rev. Arvill C. Brannon, Mr. Jim Wiseman, and Ira A. Brumley, as discussion group leaders.

Dr. Eller was the leader for the Bible hours and the evening devotionals.

#### Delegates to Senior Adult Workshop

Rev. I. L. Claud of Marion, and Rev. Arvill C. Brannon of Trumann, are to represent the North Arkansas

### CHILDREN'S WORK ON TELEVISION

Mrs. Frances Winter, Director of Children's Work in the Ft. Smith District, has done it again!

For several years she co-authored with Miss Anna Rose Miller a newspaper, "Spotlight," which stimulated better children's work not only over the Ft. Smith District, but in points far and near.

Last year, she led and pushed a campaign against Horror Comics and succeeded in stirring public officials to action and in making hundreds of parents Horror-Comic-Danger-Conscious.

And now, recently, she was in charge of a television program. Rev. Alfred Knox, director of Ministerial Alliance programs, gave her the opportunity.

She built her program around the Vacation Church School at First Methodist Church, Ft. Smith. The program featured the three-year old rhythm band, an interview between Mrs. Winter and the three-year-olds, a song about The Family and discussion by the Kindergarten children about some things they had been doing, and a dramatization of "The Synagogue School" by the Primaries. (The Juniors were not included in this as they will not have their part of the Vacation School until August.)

Then, Mrs. Winter asked questions and Miss Anna Rose Miller, dean of the Vacation School, answered these questions:

"Why did the workers spend weeks preparing for the school and give two weeks more for the school?"

Conference at the Workshop on Older Adult Work, Garrett Biblical Institute, July 11-22.

We are already having reports on new certifications in training work, this new conference year: Dr. Nellie Dyer has been certified for The Christian Mission in a Revolutionary World; Miss Mildred Osment for An Introduction to Five Spiritual Classics; and Mrs. D. G. Hindman for The Work of the Local Church.

#### Youth Course Is Very Popular

The reports coming to our office indicates that youth and their adult leaders are making a fine response to the course on Youth and Christian Witness, being offered by Mr. Paul Lamberth. We have reports from the first three schools: Batesville, Calico Rock, and Cotter. There was a total enrollment of 113 in the three schools. The Calico Rock School had an enrollment of 43 with 38 credits.

Paul sent in a detailed report on how the pastor, Rev. Charles Casteel had prepared for this school. The lay people assisted in going out to the rural churches and bringing in the youth.

Paul reports that the young people had a great spirit in the school. Nine of the group made special commitments at the close of the school in a dedication candlelight service.

Paul indicated that he had a good school at Batesville and at Cotter.

### ADULT FELLOWSHIP CAMP AT CAMP TANAKO

An Adult Fellowship Camp is scheduled for Camp Tanako, July 22-24, according to Dr. Roy E. Fawcett, Executive Secretary of the Little Rock Conference Board of Education.

Camp Director is the Rev. George G. Meyer, Conference Director of Adult Work, who is pastor of Oak Forest Methodist Church, Little Rock. Dr. M. Leo Rippey, Nashville, Tenn., Director of Adult Work of the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church, will also attend the session.

Teachers and officers of adult classes, officers of adult division and church school concerned with adult work, and members of adult classes are urged to attend.

The purpose of the camp is study, worship, recreation, and good fellowship with other adults beyond the local church.

Advance registration, without ad-

vance fee, will be helpful to those planning the program. Dr. Fawcett requests that you send your name, address, church, and position in adult division, to the office of the Conference Board of Education, 525 Exchange Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Registration will begin Friday afternoon, July 22, and the first session will be held Friday evening. Dr. Fawcett suggests those who cannot attend the Friday night session, can still attend the full program scheduled Saturday. The camp will close following the noon meal, Sunday.

The cost of the camp per person is \$6.50, and the amount includes room, meals, insurance, and registration. Those attending should bring towels, bed linens including pillow, toilet articles, and flashlight.

### VACATION CHURCH SCHOOLS

#### Hodge

Mrs. Grady Dean was dean of the Vacation Church School held at the Hodge Methodist Church, June 13-17. Commencement was held on Sunday night, when certificates were awarded. An exhibit was held of hand work done during the school.

Mrs. Van Beasley was assistant dean and Miss Anne Sentell secretary. Teachers and helpers included Mrs. F. C. Stewart, Mrs. E. M. Collins, Miss Nancy Sue Wade, Mrs. W. L. Wade, Mrs. B. E. Hathaway, Mrs. T. W. Williams, and Mrs. E. G. Holsombach.—G. A. Morgan, pastor.

#### Louann

The Louann Methodist Church, Rev. G. B. Pixley, pastor, held a week's Vacation School with five sessions of two hours each for children of all ages.

Mrs. R. A. Barnes served as director, Miss Maxine Pixley as pianist and Mrs. H. W. Evans, Sr., as chairman of the refreshment committee.

Teachers and assistants were Mrs. G. B. Pixley, Mrs. Mattie Collier, Mrs. Jesse Douglass, Mrs. R. K. Schaeffer, Mrs. L. T. Morris, Mrs. W. A. Blair, Mrs. John Savage and

What did they hope to accomplish? What were some results apparent even now as the workers evaluated the school?

Mrs. Winter closed with statistics and an illuminating statement: "3,000 is the approximate number of children in the Ft. Smith District Children's Division. If it were possible for all these children to spend 20 hours each in a Vacation Church School this summer and if all the teachers planned carefully and carried out their plans successfully, think what these 60,000 hours can mean for the Kingdom of God!"

Can this beginning in television activity be a portent of big things to come in arousing Children's Work-Consciousness?—Mrs. Ira A. Brumley.

Mrs. H. W. Evans, Jr. Many others contributed to the success of the school.

The closing exercises were held on Friday evening with a display of the work done by each group, a worship service conducted by the children and the awarding of 36 certificates.—Reporter.

#### Athens

A Vacation School for the Methodists and Presbyterians of Athens was held in the Athens Methodist Church, June 13-17.

The four departments and their teachers were: Kindergarten, "My Family and Friends," Mrs. Leon DeLoach, teachers, Mrs. James Marsalis, Mrs. W. P. Atkins, Mrs. G. L. Hankins and Miss Carolin Speer, helpers; Primary, "Love One Another," Mrs. Murray Greer, teacher, and Mrs. Dewell Gandy, helper; Junior, "Living and Working Together as Christians," Mrs. G. W. Sims, teacher, Mrs. Willie B. Edwards, helper; Intermediate, "Making Our Group Christian," Mrs. C. L. Shelby, teacher, and Mrs. Elbert Buckner, helper.

Mrs. Harold Garrett was superintendent and Mrs. W. C. Hightower musician. The school had a daily average of 57 pupils out of 60 enrollment.

The school closed on Friday with a program with each class displaying its handwork. A picnic was then held for the group.—L. M. Sawyer, Methodist pastor, C. L. Shelby, Presbyterian pastor.

#### Bellefonte

The Bellefonte Methodist Church held a Vacation Church School the week of June 28 to July 1 for all the children of the community. Thirty-six pupils were enrolled in three classes.

Teachers were Mrs. Henry Koen, Mrs. S. Carlton, Mrs. Lewis Clark, Mrs. Ray Russell, Rev. Alvin Gibbs and Mrs. Dennison.

The school closed with a program on Friday night.—Reporter.

ARKANSAS METHODIST

## SAYS SCIENTISTS NOW ADMIT POSSIBILITY OF MIRACLES

Scientists now admit the possibility that Christ raised the dead and that Moses parted the waters of the Red Sea, Dr. John R. Brobeck, 41, professor of physiology at the University of Pennsylvania's medical school, said in Toronto. He spoke to the Christian Medical Fellowship of Great Britain which met in conjunction with the conventions of the British and Canadian Medical Associations. "Science is changing. One of the results is that a scientist is no longer able to say honestly that something is impossible. He can only say it is improbable," Dr. Brobeck said. He told the doctors the one factor that can account for the miracles is a source of energy unknown to the scientific system. "In the Bible," he said, "it is known as the word of God. If we could identify the power of God in the same way we study other forms of power, it seems to me we would see miracles every time they happened," the physiologist added. Dr. Brobeck said that the changes in scientific thinking arose from increasing doubts over the scientific method, scientific laws and the nature of life. "Even the law of gravity is now considered to have only a high degree of probability," he said. "It is not always inevitable that a falling body will be attracted to earth." Because of the change, the American doctor said, scientists were coming closer to the age-old Christian point of view that miracles can't be explained, but that the basis for accepting the miracles — religious belief — is a miracle in itself. Declaring that all miracles didn't take place 2,000 years ago, he added, "The miracle taking place in our time is rebirth — salvation through Jesus Christ." Such a miracle has wrought real changes in human personalities impossible for a scientist to explain, Dr. Brobeck said. "The reality of rebirth is exactly the same as the early Christians felt 2,000 years ago," he said. "As Christians we are as insistent on this reality as we should be."

## Tenth Of Oslo Population Attends Graham Rally

More than 30,000 persons — nearly one-tenth the population of Norway's capital — jammed Ullevaal Stadium in Oslo for the opening rally of evangelist Billy Graham's Scandinavian campaign. Another 4,000 stood outside the arena for more than an hour listening to Dr. Graham by amplifier. An hour-long tape-recording of the meeting, including all of Dr. Graham's 40-minute sermon, later was broadcast throughout the country over the Norwegian national radio. Some 750 persons answered the evangelist's plea to come forward and made "decisions for Christ." Those who did so were greeted at the platform by a corps of counselors drawn from all Protestant bodies in Norway and prepared for this work at a series of training sessions. Bishop Johannes Smemo of Oslo, Primate of the (State Lutheran) Church of Norway, and Free Church leaders joined Dr. Graham on the platform to open the meeting with prayer. The Primate later described the rally as "a moving experience." On his arrival two days earlier by ship from the Netherlands — where some 65,000 Dutchmen and Belgians attended a rally in Rotterdam's huge Feijenoord Stadium — the American evangelist was greeted at the dock by a crowd of several hundred persons. Dr. Graham told newsmen that he had come to Norway "in all humility and not to set up a show." This was considered a re-

ply to a criticism of "sensationalism" advanced in a church paper by Bishop Eivind Berggrav, former Primate of the Norwegian Church.

## Dr. Weatherhead Scores 'Feeble' Religion In Britain

Dr. Leslie Weatherhead of London said in Manchester, England, that religion "as purveyed from hundreds of pulpits" in Britain is "glaringly inadequate." He said "such feebleness has no chance against the efficient aggression of Communism." Dr. Weatherhead addressed the annual meeting of the Methodist Conference of Great Britain following his installation as president. If the Communists were offered "adequate premises and trained workers, as we have, in every small town in England," he said "it is not a wild guess to say that in 10 years this country would be Communist." The Methodist leader urged "greater tolerance" of the Moral Rearmament Movement, American evangelist Billy Graham, and other Christian groups as well as more "recognition of the truth there is in other religions. Christianity as we know it now is not the final religion," he said. "The final religion may be — in fact, I believe it is — Christianity but it will be a religion that includes all truth, wherever truth is found and in whatever system truth is presently enshrined or, perhaps, almost concealed."

## METHODIST CHURCHES HAVE 18 MILLION MEMBERS

Methodist churches throughout the world have a recorded membership of 18,000,000 persons and the "total Christian community under Methodist care" numbers about 40,000,000. This was reported in Manchester, England by the Rev. E. Benson Perkins of London, secretary of the World Methodist Council's European section. He said the figures were based on statistics submitted by secretaries of Methodist bodies over the world in response to inquiries sent out late

last year by the World Methodist Council. It was the first world Methodist census ever taken. Mr. Perkins' report was made at the annual meeting of the Methodist Conference of Great Britain. The conference approved a recommendation by its special commission on candidature training and probation that ministerial students be permitted to marry while in training or on probation. The delegates rejected a proposal that the conference president send an official "letter of affectionate greeting" to the Netherlands Reformed Church in South Africa next year in connection with the 150th anniversary of the Methodist Church in South Africa. In opposing the suggestion, Dr. Donald O. Soper of London, former conference president, said he regarded the "attitude" of the Netherlands Reformed Church in South Africa as "pestiferous" and believed such a message would "cause misunderstanding." The conference then agreed that its president, when he is in South Africa next year for the anniversary celebration, should verbally convey the greetings of the Methodist Church to Reformed Church leaders there.

## Sees 'Museum Death' Facing Russian Church

The great danger threatening the Church in the Soviet Union is that of a "museum death," Prof. Nils Alstrup Dahl, dean of the University of Oslo's theological faculty, said in Oslo in reporting on his recent visit to Moscow and Leningrad. "There is no persecution and, within its limited sphere, the Church has freedom," he said in an article in Norsk Kirkeblad, which he edits. "But the State has succeeded — to a considerable extent — in keeping the Church 'on a reservation' similar to the way Indians were treated in the United States. The reservations are under the State's protection, and visitors may go to them to see how well 'this special type of human being' is cared for." Prof. Dahl said that among the younger generation in Russia "ignorance of the Church is nearly complete." "Their attitude is not one of hostility to the Church

but rather of a certain interest in it as a museum specimen," he explained. "If any of these youngsters should enter an Orthodox church to attend a service, there is every chance his impression of the church as a museum piece will be strengthened." The theologian said the majority of the churches he saw in the two major Russian cities were "in a bad state" but restoration work was in progress at several large church buildings that are regarded as "historical monuments."

## Wesleyan Methodists End Merger Efforts

The Wesleyan Methodist Church voted at its 29th quadrennial general conference in Fairmount, Ind., to discontinue its Commission on Merger. In so doing it turned down the possibility of merger with the Free Methodist Church. The action had the effect of bringing to a close 12 years of study and negotiations between the 36,000-member Wesleyan Methodists and the 52,000-member Free Methodists. The vote was 96-62. However, the resolution placed the conference on record as favoring a "friendly and cooperative" relationship between the two denominations in the exchange of convention speakers, union evangelistic services, and the possible establishment of a jointly-operated seminary. Re-elected to his third term as general president was Dr. Roy S. Nicholson of Syracuse, N. Y., who this year completed 20 years as a general official of the Church.

## Hollywood Attacked In Congress For Distorting Bible Stories

Rep. Katherine St. George (R-N. Y.) charged in the House that Hollywood was misusing Biblical stories for entertainment purposes. Mrs. St. George said that Hollywood interpretations of the Scriptures were "distorted, inaccurate, and at times quite disgusting." "Apart from the revulsion that any informed student of the Bible must feel, from a religious standpoint," she declared, "the glaring distortions and outright falsehoods make these pictures historically useless and quite absurd." She inserted in the Congressional Record an article published by the Christian Herald, non-denominational Protestant monthly, which asserted that "Hollywood's hottest gimmick is Holy Writ." The article accused Hollywood producers of misinterpreting and distorting material that is of basic importance to the religious faiths of the Western world.

## Bishop Donaghy Tells Of Resisting Brain-Washing

Bishop Frederick A. Donaghy, M. of New Bedford, Mass., who was recently expelled from China, assured his brother that he had resisted all "brain-washing" attempts by the Chinese Communists. Bishop Donaghy wrote the Very Rev. William A. Donaghy, S. J., president of Holy Cross College in Worcester, Mass., from Hong Kong where he is now undergoing medical treatment. The bishop said he had eye and hearing disorders which doctors attributed to malnutrition. Diet and care are expected to correct both ailments, he added. The prelate, who served in China for 26 years, said he planned to go to Formosa for a visit with Archbishop Antonio Riberi, Papal Internuncio to China, and that he might return to the United States by way of Rome. Bishop Donaghy was expelled on charges of "subversive activities." He was arrested at Wuchow in 1950, but released six months later. Since then he had been virtually under house arrest until his expulsion.

## Fear Uranium Find May Affect Church Contributions

Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Church are concerned that members of the denomination may reduce their regular contributions now that a big uranium deposit reportedly has been found on 7,000 acres of the Church's land in western North Dakota. "While it is possible that large sums may eventually be received from this source," the trustees said, "it should be borne in mind that there is no certainty of this. It is also probably that not a little time will elapse before any considerable return could be expected." They also pointed out that the North Dakota land is an investment from the Church's general endowment funds, and returns from such investments have been supplementary to contributions from congregations.

# METHODIST YOUTH

## SUB-DISTRICT INSTALLS OFFICERS

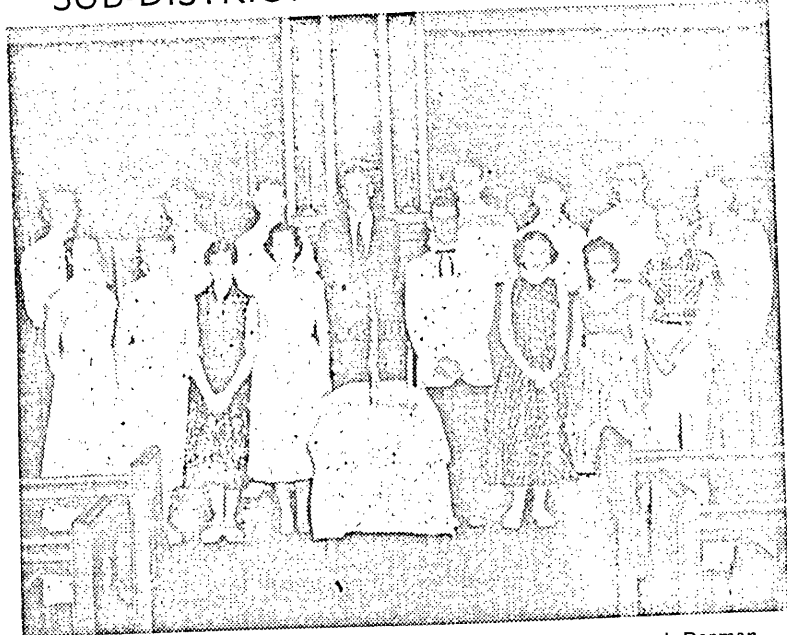


Photo by Raymond Dorman

Left to right, front row: Mrs. Gene Little, Elaine Nunnally, Wanda Bourland, Jennie Wren, Larry Hulsey, Elizabeth Ann Tidwell, Jane Hale, LeRoy Middleton. Back row:

Gene Little, Jerry James, Larry Moody, Rev. Thurston Masters, Glenn Ladd, Edward Wemberly, LeRoy Brownlee, Rev. Eugene Hall.

The Methodist Youth Fellowship Sub-District of Mississippi County installed the officers at its meeting on June 13 at the First Methodist Church in Blytheville:

President, Jenny Wren, Wilson; vice-president, Larry Hulsey, Osceola; secretary, Janet Hale, Wilson; treasurer, Elizabeth Ann Temple, Dell; publicity chairman, Larry Moody, Dell, advisor to publicity chairman, Rev. Eugene Hall, Dell; Counselor, Leroy Middleton, Blytheville; Christian Outreach chairman,

Edward Wemberly, Blytheville, counselor, Mrs. Dick White, Blytheville; Christian Faith chairman, Wanda Bourland, Luxora, counselor, LeRoy Brownlee; Christian Witness, Jerry James, Dyess, counselor, Mrs. Ray Johnston, Dyess; Christian Citizenship, Elaine Nunnally, Whitton, counselor, Mrs. Gene Little, Whitton; Christian Fellowship, Glenn Ladd, Blytheville, counselor, Rev. W. L. Diggs, Luxora.

The officers were installed by Rev. Thurston Masters of Tyroneza.

## LOUISIANA CONFERENCE CHRISTIAN WITNESS WORKSHOP

The Louisiana Conference M.Y.F. Christian Witness Workshop will be held Aug. 4-7 in Baton Rouge, with First Methodist Church serving as host.

The Workshop is under the joint auspices of the Conference Boards of Education and Evangelism. Roy Mouser, pastor of Cedar Grove Methodist Church in Shreveport, will be its Director, and Don Barnes, Director of Religious Education in the host church will serve as Director of Field Work. Rev. James Stovall, pastor of North Baton Rouge Methodist Church, will direct the local publicity, and Rev. Robert Ed Taylor, associate minister of First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, will serve as Registrar.

The purpose of the Workshop is to give training to M.Y.F. delegates (6 from each district) and District Directors of Youth Work in the program area of Christian Witness, including visitation evangelism, visiting inactives, and conducting a religious census. It is hoped that similar workshops on a district level may be encouraged on this level, and that Christian Witness Missions among youth may be conducted in local churches throughout the conference.

A representation of twice the number of guest is expected from participating churches in Baton

Rouge, which include, in addition to the host church: Ingleside, Reily Memorial, Broadmoor, Winbourne, North Baton Rouge, Istrouma, and the Methodist Church in Port Allen.

Special attention will be given the two new churches, Broadmoor and Port Allen, and Community

## OSCAR ESCAMILLA ON SPECIAL YOUTH ASSIGNMENTS

This has been a busy Junior year in Iowa Wesleyan College in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. As soon as school was out I started on my special assignment for the summer. I am traveling this summer on "special assignments made by the Joint Department of Missionary Education, representing the Board of Missions and the Board of Education of the Methodist Church." I am scheduled for 11 weeks with 11 different youth camps. In all camps I am visiting, I become a special staff member and help in various ways.

This, my work with young people, is as thrilling as ever. I greatly enjoyed the two summers among the youth in Arkansas in the Little Rock Conference, one at Tanako Camp and the other summer at Aldersgate. The friendships I formed with them will be long-lasting. Hope someday to see all my friends who have come to mean a lot to me in friendship and in Christian spirit and fellowship. I remember all my friends in the Little Rock Conference with great affection.

After this great and thrilling summer with all the experiences and fellowship with the youth I will return to Iowa Wesleyan College for my Senior year there.

My address for the summer until September 3 is in care of Miss Jennie Youngblood, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn.—Oscar Escamilla.

Survey work will be conducted in the Winbourne area. The programs in the other churches will be determined by their needs, with emphasis throughout being placed on reclaiming inactive M.Y.F. members, and receiving commitments to church membership.

Registrants will pay a fee of \$7.00 which will take care of all local expenses, and will register at First Methodist Church between 3 and 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4. Thursday evening and Friday morning will be spent in instruction and preparation. Friday afternoon and most of Saturday will be given to visitation in the local church areas. Sunday's activities will include participation in the Church and Church School programs in the host churches, with a period of reports, sharing, and worship concluding the workshop at (Continued on Page 15)

OSCAR ESCAMILLA

## Church Furniture

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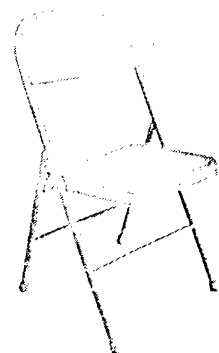
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## OBITUARIES

**BRANDON**—George Lee Brandon was born June 3, 1898, and passed from this earthly scene into the life eternal May 1, 1955. He had been critically ill for several months.

Lee had been a member of the Pleasant Hill Methodist Church since early youth. He served as a steward and a trustee most of his adult life. He loved the church. He was ever mindful of its needs. As a steward and a trustee he assumed responsibility for the upkeep of the property and also the support of its total program. He was always a friend of the preachers. Brother Lee was a good neighbor. He entered into the life of the community as one interested in its betterment and improvement. He had a great circle of friends. Those who knew him best held him in deep affection and high esteem. Brother Lee loved his family. He worked hard, giving himself without reserve to the care of his home. Even in the days when his health was impaired he continued to work though he might have been excused from any labor at all. He never shirked life's responsibilities. His was a happy and joyous life. His spirit of good will and friendliness was contagious. His life will continue to be a blessing to his loved ones and many friends.

On May 2, 1955, his memorial service was conducted at the Finch Baptist Church in the community where he spent his early childhood. His services were held by Rev. E. A. Poindexter assisted by Rev. Elvis Wright and the writer. A throng of friends gathered with his loved ones for the service. His body was laid to rest in the cemetery near by.

His immediate family left to mourn his passing are his wife, Mrs. Beulah Brandon of Paragould, his son, Eugene Brandon of near Lora-do, his three sisters, Mrs. Maude Eamer of New Smyrna, Florida, Mrs. George Funk of Memphis, Tenn. and Mrs. Sam Gatlin of Flint, Michigan.—J. Albert Gatlin.

## RESOLUTION

With sincere regret, the Official Board of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Monroe, Louisiana, records the untimely passing of our friend and honorary member, Robert William Germany, who departed this life June 7, 1955.

Prior to being named an honorary member of this Board, he was a devoted member, for many, many years, of the Board of Stewards of the First Methodist Church of Monroe, where his leadership in the activities of its Official Board was of the greatest importance to First Methodist Church, and, particularly during its early years of growth, did he give most generously of his time and his talents. His outstanding ability as a teacher of the Young People's Class, which was named after him, was generally known and appreciated by his fellow Stewards. As an honorary member of this Official Board, his devotion to duty and his willingness to be of service were most helpful to the Board:

**RESOLVED**, that we extend to his devoted wife and daughters our most sincere sympathy and direct that a copy of this expression of our high regard for Robert William Germany and our feeling of great loss at his passing be spread upon the minutes of the Official Board and a copy delivered to his family.

## LOUISIANA CONFERENCE CHRISTIAN WITNESS WORKSHOP

(Continued from Page 14)

3:30 p.m. Delegates who wish to remain for the Sunday evening programs will be encouraged to do

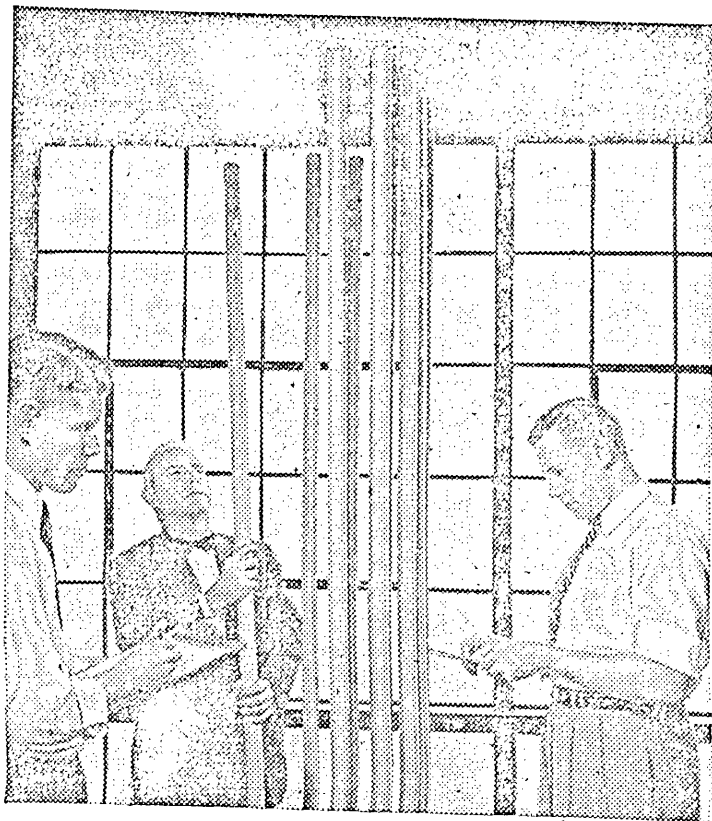
## PINKING SHEARS

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so, and will continue to stay in the homes provided by host churches.

Local church youth who wish to attend this workshop should contact their own pastor, who will have further information and registration forms.—Reporter.

Religion gives you courage to make the decisions you must make in a crisis, and then the confidence to leave the result to a higher power. Only by trust in God can a man carrying responsibility find repose.—Dwight D. Eisenhower.



**ELECTRIC COMPANY ENGINEERS** arrange full-size wooden models of the uranium rods that are the atomic fuel for certain types of atomic-electric plant. Several dozen such rods of uranium can supply enough heat to generate a whole year's electricity for a good-sized city.

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*Push development of vast new source of electricity*

Top engineers of electric light and power companies are speeding work on ways to make atomic-electricity practical for everyday uses.

The first atomic-electric plant for serving the public is now being built near Pittsburgh, Pa. Proposals for four others—near New York, Chicago and Detroit, and in western Massachusetts—are in the hands of the Atomic Energy Commission.

The power from these pioneering plants will probably be expensive to make, yet will be sold at regular rates. From these first plants, however, the electric companies expect to learn much about more economical and efficient atomic-electric projects for the future.

Reducing the cost of making atomic-electricity is problem No. 1—because electricity is already so cheap in America and we have plenty for our needs today.

But the electric companies have solved other tough problems in bringing more and more electricity to more and more people, at lower and lower rates. They'll solve this one for you, too.

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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 JULY 24, 1955

## GOD'S JUDGMENT ON NATIONS

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:  
2 Kings 24:20 through 25:12.

MEMORY SELECTION: Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. (Galatians 6:7)



This is the fourth lesson of five- sessions UNIT VII: "NATION'S DECLINE AND FALL." The first lesson dealt with signs of national decay. Many signs of national decay were in Judah at that time. The prophet warned the king and the people, but all to no avail.

The second lesson had to do with trusting God in dark days. The Prophet Habakkuk saw that great evil was coming on Judah. He realized that Judah had sinned and was about to suffer the consequences of her sins. The thing that puzzled him was the fact that this punishment that was about to come on Judah was to be administered by the Babylonians who were even more wicked than Judah herself. He was told that both righteous individuals and righteous nations live by their faith. An individual can trust God in the dark even though he may belong to a nation that is going down.

Next, we studied the fact that disobedience leads to disaster. This is always true. Both men and nations reap what they sow. The aim of the lesson was "to enable adults to discover the inevitable consequences of disobeying God." In the working out of wrong doing with regards to a nation, some other nations even more wicked may have a hand in administering punishment. Such was the case with Judah and Babylon, and in more recent times this matter was repeated with regards to Germany and Russia. There is no question about the fact that Germany went wrong, but Russia went even further in the matter of evil. Yet Russia helped to administer punishment to Germany. Does that mean that Russia will escape her own judgment? Not in the least. If she does not mend her ways an even worse calamity awaits her; just as was true in the case of Babylon. The writer does not believe that God pits one evil nation against another. He feels that sin, both with individuals and nations, carries with it the elements of its own punishment, and when the time is ripe the broken laws of God administer their own punishment, or better still, the laws of the universe are so constituted that individuals or nations that break them actually punish themselves.

This brings us to our lesson for today: "God's Judgment on Nations." Judah had to face the consequences of her evil doing in spite of the fact that she felt that she was the favored of God. The citizens of our nation feel that we occupy that position today — we are the favored people. But we had better be careful about depending upon that. It did not work in Judah's case and neither will it work in ours. Just as was the case with

Judah, God longs to bless us but he cannot do so unless we live in harmony with his righteous laws. Righteousness alone can exalt a nation. Sin is always a reproach to any people.

### Scripture Background

Our lesson today deals with the rebellion of Zedekiah against Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. The Babylonians had previously conquered Judah and had carried away King Jehoiachin, the nephew of Zedekiah, as a captive to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar then had Zedekiah to swear allegiance to him and placed him on the throne of Judah.

At that time there were two political parties in Judah — the pro-Babylon party and the pro-Egypt party. Zedekiah kept his oath to Nebuchadnezzar for nine years. He was constantly encouraged to do this by the Prophet Jeremiah. At the end of this period the pro-Egypt party became the dominant political power in the nation. Zedekiah was weak and because of this fact did not stand up to these people. He even permitted them to arrest and imprison Jeremiah; in fact his confinement in a filthy dungeon almost cost him his life.

Zedekiah not only rebelled against Babylon but he formed an alliance with Egypt. This greatly angered Nebuchadnezzar and he came at once with an army and set siege to Jerusalem. This army also overran all of Judah. Egypt finally got around to sending an army which caused the Babylonians to temporarily lift the siege of Jerusalem. When the Babylonians turned on the Egyptians they hastened back into their own country without even fighting a single battle. This left Judah to her plight. The siege was renewed and continued for some eighteen months. The food and water supply ran out in Jerusalem. One-third of the people died of famine and plague. Finally a breach was made in the wall. That night the king and some of his soldiers tried to escape and make their way to Egypt. They were captured near Jericho. Zedekiah was brought before Nebuchadnezzar for trial. He decreed that all the sons of Zedekiah be slain in the presence of their father and then his sight be destroyed. This sentence was carried out, and the blind Zedekiah was carried away to Babylon where he spent the remainder of his life in prison. According to a Jewish tradition Zedekiah finally died while grinding corn in a Babylonian prison.

Thus came to a sad end a nation that had existed for more than five hundred years. All this time some member of the family of David sat on the throne. Zedekiah was the twentieth and last of these kings.

### Why Nations Fall

Down through the ages literally scores of great nations have fallen. There was a time when Palestine, under the leadership of David and Solomon, was a great nation, but sin led to division, and division led to weakness, defeat and ruin — first of the Northern Kingdom and in our lesson for today, of the Southern. Our lesson also deals with Babylon, and this was a great country. At the time of our lesson she boasted the greatest ruler of that age of the world — Nebuchadnezzar. But this country lasted only twenty-three years after the passing of this man. We think of the destruction of Judah at the hands of this nation but Judah was not completely obliterated as was Babylon not too many years after the account of our lesson. Then there was ancient Egypt that boasted one of the greatest civilizations of that age but she went down. Ancient Greece was a great nation. It is said that in her capital city — Athens — civilization itself was cradled for many years. But the Greece of the long ago is gone. The same is true with ancient Rome. Rome was once the proud mistress of the world, but the empire of that age is forever gone. For many years now France has been pendulating on the brink of ruin. Modern Germany and Japan went down to shameful defeat. The one great lesson that history teaches over and over again is the fact that nations do fall. They have fallen in the past and history will keep on repeating itself. These nations all fell because they became unfit to survive.

We are living in a world of cause and effect, and there is a cause for every effect we witness. We may not be able to ascertain the cause but it is there none the less. Many nations go down without much chance of survival. They have had no far-sighted people within them to warn them of coming danger. But such was not the case with Judah. She was warned over and over again of the danger she faced, and was promised relief if she would only change her ways, but all to no avail. She went straight ahead to her doom. Her king was more weak than wicked, but her princes were both wicked and strong. So they took matters in their own hands, and forced the king to go along in spite of the advice of Jeremiah to the contrary. They even accused the Prophet of being subversive and had him put in prison. They were a lot like some of our would-be patriots of today. They accused all who disagreed with them of being subversive. The greatest hope of our present-day Democracy is in making it an even better form of government. But any one who dares to offer the least bit of constructive criticism and to point out certain weaknesses and where conditions might be made better is at once branded as a Communist. This is a dangerous trend in our nation and it is very similar to that which existed in Judah just prior to its fall. Not long ago Bishop Oxnham was put on the carpet by some ultra-patriots of the same stripe as those who put Jeremiah in prison. His offense, like that of Jeremiah, was nothing more or less than the fact that he was trying to give some advice that if followed would make our government a stronger institution and our nation a better country. When the

time arrives that a Democracy cannot take constructive criticism, then it is on its way out. That is also true with any form of government. It was true with Judah, and it was true with all other nations that have already fallen. We must be very careful that in our efforts to combat Communism we don't lose the very freedoms that Democracy guarantees. When these are gone, we are totalitarians just as the Communists are even though we may approach the matter from a different angle.

As a nation we need to be careful about internal corruption and sins. These are the things that have caused nations to fall, down through the ages. In speaking about our condition along this line the Wesley Quarterly had this to say:

"One cannot view the alarming spread of evil and fail to ask questions about God's relation to history. The FBI reports a big jump in crime. Thirty-five persons are murdered daily. Two hundred thousand autos are stolen annually. Britain reports an alarming increase in sexual irregularity, divorce and broken homes. Juvenile crime, gambling, drunkenness and immorality gnaw at the roots of Christian decency. And perhaps the greatest danger is the mood of secularity—God is not denied; he is simply not needed."

Then on further under the subtitle "When Religion Suffers" we read:

"One would like to believe in a fundamental virility in modern religion, but there are ominous signs. As in Amos's day, some churches have become social clubs of upper-middle-class morality. . . . Space does not permit reference to compromise with the liquor traffic, the policy of national imperialism, radical discrimination, disloyalty in political life and other events which not only warn us against a judgment to come, but exhibit a judgment already upon us."

These are strong words indeed, but no one can deny their truthfulness. All wars bring their backwash of evil. This was true with World War I, and before the world could get over the moral set-back of this war another was upon us—World War II. The whole world simply has a double dose of the evils occasioned by wars. For the most part, it is below the level of the moral and spiritual standard once attained. This means we are in a crisis time; a time of extreme danger. There is a great need for a spiritual awakening. All over the world Christians need to become consecrated followers of Christ and sinners need to be converted and brought into a saving relationship with him. Some of the best thinkers of the world, engaged in various professions in life, are insisting that this is the only way out. Will our nation and the world, too, as to that matter, heed the warning and follow the advice? That remains to be seen. All we know is that Judah didn't, and many other nations didn't, and all of them went down. They stand out as an example to us today as to what happens to individuals and nations when they forget God and crowd him out of the affairs of life. Surely, with so much proof of the dangers that beset us, we will arouse ourselves, turn to God in prayer and consecration and thus become the spiritual leader that the world so sorely needs.

ARKANSAS METHODIST